#### THE AUSTRALASIAN

PHONECARD MONTHLY



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		- AMERICA -	
- CHINESE -	Galling	New York Telephone Co	Selling
	Selling Mint	New Tork Telephone of	Mint
SHANGHAI	Mint		
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East Asian Games 11 (error pair)	\$ 95	\$5.25 Skyline	\$160
(only 1,300 pairs exist)		\$5.25 Democratic Convention	\$650
Year of the Rooster (2 cards)	\$ 70	\$5.25 New York By Night 1	\$ 45
East Asian Games 11 (set 5)	\$220	\$5.25 New York By Night 11	\$ 18
TIBET		Ellis Island Set (4)	\$ 90
First Card issued	\$ 45	\$5.25 Summer In The City	\$ 15
1992 Scenes (set 4)	\$218	\$5.25 New York Tennis	\$ 15
NANKING			
Dragon Olympic (set 9)	\$250	BUYING EARLY NEW YORK CARD	S
ANHUI			
Landscape Series (set 8)	\$210	SUPER SPECIAL	
SHANDONG	4220	\$0.40 MICHIGAN BELL COMPLIMEN	ITARY
1993 Scenes/Temples (set 5)	\$ 75	\$1,250 (European Retail \$1,7	
	4 .0		
JIANGXI	) \$148	- AUSTRALIA -	
1992 Scenes/Animal Stamps (set 12			
1993 Scenes/Stamp O/print (set 5)	\$ 90	See Free Insert for Selling I	Prices
Mao Tse Tung (set 6)		BUYING ALL AUSTRALIAN	
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(0 - 300 RANGE)

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MINT - 98 % COMPLETE: includes 101 Tower (only 5 known to exist).

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			Gremlins II Advert	\$10	-
CZECHOSLOVAKIA		A 00.0	Table Tennis Championship	\$12	-
Ferrari F40	\$25	\$40	Gridiron US Football	\$10	- 000
Horses	\$10	\$25	Basketball various each	\$ 6	
Renault Truck	\$12	CATED	Pandas various each	\$ 6	OHY
Chameleon Lizard	\$ 8		Trains various each	\$ 5	-
Playboy	\$40	-	Cats/Dogs/Birds/Butterflies each	\$ 5	-
Queen Band Photo (worn)	\$30		Japanese scenes each	\$ 3	-
Local Rock Band Photo	\$ 7	20.10	OF STATE A SERVICE		
Various used from	\$ 4	-	NEW ZEALAND		
AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PERSON OF			Fluffy the Cat	-	\$15
DENMARK			Shell Sports set (5)		\$36
Kangaroo	\$20	-	Red Nose Day set (4)	-	\$35
Ad card with Roo, Shark	\$18	-	Rotary (family)	-	\$15
The clife with 1000, Similar	SHT		Phantom of the Opera	ORU- CA	\$15
FIJI			Air Expo	-	\$10
P & T Scenes first set in Pack	-	\$90	HK Phonecard Expo	RE -	\$12
(inc \$1 complimentary)			Mitre 10/Cockatoo	DMI-LIM	\$12
Ditto set (4)	\$30	-	Jurrasic Park set (4)	ail- 01	\$60
Fintel Scenes set (2)		\$35			
Ditto	\$12	THE STATE	SOLOMON ISLANDS		
P & T Hyundai Car set (4)	DIE	\$70	Guadalcanal set (4)	ABAN	\$120
P & T 2nd Scenes set (4)	ALTER TO	\$55	THE WATER WATER THE STATE OF TH		
T & T Zha Beenes set (*)		Y. FILE	USA		
GERMANY			Night Skyline (Type II)	ditt-, t	\$20
Various Advertising from	\$ 8		World University Games	aid	\$18
Various Advertising from			Summer in the City	-	\$15
HONG KONG			US Tennis Open		\$15
Scenes (old logo) each	\$12	-			
Seelles (old logo) caell	Ψ12		WALLIS & FUTUNA		
INDONESIA			25 Unit Map		\$35
Garuda Harbour Bridge	MOH	\$25	Island Scenes (2)	L. It	\$120
Garuda Hong Kong Plane		\$20			
Garda Hong Kong Flanc		424			

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# The Australasian Phonecard Monthly

November 1993

Vol. 1 No. 1

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#### EDITORIAL

"We are dealing with the most explosive marketplace to come along in many years and one that without question soon is going to become the most popular hobby in the world".

This statement, as made by Dr. Gary S. Felton whom is widely recognised as the preeminent expert on telephone card collecting in the United States, certainly envisages an exciting time ahead for the field of phonecard collecting, be it for pleasure or for profit.

I am particularly pleased to be able to produce this monthly, national Australian Phonecard magazine to both participate in and to stimulate, the dramatic future that undeniably lies ahead.

When I commenced marketing my ideas for this magazine, I envisaged an initial modest issue of copies of a magazine with some 32 pages.

The response and support from collectors (subscribers) and from dealers has however been such that the first print run immediatelly leapt beyond initial estimates in both number and magazine content.

Twice as many pages could have been filled with articles and stories and I thank those that contributed. All material provided will be used in forthcoming issues.

My obvious aim is to rapidly increase the circulation number as well as the content of the Phonecard Monthly.

The magazine will focus on the Australian and New Zealand scenes as well as providing liberal material and articles on the international scene.

The response to this magazine, from individual collectors, clubs and dealers, will be a key aspect to its development, ie., it is there to cater for the variety of needs, ages, ideas, etc., that are evident (and not so evident) in the field of Phonecard collecting.

Please respond to this, the first issue, with your comments, ideas and requests.

It is envisaged that early in the new year, colour will appear in the magazine, as all will agree, to do justice to most Phonecards they must be shown in their full colour.

Pictorial content as a consequence will increase considerably.

Early in this issue you will note an article which provides an outline of Telecom's activities since it launched a prepaid telephone card in 1990.

Whilst there has been criticism of aspects of its Phonecard production and marketing operations at times, they have to date, exhibited a sensible attitude in regards to issue numbers, whilst the quality of their cards is excellent.

Early in the new year, it is proposed that Australia will see the introduction of its second Phonecard (see article inside) which is aimed at both the consumer and collector markets (as opposed to just the former).

It will be interesting to see the response to this move, by collectors and dealers particularly, as it is a style of card which is different to that as marketed by Telecom Australia, an organisation which obviously has a monopoly at present with Australian Phonecards.

Later this year, we will see (and be able to participate in) the first major specialised auction of Australian Phonecards by prefix number.

Phonecards, both mint and 1-hole used, will be offered from 600 card runs.

The prices reached at this auction will provide a clear indication as to the demand and interest in this specialised area of collecting.

It is obvious that collecting by prefix number is the area of current high interest and this issue contains a number of articles which refer to it.

A Phonecard Prefix Numbers Catalogue has been compiled by Eddie Cummings from Edlins of Canberra and will be available at the Sydney International Phonecard Fair.

The second half of November as well as early December, will be an extremely busy time for dealers as they participate in a number of International and National Fairs and Auctions.

These events will provide an excellent opportunity for collectors of Phonecards to either build up or commence collections as Phonecards will be featured at each Fair in addition to banknotes, coins and stamps.

Of key interest also, is a major Phonecard Fair to be held in South Australia, which has been organised by the Australian Phonecard Collectors Club.

The issue of a limited edition Club Card will be a feature of this Fair.

As can be clearly seen, the interest at a national level in regards to Phonecard collecting continues to grow unabated.

I am looking forward to the prospect of being part of this growth.

#### The Editor

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- \* Pricelist on Prefix Numbers Available on Request.
- \* Australia's Largest Range of Phonecard Accessories.

## NEWS UPDATE

# NEW AUSTRALIAN PHONECARD

An all Australian company, Phone Card Australia Pty Ltd., are about to launch a new phonecard on the Australian market in early 1994.

Phone Card Australia has an affiliation with AmeriVox in the United States and their cards will be similar in style to those of that company.

Some key aspects of the proposed new phonecard are as follows:-

. It will be able to be used for local calls, ie., in existing public telephones as well as for long distance calls.

. It will be a computer controlled card with a PIN which will be able to be tracked through 5-6 sets of hands (handy if stolen).

. It will be an Australian card, ie., depicting Australian scenes and featuring national events of significance. Advertising cards will also be produced.

. Card denominations will be in Australian dollars and will probably range from \$5 to \$25.

. It is proposed to issue approximately 50 cards per year at the rate of one each week.

. Cards will be featured in sets of 4, hence, 12-13 sets per year.

. Individual card numbers will vary but will be within the 5,000 to 10,000 range, per card. Print runs per card could be as low as 500.

. Cards will be sold locally through specific dealers and through Phonecard Clubs as well as overseas to tourists visiting this country.

. Mint cards will be sold in sealed packs to assist in identification.

. Individual cards will have the capacity to be "hooked" to an individual's credit card and therefore be "recharged" and continue to be used.

. The longer the card is used, the cheaper the rate of call will become (Volume Discount Incentive).

The next issue of the "Phonecard Monthly" will have a detailed article on Phonecard Australia Pty. Ltd. and its proposed operations in regards to both the production and marketing of its phonecard as well as to additional services it will be able to offer to collectors and dealers.

# FIRST SPECIALISED PHONECARD AUCTION

This is the first major auction of such a specialised nature ever to occur in Australia.

To date, most auctions have offered common easy to obtain cards with a few good prefix numbers amongst the offerings.

This auction contains cards such as a MINT 101 TOWER of which only 5 are known to exist, as well as 1 - hole cards of three, 600 run issues.

All cards are in top condition as they have been carefully chosen over a period of time with this auction in mind.

The reserves have been set at very reasonable levels. These are at 75% of current retail prices and this corresponds to dealers wholesale buying prices.

Opportunities exist for established prefix collectors to obtain cards that may only turn up rarely and also for newer collectors to obtain many cards at one place rather than have to do the rounds of many dealers.

Non prefix cards such as the West Australian cards also represent opportunities for collectors to possibly obtain these cards at slightly lower than retail levels.

It is anticipated that this will be a very popular auction due to the high level of interest shown in collecting prefix numbers and the low levels of this stock in circulation.

Collectors should way up their bids carefully as the hard cards are likely to go a long way over the "reserve".

An Auction Catalogue insert is available in this magazine. See also advert on inside front cover.

#### **AUCTION CLOSES 10 DECEMBER 1993**

#### **VARIATIONS**

Collectors may be interested to note that whilst cleaning Phonecards with Methylated Spirits is a successful way to remove credit card ink and other marks - beware!

This practise can totally remove the green colouring of the insert arrow, changing the arrow to white.

Curiously, the only card known to be effected in this way is the \$5 Indigenous People and only occurs with the 319 Prefix!

Similarly, collectors should also be aware that cards are subject to fading if left exposed to harsh sunlight for long periods.

This accounts for some light yellow \$2 Generics that have been unsuccessfully presented as colour varieties at previous Fairs.

Don't be fooled! Whilst there is some novelty to these cards, they are to be considered damaged cards and as such, worthless!.

Sonny Carter (Sydney Phonecards)

# CHINESE PHONECARD CATALOGUE-FIRST EDITION

China has just issued its first ever phonecard catalogue. This is a glossy, professionally produced catalogue in A4 size. All cards photographed are in actual size and in full colour which is a necessity to allow you to appreciate the beauty of the cards.

