

## Introduction to First Edition

It has been evident for some years past that there has been a need for a specialised catalogue of the stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia, that there should be some sort of standard price-list which would act as a guide to the values of many varieties which are not listed in ordinary catalogues and yet which possess great interest for specialists in these stamps.

This catalogue is being published in the hope that it will prove of assistance to those collectors who are making a study of Commonwealth stamps; and an endeavour has been made to put a fair market valuation on every stamp. At the same time, it should be noted that the publishers do not claim to have all priced stamps in stock; in fact, many scarce items can be sold within half-an-hour of their purchase. Where a price is really a matter of negotiation an \* has been inserted.

This Specialised Catalogue is not merely a dealer's price-list, but is an attempt to place a valuation on every Commonwealth stamp. A popular stamp is often worth more than a rarer stamp, owing to the demand for it.

The system of listing adopted is to give all marked shades of colours of a stamp; then to follow on with varieties, the latter being lettered a, b, c, etc. The prices for the varieties are for the cheapest shades. For instance, 13a commands a higher price than 5a.

The extreme right column gives a description of the variety and also gives a list of what varieties are known in a certain shade.

A dash (—) signifies that such a stamp does not exist as far as our present knowledge goes; but we shall be grateful if any reader will inform us if he has a copy of any so marked.

All prices are subject to alteration without notice.

Increasing interest is being shown in official stamps; owing to lack of space we have been compelled to omit stamps punctured OS, NSW, or T, but selections will be willingly sent on approval.

The thanks of the publishers are due to Mr. A. A. Rosenblum for his valuable assistance in compiling the lists and for information taken from his book, "Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia"; also to Mr. J. R. W. Purves for much appreciated and helpful suggestions.

ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.

September, 1926.

## Introduction to Second Edition

It is just two years since the first edition of the "Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue" was published, an experiment which has proved so successful that we feel this second edition needs no better introduction than our assurance that it is a worthy successor; and we are confident that, on its own merits, it will gain the wholehearted approval of Commonwealth collectors.

Since the first edition was published there have been many new issues of Commonwealth stamps and, in addition, there has been much research work undertaken which has resulted in a number of extra varieties of the earlier issues coming to light.

As there have been such quantities of varieties found in almost all printings it has become necessary to apply the pruning knife to the first edition and to cut out certain of the less important varieties, such as "line over value" and thick and thin papers in the Kangaroo series; and certain minor varieties in the King's Heads, notably in the 4d. values. We admit that there are some stamps left in which should be dropped, but as they are popular varieties, it was thought better to include them once again.

It is necessary that a distinction be drawn between major varieties—which should be listed separately—and minor varieties—which can be grouped together. Major varieties, in our opinion, include shades, retouches, re-entries and the more noticeable plate flaws, etc. Minor varieties consist mainly of electro flaws and faults—and their name is legion! We consider it undesirable to inflate this catalogue by including these, especially as their philatelic interest is small.

In several cases we have altered the names of colours so as to give a better definition of the shade.

In order to avoid renumbering the whole catalogue—and thereby causing collectors a certain amount of confusion—we have had to adopt the clumsy method of using the "½" system. The numbers of the earlier issues cannot be made permanent until the Kangaroos are a thing of the past as a single new issue of a Kangaroo would alter all numbers from 123 on, unless the "half" system is adopted. As far as possible we have retained the same numbers as in the first edition, but owing to the amount of revision, this has not been possible everywhere. For instance, the penny rough papers have been put in their order of issue necessitating three divisions instead of two. Other additions include the different dies of the Kangaroos, the dies of the 3d. King George, and that interesting discovery, the 5d. rough paper.

Once again we are indebted to Mr. A. A. Rosenblum and Mr. J. R. W. Purves for much extra information, the result of their recent research work, and also tender our thanks to other correspondents who have kindly supplied us with various items of information.

In conclusion, we would assure our readers that all alterations have been carefully considered, and made with the idea of assisting collectors of Commonwealth stamps to arrive at a fair market valuation; and we take this opportunity of thanking them for their practical support which has made this second edition possible.

ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.

September, 1928.

## Introduction to Third Edition

Owing to the fact that Australia is using several distinct sets of stamps at one and the same time (Kangaroos, King Georges, Commemoratives, etc.) we have found it necessary to alter the numbers listed in this catalogue. We recognise the inconvenience to which this will put collectors, but unfortunately it is unavoidable.

