## THE AUSTRALASIAN PHONECARD MONTHLY





#### WHY THESE CARDS MUST GO UP IN PRICE!



#### **CONTENTS INCLUDE:**

News Update
Telecom Smartcard
International Phonecard Fair
A World View
APCC Phonecard Fair
APCC Limited Edition Card
Competition
Subscription Prize
Club & Society News
Pay Tell Mobile Payphone
- Australia's First Closed





## KNOX-SHERBROOKE PHONECARDS

P.O. Box 207, Belgrave, Vic 3160 Tel: (059) 685576 Fax: (059) 683463

Mastercard/Bankcard/Visa Accepted - Free Price Lists On Request

ı	- CHINESE -		- AMERICA -	
١	s	Selling	NEW YORK TELEPHONE CO Se	
١	SHANGHAI	Mint		1
	East Asian Games 1(set 12)	\$225	\$1.00 Complimentary	
	East Asian Games 11 (error pair)	\$ 95	\$5.25 Skyline	-
	(only 1,300 pairs exist)		\$5.25 Democratic Convention	
	Year of the Rooster (2 cards)	\$ 70	\$1.00 Democratic Convention Comp \$	1
	East Asian Games 11 (set 5)	\$220	\$5.25 New York By Night 1	
	TIBET		\$5.25 New York By Night 11	
	First Card issued	s/o	\$5.25 Summer In The City	
1000000	1992 Scenes (set 4)	\$218	\$5.25 New York Tennis	
	JIANGSU		Ellis Island Set (4)	
	Dragon Olympic (set 9)	\$250	Postcard Scenes (set 5)	
	ANHUI			
	Landscape Series (set 8)	\$210	SPECIAL	
	SHANDONG		MCC Trial Card (\$20) 1986-88	
	1993 Scenes/Temples (set 5)	\$ 75	BUYING EARLY NEW YORK CARDS	
	JIANGXI			
	1992 Scenes/Animal Stamps (set 12)	s/o	- AUSTRALIA -	
	1993 Scenes/Stamp O/print (set 5)		BUYING & SELLING ALL AUSTRALIAN	
	1993 Advertising (set 6)	\$ 90	PHONECARDS	
	Mao Tse Tung (set 6)	\$ 90	MINT, PREFIXES, PACKS, USED	
	Others available - Limited Quantiti	ies	Top prices paid for Geelong, SA,	
	Mint & Used in Stock		Qld, NSW Packs, Geneva, \$1.50 Chri	L
	1st CATALOGUE OF CHINESE CAR	eds .	and all prefix numbers.	
	DIRECT FROM CHINA (Colour/Englis			
	\$47.50 inc Postage		PREFIX WANT LISTS CATERED FOR	
	747.50 Inc rostage			

#### TASMANIAN FERRY CLOSED USER GROUP CARDS AVAILABLE

I have a small quantity of these extremely scarce collector packs available at reasonable prices. The packs will skyrocket due to the small quantities printed.

First Collector Pack (1000 issued) POA Second Collector Pack (2000 issued) POA

Limit of 2 packs per customer. Existing customers may reserve packs by phone.

#### ERED FOR

Selling

\$2875 \$ 60 \$ 18 \$ 15 \$ 15 \$ 90 \$ 55

\$ 75

Mint \$160 \$160 \$650

ong, SA, Vic, .50 Christmas

Our buying and selling prices for all cards (including prefix numbers) reflect the latest market situation so you can be assured of top buying prices and most competitive selling prices.