Several of the earlier issues (pre 1992) only have photos shown and some of the very earliest such as the Shenzen 1988 cards are not mentioned. Information on these early issues is obviously very hard to obtain.

Anyone interested in details of the very earliest issues would do best to contact a dealer who specialises in Chinese phonecards.

Cards are illustrated by province and there is a small write up about the province along with details of quantities printed and denominational values of each set.

Readers will be pleased to note that the catalogue is written in Chinese and English. There are no details on prices at all!

All in all, an excellently produced catalogue which is a pleasure to read through, just to see the cards in real colour. A must for anyone who collects Chinese cards.

Available for \$45 plus \$2.50 postage/handling from Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards, P.O. Box 207, Belgrave, Victoria, 3160.

# PHONECARDS FEATURED AT BANKNOTE FAIR

Phonecards will also be featured at the Australian International Banknote Fair to be held in Sydney on Friday, 19 November, at the Holiday Inn Menzies.

Many of Australia's leading banknote dealers also deal in phonecards. Over half the dealers attending the fair will have good stocks of Australian and world phonecards for sale. Many dealers are also keen to buy cards for stock.

Collectors attending this Fair will have more time to spend with dealers and examine their stock as it is a lot less crowded due to it being held on a weekday.

With today's more liberal working hours and flexitime, many collectore are now able to attend Fairs and meetings during the week.

Most of Australia's major banknote dealers will be attending the Fair. Note Printing Australia will have a special archival display and the International Bank Note Society and Australian Coin Review will have information tables.

The Fair will be held at the Holiday Inn Menzies, Wynyard and Margaret Rooms, 14 Carrington Street, Sydney, from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm. Admission is free. For further information phone (02) 913 3036.

# NSW PHONECARD, STAMP & COLLECTABLES FAIR

Phonecards have become one of the most popular areas of collectables at this NSW Fair. Now in its second year, this Fair has developed a strong phonecard following with most dealers attending, having phonecards for sale.

Several dealers whom deal exclusively in phonecards take tables at the Fair on a regular basis. These include Intercards of Tomerong, NSW and Sydney Phonecards. Edlins of Canberra, Wesley Phonecards and M.E.F. Books, also have good stocks at the Fair.

The final Fair for 1993 will be held on Sunday, 5th of December at the Holiday Inn Menzies. For further information phone (02) 913 3036.

# PHONECARD COLLECTING - A MODERN -PHENOMENA

Today, we cannot travel, dine out, communicate shop, play sport or sometimes even park a car without presenting a plastic card - they form an essential part of our everyday lives.

Conservative estimates suggest there are five billion valid plastic cards, about half of which are Bank Cards. There are also a myriad of different card technologies supporting these applications.

It is not surprising, then, that a spin-off industry has developed around the phenomena of collecting plastic cards. Even less surprising is that at the fore of this phenomena is that of collecting telephone cards, for these credit card sized pieces of plastic carry fantastic images, ranging from the old masters art to modern day icons.

Phonecard collecting is now considered to be the fastest growing hobby in the world and in an age when many hobbies are declining in popularity, phonecard collecting is going against this trend.

Of all collectables - stamps, coins, postcards and such - none holds as much fascination than Phonecards, not just because they are a new technology but also because of the fascination and interest of the images they display.

Prepaid telephone tickets have been traced back as far as 1891, with the Baydem Telephone - Billets in Germany based on an identical concept to that which is used today. The customer simply paid funds in advance of using the service, with different denominations according to the duration of the telephone call.

The "ticket" was thick paper and remained in service for many years until the German Public Payphone network was developed based on coin operated payphones.

It was not until 1893, nearly 100 years later, that the Deutsche Bundespost began trials with plastic cards.

The modern system of telephone cards were first introduced into Europe in the late 1970's, with the use of pre-payment Phonecards beginning in Italy in 1976 and being followed in Belgium in 1977.

Australia is a relative newcomer to the world of Phonecards, but is already acknowledged amongst the world leaders in the collectors market. Australian Phonecards are now in such great demand that dealers are paying up to 10 per cent face value for used cards (some issues much higher).

One young collector in NSW now has a collection of used Phonecards which is valued at over \$35,000. This young entrepreneur has written his own computer program to catalogue his collection and has been selling off some of his collection and buying Fairfax shares with the proceeds!

#### PHONECARDS IN AUSTRALIA

#### Background

Telecom Australia launched a prepaid telephone card system onto the Australian market in May 1990. The system chosen for the Australian environment was supplied by the Anritsu Corporation of Japan.

The primary objective in introducing telephone cards to Australia was to improve the efficiency of Telecom Australia's payphone service. Whilst the focus was on improvements to the service, Telecom recognised from the outset that the Phonecard had the potential to become both an exciting new collectable and a significant new advertising medium.

Telecom adapted Japanese technology from a system that had been operating in Japan for several years and therfore paid close attention to how collecting had developed there.

The Japanese experience highlighted the potential for Telecom Phonecard to develop as a collectable and as an advertising medium.

#### Categories of Australian Phonecards

Telecom Australia currently issues Phonecards under two distinct categories:

#### \* Official Issue Phonecards

There is a maximum of ten official issues each year, containing anything from one to six Phonecards per issue.

Official issue Phonecards are produced for ongoing use in payphones by the public and are available through the official Phonecard Agent network.

These cards usually carry attractive and interesting images which have been selected by Telecom's Phonecard Design Approval Committee.

They may be decorative, such as the early issues showing photographic images of the states and territories, or they may commemorate a special event or day, such as the Olympic Series,

Christmas '92, Australia Day or the Adelaide Grand Prix.

Some official cards carry a generic image, such as the first generic series featuring the Telecom logo, or the latest Australiana generic series which features artists impressions of popular Australian animals and tourist sites.

#### \* Advertising Phonecards

Advertising cards form the other important category. These cards carry images which are designed to promote various companies and their products. Advertising cards may be available through Telecom's official agent network, through the company which has advertised on the card and a quantity will be reserved for sale and available to collectors through Telecom's mail order service.

What has widely become known as the "Cartoon Series" issued in August 1992, is actually the first series of advertising cards released by Telecom.



The series carries the "A" for advertising in the card code and promotes the features of Payphones and the convenience of Phonecards.

#### \* Design

Telecom Australia has established a Phonecard Design Approval Committee through which the design for every Phonecard must be passed. The role of the Committee is to develop and monitor overall policy and guidelines in relation to official Phonecard designs.

The Committee approves official issues, oversights approval of other pre-paid debit card designs and monitors the external, internal and technological matters affecting Phonecard design.

The Committee is principally concerned withh recommending design policies to meet the needs of collectors, users and advertisers/promoters.

The Committee is further responsible for ensuring that the standard of the design is not compromised and the corporate image/integrity of Telecom Phonecard is maintained.

#### \* Card Codes

Card Codes exist primarily for the use of Telecom personnel to assist in the easy recognition and identification of Phonecards and relevant artwork for the smooth progress of Telecom business.

Many collectors use these numbers for their own purposes, collecting either by print runs or serial numbers.

To help collectors understand the current code numbering system, the basics are as follows;

First letter indicates the market segment the Phonecard is designed to operate in.

- . N National
- . I International
- . A Advertising
- . G Generic
- . T Trial

#### FAIRS - SHOWS - AUCTIONS

17-18	November 1993	Spink Noble Auction	Sheraton Wentworth Hotel	Sydney
19	November 1993	Aust International Banknote Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
	November 1993	N.A.A. Coin Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
2.7	November 1993	Edlins Auction	Griffen Centre	Canberra
27	November 1993	Aust Phonecard Coll. Club Fair	TOC-H-Hall	Edwardstown
5	December 1993	NSW Phone., Stamp & Coin Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
10	December 1993	Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecard Auction	Postal	Belgrave
5	March 1994	NSW Phone., Stamp & Coin Fair	Holiday inn Menzies	Sydney
20	March 1994	Aust International Phonecard Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
25	March 1994	International Banknote Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
1	May 1994	NSW Phone., Stamp & Coin Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney

FOR FREE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THIS SECTION, WRITE TO THE EDITOR

Second and third digits represent the year of manufacture, <u>not</u> release, ie., 92, 93, 94, etc.

Fourth and fifth digits represent the design series of which the Phonecard is part, ie., 01, 02, 03, etc. This element returns to 00 at the beginning of each year.

Sixth digit indicates the actual card design within the series.

Seventh digit indicates the value of the Phonecard Sometimes the digit appears with a small "a" which shows the card value is not one of the standard multiples - \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, - but incorporates a bonus or similar component.

**Eighth digit** indicates reprints run. It is usually separated by a dash from the previous digit.

#### PHONECARDS IN AUSTRALIA

Phonecards were first trialled in Australia in late 1989. It was performed in the Geelong area of the state of Victoria, a popular destination for tourists and holiday makers.

To commemorate the event and provide the necessary cards for use in the trial, a set of six Telecom Phonecards was issued.

This first official issue has become known as the "Geelong trial Issue" and features graphics from Australia's Royal Life Saving Society and Surf Life Saving Association.

The cards in the Geelong trial were of \$1.50, \$3.00, and \$6.00 value.

Following the success of the Geelong trial, Phonecards were launched progressively throughout the Australian states during the next 18 months.

From November 1991, all Phonecard issues have been available nationally.

Australian Phonecards are now available in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20, and \$50. A \$2 Phonecard was available in the early period of introduction.

The Phonecard system used in Australia is magnetic and is very similar to that used by the Japanese telecommunications company NTT. With this system, at the end of each call, a small hole is punched through the card to indicate the remaining value on the card.

Telecom Australia Phonecards are amongst the thinnest and most flexible telephone cards in the world.

To date, there have been over 80 different Phonecard designs released and 18 limited edition collector sets. Since February 1993, Telecom Phonecards have been produced in Australia. Previous to that, they were produced in Japan.

The first fully Australian produced series is a special series featuring three of Australia's endangered marsupials.

Australian production means reduced lead time and increased flexibility and with the introduction of advertising cards, a greater degree of designs. The Phonecards are produced on identical material to those manufactured in Japan, using an offset printing method.

A quantity of many Australian Phonecards are packaged into Special Limited Edition sets. Unless otherwise stated, 10,000 of each of these sets are produced.

#### **GEELONG TRIAL DECEMBER 1989**

The first set of Phonecards ever issued in Australia were the Geelong trial cards. There were six cards released,  $2 \times 1.50$ ,  $2 \times 3$  and  $2 \times 6$  with 50,000 of each produced.

The Geelong series was followed by the progressive introduction of the Phonecard system around Australia, state by state.



#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA MAY 1990

Phonecard was launched onto the Australian market in May 1990 in Adelaide. The launch was marked by the release of a Special Edition set with 11,000 produced (this is the only time the usual production of 10,000 has been exceeded). The set featured 2 x \$2, 2 x \$5, \$10 and \$20 Phonecards.

#### **GENERIC**

The first \$5 generic Phonecard was released in May 1990 and 6,000 Special Edition folders, priced at \$6 were released.

In December, the first \$2 generic Phonecard was produced with a total of seven reprints being produced until early 1993.