In order to obviate any similar drastic alteration in the future, we have given each section a distinctive prefix.

These prefixes are:—

- K = Kangaroo series.
- E = The engraved stamps of 1913-4.
- GS = King George Heads, single line perforation.
- G = King George Heads, comb perforation.
- S = Commemoratives and special issues.
- A = Air stamps.
- P = Plate numbers.
- C = Controls (Monograms and Imprints).
- D = Postage Due stamps.
- F = Flown Covers.

In ordering from this catalogue, it will be necessary always to give the prefix letter—as, for example, there is a number one in each section.

As, in addition to our own extensive stock, we are at present splitting up the Rosenblum collection, we are able to price practically all the rarities.

Of many of these there are less than a score in existence, and, in some instances, less than a dozen or half a dozen. It will, therefore, be easily seen that these constitute one of the soundest investments, there being a strong local market for all classes of Commonwealth stamps, and the supply not being nearly sufficient to satisfy every would-be owner.

The increasing interest in Air Mails generally has tempted us to add to this catalogue a further section dealing with Australian Flown Covers. We hope it will meet with the appreciation of our readers.

ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.

October, 1931.

## INTRODUCTION

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Owing to the fact that Australia is using several distinct sets of stamps at one and the same time (Kangaroos, King Georges, Commemoratives, etc.), we have found it necessary to divide the issues into various sections, prefixing a special letter to each section. These prefixes are:—

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The system of listing adopted is to give all marked shades of colours of a stamp; then to follow on with varieties, the latter being lettered a, b, c, etc. The prices for the varieties are for the cheapest shades.

The extreme right column gives a description of the variety and also a list of what varieties are known in a certain shade.

A dash (—) signifies that such a stamp does not exist as far as our present knowledge goes; but we shall be grateful if any reader will inform us if he has a copy of any so marked.

It is necessary that a distinction be drawn between major varieties—which should be listed separately—and minor varieties—which can be grouped together. Major varieties, in our opinion, include shades, retouches, re-entries and the more noticeable plate flaws, etc. Minor varieties consist mainly of electro flaws and faults—and their name is legion! We consider it undesirable to inflate this catalogue by including these separately, especially as their philatelic interest is small.

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Increasing interest is being shown in official stamps; owing to lack of space, we have been compelled to omit stamps punctured OS, NSW, T, etc., but selections will be willingly sent on approval.

ORLO-SMITH & CO.,

Melbourne.

October, 1934.

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ORLO-SMITH & CO..

March, 1938.

Melbourne.

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Increasing interest is being shown in official stamps; owing to lack of space, we have been compelled to omit stamps punctured OS, NSW, T, etc., but selections will be willingly sent on approval. Prices of these are roughly twice that of the normal stamp.

ORLO-SMITH & CO.,

September, 1940.

Melbourne.

## INTRODUCTION

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- D = Postage Due stamps.
- UAB = Australian Stamps used Abroad.

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ORLO-SMITH & CO.,

February, 1943.

Melbourne.

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OF VICTORIA

CALL NO.

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All prices are subject to alteration without notice.

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ORLO-SMITH & CO.,

November, 1944.

Melbourne.

## INTRODUCTION

The publication of the Ninth Edition of The Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue presented the compilers with a multitude of difficulties, brought into strong relief by the prodigious demand for Commonwealth Stamps of all kinds.

The merging of the War Period into the Period of Reconstruction has enabled us to face the many problems that had been postponed because of manpower difficulties in the printing trade and other conditions beyond our control.

Alterations in prices and values, caused by depletion of stocks, have been made necessary in many items, and the specialist collector will be well advised to study the pages in order to properly estimate the value of his collection. In the regular course of events many collectors have been added to the Specialists' Circle, and it is the considered opinion of keen observers in the philatelic world that the impending years will mean further heavy additions by reason of the influx of British immigrants, who will naturally be keen to acquire representative collections of their adopted country, and for those reasons we predict heavy advances in the values and prices of all Australian stamps.

This catalogue is published to assist collectors making a study of Commonwealth stamps, and an endeavour has been made to put a fair market valuation on every stamp. The publishers do not claim to have all listed stamps in stock; many scarce items can be sold within half an hour of their acquisition. Where a price is a matter of negotiation \* has been inserted.

