

Postal Rates

TWO SHILLINGS AND SIX PENCE

8d postage, 1/9d airmail, 1d Late Fee = 2/6d for 3½ ounce
Port Hedland 3 June 1933

TWO SHILLINGS NINE PENCE

Postage 8d, airmail 2/-, 1d Late Fee = 2/9d for 4 ounce
Spencer Street 12 January 1934



Mr J W Paterson
119 Cannonwealth Bank Buildings
St Georges Terrace
Perth

WA



W. A. Parry Esq.,
Secy Treas. (Aust.) Ltd.,
98 William Street,
PERTH. W.A.

BY AIR MAIL

Postal Rates

THREE SHILLINGS FOUR PENCE

10d postage, 2/6d airmail – 3/4d for 5 ounce letter rate

Perth 20 December 1932

ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.



AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Manager,
Anglo-Swiss Cond. Milk Co. (Aust) Ltd.,
George's Terrace,

THREE SHILLINGS SIX PENCE

10d postage, 2/6d airmail, 2d (?) Late Fee = 3/6d for 5 ounce letter rate

Sydney- Adelaide route was not opened until 30 December 1936 so this via Melbourne.

Sydney Airmail Late Fee 24 December 1936

International Routes
USA

LOS ANGELES 1929

American stamp dealers sent prepared covers for postage from Perth using American stamps for the 5 cents domestic rate that was accepted by the US Post Office. Two Roessler covers are recorded by Pope and Todd via Los Angeles. The covers were underpaid for air in Australia and sea to USA, so were sent by rail to Sydney. By sea to San Francisco, missent to Los Angeles, air to New York either via San Francisco or Salt Lake City. The US stamps were not authorised for airmail but seem to have been accepted rather than annulled.



Perth 28 September 1929, Los Angeles 14 November



Perth 1 July 1930, Reading 4 August

International Routes
USA

The American Watheroo Magnetic Observatory would have been one of the few places in Western Australia that maintained a stock of US airmail stamps. The top cover is Cover B of the 4 recorded by Pope and Todd (2009). Possibly one airmail stamp missing.



To the Director,

VIA AMERICAN AIR-MAIL

R PERTH
West Australia
No. 5425

Department of Terrestrial Magnetism,

5241

~~36th Street~~ and Broad Branch Road,

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

WASHINGTON, D. C., U. S. A.

34576

FROM:

MAGNETIC OBSERVATORY,
WATHEROO,
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

VIA SYDNEY

Perth 23 May 1930, Sydney 29 May, Seattle 20 June, Washington 22 June, Chevy Chase 23 June

FROM THE WATHEROO MAGNETIC OBSERVATORY

R Watheroo
No. 1301



To the Director,

Department of Terrestrial Magnetism,

5241

~~36th Street~~ and Broad Branch Road,

FIRST AUSTRALIAN ACCEPTANCE 1929

Imperial Airways introduced weekly airmail service on 30 March 1929 but Australian mail was not accepted until December 1929 when the route was extended to Dehli. Mail was carried from Fremantle on 16 December by sea to Colombo, rail to Jaffna, ferry to Tuticorin, rail to Madras, Bombay and Karachi, air to Jask, Linga, Bushire, Basra, Baghdad, Rutbah Wells, Gaza, Alexandria, Crete, Athens, rail to Hook of Holland, sea and rail to London. It arrived in London on 9 January 1930, ahead of the mail steamer on 12 January.

1 ½d postage, 3d Australian airmail, 6d Karachi airmail = 10 ½d



North Sydney
11 December 1929



3d postage, 6d Karachi airmail (possibly underpaid for 1 ounce letter).

Perth 10 December 1929, boxed Underpaid for Aerial Mail

London-Delhi Route

INWARDS

This mail was carried by air from London to Paris and by train to Athens. The Italian Government objected to Imperial Airways flying over Italy.