In April 1992, \$10, \$20, and \$50 generic Phonecards were produced similar in design to the original generic Phonecards.

The first series of generic Phonecards carried the original Telecom orange logo on various coloured backgrounds.

The \$2, \$10, \$20 and \$50 generics were not released in Special Edition sets.



#### 500th GRAND PRIX NOVEMBER 1990

This \$5 Phonecard was released to commemorate the 500th Grand Prix, which was held in Adelaide in November 1990. A total of 125,000 Phonecards were produced.

#### **QUEENSLAND DECEMBER 1990**

These Phonecards are based on images from the Queensland Tourist & Travel Corporation. The denominations were 2 x \$5 and a \$10.

#### **VICTORIA DECEMBER 1990**

Based on images from the Victorian Tourist Commission and showing scenes such as the Grampians and the River Murray, these Phonecards were released with denominations of 2 x \$5 and a \$10.

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES APRIL 1991**

The "Wildly Different" Zoo Series, designed in conjunction with Taronga Zoo by Kazoo Advertising Agency, showed scenes and animals from Sydney's Taronga Zoo and Dubbo's Western Plains zoo. This marked the Taronga Zoo's 75th Anniversary.

The denominations and quantities produced were:  $2 \times \$2 (600,000 \text{ each}), 2 \times \$5 (240,000 \text{ each}), \$10 (240,000)$  and \$20 (125,000).

#### WESTERN AUSTRALIA JULY 1991

These three Phonecards were based on well known images of Western Australia, including the Bungle Bungles and Karri Forest.

The denominations are \$2, \$5, and a \$10 and 50,000 of each were produced.

#### AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY SEPTEMBER 1991

This series featured the institutions of Australia's capital, such as the Questacon centre, Australian War Memorial and Royal Australian Mint.

The denominations and quantities produced were;  $2 \times \$2$ , (125,000 each),  $2 \times \$5$  (125,000 each) and a \$10 (100,000).

#### NORTHERN TERRITORY SEPTEMBER 1991

These two \$5 Phonecards feature Australia's North, with Uluru (Ayers Rock) and a saltwater crocodile. 50,000 of each were released.

#### TASMANIA SEPTEMBER 1991

Based on images from Tourism Tasmania, these Phonecards were a \$2 and \$5 (50,000 each).

#### ROSS L. CAMPBELL

# BUYING TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL AUSTRALIAN PHONECARDS

MINT & EDITIONS REQUIRED URGENTLY

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SINGLES - MINT & USED (I Have Most)
REPRINTS & PREFIXES - SEND WANT LIST

SPECIMENS - COMPLETE (1 0nly)

PNG - MINT

FOREIGN - 20 DIFFERENT \$30

STAMPS - Mint at 80% of Face (Cheap Postage)

Ask For My Latest Phonecard Selling List

I WELCOME EXCHANGE

PO BOX 10, CHATSWORTH ISLAND, NSW 2469 Phone or Fax - (066) 464386 No Sunday Calls With the release of the Tasmania series, the first phase of introducing Phonecards in Australia was complete. All further sets, unless otherwise stated were released nationally.

#### **RED CROSS NOVEMBER 1991**

The designs on this series were selected as a result of the inaugural Telecom Australia Phonecard Design Award held in conjunction with the Red Cross Society and the Australian Graphic Design Association.

Alicia Heriot from Melbourne's Swinbourne Institute of Technology had her designs placed on the following Phonecard denominations: 2 x \$2, 2 x \$5, \$10 and \$20.

Featuring the work of a student designer as a result of a national competition is an Australian innovation.

#### **AUSTRALIA DAY JANUARY 1992**

This multi coloured abstract design conveys the spirit of celebration for Australia's national holiday. The \$5 Phonecard, designed by Sydney graphic artist, was packaged into 5,000 Special Edition sets.

#### **OLYMPIC GAMES APRIL 1992**

Issued to commemorate the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, these cards featured various Olympic events and the Australian team's mascot, Willy the Koala.

# Track & Field \$10

The denominations were: \$2, 3 x \$5, \$10 and \$20. The designs depict Olympic sports in which Australians have traditionally performed well.

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#### **ADVERTISING AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1992**

This cartoon style series was produced to depict the advertising potential and benefits of Phonecards. Promoting various features of using Telecom Phonecards and payphones, they were released in denominations of 2 x \$5, \$10 and \$20. This first series of advertising Phonecards can be distinguished by an "A" in the card code.

#### CHRISTMAS 1992

Three Phonecards - \$1.50, \$5 and \$10 - show Australian style summer Christmas scenes.

The \$1.50 Phonecard, mounted in a Christmas greeting card, was a special card distributed free to mail order clients.

The remainder of the 10,000 print run (the lowest print run released by Telecom Australia to date) were available for purchase at \$6. Only the \$5 and \$10 cards were on general sale.

#### **AUSTRALIA DAY JANUARY 1993**

This Phonecard shows the smiling faces of three children, the design reflects the national pride Australians feel as they join together to celebrate in a brilliant and colourfull Australian summer.

#### ENDANGERED SPECIES FEBRUARY 1993

Australia has seen more of its mammal species become extinct in the last 200 years than any other continent in the world - in addition, the birds, reptiles, fish, amphibians, insects and plants create a picture of a nation faced with the potential loss of thousands of unique species.

The Endangered Species series highlights this problem by featuring three of Australia's threatened animals. Cards in the set include a \$5 Hairy nosed Wombat, a \$5 Bridled Nailtail Wallaby and a \$10 Numbat.

#### AUSTRALIANA GENERIC SERIES FEBRUARY 1993

The new generic series features well known Australian scenes and animals and are designed to appeal to the growing Australian tourist market.

The series of cards includes a \$5 Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge, a \$10 Kangaroo with Uluru in the background a \$20 Great Barrier Reef and a \$50 koala.

#### **OLYMPIC BID JUNE 1993**

On 4 June, Telecom Australia, a Gold Supporter of the Olympic bid to host the Games in the year 2000, launched a special Phonecard to show its support for the bid.

The \$5 Phonecard carrying the distinctive "Sydney Flash" bid logo, was unveiled at a ceremony at the Inter continental Hotel by the Hon. Bruce Baird, the Minister responsible for the Sydney Bid.



A total of 200,000 of these cards were released.

#### TELECOM PHONECARD DESIGN AWARD

The 1993 Award Competition was the second of this increasingly popular bi-annual, national competition.

The theme for this year's Award was "The Environment: You Can Make a Difference" and students were asked to submit desins for three Phonecards focusing on the subjects Recycling, Plant a Tree and Be a Green Consumer.

The competition attracted a record 350 entries and was won by graphic design student Simone Tetof. The three Phonecards, \$5, \$10 and \$20 will be released nationally in November 1993.

# THE UNITED NATIONS YEAR FOR THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

#### JULY 1993

Malcolm Jagamara was commissioned by Telecom Australia to create the paintings that appear on this series of Phonecards.

Jagamara's peoples dreamings are depicted through traditional Aboriginal paintings on three Phonecards - \$5, \$10 and \$20.

The three cards are available in a Special Edition Collectors folder, which features a fourth painting by Jagamarra.

#### LANDSCAPE SERIES 1993

This set of three Phonecards - \$5, \$10 and \$20, is available in a Special Edition collectors set and features views of Kakadu National Park, Lizard Island and the North Flinders Ranges.

### MICROSCOPIC WORLD SERIES SEPTEMBER 1993

Another world first, this series of Phonecards consisting of a \$5, \$10 and a \$20 card, features fascinating images from the microscopic world. Pollen grains, marine plankton and a butterfly egg on a leaf are magnified more than 300,000 times, giving a truly spectacular scientific image.

#### ADVERTISING PHONECARDS

The introduction of private advertising Phonecards has added a great deal of interest and stimulation for collectors in Australia.

Phonecards displaying private advertising have been available from August this year.

The first two companies to carry their message on Telecom Phonecards are K-Mart, the largest discount chain store in Australia, and Castlemaine Perkins, a large brewing company.

K-Mart released three cards - \$5, (100,000) \$10 (50,000) and \$20 (50,000) - whilst Castlemaine Perkins featured their XXXX brand of beer on a \$20 Phonecard (100,000).

#### **CHRISTMAS 1993**

A \$5 and a \$10 Phonecard will be released by Telecom Australia to celebrate Christmas 1993. Sydney artist Vincent de Gouw was commissioned to produce the stunning, uniquely Australian scenes that will appear on this year's Christmas Phonecards.

Australian Phonecards have experienced an international surge in popularity recently due to several factors.

\*\*\*\*\*

Telecom Phonecards feature high resolution graphics with interesting, unusual and exciting designs. Many of the designs are world firsts, for example the Year for the World's Indigenous People, featuring Australian Aboriginal art, and the Microscopic World Series.

The beauty and wide variety of designs - cartoon, photograpy and illustration - appeals unanimously to all ages and in Australia collecting Telecom Phonecards has become the exciting and hi-tech family hobby of the '90's.

The introduction of advertising Phonecards will add inspiration and excitement for all collectors, with additional avenues for thematic collectors.

Telecom Australia's carefully controlled issuing policy means that while collecting Phonecards is a challenge, it remains very affordable and if you "get in now", even the early Phonecards can still be obtained through the network of Clubs and dealers that have sprung up around the country.

To place your name on the mailing list to receive the free quarterly newsletter and full colour order catalogue, write, including your name and address, to;

Telecom Phonecard Collector Service
P.O. Box 3964
Parramatta NSW 2124
Australia

#### R.J. & J.E. SHAW

P.O. BOX 691, MOOLOOLABA 4557 Phone (074) 780095 Fax (074) 446821

Bob & Judy Shaw Will Be At The Following Fairs To Be Held At The Holiday Inn Menzies -Sydney - November 1993

#### INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR

Sunday, 14th Of November Buying & Selling All Phonecards

#### INTERNATIONAL BANKNOTE FAIR

Friday, 19th Of November

See Our Outstanding Choice Of Australian Decimal And Pre-Decimal And World Banknotes For Sale. Buying As Well - Especially Early Australian Pre-Federation, Pre-Decimal Or Decimal Notes.

#### COIN FAIR

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st November BUYING & SELLING EVERYTHING

All Coins (Gold & Silver), Gold Sovereigns In Holders And 9 ct Gold Chains (great for Christmas), World And Australian Banknotes As Well As Phonecards.

The Following Is A Small Sample Of The Variety & Affordability Of Our PHONECARDS FOR SALE

1st Private Issue Phonecards Japanese/ Australian Specimens

1 of each Kangaroo, Koala, Kookaburra plus 1 of each Kangaroo, Koala, Kookaburra with imprint of Japanese Tourists 6 Cards - Only \$85.00 the Set

Sydney 2000/Taronga Zoo Overprint Card Very Few Left - \$35.00 Each

Small Supply of Japanese Motorbikes & Racing Cars - Special at Only \$9.50 Each

Specimen Cards - Red Mobil, BP x 3 & Geneva 5 Cards - Only \$265 for the Lot (one set only)

Cambodia (2nd) \$20.00 multi hole - Only \$35.00 Each \$50.00 multi hole - Only \$35.00 Each

Starter Lot- 15 Different Pictorial (over \$100 face value inc \$10 & \$20 cards) Special Price \$12.00

Super Specials - ACT Collectors Pack now only \$34.00 each or 2 for \$65.00 136, 137 Swimming - Only \$60.00 each 22 Grand Prix - Only \$25.00 each SEE US FOR OUR FULL USED & PREFIX LISTS AT THE FAIRS

#### "PLAIN JANES"

#### by Robert Ulseth

3 Toorak Ave., Bellevue Heights, SA, 5050

Telephone card collecting is now an established and expanding hobby. The different types of telephone cards - magnetic, optical and chip - are well understood by collectors.

