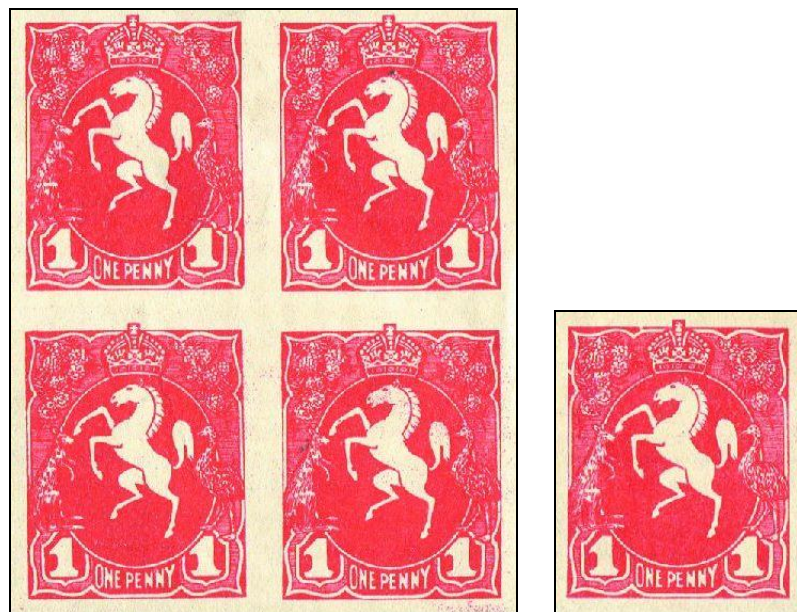


AUSTRALIA

Counter Sheets



1932. Chambon Lyre bird design.



King George V era. Prancing horse essay.



Asher & Co dummy bird design. Preliminary artwork and test printing for tender with Australia Post.



Chambon kingfisher bird design.



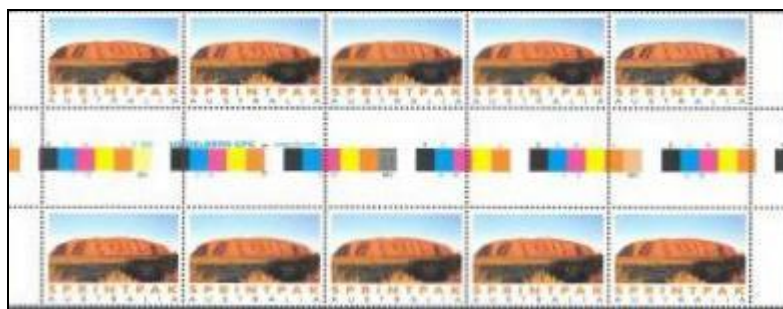
1977. Colour progressives produced for a stamp show.



1986. Stampex 86 souvenir card commemorating Asiago Int'l Prize for Philatelic Art.



1990. Uluru (Ayes Rock) design by Sprintpak-SNP.



Uluru gutter strip.



1992 Kuala Lumpa sample covers. Self-adhesive and water activated.



75c Clipper ship design. Reduced “stamps” known to have been issued at Ausipex and for distribution to its postal customers. Printed by Cambec.

PRINT PRODUCTION COMPUTER AGE

This type of formation coupled with the use of rapid access film and chemistry minimised the problems inherent with the production of 300 lines per inch screen separations.

The Scanner is completely digitalized and its advanced electronic systems produces separations that are predictable for colour balance and fine detail is preserved.

The use of electronic masking and colour controls can also help in cleaning up colours, removing of casts and also accentuating detail.

After input, the 860 Color Monitor with a very fine linear lined colour viewer can display the original with an enlargement of up to 5000%. At this stage with the electronic cursor and the manipulation of the electronic pixels any scratches or imperfections that were on the original can be removed. Areas of colour can be increased or completely changed, objects from other previously scanned copy can be composed into the subject. Stipples of any colour can be incorporated and when the result is completed it can be viewed on the screen at the production size prior to outputting to film.

Production of colour separations with the necessary qualities for stamp type production is now far superior on these fourth generation scanners than was previously possible to obtain on the earlier Scanners, Camera or enlargers.

PRINT PRODUCTION

After the film preparation stage has been completed, the stamp film is stepped onto the printing plates, in some cases as many as 600 images up together.