Wadhurst 11 January 1930, Tunbridge Wells 11 January, London 12 January, Perth 11 February, Bunbury 12 February



In September 1930 the route was changed again. By air from Karachi to Athens, by rail to Nish (Serbia), by air to Vienna and on to London. 1 ½d postage, 1/- airmail for one ounce
Guildford 6 September 1930

London-Brisbane Route

FIRST EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHT: CRASH 1931

Imperial Airways flight left London for Karachi on 4 April 1931 and left for Singapore on 17 April. The aircraft crashed at Koepang on 19 April wrecking the aircraft. Kingsford Smith in 'Southern Cross' carried the mail to Darwin. The mail for Western Australia was offloaded and the remainder carried by QANTAS to Brisbane on 28 April and by ANA to Sydney on 29 April.

Singapore
16 April 1931
Darwin
25 April
Perth
4 May



British mail in closed bag for Perth was not postmarked at Darwin. Flown to Perth by MMA and back to Hall's Creek. Return to London by surface mail.



London
2 April 1931
Perth
4 May
Hall's Creek
12 May
Unclaimed
Hall's Creek
30 July
Return to Sender
London
7 October

Outwards: Pre-war

FIRST AUSTRALIA - ENGLAND AIR MAIL 1931

Special cachet struck on back but not all registered covers were struck on arrival. The ANA/Imperial Airways flight departed Sydney on 23 April.
2d postage, 3d registration, 1/9 air mail = 2/2 half ounce letter rate.
Perth Registered 13 April 1931,

FIRST AUSTRALIA-ENGLAND EXPERIMENTAL AIR MAIL FLIGHT.



F.G.L. Hedges, Esq.,
C/- Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Ltd.,
391 Strand,
LONDON. W.C. 2.
ENGLAND.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

R.6
R PERTH
West Australia
No. 5739



Perth to England



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

R.5
R PERTH
West Australia
No. 5979

Mr Charles White
c/o Miss Jean Hay
c/o Miss Bennett
32A Dulce Hill
London S.W. 2.
England

Do not open

Over 200 registered covers were processed at Perth, many for this flight.
2d postage, 3d registration, 3/6 air mail = 3/11 ounce letter rate
Perth Registered 13 April 1931, Registered Brixton 15 May

International Routes

SECOND EXPERIMENTAL MAIL LONDON - BRISBANE 1931

London 24 April 1931

Indo-Ceylon Down TPO 7 May

mss in red ink "In the bag of 25/4/31

from London Via Dehli on 8/5/31"

presumed written at Colombo



BY SECOND EXPERIMENTAL AIR MAIL FLIGHT AUSTRALIA - ENGLAND.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



C225

H. WALLET-VEALE, ESQ.,
SILVERSAND PRIVATE BAG,
P.O. WINDHOEK,
SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

via London
England

R
PERTH
West Australia
No. 8428

Cairo - Cape Town route not opened until December 1931 so sent via London.

Perth 6 May 1931, Windhuk 3 June

International Routes

KLM EXPERIMENTAL MAIL 1931

As part of Imperial Preference arrangements, Australia sought to keep KLM out of Australian airmail service despite their performance being better than Imperial Airways.

Batavia 11 May 1931
 Melbourne 19 May
 mss in red ink
 "Posted in letter
 receiver P.O.
 Traralgon 27/5/31"
 Traralgon 27 May
 Melbourne 28 May
 Perth 1 June
 Nannup 4 June



As KLM had maintained scheduled weekly service to Batavia for more than a year, there was confusion as to whether that service was to extend to Australia.

S'Gravenhage 8 July 1931, Perth August, Nannup 6 August

International Routes

KLM EXPERIMENTAL MAIL RETURN FLIGHT 1931

The prohibitive rates (Imperial Airways Experimental rate 1/11d) are shown on this commemorative cover (not seen used from Western Australia).

ALL AIR ROUTE



AUSTRALIA - DUTCH EAST INDIES
HOLLAND



BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

PLACE STAMPS HERE

THIS ENVELOPE TO BE USED FOR THE FIRST
EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHT TO HOLLAND
POSTAGE TO DUTCH EAST INDIES 2/-, NOT EXCEEDING 10s.
TO INDIA 3/6, NOT EXCEEDING 10s.
TO HOLLAND 3/6, NOT EXCEEDING 10s.
TO UNITED KINGDOM 2/6, NOT EXCEEDING 10s.