#### FAIRS WE WILL BE ATTENDING IN JANUARY INCLUDE

Rosebud - 8th of January Moonee Ponds - 9th of January

POSTAGE ON ALL ORDERS LESS THAN \$100 IS \$2.50 (sent certified). ORDERS OVER \$100 SENT FREE BY INSURED DELIVERY. ALL PACKS AND SLEEVES PLEASE ADD \$2.50. OFFERS SUBJECT TO STOCK AND PRICE CHANGES

#### COMING SOON

THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO MARKET PRICES FOR AUSTRALIAN PHONECARDS IN MINT AND USED CONDITION. TO BE PUBLISHED IN LATE JANUARY 1994 Listing Realised Prices From The December 1993 Auction

## UNIVERSAL COIN CO.

## ARE PROUD TO PRESENT OUR LATEST GOOD BUYING FOR THE DISCERNING COLLECTOR

- 1. BP MOBIL SPECIMAN SET WITH RED & BROWN MOBIL LAST OPPORTUNITY FOR THIS ONE AT \$175
- 2. AUSTRALIAN FAUNA SPECIMAN SET THEY'VE GONE UP BUT STILL GOOD BUYING AT \$75 ONLY 350 SETS ISSUED WORLD WIDE
- 3. POLICE CAR CARD THIS EVER POPULAR CARD IS \$125

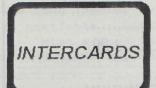
Please Supply Me:-... Police Car Card - ROSS DOLBEL - at \$125 Each ..... Sets of the Australian Fauna Speciman Set of 6 - \$75 per set \$..... ..... Sets of BP/Mobil Spec. inc. Red & Brown Mobil - \$175 per set \$..... Certified Postage & Handling \$ 4.00 TOTAL \$..... Send Your Payment to:-UNIVERSAL COIN CO., 20 CENTRE PLACE MELBOURNE VIC. 3000 MR/MRS/MISS/MS.. **ADDRESS** TOWN/CITY .....POSTCODE ..... STATE PHONE No. Money Order I ENCLOSE: Cheque Mastercard Or:- I Wish To Pay By:- Bankcard Visa Card No. Expiry Date:..... Signature :..... Seven Day Return Privilege

## OVERSEAS PHONECARDS

Ask for our FREE price list and up to date issuing countries list by mail, phone or fax.

0. 1	Mint	Used									
Country ALGERIA	6.00	Used	DIEGO GARCIA		7.00	JAPAN		2.00	ST KITTS	8.00	-
ANDORRA	-	17.00	DOMINICA		10.00	JERSEY	7.00	3.00	ST LUCIA	-	5.00
ANGUILLA	F 10- 10- 10	10.00	EGYPT	T- 07	4.00	KENYA	1	5.00	ST MARTIN		7.00
ANTIGUA	11.00	6.00	FAEROE IS	10.00	1 17.1	KOREA	7 T- 3 4	2.00	ST VINCENT	9.00	
ARGENTINA	-	7.00	FALKLANDS IS		3.00	KUWAIT		3.00	SEYCHELLES	13.00	
ARUBA		7 00	FIJI	3.00	2.00	LITHUANIA	12.00		SINGAPORE	-	2.00
ASCENSION		5.00	FINLAND	12.00	7.00	LUXEMBOURG	18.00	8.00	SOLOMON IS	8.00	- 1
AUSTRIA	-	2.00	FR POLYNESIA	22.00		MACAU	12.00		SOUTH AFRICA	25.00	
BAHRAIN	APR I	6.00	FRANCE		2.00	MALAYSIA	4.00	2.00	SPAIN	10.00	- 1200
BANGLADESH	_	5.00	GAMBIA		5.00	MALTA	-	3.00	SRI LANKA	8.00	
BARBADOS	MAL	10.00	GERMANY	I THE	5.00	MAURITIUS	17.00	Hill	SWEDEN	-	9.00
BELGIUM	-	2.00	GHANA	The same	8.00	MICRONESIA	28.00	-	SWITZERLAND	- 1	2.50
BRAZIL		6.00	GIBRALTAR	6.00	FRIE	MONACO	Tall of	17.00	TAIWAN	-	2.00
BRITISH VIRG I	s 11.00	9.00	GREAT BRITAIN	3.50	2.00	MONTRERRAT	17.00		TANZANIA	- 17	8.00
BRUNEI	-	7.00	GREECE		10.00	NETHERLAND		2.00	TCHAD		8.00
BULGARIA	The state of	5.00	GUERNSEY	11.00	100 0 2 00	NEW CALED'A	21.00	12.00	TAILAND	10.00	5.00
CAMBODIA	S. C.L.	40.00	HAWAII	20.00	16.00	NEW ZEALAND		2.00	TOGO		8.00
CAMEROON	-	7.00	HONG KONG	A 1 1	2.00	NORWAY	1378	14.00	TURKEY	-	8.00
CAPE VERDE	5.00	1014	HUNGARY		7.00	OMAN	-	2.00	UGANDA	-	8.00
CAYMAN IS		10.00	ICELAND	20.00		PAPUA NEW GU		6.00	U.A.E.		2.00
CHINA		5.00	INDONESIA			PARAGUAY	POR		USA Amerivox		
CROATIA		7.00	IRAN		15.00	PERU	S -	7.50	sample	6.00	15 15 15 15
CURACAO	-	7.00	IRELAND	4.00	2.00	POLAND	-	3.00	USA Nynex	15.00	
CYPRUS		2.00	ISRAEL	4.00	4.00	PORTUGAL	17-1	2.00	VANUATU	12.00	8.00
CZECH REP	-	10.00	ITALY	-	2.00	QUATAR	-	3.00	VIETNAM	8.00	
DENMARK	7.50	5.00	JAMAICA		5.00	ST HELENA		25.00	YUGOSLAVIA		10.00