The plates are then set onto a multi-colour offset printing machine – 6 colours can be printed in one pass through the machine. Cambec Press control the quality of reproduction by utilising the high technology offered through the Heidelberg computer print control system, which enables the most exacting colour and print consistency to be maintained throughout the run.

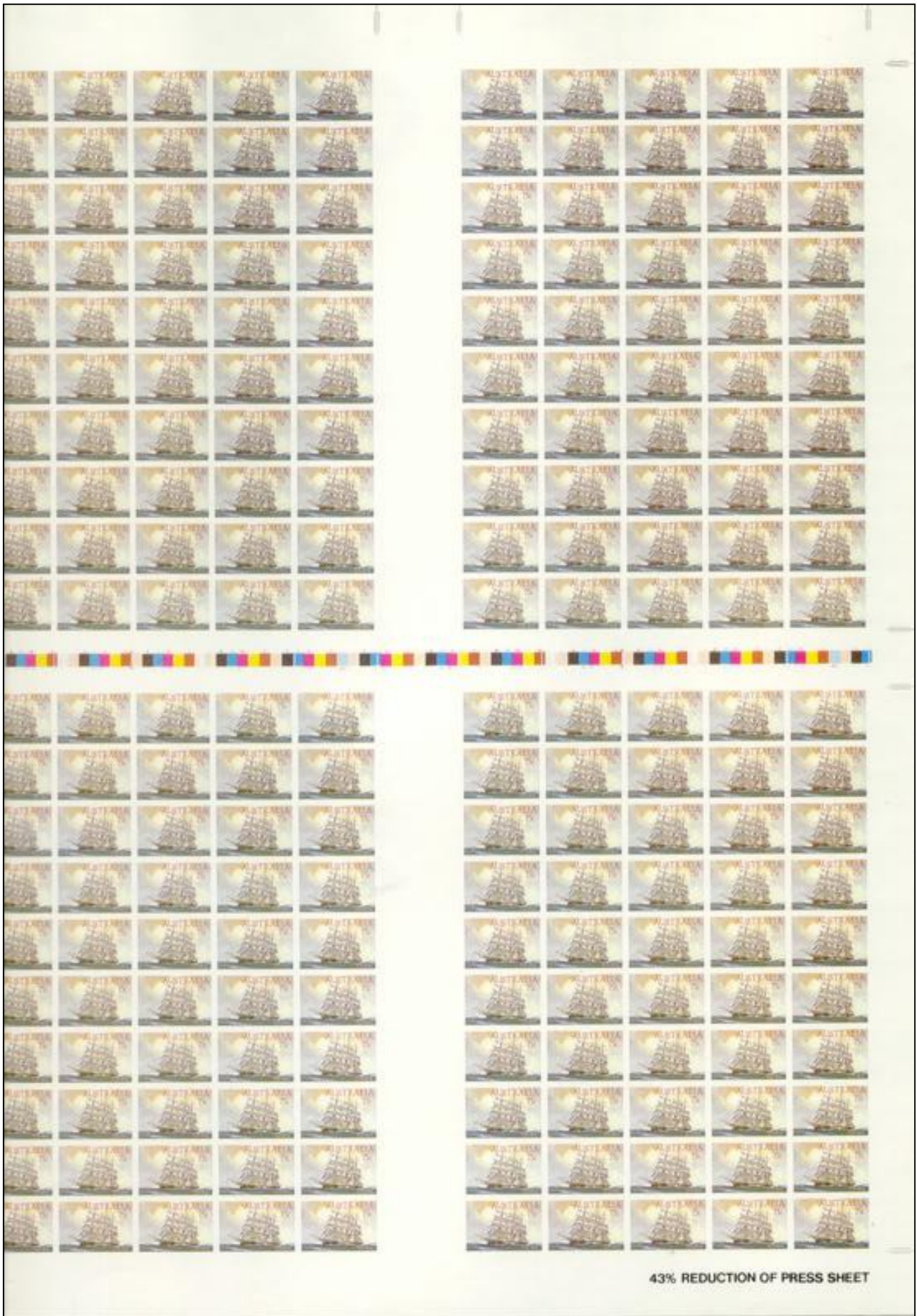
The “colour bar” shown on the front of this sheet is printed on all stamp sheets and read electronically by the C.P.C. system and any variance in colour or print quality is immediately highlighted to the printer.