Beautifully designed scenery and cards depicting special events are available from all established issuing countries.

It is time now to make sure that you do not overlook the early issue cards. Very plain, usually one colour cards, were used by most Telecom Companies as trial cards and first issue series.

These cards are still around in dealers stocks and too easily overlooked in the pursuit of the thematic or serial number hunt.

Some home work is necessary to recognise these "Plain Janes" and this could well be to your advantage.

Landis and Gyr of Switzerland produce optical cards for many countries and is a good manufacturer to start with.

The style of the cards evolved from the first release and can be recognised from consistent traits. The first produced were usually plain cards of one colour with country name and value in white or silver writing.

Next came the familiar white band across the front of the card to improve performance of the optic system.

The width of this band comes in four different sizes, this being an important factor in identifying a card.

The first width used was 1.5 mm, then widened to 2mm, widened again to 4 mm, then reduced to the present width of 3mm.

Notches on the side are also an indication of the era of card production. Cards produced without a notch or with a deep notch, are usually early examples. These were then followed by the shallow notch that we are all familiar with.

In conclusion, I would suggest a reasonably priced plain card be purchased for further investigation.

A new thematic collection of "Plain Janes" may well be on the cards for your album and if you are lucky, could include some rare cards over looked by others.

#### **SYDNEY PHONECARDS**

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# BUYING & SELLING PHONECARDS

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CATERED FOR

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# \$\$ <u>TOP MINT CARD BUYING PRICES</u> \$\$ <u>FOR FOLLOWING CARDS</u>

\$1.50 Christmas Card

Geneva

2nd,3rd & 4th Swimming

2nd, 3rd & 4th Cycling

2nd Print \$2 & \$5 Red Cross

2nd Print Advertising Cards

\$2 Echidna 50, 58, 80, 82.

\$2 Orang-Utan 52, 83, 84, 86.

\$5 Platypus 63, 87.

\$5 Giraffe 64, 65, 88.

\$10 Leopard 67.

\$2 Vineyard 7, 18, 40, 41.

\$2 River Murray 9, 17.

\$5 Race Car 10, 47.

\$20 Adelaide 24, 39.

\$2 ACT 93, 95.

\$5 War Memorial 99.

\$2 Generic 42, 43, 55, 56, 71, 72, 74, 77.

#### DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU MAD!

#### AGGRAVATING BEHAVIOUR FROM A COLLECTORS PERSPECTIVE

by an Anonymous Collector

#### Scenario 1.

A big dealer buys in a large amount of stock (could be anything in particular) and sells half at reasonable prices after widely publicising the items in the journals.

The other half is kept in reserve and after a month or so, eager collectors are told that all stock is sold out and that the dealer is now buying back these items at higher prices - alarm bells should start to ring!

Shortly afterwards the dealer announces that he has "enough" and starts to sell them at four or five times the original price - including from the stock that he had originally.

#### **DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU MAD!**

#### Scenario 2.

Another dealer (although it could be the same one) hasn't got a very rare card but still he advertises it for sale at a low price.

A customer orders the card, hears "they're all sold out but I will pay you \$xx for any that you can find for me".

An avid collector (it could be you) sells him 3 cards, he buys a few more over the next couple of months and when he has enough, the price suddenly soars to ten times \$xx.

#### DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU MAD!

#### Scenario 3.

Another dealer (again it could be the same one) advertises a reasonably hard card to obtain at very high buying and selling prices.

A collector agrees to buy at this price - no worries. A collector offers to sell to the dealer at his advertised price - sorry, I have enough now.

Later it turns out that the original buying price is well over the market selling price!

#### DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU MAD!

#### AGGRAVATING BEHAVIOUR FROM A DEALERS PERSPECTIVE

by an Anonymous Dealer

#### Scenario 1.

Collector rings up a dealer and asks for a particular item to be held back for him.

Collector takes no further action or waits for the price to go up and then requests the item at the original price!

#### DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU MAD!

#### Scenario 2.

Collector agrees to sell cards to a dealer. This is the last the dealer hears from this particular collector!

#### DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU MAD!

#### Scenario 3.

Collector agrees to sell cards or do an exchange with a dealer. This time the collector is well known to the dealer and the dealer who offers a higher than normal price because he knows the collector and perhaps needs the items for another customer, agrees on the deal, then in good faith contacts his other customers to say the items are in stock.

Meanwhile, the first collector changes his/her mind but doesn't bother to inform the dealer who upon finally discovering this fact is left with one customer who might end up taking their business elsewhere in future!

#### DOESN'T THIS MAKE YOU MAD!

NO DEALER ADVERTISING THIS SPACE FOR OBVIOUS REASONS

# AN OVERVIEW OF THE PHONECARD SCENE IN THE LAST THREE YEARS

#### by DON HILL KNOX-SHERBROOKE PHONECARDS

Phonecards were first introduced into Australia back in 1990 with the release of the Geelong Trial Series of six cards.

This collectors pack did not sell out due to the very small number of collectors at the time. Many of the people who purchased this pack then were or had been stamp collectors and saw the potential for a new and exciting hobby.

A few like myself who had come from abroad recently had seen how the hobby had taken off in other countries, after phonecards had been introduced overseas.

There were maybe only a few hundred collectors around at this stage.

After the Geelong Trial, Telecom began installing the new phones in the metropolitan areas and shortly afterwards issued the \$5 Generic and the South Australian cards.

#### Few Packs Sold

There were even fewer of the South Australian packs sold - I believe because of the high issue price - (for a hobby that at stage had no real interest in general). The packs not sold were subsequently destroyed.

Collector numbers increased steadily as the different state cards were released. By the time the Tasmanian, Northern Territory and West Australian packs were due for withdrawal, the number of collectors/dealers/investors, had reached the point that speculation resulted in a complete sell out before the withdrawal date.

The next few issues (Red Cross & Olympic packs) did not sell out again, most likely due to the higher issue price.

What has been the result of these events?

The Tasmanian, Northern Territory and Western Australian packs held their price quite close to the original selling price because of the stock held by many people.

#### Price Rise

This would only last as long as the original amounts purchased by dealers became sold out to customers, afterwards prices would start to rise as dealers had to buy in at higher prices. This is beginning to happen now.

The dearer packs however will approach this point sooner as stocks deplete earlier.

Based on these facts the "best" packs in the medium to long term would perhaps be the South Australian, Queensland, Victorian, \$5 Generic and \$5 Grand Prix Wreath, as all these packs were issued early before the number of collectors reached their present level.

#### **Good Buys**

The other good buys would be the Olympic and New South Wales sets.

Interestingly, many people are using up Tasmanian, West Australian and Northern Territory cards to make used cards.

This will have the effect in the longer term of widening the gap that presently exists between mint and used for these particular cards.

Around July 1992, when there were around 4,000 collectors, Telecom decided to produce the \$1.50 Christmas "giveaway".

#### Criticism

This was intended as a present to the collector body of the time but became a public relations disaster nearer Christmas due to the dramatic increase in the number of collectors over the intervening few months.

This resulted in a sell out on the day of issue and much criticism of Telecom at the time.

It was hard to forsee this rapid increase in the popularity of the hobby so perhaps it is a little hard to judge Telecom for the developments.

As 1992 approached its end, the interest in used cards diminished somewhat due to many people having completed much of their multi and 1-hole collections.

#### **Prefix Collecting**

An interesting development occurred during 1992 in that people started collecting cards by prefix number.

This proved to be very popular and as people completed their collections they began to look around for something else to do and it was around this time that mint cards started to become in demand.

Around February 1993, some collectors had the foresight to look out for the reprints as well as collecting one of each picture.

These proved particularly elusive due to the fact that telecom only issued the first card in the series and not the reprints. To find a reprint, one had to actually go into the retail outlet to find them. This proved very difficult for the South Australian cards and \$5 generics in particular (as well as the Olympic and Red Cross \$5 cards) as most had long since been sold from these outlets.

Some desperate collectors and dealers went on hunting expeditions in the country to look for isolated outlets. Some were lucky and found some good cards!

It took some dealers and collectors until around the middle of the year to really believe that these cards were actually scarce!

#### **Price Rise**

Prices then rose very quickly to their present levels where demand and supply seem to have reached some sort of equilibrium - (for now)!

An example of the price rise on these cards can be shown with the \$2 Vineyard offered for sale at \$10 in February and \$130, now in October.

The other area of collecting that developed over the earlier part of the year was that of collecting mint cards by prefix number.

This sent people looking for particular numbers which had been sold out even before some of the reprints had been sold out and a longer time had elapsed before collectors became interested in mint prefix numbers.

This form of collecting has proved very popular and has resulted in most of the numbers turning up over the course of the year. Some are particularly hard to obtain however and many people have been known to send the same sort of want list to dealers! The number of collectors continued to grow over the year to around 11,000 as measured by Telecom's mailing list.

#### **New Collectors**

Many of these new collectors had to find their used cards from dealers now, as they were no longer to be obtained from phone boxes. Dealers used up their stock and began to search out replacement stock only to find that there was not much around and what was there was not always in good enough condition.

It seems that many kids just threw them in a drawer where they became scratched and damaged. The prices of used stock began to rise around the middle of the year and as we approach the end of 1993, it seems that demand is increasing at a very healthy rate due in the main to the continual increase in the number of new collectors joining the hobby.

Many of the early dealers were stamp/coin dealers falling on hard times as the slump in the stamp market was having its affect felt.

Telecom have set in place a sensible policy regarding issue numbers, etc., and are determined not to fall into Australia Post's mistake of flooding the market with new issues.

The rise in the level of interest shown in the hobby has resulted in many new dealers emerging from a collector base.

(Continued on page 20.)