Diversified worldwide stock on themes. Ask for photocopies of your theme. Specialising in one card per country collections. 100 countries in stock and increasing weekly. Virtually all Australian cards available used at competitive prices. Prefixes (used) available on request.



INTERNATIONAL

**PHONECARDS** 

AUSTRALIA

Phone/Fax 044 434 155 MASTERCARD, BANKCARD

AND VISA WELCOME

C/O POST OFFICE TOMERONG NSW 2540

## LUCKY SUBSCRIBER PRIZE DRAW

All SUBSCRIBERS to this magazine between the 8th of November 1993 and the 18th of March 1994, will be eligible for entry into a draw to select one person to receive a RETURN AIRFARE (with expenses) to either LONDON or NEW YORK. The prize will be DRAWN at the Sydney International Phonecard Fair to be held on the 20TH of MARCH 1994 at the Holiday Inn Menzies. Full details in the January issue of "The Australasian Phonecard Monthly".

## The Australasian Phonecard Monthly

December 1993

Vol. 1 No. 2

#### **Managing Editor**

Viddy Jermacans

#### Publisher

**Durrant House Collectables** 

#### Circulation Assistant

Jason Jermacans

#### Printer

Edwards Printing, 13 Lockheed St. Tamworth, NSW 2340 Ph (067) 657788

#### **Editorial Correspondence**

The Editor

The Australasian Phonecard Monthly

P.O. Box 1309

Tamworth NSW 2340 Australia

#### Advertising

#### Subscriptions

As Above

#### Contents:

Editorial	3
News Update	
First Closed User Cards	4
. Missing Prefix & Barcode	4
Prefix Auction	4
. Brisbane International Fair	4тэгіпп
Geelong Series	4
. Chinese Card Price Rises	5
. Variations	5
. Telecom Smart Card	5
. Telecom Phonecard News	5
Australian Smartcard	7
Sydney International Fair	8
New Phonecard Issuer	10
A World View	14
World's Smallest Phonecard	17
Cards to Watch	20
Telecom Archives	22
International Bank Note Fair	23
Madonna & the Adelaide Fair	24
Mao Tse Tung Issue	27
APCC Phonecard Fair	28
Club & Society News	30
Letters to the Editor	33
Classifieds	36

Print Post Approved PP245673/00013

#### EDITORIAL

Production of the second issue of this magazine was upon me almost before I had time to draw breath from producing the first.

It amazing the intricacies involved in the printing of a magazine. For example the four pages in this issue which feature colour are 7, 10, 27 and 30, this being so because when a colour separation takes place in preparation for printing in a magazine of 40 pages, this exact combination of pages is covered by one scan.

If colour is wanted on page 5, different pages to those above are covered by the scan. In other words, if limited colour is to be part of the magazine, these pages are selected first and the others planned around them.