FINISHING

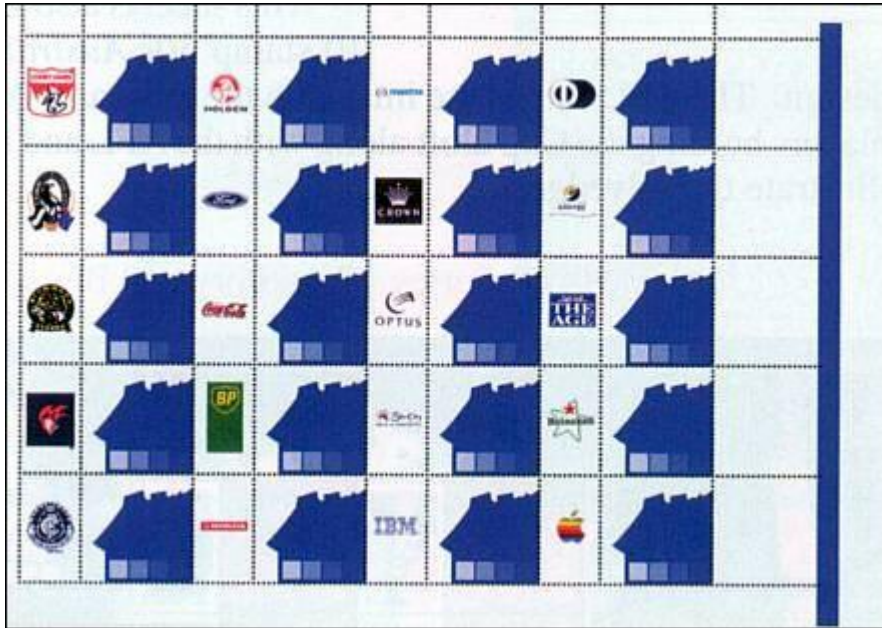
When the printing process is finished the stamp sheets are guillotined to an interim size ready for electronic perforating, after perforating the sheets are guillotined to a final sheet size with either 50 or 100 stamps. On view these sheets are then individually checked by a skilled inspection team who ensure that only perfect stamps are finally delivered to Australia Post.

Reverse print on some sheets.

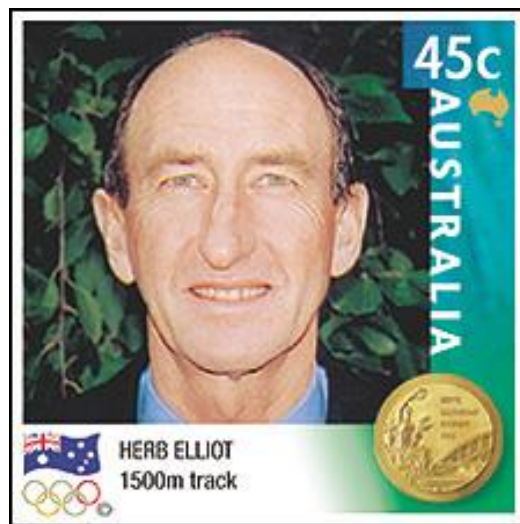




Full sheet.