#### J.G. BEAUREGARD-SMITH

GPO BOX 226, ADELAIDE, SA, 5001 PHONE: (08) 349 4475

#### SELLING PHONECARDS

# NOVEMBER INTRODUCTORY OFFERS MINT SPECIALS

	<b>Prefix</b>			
	251	Reef	\$30	
	256	Reef	\$35	
	222	Advertising	\$30	
	258	Wallaby	\$18	
	253	Wombat	\$12	
	255	Wombat	\$12	
	10	Grand Prix	\$25	
	12	Flinders Ranges	\$22	
	23	Kangaroo Island	\$42	
	6	Vineyard	\$12	
	191	Swimming	\$25	
	69	Zoo	\$25	
	113	\$20 Red Cross	\$35	
	112	\$10 Red Cross	\$18	
	108	Blood	\$ 8	
	Cleanin	g Card	\$16	
	Austral	\$20		
	West A	\$26		
	Tasmar	\$15		
	South A	Australian Set	\$80	
	Norther	n Territory Set	\$18	
	Olympi	c Set	\$72	
	Queens	land Set	\$48	
	Victoria	an Set	\$34	
	Aust C	apital Terr Set	\$34	
	Red Cr	\$58		
	1st Red	\$75		
	Geneva	Bear	\$65	
0	Mixed I	Multi-Hole Cards	\$75	
0	Mixed (	One-Hole Cards	\$100	
0	Differen	nt World Cards	\$15	

10

10

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#### **AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL BANKNOTE FAIR**

Friday, 19th November, 1993 - 10.00am to 5.00pm at

#### THE HOLIDAY INN MENZIES

Wynyard and Margaret Rooms, Lower Ground Floor, 14 Carrington Street, Sydney

AUSTRALIA'S MAJOR BANKNOTE FAIR devoted to Australian and world banknotes, paper money and related items, including share scrip, cheques, bonds, savings certificates, military notes, uncut banknote sheets, blocks and pairs, banking memorabilia, ephemera, books, catalogues and phonecards.

INTERNATIONAL BOURSE featuring Australia's leading banknote dealers with large stocks of banknotes and related material for sale. Overseas dealers are also expected to participate.

**BUYING:** Due to the strong banknote market, dealers attending the fair are very keen to buy. So bring your notes along for sale. You may be pleasantly surprised.

PHONECARDS will also be featured at this fair. Many dealers will have good stocks of Australian and World PHONECARDS for SALE and will also be BUYING.

NOTE PRINTING AUSTRALIA Special Archival Exhibition by N.P.A.

INFORMATION TABLES: International Bank Note Society, Australian Coin Review.

**BUYING AND SELLING** 

FREE ADMISSION

**FREE VALUATIONS** 

#### PLAN TO ATTEND AUSTRALIA'S MAJOR BANKNOTE FAIR

Dealers' Table Application Forms and Further Information from M.E.F. BOOKS P.O. Box 523, Narrabeen, N.S.W. 2101. Tel: (02) 913 3036. Fax: (02) 970 6143.

#### NSW PHONECARD, STAMP, COIN AND COLLECTABLES FAIR

SUNDAY 5th December 1993 — 10.00am to 5.00pm

HOLIDAY INN MENZIES – Wynyard and Margaret Rooms

Lower Ground Floor, 14 Carrington Street, Sydney

#### **BUYING AND SELLING**

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Coins, Medals, Tokens, Banknotes, Cheques, Share Scrip, Numismatic, Philatelic and Collectable Books and Catalogues, Telephone Cards, Stamps, Covers, Postal History, Thematics, Cinderellas, FDC's, Postcards, Documents and Ephemera.

ADMISSION \$2 - CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE FREE - DEALER TABLES STILL AVAILABLE.

M.E.F. BOOKS, PO Box 523, Narrabeen, NSW 2101. Tel: (02) 913 3036, Fax: (02) 970 6143.

#### AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR

Australia's Major Phonecard Fair SUNDAY 20th March 1994 — 10.00am to 5.00pm

#### **HOLIDAY INN MENZIES - SYDNEY**

Wynyard and Margaret Rooms, Lower Ground Floor, 14 Carrington Street, Sydney

#### PLAN TO ATTEND THIS MAJOR PHONECARD FAIR

For dealer's table application forms and further information, contact M.E.F. BOOKS, PO Box 523, Narrabeen, NSW 2101. Tel: (02) 913 3036, Fax: (02) 970 6143.

These persons deal solely in phonecards and the fact that they are continuing to grow is a sure sign that the phonecard hobby has arrived.

This is further seen in the development of a seperate magazine whose sole purpose is the promoting of the hobby of collecting phonecards in Australia.

Many people who have just started collecting, have said to me "if only I had been in at the beginning"; beleive me, five years from now, people will be saying that about 1993!

We are in the unique position here in Australia in that we can look both backwards and forwards in "phonecard time". Forwards we can see how Europe has developed in its extra five years of collecting phonecards and we can look backwards in phonecard time to countries only just introducing phonecards, such as the USA, South Africa and China's provinces to see how it was like in Australia only 2-3 years ago.

#### Investment

Some collectors and dealers are already using this sort of information to make astute purchases of both Australian and new issuing countries stock before prices rise as indeed they will do before too long!

Don Hill Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards

#### REMEMBER THE

**KNOX-SHERBROOKE** 

**SPECIALISED** 

PHONECARD AUCTION

SEE INSERT IN THIS

MAGAZINE

#### **CYRIL FOX**

PHONECARDS OF THE WORLD
68 CHELSEA PARK DRIVE
CHELSEA HEIGHTS, VIC 3196
TEL: (03) 772 1950
Member: NAA, ANDA, ACJM, TAMS

#### BUYING AUSTRALIAN PHONECARDS SAMPLE BUYING PRICES

	Used	Mint
Geelong Trial Set	ono les	\$60
\$5 Geneva 1991	elszg	\$50
\$2 Olympic Hockey	ALCO IE	\$10
\$1.50 Christmas	\$25	CHADE
\$5 Olympic Bid	otenes.	\$10
\$5 Grey Generic	\$ 1	Jane .
\$5 Platypus	\$ 5	ARME
\$20 Aboriginal	\$ 3	AA OL
\$5 NT Crocodile	\$ 5	
\$5 NT Uluru	\$ 5	MAJ

#### I Have a Large Number of <u>Australian Related</u> Phonecards in Stock. A Few Examples:-

Cathay Pacific	
Rugby Set in Folder -	\$250
Wayne Gardner (Japan) -	\$50
British XXXX (10u) \$35	2/-
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	Used	Mint
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Aruba (set of 3)	\$15	POI
Curação (set of 3)	\$18	11-61
Jamaica \$100 Parrot		\$20
Kenya (set of 4)	\$18	CHAIL
Uganda (Schoolboy)	\$ 5	
Sri Lanka (1st Issue se	et-4)	\$45
Mauritius (1st Issue-S	tate Bank)	\$15
USA (\$10 Amerivox-	Nyson I)	\$25
USA (\$5 Talk Ticket)	US Fiber NY)	\$25

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Phonecards			COMB		1010	Chaira LINIC	95
Collector's Packs	Montremat		oo iii	Edward	1910	Choice UNC aEF/EF	60
Geelong Trials		Edward III	1344 Halfpenny S1540 aVF	55	1911	EF	120
South Australia		Euwaru	1356-61 Groat aVF S1570	80	1917	EF+	55
\$5 Generic		Henry VIII	1526-44 Groat VF	180	1918	gEF	65
\$5 Grand Prix		ALCIN J. AND	1509-26 Groat S2316 gFine	140	1919	aEF	30
Queensland		Edward VI	1551 Shilling S2482 VF	170	50.70	UNC Hard this grade	220
New South Wales Western Australia		Elizabeth I	1559-60 Groat S2556		1921	EF	85
A.C.T			Fine/gFine	75	1921M	Choice UNC	180
Northern Territory		Charles I	1636-38 Shilling S2792 gFine	e 65		VERDATE gVG RARE!	1200
Tasmania		Charles II	1662 Crown Fine/gFine S335	52 140	1928	EF/gEF	35
Red Cross (1st print)	\$80		1680 4d VF	25	1934	EF/gEF	30
Red Cross (2nd Print)	\$60		1682 4d Fine	20	1936	Choice UNC	120
Australia Day 1992	\$22		1679 3d VF	25	1938	UNC	30
Olympics	\$65		1682 3d VF	25	1939	Nice UNC	90
\$1.50 Christmas	\$33		1677 2d gF/VF+	30	1941	UNC	35
Australia Day 1993			1679 2d EF	50	1942M	VF	14
Endangered Species.Under		Commonweal	th 1649-60 Halfgroat s3221 V	VF 75	1942S	Choice UNC	15
Indigenous peopleUnder is		James II	1687 Crown gFine/aVF S340		1942D	Choice UNC	20
Landscape Series under issu			1686 3d Fine+	25	1943S	UNC	15
\$5 Sydney 2000 Olympic B			1686 2d VF	26	1943D	UNC	12
DESIGN			1688 2d VF+	30	1943M	Choice UNC	15
Phonecard Accessorie	es	William &	1689 2d EF	90	1944S	UNC	10
Cumberland Albums		Mary	1691 2d VF+	50	1948	UNC	18
with 8*10 pocket pages	\$16.50		1691 2d VF	40	1949	UNC	18
Pages for above		Ann	1713 Halfcrown S3697	Serra D	1950	Choice UNC	20
1 ages 101 a00 ve			Rose & Plum gVF	295	1951	UNC	22
			1707 Crown gFine/aVF	225	1951pl	Choice UNC	8
GENUINE H	ACNEDS		1710 4d VF+	45	1952	UNC	20
GENUINE II.	AGNERS		1710 4d gFine	25	1953	Choice UNC	50
SPECIAL P	RICE		1708 3d VF	40	1954	UNC	60
			1713 3d VF	40	1955	Choice UNC	15
SINGLE SIDE68			1710 2d Fine	15	1956	UNC	12
or.\$65 per	100 any mix	George I	1723 Crown Scarce!	175	1957	Choice UNC	12
is GA	St Kitts/Nev		Fine+/gFine	475 275		Banknotes	
DOUBLE SIDE	\$1 30 each		1718 1/4 guinea aEF/EF	55		ombs/Watt 10 pounds	0
			1720 Shilling aVF/VF	40		pair" gEF	400
or \$125 per 1	00 any mix		1717 4d VF	20		ombs/Wilson 10 pounds	
		G II	1727 2d Fine+	20		pair" aUNC/UNC	290
		George II	Maundy Set mixed dates	80		Idle/Heathershaw 5 pound	
This a small selection	n from our		gFine-VF	40	2000	ombs/Wilson 5 pound U	
ck. We have a large rang			1746 3d gVF 1759 2d aUNC	60		ll/Collins pound aVF	170
		Coorgo III	1762 1/4 guinea gVF	195		rmitage/McFarlane pound	
anknotes, stamps & phor		George III	1803 1/3 guinea gVF/VF	155	R32 Co	ombs/Wilson pound "con	ns pair" UNC
cient coins to Modern is			1810 1/3 guinea gVF	170	D22 G	amba/Wilson nound ID	
Please send for free	list		1804 1/2 guinea VF/gVF	170		ombs/Wilson pound UN	
U			1818 Crown EF	275	R33 Co	ombs/Wilson 1953 pound ombs/Wilson pound "cor	
Daning			1787 Sixpence aUNC	45	R33 Co	omos/wiison pound cor	50
Buying	otorie and		and the state of t	drugster.	Dii Di	ddle/Sheehan 10/- aFine	
Large or Small colle	ections		AUSTRALIAN			eehan/McFarlane 10/- aU	
Coins		PR	OCLAMATION COL	INS		hnston/Fraser \$5 Bundle	
n .					Kroa Je	miscoul ruser of Dundre	000

1813 DUMP

The Crown is clear, N.S.W & Date

125

just visible 15 pence readable

1774 Pillar Dollar aVF/VF

280

110

32

170

140

180

\$20 Block of 4 only 800 issued \$20 Melbourne show Pairs

1966 BLUE WALLET

1969 BLUE WALLET

OTHER ISSUES

1991 MASTERPEICE IN SILVER

1993 MASTERPEICE IN SILVER

1985 mINT SETS "SPECIAL"

