

INTRODUCTION

The thirty-fourth edition of our catalogue has been up-dated and undergone a close review in several respects.

The frequency of new issues — short and long term definitives and commemoratives — continues to expand the catalogue. It cannot be too strongly stressed that the use of plastic intermediaries in the production of the recess printed issues has tended to produce a far greater number of major varieties than hitherto; in fact, all the recess printed low and high values of the past ten years have presented students with rather more research than with which they can adequately cope, but the results are reflected in the continually extending lists of varieties. The photogravure emissions offer less scope, apart from the frequency of missing colours.

Study of stamps while still current and a thorough understanding of the production and printing processes is essential to ensure a proper evaluation of the merits of any item, and to minimise misleading and incorrect deductions.

Apropos these remarks, it is pertinent to mention the problems experienced by three members of each The Australian Commonwealth Collectors' Club of New South Wales and The British Society of Australian Philately who combined to undertake the recently published research into the 1½d Die I, King George V of 1918-26 — issues of fifty years ago. This study was extremely difficult and it is hoped the concise revision appearing in this edition and based on this research does some justice to these members' efforts which are fully appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by the editor.

The examination of over one million copies of Q34/35 by Mr G. Durham of England again necessitated the re-writing of these issues, and the editor is specially indebted to him for passing on the results of his study and his staunch assistance.

Also included in this edition is reference to the 'Specimen' overprints on the early Postage Dues, and several additional illustrations.

The main review relates to pricing. The demand for Kangaroo and George V issues and associated varieties in good mint condition far exceeds availability and such material may be regarded as being in the 'jet set' class. In general, prices are up-lifted, odd ones stabilised or reduced. In this respect, the editor extends his thanks to a particular Stamp Dealers' Committee for a thoughtfully compiled and rather equitably based guide to the pricing herein.

The valued assistance again rendered by Messrs G. Thomas and I. Mastins of Brisbane is also acknowledged; indeed, all who contributed information for the improvement of the content of this catalogue earn the editor's gratitude.

PLEASE NOTE: We are not a stamp dealing firm
and do not supply stamps listed in this catalogue.