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

CARNARVON
West Australia

No. 802



Alex. Marchand Esq.

Nectis

Canaster Rd.

Beckenham.

Kent.

England



Australia - Netherlands - Indies

Carnarvon 19 May 1931, Wyndham 25 May

International Routes

FIRST ALL-AUSTRALIAN AIRMAIL TO ENGLAND 1931: CRASH

ANA 'Southern Star' left Hobart on 19 November but crashed at Alor Star. Kingsford Smith in 'Southern Star' carried the mails to England. Also carried by air from Peru and in US.

Perth 16 November 1931, New York 22 December, Cristobal 28 December, Peru 31 December, Arequipa 7, Cristobal 6 January 1932, Atlanta 9 January, Cincinnati 9 January, San Francisco 11 January, Perth 19 February, Mt. Lawley 20 January

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

Perth
Western Australia
R No. 2401

SERVOED PERU
AREQUIPA



Australian Air Mail and per
Australia-England Special Air Mail
and By American Air Mail.

C. AREQUIPA
No. 549
Serie I

3
3



Correo Aeronaval
Certificada



Mr W. Bromfield,
~~Care W. V. Brown, Esq., 70 Clotilde St.~~
~~PE CC del Sur del Peru, Mount Lawley~~
~~AREQUIPA, Peru,~~ Western Australia
~~South America,~~
~~Via London, England.~~

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION



Mr + Mrs J. Pickering
Waverley H. d. J.
Nannup

CHRISTMAS MAIL 1931: DELAYED

Kingsford Smith's return flight was to deliver promotional mail for Xmas but was delayed in London until 7 January 1932.

Buckie 15 December 1931, Perth January 25 1932, Nannup 25 January

International Routes

FIRST SCHEDULED AIRMAIL TO AUSTRALIA 1934

Imperial Airways left London on 8 December for Darwin Where QANTAS exchanged mails. MMA collected WA mails at Brunette Downs for carriage in closed bag to Perth. Despite Ord River-Wyndham service opening on 8 October, this cover was sent by sea. London 8 December 1934, Perth 21 December, Wyndham 20 February 1935



Cape via
Cairo and Tiberias
Bremersdorp
30 November 1934
Darwin
19 December
Perth
21 December
Nannup
24 December

International Routes

LONDON-SYDNEY EMPIRE AIRMAIL SCHEME 1938

Chaos reigned in the weeks before the first flying boat *Challenger* arrived in Darwin on 3 July and Sydney 6 July carrying 7,000 letters. Not until 15 July were contracts let for MMA twice weekly services to Darwin and ANA weekly service to Adelaide connecting to the flying boat service. Politically, EAMS was to strengthen Imperial ties with Britain.

Singapore
1 July 1938
Perth
8 July



Budapest
17 December 1938

KNILM SCHEDULED SERVICE 1938

The Dutch Lockheed landed in Sydney a day before the Imperial Airways flying boat. Budapest was a stop on the Dutch route.

PAPUA ROUTES

W.R. Carpenter Airlines commenced mail service from Sydney to Port Moresby and Rabaul on 30 May 1938. These covers illustrate different routes from Sydney.
 Port Moresby 6 September 1939, Sydney 11 September, Registered Melbourne 12 September, Kalgoorlie 14 September



Port Moresby 6 September 1939, Sydney 11 September, Registered Adelaide 7 September, registered Perth 15 September, Boyup Brook 18 September

New Zealand Route

Scheduled airmail between Australia and New Zealand did not occur until 1940 so there were only occasional special flights.



Perth 2 April 1934, Melbourne 5 April, flight cachet, Christchurch 12 April



The flight by Kingsford Smith ran into difficulties and the return flight was cancelled. Carried by sea to Australia and air to Perth.

Johnsonville 14 May 1935