We have divided the issues into various sections, prefixing a special letter to each section.

The Kangaroo Series . . . . .	lettered K.	Page 3
The Engraved Stamps . . . . .	" E.	Page 13
The Georgian Issues (Head of George V)—		
Single Line Perforations . . . . .	" G.S.	Page 15
Single and Large Multiple Watermarks . . . . .	" G.	Page 17
Small Multiple Watermarks . . . . .	" G.	Page 32
Other Ordinary Issues . . . . .	" O.	Page 39
Other Ordinary Issues, George VI, . . . . .	" O.	Page 39
Special Issues, Commemoratives . . . . .	" S.	Page 43
Air Stamps . . . . .	" A.	Page 51
Plate Numbers . . . . .	" P.	Page 53
Controls . . . . .	" C.	Page 56
Postage Dues . . . . .	" D.	Page 65

In ordering, always give the prefix letter and number.

The system of listing is to give first the primary colour, and then all shades of that colour; then varieties, lettered a, b, c, etc. The prices for the varieties are for the cheapest shades.

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ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.

## INTRODUCTION

The upward trend in prices during the immediate post-war period appears to be well maintained in the last year, with every prospect of hastening rises, due to the lessened available material, particularly in Mint Stamps, for it is simple to understand that "every mint stamp sold is one less that is available for sale."

This Tenth Edition of the Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue carries many price alterations, and our customers are exhorted to bear in mind—

1. Inclusion of an item in this catalogue **does not** mean we hold stocks of that item.
2. Shades and Colours are listed in this book (particularly in the 1d. Georgian), with strict relation to each and every other stamp in that series, and, whilst opinions may vary, our Colour Chart and Guide is all covering, and strictly adhered to by us at all times.
3. Prices of practically all **scarce items** have been given conservatively low, and actual selling prices can only be given after we have purchased those items.
4. The publication of a Complete Handbook of Australian Stamps is promulgated, and at intervals during this year we hope the various sections will appear, to be incorporated into the complete book later. In addition, a Handbook by D. M. Neil, a well-known British philatelist, dealing with George V Issues, will be available almost concurrently with this Tenth Edition.
5. The handbooks will carry information of the many variations which are not in this Catalogue, particularly in the later issues.
6. All prices listed are subject to alteration without notice.

As in previous issues, the sections of this Catalogue are as follow:—

The Kangaroo Series . . . . .	Lettered K.	Page 3
The Engraved Stamps. . . . .	" E.	Page 13
The Georgian Issues (Head of George V)—		
Single Line Perforations . . . . .	" G.S.	Page 15
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In ordering, always give the prefix letter and number.

### Note Particularly.

The pricing of Imprints and Controls in almost every instance is now given in "Blocks of Four."

The system of listing is to give first the primary colour, and then all shades of that colour; then varieties, lettered a, b c, etc. The prices for the varieties are for the cheapest shades.

The extreme right column gives a description of the variety, and also a list of the varieties known. Major varieties include shades, retouches, re-entries, and more noticeable plate flaws, etc.

Minor varieties consist mainly of electro flaws and faults. As their philatelic interest is small, we do not list them.

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ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.

## INTRODUCTION

This edition has been revised to have all information concerning Plate Numbers, Controls, and Imprints immediately after the Issue of Stamps concerned, instead of in separate sections. We are sure this innovation will be popular. There are many price alterations, and there is every reason to believe that still further advances in obsolete issues must be expected. The B.C.O.F. issue has been included, but prices of the issue are not given, as there is no steady market at the time this book goes to press.

**Norfolk Island** is part of Australia, and the stamps of this "Electorate" have been included accordingly. Attention is directed to:

1. Inclusion of an item in this catalogue **does not** mean we hold stocks of that item.
2. Shades and Colours are listed in this book (particularly in the 1d. Georgian), with strict relation to each and every other stamp in that series, and, whilst opinions may vary, our Shade Control is all covering, and strictly adhered to by us at all times. (See inside cover.)
3. Prices of practically all **scarce items** have been given conservatively low, and actual selling prices can only be given after we have purchased those items.
4. The Handbook of the Kangaroo Type Stamps of Australia, by Major H. Dormer Legge, is being published simultaneously with this edition. Full particulars are given on cover iii.
5. All prices listed are subject to fluctuations.