As indicated, colour pages have appeared earlier than anticipated. This has been in the main, due to the positive response to the magazine from collectors, clubs and dealers.

The interest in Phonecard collecting continues to surge with dealers reporting the influx of new collectors seeking cards both used and particularly mint by prefix.

This has resulted in the upward spiral of prices for key cards in short print runs, two of which are featured in an article in the magazine.

Price rises and collector interest has been visible at a number of recent successfull Phonecard Fairs, in particular the Sydney and Adelaide ones.

The first item of big news in this issue is the unannounced appearance of. Australia's first closed user phonecards last month which opens up a whole new area of specialised collecting.

The second big item is the preliminary announcement of a prize of a return airfare to either London or New York next year for a lucky subscriber to the magazine. Full details will be available in January's issue.

The January issue will be available as of the 17th of that month and February's as of the 7th. The magazine is being brought forward for release on the first Monday of each month, partly in response to requests from Phonecard Collecting Clubs which in the main tend to hold their meetings early in the month.

Keep sending in the letters with ideas, articles, etc., as all will be noted and actioned as appropriate.

The Editor

## NEWS UPDATE

#### AUSTRALIA'S FIRST CLOSED USER PHONECARDS

The big news is the sudden appearance of the first closed user phonecards last month, on the **Able Tasman Ferry** which plies between Melbourne and Devonport.

There is an extensive article on these cards at pages 10-12 in this magazine, which will be of interest to all collectors

The first set of cards were released both individually as well as in a limited edition collector pack.

The second issue for use on the new Ferry, "Spirit of Tasmania", was issued on 10 December.

## PREFIX AND/OR BAR CODES MISSING

Several cards have been discovered recently with either or both the prefix number or bar code completely missing.

To date, three cards have been discovered - one with no prefix or bar code - one with no prefix but bar code intact - the other with no bar code.

In each case the cards were discovered in a batch of twenty in a retail outlet.

These cards have not been disturbed so it was possible to ascertain which prefix number the cards should have.



The following are believed to be the non-existent prefix numbers - 34100004 (no prefix or bar code); 34122557 (no prefix); 34122558 (no bar code).

These are the only cards to our knowledge to have this flaw and any more reports of such cards would be welcomed by the Editor.

Special thanks to Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards and City Stamp Market, Melbourne, for this information - Ed.

#### PREFIX COLLECTORS AUCTION

The recent mint & one hole prefix auction is reported to have had a huge response to date and Don Hill of Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards advises that the realised prices will be published in a catalogue in late January.

This will be the only realistic guide to prices for Australian Phonecards by prefix number and should be on everyone's list of new year purchases wheter they collect by prefix number or not.

Don reports that there have been several surprises in regard to which cards are scarce and the actual prices expected to realise for some particular cards have been quite spectacular.

The catalogue can be reserved by contacting Don Hill.

## BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR

An International Phonecard Fair will be held in **Brisbane** during the first half of 1994.

This Fair is being organised by M.E.F. Books, the organisers of the very successfull Australian International Phonecard Fairs held in Sydney (see articles inside re the recent Sydney Fair) and in Melbourne.

Most of Australia's major phonecard dealers are expected to be in attendance, including several New Zealand dealers.

Telecom Australia have also indicated that they will be represented at the Fair.

Full details about the Brisbane Fair will be announced shortly.

## GEELONG SERIES DEFINITIVE OR TRIAL?

In a Letter to the Editor, prominent dealer Peter Granfield from Intercards, queried two aspects of articles carried in the first issue, namely:

. as to whether the Geelong issue was our first definitive issue or only a trial issue;

. at what number do serial numbers at the start of a run commence, ie., 0001 or 0000.

The following is Telecom's response to the queries: "The first official series of Phonecards released by Telecom Australia which would operate Phonecard payphones in Australia was the Geelong series. Although designed as an engineering trial, these are the first Phonecards issued by Telecom".

"Every batch number starts at 000000 and if it is a full batch run, will finish at 999999.

My thanks to Emma Rogers, PR & Advertising Manager, Phonecard Collector Service, Parramatta.