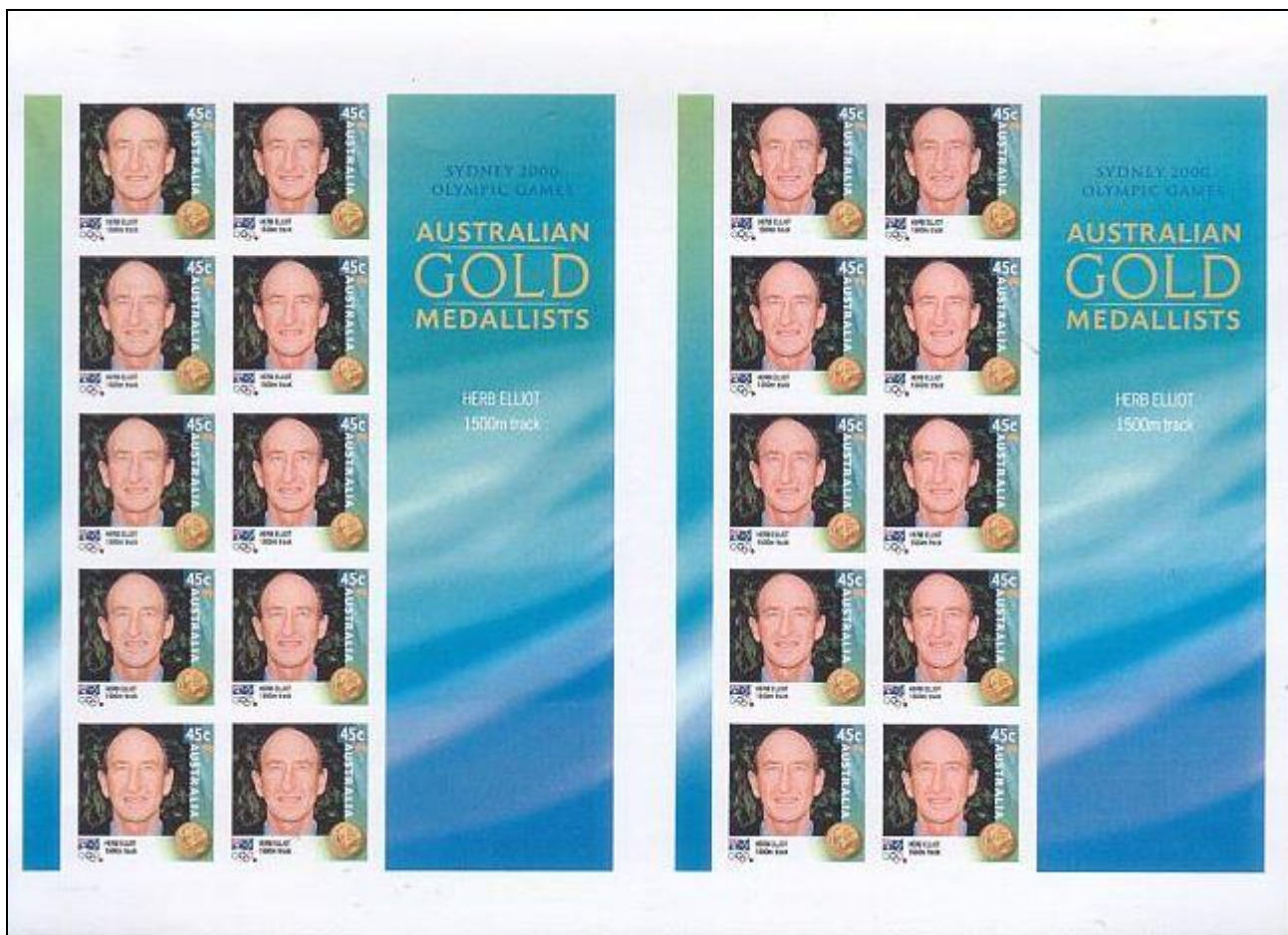
Adstamps essay sheet.



2000. Trial design used as part of digital stamp preparations.



Half sheet.



Full double pane.

2000 Sydney Olympics 45c Gold Medallist Herb Elliot digitally printed essay pair of sheetlets of 10. This very rare "essay" was used to test the digital printing machinery prior to the production of the gold medallist's sheetlets which were issued the day after the gold medallists won their medals. (Herb Elliot was the winner of the 1500 metres in Rome in 1960). World class rarity with only 2 other pairs known.

For the Olympic Games held in Sydney in 2000, Australia Post produced digital stamps overnight for next day issuance. Sixteen sheets were produced, one for each Gold Medal winning Australian athlete.

These digital stamps were printed on Fuji Xerox 40/40 copiers, in Fuji Xerox plants and offices in each state. Each copy centre was supplied with sheets of A4 size, pre-perforated and gummed, stamp paper. The sheet had a roulette down the centre, to facilitate its separation into two A5 size sheets of ten stamps. Thus the A4 size sheet was a production format, and it was Australia Post's intention that the A4 size sheets be separated and sold solely as A5 size sheets of ten.