The sections of this Edition are now:—

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Single and Large Multiple Watermarks . . . . .	"	G.	Page 19
Small Multiple Watermarks . . . . .	"	G.	Page 38
Other Ordinary Issues . . . . .	"	O.	Page 47
Other Ordinary Issues, George VI . . . . .	"	O.	Page 48
Special Issues, Commemoratives . . . . .	"	S.	Page 54
Air Stamps . . . . .	"	A.	Page 67

Due to increased costs of production from causes beyond our control, it has been found necessary to increase the price at which it has remained for so long, viz., 3/6, to 4/6 per copy.

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ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.

## INTRODUCTION

The continued and continuous demand for Stamps of The Commonwealth of Australia is steadily forcing the advances of prices of many items, particularly the obsolete issues of Geo. V, which have been fairly stable in recent revisions of prices.

The prices of Mint, High Value 'Roos are still moving upward, and there is every indication that no abatement of prices can be expected, simply because every Mint Stamp placed in a collection is one less in circulation, and even when "holdings" are released such items are very speedily absorbed.

The two governing factors in Stamp Collecting, viz., pleasure from the hobby, security of investment, are combined in a well-chosen collection of Stamps of The Australian Commonwealth.

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2. Shades and Colours are listed in this book (particularly in the 1d. Georgian), with strict relation to each and every other stamp in that series, and, whilst opinions may vary, our Shade Control is all covering, and strictly adhered to by us at all times.
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ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.

## INTRODUCTION

During the year 1950 the popularity of Stamps of the Australian Commonwealth was maintained and increased. This has resulted in further enhancement of values, which is now noticeably apparent in the George VI issues of 1937-39.

Following the precedent of Stanley Gibbons (see European Catalogue (Part II) page 262, following Germany S.G. 51) we have listed in this edition certain stamps "which found their way on to the market" during the years 1946-50.

The attention of Collectors making use of this Catalogue is particularly drawn to the following:—

1. Prices listed in this Catalogue are for Stamps held by us or which we can reasonably expect to become available.
2. Two Handbooks on Australian Stamps are now on the press, and expected to be available simultaneously with this edition. Particulars appear on pages 62 and 69.
3. All prices are subject to fluctuation without notice.

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## INTRODUCTION

The use of the "letters and numbers in conjunction" from this catalogue by collectors to set up their collections is freely and fully given.

The use of "those letters and numbers in conjunction" for **trading purposes of any kind** is considered an infringement of our copyright, and if necessary legal decision on the matter will be sought from the Supreme Court of Australia.

The attention of collectors making use of this catalogue is directed to—

1. The prices listed are for Stamps guaranteed correctly identified as to shade, paper and printer.
2. The Handbooks on Australian Stamps available from our distributors are:—
  1. "The Kangaroo Issues of Australian Stamps."
  2. "The Line Engraved Issues of 1914, and the Essays, Die and Plate Proofs of the Georgian 1d."
  3. An Introduction to the Study of the "King George V 1½d. Die 2.

All these handbooks are published and copyrighted by us.

The sections of this Edition are now:—

The Kangaroo Series . . . . .	Lettered	K.	Page 4
The Engraved Stamps. . . . .	"	E.	Page 16
The Georgian Issues (Head of George V)—			
Single Line Perforations . . . . .	"	A.	Page 18
Single and Large Multiple Watermarks. . . . .	"	G.S.	Page 19
Small Multiple Watermarks . . . . .	"	G.	Page 38
Other Ordinary Issues . . . . .	"	G.	Page 47
Other Ordinary Issues, George VI . . . . .	"	O.	Page 48
Special Issues, Commemoratives . . . . .	"	O.	Page 54
Air Stamps . . . . .	"	S.	Page 67

In ordering, always give the prefix letter and number.

### Note Particularly.

The pricing of Imprints and Controls in almost every instance is now given in "Blocks of Four."

The system of listing is to give first the primary colour, and then all shades of that colour; then varieties, lettered a, b c, etc. The prices for the varieties are for the cheapest shades.

The extreme right column gives a description of the variety, and also a list of the varieties known. Major varieties include shades, retouches, re-entries, and more noticeable plate flaws, etc.

Minor varieties consist mainly of electro flaws and faults. As their philatelic interest is small, we do not list them.

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ORLO-SMITH & CO.,  
Melbourne.