## TIBET CARD SIGNALS EARLY SIGN OF CHINESE PRICE RISES

The first card issued by Tibet was produced in 1992 and 1,000 were produced by a second-rate printing process. The card was a "Plain Jane", white background, with black ink printing (text) - nothing on the reverse and was sold by **Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards** last month for \$45.00.

The lucky collectors who purchased this card will be pleased to hear the latest information to hand is that only 300 of the 1,000 cards were released as the others were considered of too poor quality and hence were destroyed.

The result? This particular card is now fetching over Aus\$2,000 and is one of the scarcest cards from China.

Anyone contemplating collecting China cards should start sooner rather than later as stock in any particular set is always in limited supply.

P.S. The Tibet card is sold out! Another limited issue (still available) is the East Asian Games I Error Pair (1,300 released), retailing for \$95.00 (whilst stocks last) with Knox- Sherbrooke Phonecards.

#### **VARIATIONS**

This article is supplied by Warren Heapy from Ballina, NSW.

Recently, upon sorting my cards into prefix No. sequence (another maniac collector), I found that the \$10 Kangaroo G930123a starting with the prefix number 300, had two different heights in their printing.

My card number 30023412 is smaller in print than my next higher card number 30070596. This is clearly visible to the naked eve.

All cards 299 and lower plus 300705096 and higher, all seem to have a standard height. It

appears that it is only the early printing of the 300 series that has smaller numbers.

When do the numbers revert back to the original height - if at all?

Perhaps your readers could shed some light. I have enclosed a photocopy of the cards mentioned.



#### **TELECOM SMARTCARD?**

During the last three months since becoming involved in this magazine, on a number of occasions I have had it mentioned to me that persons "had heard" that Telecom Australia was switching to smart or chip cards as early as next year.

On discussing this with Leo Funnell, the National Manager of the Phonecard Collector Service, I gained the information that whilst Telecom Australia was continually monitoring and upgrading its systems, at this stage, he had no knowledge of a possible conversion to smart cards in 1994.

He indicated that whilst there were problems with the magnetic cards (particularly in regards to fraud) a number of variables had to be taken into account in considering any change (not the least of which was cost).

#### TELECOM PHONECARD NEWS

As most collectors of Phonecards will have noticed, the number of Microscopic World and Environment Special Edition Folders produced has been **reduced** to 5,000.

In the past, the number of sets produced has been 10,000, with a couple of exceptions (South Australia - 11,000 and Australia Day 1992 - 5.000). Quantities of Special Edition Folders will in the future vary.

Feedback from collectors has shown that most collectors of folders wish them to be unique.

Telecom has taken this into account with its issuing policy.

The impact of advertising cards on Telecom's mail order fullfillment and stock holding arrangements has also contributed to their decision to vary the number of sets produced in the future.

The fixed withdrawal date of the packs has also been shortened from 12 months to 6. Previously, Telecom made the sets available for sale for as long as possible so that collectors new to the hobby had the opportunity to purchase those sets.

Collectors are advised to take note of withdrawal dates on the catalogues as reduced numbers mean these folders are likely to sell out quickly.

The 1993 Christmas Phonecards were released commercially during the last week of November. The illustrations were produced by Sydney artist, Vincent de Gouw, who was also responsible for last year's popular Christmas cards.

The cards feature the Southern Cross shining in the night sky over unique Australian bush and city scenes.