#### PHONECARD ISSUING COUNTRIES

INDEX: L= Landers & Gyr C=Chip U=Urmet A=Autelca G=GTP R=Anritsu
T= Tamura O=Other M= Other Magnetic B=Alcatel-Bell N=GNC

Country	Systems	Country	Systems	Country	Systems
Aland	LC	Djibouti	C Mem	Maldives	GA
Algeria	LC	Dominica	G	Mali	LC
Andorra	C C	Egypt	UR	Malta	C
Anguilla	Goroca	Equ Guinnea	C	Mauritius	T
Antigua	G	Estonia	В	Mexico	GCB
Argentina	UC	Faeroe Is	M	Micronesia	T
Aruba	Lands we	Falkland Is	AG	Monaco	C
Ascension	GA	Fiji	GG	Montserrat	G
Australia	UB	Finland	GCLM	Morocco	L
Austria	B L Gaener	France	CLM	Namibia	C
Azerbaijan	СВ	Fr Polynesia	C	Netherlands	LC
Bahamas	G	Gabon	AC	New Caledonia	
Bahrain	AGC	Gambia	C	New Zealand	C
Bangladesh	U	Germany	CLMA	Niger	L L
Barbados	G	Ghana	LC	Nigeria	AC
Belgium	L	Gibraltar	L	Norway	CGM
Benin	T SEE	Great Britain	LGCA	Oman	GA
Bermuda	LA	Greece	C	Pakistan	BCLUG
Bolivia	T	Grenada	G	Papua New G.	LB
Bonaire	TOACT TO		G	Paraguay	L
	C	Guernsey Guinnea Biss	L	Peru	TC
Botswana			G		GBT
Brazil	GM	Guyana	T	Philippines Poland	ULGB
Brunei	A	Hawaii			
Bulgaria	MG	Hong Kong	A	Portugal	CL
Burkino Faso		Hungary	C	Qatar	A
Burundi	L	Iceland	LC	Roumania	C
Cambodia	A	India	C	Russia	LGBA
Canada	GL	Indonesia	T	St Eustatius	L
Cameroon	CA	Iran	C	St Helena	G
Cape Verdi	land L	Ireland	CLAG	St Kitts/Nevis	GA
Cayman Is	AG	Isle of Man	GL	St Lucia	GA
Cent Af Rep	LC	Israel	LC	St Martin	C
Chile	TC	Italy	U	St Vincent	GA
China	TABG	Ivory Coast	AC	Sao Tome	us a smal Leter
Colombia	TCB	Jamaica	G	Saudi Arabia	GLB
Comores	C	Japan	TR	Senegal	CL
Comsat		Jersey	G	Seychelles	Lase send
Congo	C	Jersey	G	Sierra Leone	U
Cook Is	G	Kenya	A	Singapore	GR
Costa Rica	GC	Korea (Sth)	AC	Slovenia	A Z TO SAN
Croatia	GC	Kuwait	GAT	Slovakia	C
Curacao	520 Block Line	Lebanon	C	Solomon Is.	G
Cyprus	G	Libya	C	South Africa	GLCO
Czechoslov.	C	Luxembourg	C	Spain	CL
Denmark	MLGC	Macau	G	Sri Lanka	GRA
Diego Garcia		Malaysia	GL	Sweden	CLTGM
21080 001010	HITZAM COPI		at the second of		

#### PHONECARD ISSUING COUNTRIES

Continued:

Country	mersed numby				
Switzerland	Taga Allanes	Turkey	UGBL	Vanuatu	C
Syria	U	Turk/Cyprus	В	Vatican	U
Taiwan	L shree cards J	Turks & Caicos	AG	Venezuala	TGC
Tanzania	L	Uganda	TOTAL	Vietnam	G
Tchad	LC	Ukraine	A	Virgin Islands	G
Thailand	rs peginnar The	Un Arab Emirate	T	Wallis & Futuna	C
Trinidad & Tob	AG	U.S.A.	LCO	Yugoslavia	A
Togo	A	Uruguay	T	Yem Arab Rep	AG
Tunisia	LCU	Uzbekistan	C	Zimbabwe	

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Country	Mint	Used						
Algeria	6.00	-	Germany		5.00	Poland	-	5.00
Andorra	12.00	-	Gibraltar	6.00		Portugal	-	2.00
Antigua	11.00		Iceland	20.00	- 1	Qatar	-	3.00
Argentina	-	5.00	Indonesia	-	2.00	St Helena 17.	.00	
Ascension	300	4.00	Ireland	- 1	2.00	St Kitts 8.	.00	A
Bahrain	igo wi	6.00	Israel	-	4.00	St Martin	-	7.00
Benin	III THE	20.00	Jamaica	MI -	5.00	Seychelles 10.	.00	-
British Virgin Is	11.00	aloubratof.	Japan	- The	2.00	Sierra Leonne	-	9.00
Bulgaria	lons.	12.00	Jersey	7.00	2.00	Sweden	2 1 3/2/4/2	9.00
Cambodia	prosite	40.00	Kenya	MT -	2.50	Solomon Is 8.	.00	Sames H
Cape Verde	5.00	Yone -	Korea	-	2.00	South Africa 35.	00	D E EI B
China	-	5.00	Kuwait	-	3.00	Spain 10.	00	bs
Croatia	ARE M	6.75	Luxembourg	-	8.00	Switzerland	00 0	2.50
Cyprus	-1993	2.00	Macau	12.00	Blue Ville	Taiwan	SEA!	2.00
Czech Rep	ei Ist	10.00	Malaysia	Mo -	2.00	Thailand 10.	00	ns issue
Denmark	on inno	5.00	Malta	oda -	3.00	Turkey	THE	5.00
Diego Garcia	mad	6.00	Montserrat	17.00	Minimized	Uganda	-	8.00
Falkland Is	LIDOU	3.00	Netherlands	201	2.00	U.A.E.	-	2.00
Fiji	3.00	2.00	New Caledon	21.00	Mantelle	USA Amerivox		
Finland	12.00	sistion ans	Norway	90.1	14.00	Sample 6.	.00	, rouse
Fr Polynesia	22.00	stating a	Oman	I B .	2.00	Vietnam 5.	.00	nz 75mH
France		2.00	Paraguay	POR	Maiowald			
Hame RELEVICE			o of the five to					

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# SOUTH AFRICAN PHONECARDS The Trial Card Designs

by DON HILL KNOX-SHERBROOKE PHONECARDS

I have had quite a few enquiries regarding the phonecards of South Africa and so have decided to put together this article on the early issues of phonecards from this exciting country.

Field trials were first undertaken back in 1988 and surprisingly have continued until 1993! (must be a cautious bunch!).

There have been three types of trial cards issued. The first which was issued over the period 1988-1992 comprised the Black Trial Cards by Plessy/GPT. The second series were by Telkor and were issued in Pretoria between April 1991 and October 1991. This trial was later continued to the present day. The third type were issued by Telkom South Africa from August to December 1992.

The phonecards of South Africa are very interesting in that they have attractive designs with many different varieties in these early issues. They make an extremely interesting field to study prior to the national issues.

The following is a description of each of the trial series as issued.

#### BLACK TRIAL CARDS by PLESSEY/GPT

Actual designs issued are only two cards! The varieties however can expand this number to twenty cards if you are to look at the distinctions made up from notch, lamination (thickness and colour) and control.

The notch is either small, deep or non-existent. The lamination is either black which comes in two different thicknesses, or white which is in the centre of the card surrounded by black. The colour to some extent is dependent upon the underlying base colour of the card.

In the R10 card, the arrow has bands behind it which come in white and greyish white. The centre of the PT logo is either orange or brown.

The controls basically are either non-existent or of the form AOXXXXX or OXXX, OXXXXX, XXXXXX, or 8EXXXX.

These controls may be in the form of a seies of purple dots or an incised number. Further to this, the ferrite band is usually 15mm long but has come in an 8mm length also.

The full listing of these cards is on the next page.

#### PRETORIA TELKOR TRIAL CARDS

This trial which was begun at the Police College in Pretoria in April 1991 continued until October 1991 and was conducted by the South African Post and Telecommunications Department.

In October 1991, this Department was split into two divisions, the South African Post Office and Telkon SA.

The original cards were magstripe, but were changed to chip cards in September 1992. Seven designs/values were issued but again, many varieties have meant that ten different cards can be distinguished.

See next page for full listing.

#### TELEKOM SA FIELD TRIAL CARDS

Four manufacturers were chosen for the field trials. They were Grinaker (RSA) using a mag stripe system, Telkor (RSA) using a Chip System, Plessey using a Landis & Gyr optical system and TMSA (RSA) using a Chip system.

These trials were conducted in various military, hospital and university locations.

The cards are listed on the opposite page.

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* UPDATE \*\*\*\*\*\*

On the 22nd of September 1993, South Africa officially launched its first issue of public phonecards, following a seemingly never-ending series of trials which have been going on since 1988

The first public issue consists of 5 cards, picturing a lion, a rhino, a buffalo, an elephant and a leopard.

Two of the five cards are for sale now (at a small number of outlets); the remaining three cards should be on sale in November.

500 Collectors Packs will be available.

CYRIL FOX

BLACK TRIAL CARDS by PLESSEY/GPT				
Value	Notch	Lamination	Colours	Control
R5	None	Black	Greyish/Lime	None
R5	None	Thick/White	White /Yellow	AOXXXXX bottom
R5	None	Thick/White	White/Yellow	AOXXXXX top
R5	None	Thick/White	White/Yellow	AOXXXXX top 8mm band
R5	Deep	Black	Pinkish/Lime	None
R5	Deep	Thin/White	White/Lime	OXXX bottom
R5	Deep	Thin/White	White/Lime	OXXXX bottom
R5	Deep	Thin/White	Greyish/Lime	XXXXX bottom left
R5 000	Deep	Thin/White	White/Lime	None
R5 00	Small	Thick/White	White/Yellow	AOXXXXX top 8mm band
R10	None	Black	White/Brown	None
R10	None	Black	Greyish/Brown	None
R10	None	Black	Greyish/Orange	None None
R10	None	Thick/White	White/Orange	AOXXXXX bottom
R10	None	Thick/White	White/Orange	AOXXXXX top
R10	None	Thick/White	White/Orange	AOXXXXX top 8mm band
R10	Deep	Thick/White	White/Brown	XXXXX bottom
R10	Deep	Thin/White	White/Brown	XXXXX bottom left
R10	Deep	Thin/White	Greyish/Orange	XXXXX bottom
R10	Deep	Thin/White	White/Brown	8EXXXX on handset
ALC: NO SECOND			AND THE RESERVE AND THE RESERV	1 1 1 11 11 11 11 11 11 11



First Trial Card of 1988



One of Many Telkor Trial Cards

	PRETORI	A TELKUK IKI	AL CARDS	
R5	None	Plastic	Orange/White	N
R10	None	Plastic	Orange/White	N
R5	None	Paper	Blue/White	N

R5	None	Plastic	Orange/White	None
R10	None	Plastic	Orange/White	None
R5	None	Paper	Blue/White	None
R5	None	Paper	Blue/White	None white line at bottom
R10	None	Paper	Blue/White	None
R10	None	Paper	Orange/White	None
25 Units	None	Plastic	Multi-coloured	None
R10	None	Plastic	Multi-coloured	None
R10	None	Plastic	Multi-col (blue)	None
R10	None	Plastic	Multi-col (white	) None
R10	None	Plastic	Multi-coloured	1-XXXXXX
R10	None	Plastic	Multi-coloured	3-XXXXXX
R10	None	Plastic	Multi-coloured	4-XXXXXX

TELEKOM SA FIELD TRIAL CARDS

Value	Manufacturer	Quantity
R3	Grinaker	500
R10	Grinaker	10,000
10 Units	Telkor	500
R10	Telkor	10,000
10 Units	Landis/Gyr	500
35 Units	Landis/Gyr	10,000
These trials r	an from August to Decemb	er 1992

These trials ran from August to December 1992.