Between each sheet of stamp paper was an interleaf of standard copy paper, printed all over in black. This interleaf was necessary to stop the sheets of gummed stamp paper sticking together in the heat of the photocopier machine and damaging the drum. The interleaf paper was printed black prior to use because the stamp image was printed not only on the stamp paper, but also on the interleaf sheet. By using black paper the stamp image was largely obliterated and there was no risk of mistaking them for real stamps. The black interleaf sheets had no purpose other than to stop the stamp sheets sticking together in the photocopier; it has no conservational value as claimed by some people.

The mail order (Philatelic Bureau) quantity of A4 sheets were all separated into sheets of ten and the interleaf sheets were destroyed. Hence, A4 size sheets of Gold Medallist stamps or the black interleaf sheets were not officially available from Australia Post. However, as the interleaved sheets were not necessarily separated and cut down in this way at Post Offices, they do exist as A4 double sized sheets with the interleaf given away as a bonus item by postal officials. These are very scarce items and are not very easy to come by from dealers.

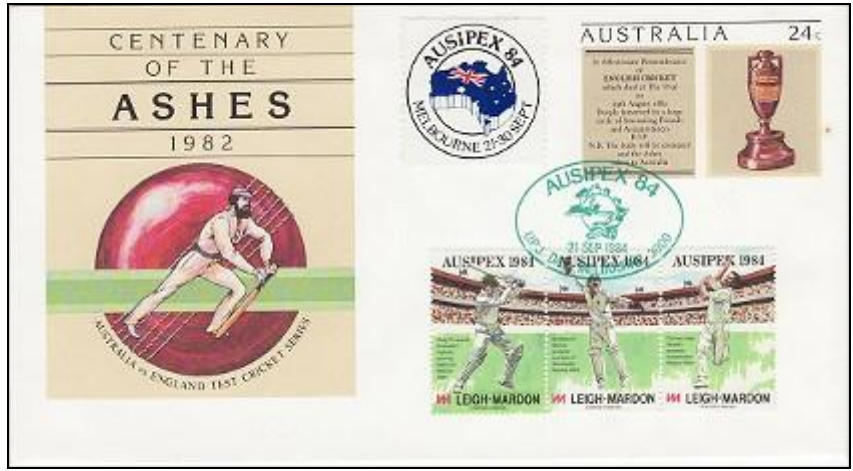
The sheetlets were printed in the States of Western Australia, South Australia (who printed some for the Northern Territory), Victoria (who printed some for Tasmania), New South Wales, Australian

Capital Territory and Queensland. A small Australian creature like a kookaburra or koala printed in red in the margin identifies the State of origin. These digital stamps were available from 70 nominated Post Offices within 24 hours of the medal being won. Quantities printed were: New South Wales, 135,000 stamps per medallist; Australian Capital Territory, 55,000; Queensland, 65,000; Victoria, 105,000; South Australia, 60,000 and Western Australia, 55,000. Of the total printing of 475,000 stamps, some 35,000 stamps were reserved from each print site for mail orders and orders after the Games.

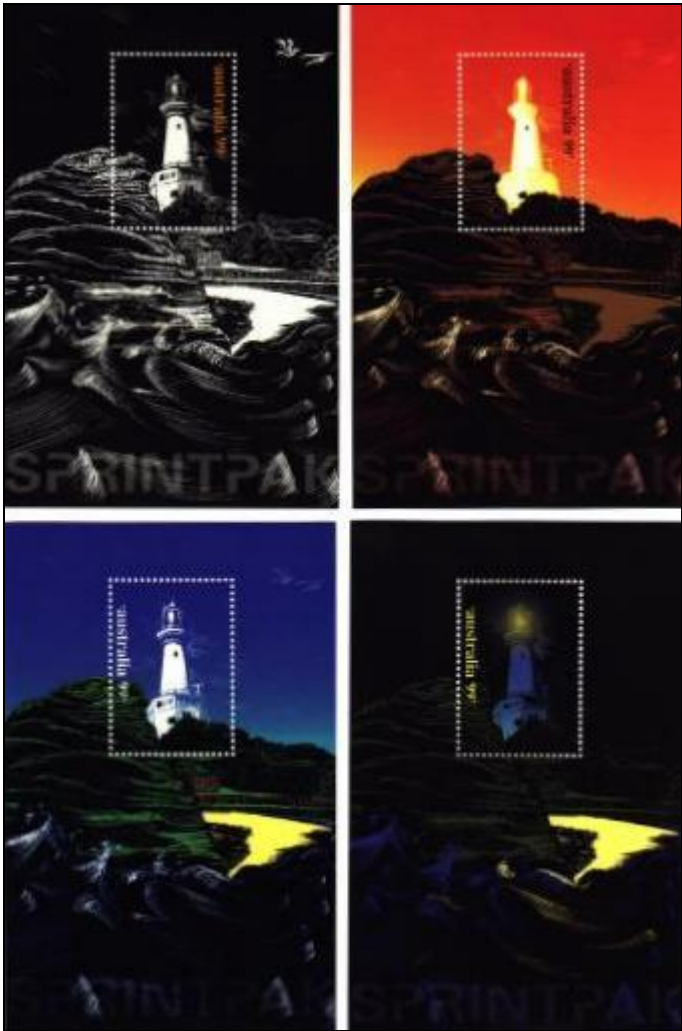
Compiled with the assistance and knowledge of Don Lewis, proprietor of Stampsoz.