#### SERIAL NUMBER UPDATE

Compliments of Telecom Phonecard Collector Service

\$5	Indigenous People	N930212	319	100,000
\$5	Microscopic World	N930912	320	100,000
\$5	Microscopic World	N930912	321	100,000
\$5	Microscopic World	N930912	322	100,000
\$10	Microscopic World	N930923a	323	100,000
\$10	Microscopic World	N930923a	324	50,000
\$20	Microscopic World	N930934a	325	50,000
\$5	Microscopic World	N930912	326	100,000
\$5	Microscopic World	N930912	327	100,000
\$5	Microscopic World	N930912	328	100,000
\$5	Microscopic World	N930912	329	100,000
\$10	Microscopic World	N930912	330	100,000
\$10	Microscopic World	N930923a	331	50,000
\$20	Microscopic World	N930934a	332	50,000
\$5	Australiana Generic (new logo)	G930712	333	100,000
\$5	Australiana Generic (new logo)	G930712	334	100,000
\$5	Australiana Generic (new logo)	G930712	339	100,000
\$5	Australiana Generic (new logo)	G930712	340	100,000
\$5	Australiana Generic (new logo)	G930712	341	100,000
\$5	Environment	N931012	343	100,000
\$5	Environment	N931012	344	100,000
\$5	Environment	N931012	345	50,000
\$10	Environment	N931023a	346	100,000
\$10	Environment	N931023a	347	50,000
\$20	Environment	N931034a	348	100,000
\$10	Environment	N931023a	349	100,000
\$5	Environment	N931012	350	100,000
\$5	Environment	N931012	351	50,000
\$20	Environment	N931034a	352	80,000
\$10	Christmas 1993	N931123a	353	100,000
\$10	Christmas 1993	N931123a	354	100,000
\$10	Christmas 1993	N931123a	355	100,000
\$5	Christmas 1993	N931112	356	100,000
\$5	Christmas 1993	N931112	357	100,000
\$5	Christmas 1993	N931112	358	100,000
\$5	Christmas 1993	N931112	359	100,000
\$5	Christmas 1993	N931112	360	100,000
\$5	Christmas 1993	N931112	361	100,000
	Charles to the second of the second	DELLEVISION OF		1 010 1

<u>Note</u>: The prefix numbers 353, 354 and 355 above are identified as the \$10 card. In Telecom's October International Phonecard News they are identified as the \$5 card.I think that the above prefix listings are correct, but we will need to wait and see.

## AUSTRALIAN SMARTCARD

## Thoughts and Questions by Peter Granfield INTERCARDS

When Telecom Australia introduced the phonecard system in Australia, they claimed that the Anritsu sustem was the best system then available.

#### Why Anritsu

Whether this was or is the case, you can decide for yourself. Why were we the only country using the system? Why in the ensuing four years have only two other countries, out of nearly one hundred, adopted the system? (Egypt and Shri Lanka).

#### **Problems**

Since the introduction of the Anritsu system a number of problems have arisen. A card reprogramming fraud was uncovered, which cost Telecom many thousands of dollars. Incidentally, this occurred in Japan also, where a similar magnetic system is used.

Also, problems with humidity have occurred in our tropical regions and how many of you have lost credit on cards by storing them next to credit cards?

#### **Simple Conversion**

All this aside, it was a relatively cheap way to introduce phonecards to our network, because we already had a very broad network of payphones in place and guess who they were made by - Anritsu. It was simply a matter of recovering a few phones, replacing the electronics inside, swing a new door containing the card reader, reinstall the phone and bring back the replaced one for conversion. Hence, gradual release state by state. Would a conversion to smart cards be as easy and cost efficient?

#### Rumours

Rumours are already around that Telecom are considering a change to smart cards. One rumour even promotes a time of next year!

The illustration shown above is not a phonecard, but is identical in every way to any overseas smart card.

It is an access card into the Telecom operated "Intelligent Network". There are two different types but very few exist. Four hundred (400) of the trial card were produced and five hundred (500) of the card below.



Telecom staff have been researching and operating this system for some years now. Could this system be readily converted to payphones?

#### Advantages

Is there any advantage in a change to smart cards? I would have to say yes. Smart cards are more flexible in what they can be used for, besides just making phonecalls.

Denmark successfully trialled a smart card system in 1992 in the town of Naestved. The cards were favourably received by the public as a coin replacement card. They could be used for phone calls, laundries, parking space and in snack and newspaper machines.

As technology increases, the existing chips that have a memory of something like 16,000 bits will surely increase, making them even more flexible.

#### Disadvantages

A negative aspect however, is that the chip card does not overcome the humidity problems that occur in the tropics. This is only beaten with the use of optical readers.