# PROFILE: THE \$2.00 GENERIC

#### by VIDDY JERMACANS

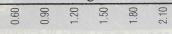
The \$2 Generic was first released by Telecom in December 1990. From this first release until the last in early 1993, a total of 4,286,551 \$2 Generic cards were printed.

These cards were produced in a total of 8 printings (or, the original plus 7 reprints) and for prefix collectors - included 48 different prefix numbers.

It should be noted however, that most collectors and dealers relate to there being 49 "different" \$2 Generic cards, this a result of the 43 prefix having a "low" run and a "high" run (see below).

In March 1993 the \$2 Generic Phonecard was discontinued by with likelyhood that such a low denomination card would again be reintroduced.





### Phonecard

#### **Telecom Phonecard**

\$2

GC2 Released December 1990				
Prefixes		Card Numbers		
4,199,400-4,199,999		599 🗸		
4,200,000-4,299,999		99,999		
4,300,000-4,325,199	(low)	25,199		
4,399,400-4,399,999	(high)	599		
4,400,000-4,499,999		99,999		
5,500,000-5,575,499		75,499		
5,600,000-5,675,499		75,499		
7,100,000-7,190,599		90,599		
7,200,000-7,290,599		90,599		
7,300,000-7,390,599	199	90,599		

<b>5</b> 400 000 <b>5</b> 400 500	00.500
7,400,000-7,490,599	90,599
7,500,000-7,590,599	90,599
7,600,000-7,690,599	90,599
7,700,000-7,790,599	90,599
Washiff an an incised trimber,	
GC2-2 Released April 1992	
15,700,000-15,799,999	99,999
15,800,000-15,899,999	99,999
15,900,000-15,999,999	99,999
16,000,000-16,099,999	99,999
16,100,000-16,199,999	99,999
16,200,000-16,299,999	99,999
16,300,000-16,349,999	49,999
16,900,000-16,999,999	99,999
17,000,000-17,099,999	99,999
17,100,000-17,199,999	99,999
GC2-3 Released July 1992	
17,700,000-17,799,999	99,999
17,800,000-17,899,999	99,999
17,900,000-17,999,999	99,999
18,000,000-18,099,999	99,999
18,100,000-18,999,999	99,999
GC2-4 Released September	1992
19,200,000-19,299,999	99,999
19,300,000-19,399,999	99,999
19,400,000-19,499,999	99,999
19,500,000-19,599,999	99,999
GC2-5 Released October 199	92
20,300,000-20,399,999	99,999
20,400,000-20,499,999	99,999
20,500,000-20,599,999	99,999
GC2-6 Released November 1	992
21,100,000-21,199,999	99,999
21,200,000-21,299,999	99,999
21,300,000-21,349,999	49,999
es altrargals which base been	going ofth
GC2-7 Released December 1	992
22,220,000-22,299,999	79,999
22,300,000-22,399,999	99,999
22,400,000-22,499,999	99,900
22,500,000-22,599,999	99,999
22,600,000-22,699,999	99,999
22,700,000-22,719,999	19,999
	ple stini I 01
GC2-8 Released February 19	992
24,800,000-24,899,999	99,999
24,900,000-24,999,999	99,999
25,000,000-25,099,999	99,999
25,100,000-25,174,999	74,999
20,100,000 20,177,777	. 1,777

# PREFIX NUMBER COLLECTING

#### by DON HILL KNOX-SHERBROOKE PHONECARDS

Collecting Australian phonecards by prefix has proven itself to be an extremely popular way in which collectors build up their collections.

#### First Began

This form of collecting first began around the spring of last year.

Prior to this, most collectors were building multihole and 1-hole collections.

At the time, no one was really collecting mint cards as most people considered that no one would ever want to collect (or to be able to afford) mint cards!!

#### Mint Cards

Around the beginning of this year, collectors began to turn to mint cards and a while after that, a few people started looking for mint reprints.

Around March, dealers started to get enquiries for mint prefix numbers and ever since then the number of collectors has continued to grow at a steady rate.

Of course some of the earliest collectors in Australia seemed to have had an eye on future potential and bought mint cards from day one which is probably for the best, or else there may have been none around at all nowdays.

#### Scarce

Many of these prefix numbers are scarcer than some reprints due to the fact that prefix cards were collected last and hence it is harded to find the "back issues".

#### Surprising

Some quite surprising cards are now fetching over \$100 and more. A few in this group are some of the original \$2 Generics, the odd Orangutan (86) and some \$5 NSW cards.

Demand has now risen to the extent that most dealers are out of most prefix stock and what they have is limited.

#### Price Rise

This has meant that prices have started to rise quite dramatically in some cases!

Many people are not sure which are the hard numbers as so many are difficult to obtain anyway. It is not possible for collectors to ring up a dealer and get, say, 200 different cards from him/her. Much chasing of cards has to happen to get what you need.

Want lists have been quite successful for many early collectors but as the number of collectors grew, this way of obtaining cards collapsed.

#### Problems

A dealer with 20 people wanting a particular card had a real problem! At least the dealer knew which ones were really hard because they were on every one's list, even after 12 months!

Many of the early collectors are now realising this problem and are suddenly prepared to pay quite large sums for the few remaining cards needed.

#### Auction

The major prefix auction run by Don Hill of Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards is an important event for prefix collectors.

This is a rare chance to obtain any number of cards, be they rare or just difficult to obtain without resorting to contacting 50 to 100 different dealers.!!

It is a one off auction as it has taken quite some time to put together and I envisage that prices for many cards will set new "records" due to them being offered at the same time and place and the fact that more people are aware of how rare some of these cards really are.

A free auction catalogue is included in this first edition of "The Australasian Phonecard Monthly".

REMEMBER - THE AUCTION CLOSES ON 10 DECEMBER 1992.

# WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

#### by E. J. CUMMINGS EDLINS OF CANBERRA

Many people when they look at a Phonecard see the picture and face value and look no further.

#### Reverse Side

However, there is a growing number of collectors who are turning the cards over and realising that while each card has common characteristics, every one is different.

Each card has its own individual Serial Number which is located at the bottom right hand side of the card.

This is not to be confused with the Bar Code on the left hand side, which is simply for supermarket style swipe cash registers.

The Serial Numbers start logically at 00001 and are now up to something like 34,800,000 fo the new, yet to be released, \$20 Environmental Phonecard.

#### Complex?

The method of collecting these cards seems complex but it is quite easy once you have started. The biggest set back to date for anyone interested in this collecting field has been the wide variety of prices charged for the same card and the small number of dealers catering to this specific field. All this is set to change in the near future with the release of a Prefix Numbers Catalogue.

#### **Prefix Collecting**

When Telecom produce a particular design of Phonecard, they produce up to 100,000 (99,999 actually) at a time.

After producing say 100,000 \$2 Generics, it may be necessary due to demand to produce 1000,000 of a \$5 Phonecard.

As an example, the Generic may have started at Serial Number 18,100,000 and gone through to 18,199,999, the mintage being therefore 100,000.

The \$5 card would then start at 18,200,000 and finish at 18,299,999.

#### **Brought Back**

This is not the end for either card however, as either one or both could be brought back at any

time for another print run - not necessarily of the maximum 100,000 - it simply depends on how many are required.

So, in a nutshell, collecting Prefix Numbers as it is commonly referred to, is collecting a card from every print run, ie., \$2 Generic 181, \$5 Swimming 182 and so on.

#### **Prefix Listing**

The next step for anyone interested in prefix numbers in the past, has been to try and assemble some form of list.

Not an easy task - you might say - as there has been little information on this area until recently.

#### New Catalogue

Coinciding with the second International Phonecard Fair in Sydney, is the long awaited release of a **Phonecard Prefix Numbers** Catalogue which will undoubtably be of assistance to both collectors and dealers.

It is the first such Catalogue to contain a price guide for Mint 1-Hole and Multi-Hole Prefix Numbers.

The Catalogue was written by Eddie J. Cummings and will be available from EDLINS OF CANBERRA at the Fair or through their Mail Order.

The Catalogue will retail for \$7.00.

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**COLLECT PHONECARDS OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND** by Michael Hudson. 64 pages, Aust. section in colour, includes an Australian related section, latest prices. \$8.95 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

A CATALOGUE OF SPECIALISED LISTINGS OF AUSTRALIAN PHONECARDS by Chris Williamson. 21 pages plus 4 page update. Lists & prices all cards by batch numbers up to "175" plus an updated listing of batch numbers up to "272". \$5.00 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

PHONECARDS OF AUSTRALIA - CATALOGUE: - compiled by Rene Steffen, 2nd Edit., Sept. 92. 18 pages, published by the Australian Phonecard Collectors Club Inc. - Helpfull Guide. \$7.50 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

KIWI NEW ZEALAND PHONECARD CATALOGUE & REFERENCE GUIDE - FIRST ISSUE :- August 1992. 20 pages, illustrated in full colour. \$10.00 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

STANLEY GIBBONS GUIDE MONDIAL DE CARTES TELEPHONE (Stanley Gibbons Catalogue of World Telephone Cards ) by S. E. R. Hiscocks, 1990. 176 pages in full colour. Standard work, lists all world phonecards except Japan, with prices and numbers issued, well illustrated, the French language edition, very easy to follow. Half Price - SPECIAL - was \$65.00 (250 francs) - NOW \$32.50 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

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There are also two other reprints of the Monument Series, one of which had only 1,500 printed!!! (different size and logo).

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This first issue of the Phonecard Monthly carries excerpts from some of the many letters received since the magazine was proposed.

As indicated in the Editorial, the direction which future issues will take, will be influenced by your comments, ideas, requests and constructive criticisms.

Please write to:-

The Editor

"The Australasian Phonecard Monthly" P.O. Box 1309, Tamworth, NSW 2340.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your recent letter informing the Club of "The Australasian Phonecard Monthly".

For the first issue, I am sending details of our first Phonecard Fair and promotional Club Card which will be released for this occasion.

Thanking you once again and we hope this publication is a great success.

G.H. Club Secretary, S.A.

Dear Sir

May I on behalf of the Club wish you "Good Luck" with this adventure and I hope we will see your magazine for many years to come.

Looking forward to receiveng your magazine with much interest.

W.J.M. Club President, Brisbane.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your most interesting letter. Your proposal of starting a monthly phonecard magazine would certainly be welcome.