Miniature / Souvenir Sheets





1984. Leigh-Mardon cricket souvenir for Ausipex 84.



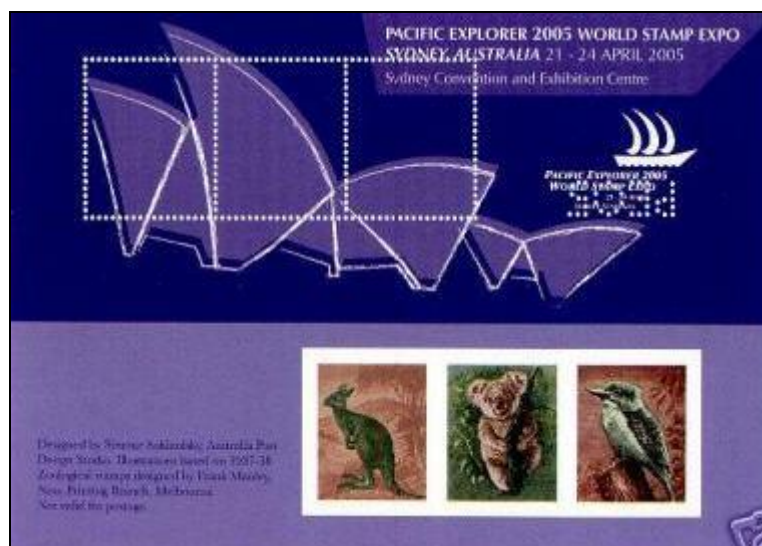
1999. Lighthouses MS produced for AUSTRALIA 99 stamp show. Water activated.



"Rare" examples on card or cover. Water activated.

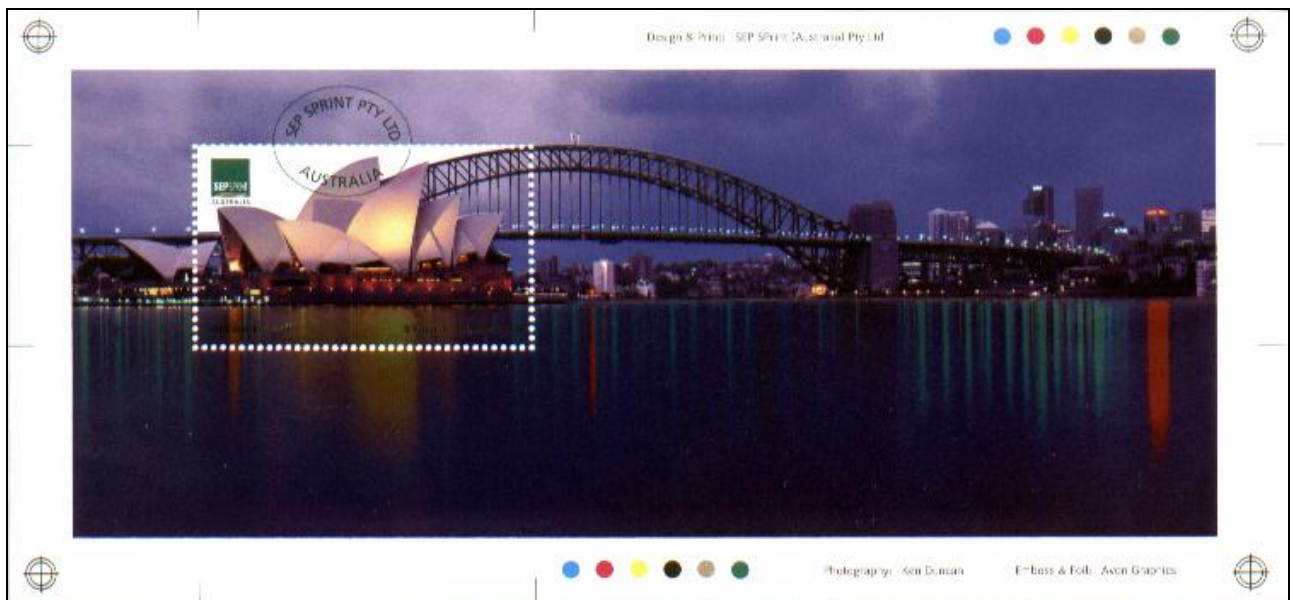


2005. Pacific Explorer 2005 pair of sheets with and without PE05 perfin and perforations.





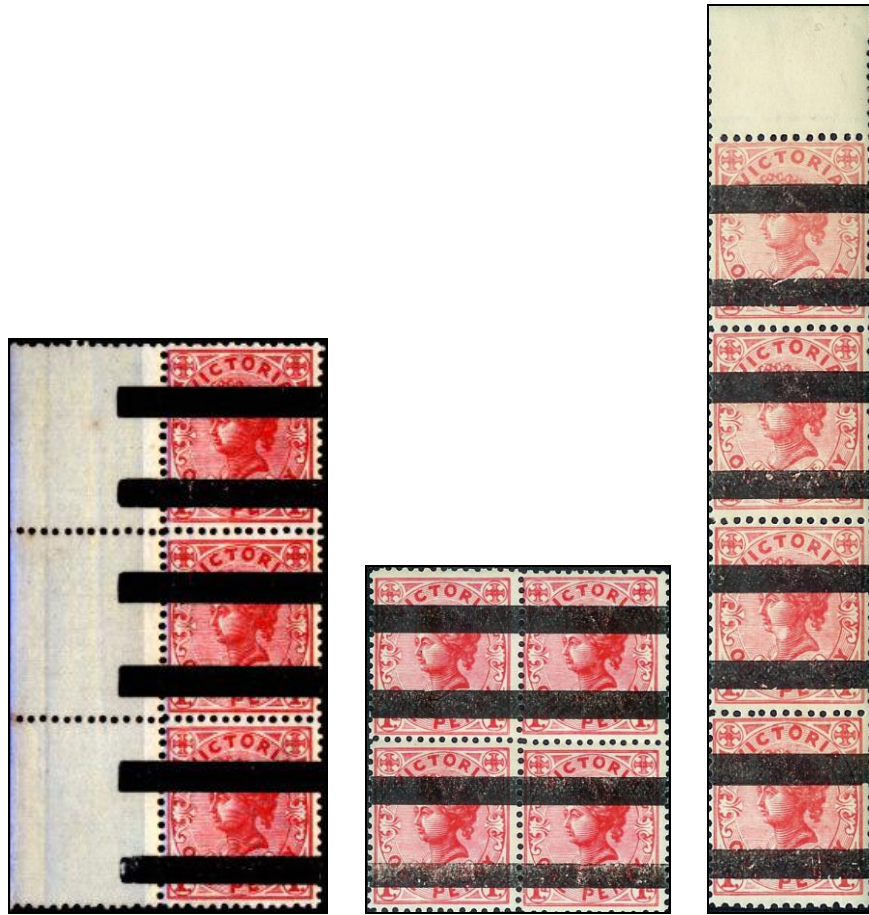
Inverted perforations (easily created by attendees cheekily putting sheet in upside down!) and misplaced perms.



2006. Washington 2006 souvenir sheet by SEP Sprint Australia.

Booklets

Coils



Victoria vending machine overprinted and used as trial labels.