Wishing you success in this new venture.

B.K. Club President, Melbourne.

Dear Sir,
Best wishes again.

L.C., North Rockhampton.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for the information on your forthcoming Phonecard Magazine.

A Survey under the lakes place and is

It is time for a magazine devoted entirely to phonecards and I look forward to it.

All the best.

B.C. NSW

Dear Sir.

Thank you for taking up the challenge.

E.C. Canberra

Dear Sir.

I wish you good luck in the venture and believe a magazine devoted to phonecards alone is needed, as phonecard collecting is a hobby on its own - not to be tacked onto stamp collecting.

Best wishes.

R.U. SA.

Dear Sir,

I wish you success.

E.R. Parramatta.

Dear Sir,

I take this opportunity to wish you every success with the venture.

R.J. WA.

Dear Sir,

I hope everthing works out OK for you.

P.G. NSW.

Dear Sir,

Congratulations on the setting up of this much needed publication and I wish you and the magazine every success.

R.C. NSW.

Dear Sir.

A magazine entitely devoted to phonecard collecting is long overdue and I wish you the best of luck in your new venture.

J. B.S. SA.

Dear Sir,

All the best for your magazine.

J.H. Tas.

Dear Sir

The best news that I have heard for a long time. This will fill a gap that currently exists in a remarkably expanding hobby.

D.R. NT. ACCESSE (80) monografic montanioni

Dear Sir,

I hope to see your magazine around for many years to come. All the best.

J.S. Qld.

Dear Sir, dealers and languages and 00000

I congratulate you on your initiative and wish you every success in the venture.

E.S. NSW.

# CLUB & SOCIETY NEWS

This Section Is Devoted To Phonecard Clubs & Societies For The Promotion Of Their Activities And Membership. All Articles Provided To The Editor Will Be Reproduced At No Cost To The Club Or Society.

The Melbourne Phonecard Club Inc. P.O. Box 197, Heidelberg West, Victoria, 3081, Australia.

President: Brian Koop

The Melbourne Phonecard Club Inc. represents collectors from metropolitan Melbourne and is registered with Telecom Australia Phonecard Collector Services.

Club meetings are held monthly on the first Saturday from 1 pm at the Northcote Library in Separation Street, Northcote (Melway Map 30 F.8.).

Club Meeting Activities include:

- . Monthly Newsletter
- . Card exchange including overseas cards
- . Auctions and raffles
- . Phonecard displays
- . Referance Library

The Club can be joined for an annual membership fee of \$20.00 for Adults, \$10.00 for those under 16, or \$15.00 for Associates, ie., members unable to attend Club meetings but still wishing to receive regular information updates through the Club Newsletter, etc.

Visitors are welcome to Club Meetings. For more information telephone (03) 4584594 or (03) 4844112, evenings.

#### Club Promotional Card

In order to raise awareness of the Club and to encourage new membership, a limited issue of 2000, Club Promotional Cards featuring the Melbourne skyline design were released in mid year.

Each card has a unique serial number and is similar in appearance to the cardboard speciman card.

The majority of cards have been offered to Phonecard Collector Clubs around Australia that have registered with Telecom. A further allocation of 500 cards has been set aside to offer to other interested collectors, with a limit of one card per person on payment of \$3.00 which includes return postage.



The Australian Phonecard Collectors Club Inc. is to release a limited edition Club Card in November. I understand that the Gold Coast Collectors Group is also about to do the same featuring the Gold Coast design on the \$5.00 Queensland Card. Other Clubs may follow the original Melbourne Phonecard Club's lead and issue similar cards with designs from Telecom Phonecards. Is this a new twist to the hobby — collecting Australian Club Cards. Ed.

Rosebud & District Phonecard Collectors
Club Inc.
P.O. Box 211, Rosebud, Victoria, 3939.

President: John Thomas

This Club meets every second Saturday in the month at the Rosebud Swimming Pool Foreshore on Point Nepean Road, Rosebud (Melway map 170 A.1.). Meetings start at 2.00 pm.

A formal meeting takes place and is followed by an auction of materials. Cards are available for purchase in circuit books. Many younger members and a keen group of adult members make up an active club with average attendance levels of around 30 members. This is a friendly

and informal group of collectors and information is exchanged freely between members.

#### **Springvale Club**

Convenors: A. De Sousa & R. De Sousa P.O. Box 194, Ormond, Victoria, 3204.

The Springvale Club meets on the third Saturday of each month from 2.00 pm until 4.00 pm at the Springvale Council Meeting Room (behind the Springvale Town Hall). There will be no meetings in January 1994.

This Club has just started up and has been established with the assistance of members of the Rosebud Club who could see a need for a club closer to the Eastern suburbs of Melbourne. This Club is likely to follow the same format as the Rosebud Club.

# Australian Phonecard Collectors Club Inc.

64 Concord Drive, Reynella, S.A. 5161.



Secretary: Mrs G. Hymers

The Australian Phonecard Collectors Club in conjunction with their first Phonecard Fair being held in Adelaide on Saturday 27th of November, will release a limited edition Club Card.

A total of 3,000 cards have been printed with permission from Telecom Australia and Tourism South Australia.

The face of the card features the South Australian \$10.00 Kangaroo Island phonecard with the reverse in black and white, incorporating the club logo and relevant Fair information.

Card numbering is in red and a unique feature chosen by the Club is the actual Fair date printed similar to phonecard i.d. coding.

A quantity of cards will be retained by the Club, offering current and prospective new members one card from their order to match their club membership number.

There will be no limit to cards purchased, but all phonecard collectors clubs listed with Telecom Australia will be offered the card at \$2.00, the same as their own Club members. Other collectors can purchase the card through this Club at \$3.00 per card (post paid within Australia).

Now with the release of three Club Cards, Melbourne, Queensland and South Australia, it is felt that this could generate an entire new range of Cinderella collecting.

Phonecard collectors are believed to be already purchasing these cards and exchanging them with overseas collectors.

Orders can be obtained from the Club Secretary, 64 Concord Drive, Reynella, S.A. 5161.

#### Kangaroo Phonecard Club, P.O. Box 706, Springwood, QLD 4127.

#### President: W.(Wim) J. Matzer

This Club meets every second Tuesday each month at 7.30 pm at 914 Wynnum Road, Cannon Hill. For further information ring either the Club Secretary (Tina) on 07 808 8871 or the President (Wim) on 07 209 7915.

The Club has exchange books from which members may purchase cards either used or mint. The Exchange Superintendant will assist anyone who visits the Club with the books.

The Club has guest speakers, dealers and regular swap nights which will give all their members the opportunity to bring their duplicate cards to the Club to swap them with other members.

The Club has an open invitation to anyone in the area on the second Tuesday of each month, to visit and attend their meetings. A warm welcome will be extended.

Any one interested in phonecards and who wants to become a member can do so. Club membership includes a large number of juniors as well as members from intrastate, interstate and even from overseas.

Members can also purchase through the Club, Telecom Phonecards and packs.

A Club Magazine is issued each quarter.

# CLUB & SOCIETY DISPLAY ADS

# ROSEBUD & DISTRICT PHONECARD COLLECTORS CLUB INC.

P.O. Box 211, Rosebud, Victoria 3939.

Meets Second Saturday, 2pm, Monthly at the Rosebud Foreshore Swimming Pool Point Nepean Road, Melway 170 A1. All Welcome

Enquiries (059) 86 5633

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#### THE MELBOURNE PHONECARD CLUB INC.

P.O. Box 197, Heidelberg West, Vic. 3081.

Meets the First Saturday Each Month At 1pm at the Northcote Library, Separation Street, Northcote, Melway 30 F8. Visitors Welcome

For Info. Phone (03) 458 4594 or (03) 484 4112

#### AUSTRALIAN PHONECARD COLLECTORS CLUB INC

64 Concord Drive, Reynella, S.A. 5161.

For Information On This Club's Activities Contact

The Club Secretary, Mrs. G. Hymers At The Above Address.

#### KANGAROO PHONECARD CLUB

P.O. Box 706, Springwood, Queensland 4127

This Club Meets Every Second Tuesday, Monthly At 914 Wynnum Road, Cannon Hill.

For Further Information Ring Either The Club Secretary on (07) 808 8871

or The Club President on (07) 209 7915

#### SPRINGVALE CLUB

P.O. Box 194, Ormond, Victoria 3204.

The Club Meets On the 3rd Saturday Of Each Month From 2.00 to 4.00 pm At The Springvale Council Meeting Room (Behind The Springvale Town Hall)

Convenors: - A. De Sousa & R. De Sousa

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- . Philatelic
- . Societies & Clubs
- . Telephone Cards

#### **TELEPHONE CARDS**

BUYING Mint Geelong packs, Xmas \$1.50, South Australian packs, Victorian packs, Queensland packs, Geneva Bear. Top prices paid. Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards, PO Box 207, Belgrave, VIC. 3160. Phone (059) 685576 AHs, Fax (059) 683463 (24 hrs).

**EXCHANGE.** Send up to eight different Australian cards in good condition and get the same amount of different foreign cards in return. Brian Connett, 19 Tropic Garden Drive, Smiths Lake, NSW 2428.

FOR SALE OR SWAP Many Australian and some Overseas Phonecards. Contact Mr. R. Ball on Phone number (068) 625437.

NEW ZEALAND Phonecard trading partner wanted. Len & Tania Cooper, 42 O'Shanesy Street, North Rockhampton, Queensland, 4701.

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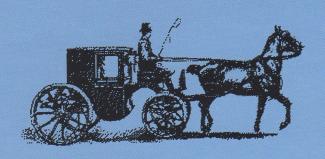
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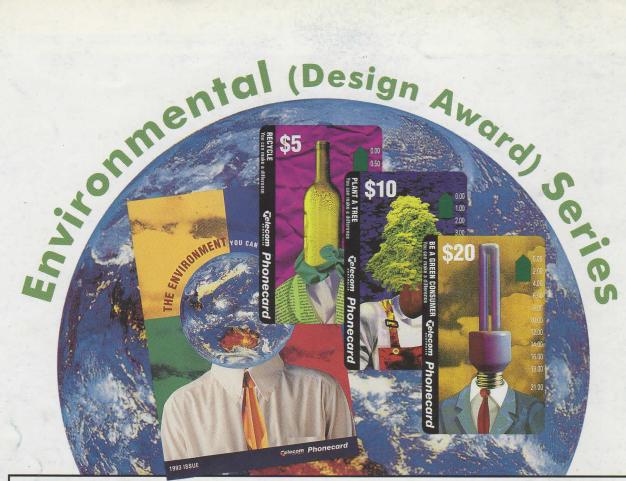
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The Telecom Phonecard Design Award is a national, bi-annual competition for young Australian graphic designers. The winner of this years competition, Simone Tetof, uses the theme The Environment - You Can Make a Difference - to encourage individuals to take positive action to protect the environment. Her striking and original designs feature on three Telecom Phonecards as well as the exclusive Special Edition Collectors Set. (Only 5,000 sets produced).

Send your order to: Phonecard Collector Services Telecom Australia Payphone Services PO Box 3964, Parramatta NSW 2124 Australia or Fax to: Australia: 02 891 6678 / Other countries: + 61 2 891 6678	
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