In October 1907 the Melbourne Stamp Printer applied two 4½mm black invalidating lines to 500 sheets (120-on & various perforations) of Victorian 1d Naish design stamps which were formed into rolls by British Stamp & Ticket Automatic Vending Co and forwarded to Wellington (NZ) for extensive vending tests by Robert Dickie

QV 1d ROSE DIE 2 - V OVER CROWN WMK



Rose red shade - line perf 11



Rose shade - line perf 12½

In conjunction with this coil testing, the PMG was supplied with a New Zealand freestanding wooden dispenser developed by Dickie & Brown. This was installed outside the Melbourne GPO where 1d coil stamps were dispensed from 9th to 14th March 1908. In practical terms these QV coils are not distinguishable as such

DICKIE & BROWN MACHINE
COIL DISPENSING TESTS

Wellington (NZ) mail clerk, R.J. Dickie first proposed coil vending of stamps in 1905. In association with local engineers J.H. Brown and W. Andrews, he devised a successful coin operated stamp dispenser which, in association with Kermodie Co (UK) was remodelled in 1907 and used to test Victorian rolls of invalidated coils consigned to New Zealand by Australian PMG Department



*V over Crown (V4) wmk
Pale rose shade - comb perf 12 x 12½*

Residual stocks of unused invalidated Victorian test stamps were returned to Melbourne in sheets or blocks. Examples displayed are from this source

R.J. DICKIE AUTOGRAPHED STRIP



*Pale rose shade - line perf 12½
Selvage endorsed "R J Dickie 1908 AUS"*



The three main Australian coil testing labels. Red colour is very expensive.

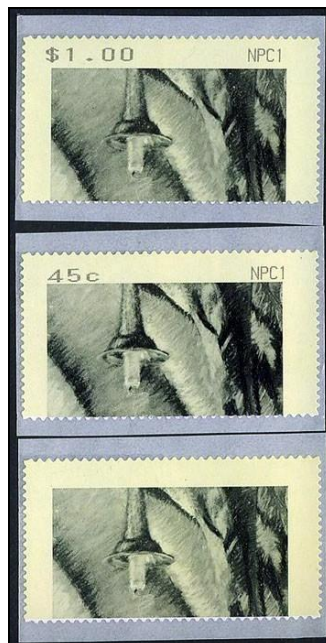


Green coil join.

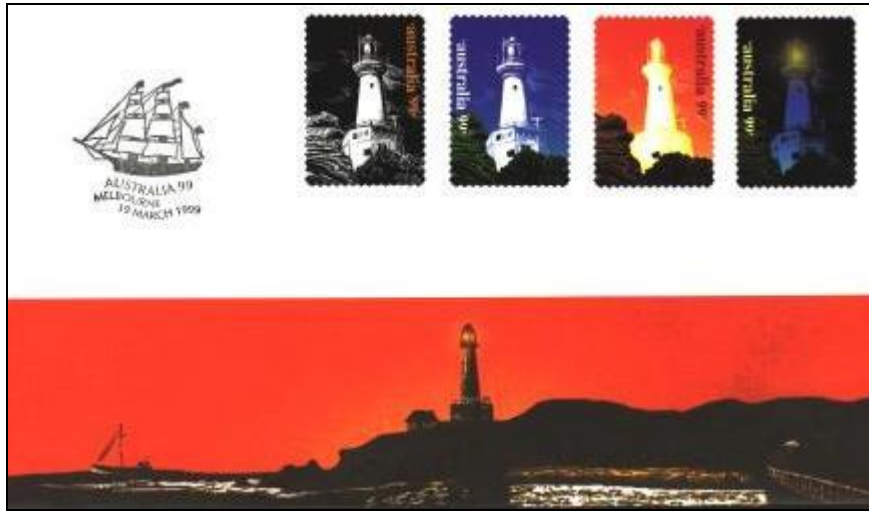
ATM Labels



Specimen of Frama label.

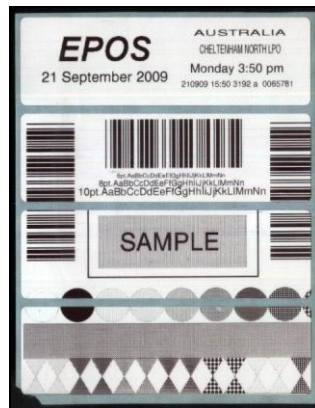


Pemara candles design.



1999. Lighthouses singles on information sheet produced for AUSTRALIA 99 stamp show. Self-adhesive.

Your compiler has never seen mint examples on original backing paper.



2009. EPOS label sample.

Postal Stationery