#### **Future**

So what does the future hold for us collectors of phonecards? Our electronics experts are reputed to be amongst the best in the world. Maybe they will do a Brazilian act and create their own system?



INTERNATIONAL
PHONECARDS
AUSTRALIA

## SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR

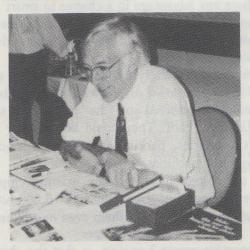
#### LARGEST HELD IN AUSTRALIA

#### Third Fair

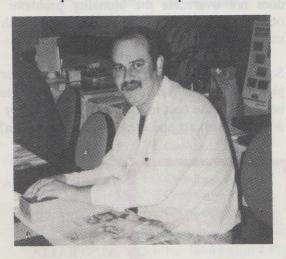
Australia's third major phonecard fair was held in Sydney at the Holiday Inn Menzies on Sunday 14th of November.

The Australian International Phonecard Fair was the largest Phonecard Fair held in Australia to date.

It was also a great success with six New Zealand dealers making the trip across the Tasman to attend the Fair.



Bruce Phillips from Bruce Phillips Phonecards NZ



Sonny Carter of Sydney Phonecards

Most of Australia's leading phonecard dealers were present as was Telecom Australia.

Collectors were able to select from the largest stock of phonecards seen anywhere in the Southern Hemisphere.

#### Monthly Phonecard Magazine

A new phonecard magazine, "The Australasian Phonecard Monthly", was also launched at the Fair.



Viddy & Jason Jermacans- APM

Two hundred leaflets were distributed to collectors regarding the establishment of a phonecard club or society in Sydney.

A large number of collectors were lined up when the doors opened at 10.00 am and several hundred collectors were present soon after opening.

Many collectors stayed at the Fair all day, while many others arrived after lunch to miss the large crowds which had been present during the morning at the first International Fair in March.

#### Attractive to Young

Once again there was a very large number of children and young collectors present. Estimates were as high as 40% to 50% during the first half of the day. This all augers well for the future of the hobby.

#### **Dealers Busy**

Dealers were kept busy throughout the day attending to collectors needs. There seemed to be collectors for all types of Australian phonecards but the scarcer and rarer mint cards, re-prints and batch numbers, were particularly sought after.

Dealers reported steady sales of used Australian cards espacially to batch and prefix number collectors.

One hole used cards were also in demand as were collector packs and memorabilia. Speciman

cards were also in stronger demand than at previous Fairs.

#### Cards on the Move

Mint Geneva cards and 1992 Christmas \$1.50 cards were in strong demand by collectors and dealers alike. Mint copies of the Sydney 2000 Olympic bid were also widely sought after.

Some state cards are also becoming harder to obtain. Many cards have seen price rises since the last Fair in March and several, such as the Geneva card, the Christmas \$1.50 and now the Sydney 2000 Olympic bid, have seen big increases in mint.

#### World Cards

Sales of world phonecards were also very good with many collectors branching out into world cards whilst still maintaining their Australian collections.

Good sale of New Zealand, Pacific Islands, USA, Europe and "one card per country" were reported.

#### Telecom

Telecom Australia reported good sales througout the day and were very pleased to meet so many of their customers and club members. Telecom also exhibited part of their archives at the Fair which proved very popular with collectors.

Dealers reported good sales at the Fair. They were able to meet many of their regular customers face to face as well as meet many new ones. A number of dealers reported their best single days sales ever.

#### **Publicity**

Once again the Fair received excellent publicity. Mark Frehill, the organiser (of M.E.F. Books) was interviewed for up to twenty minutes on five radio stations and talk back programs.

Many newspapers mentioned the Fair in their "Whats on in Sydney" segments. A major illustrated news story appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald on page THREE the day after the Fair.

#### **Next Phonecard Fair**

The next Australian International Phonecard Fair will be held in Sydney at the Holiday Inn Menzies on Sunday, 20th of March 1994.

#### **Next Banknote Fair**

The Australian International Banknote Fair will be held at the same venue the day before, on Saturday, 19th of March, making it a big international collector weekend in Sydney.

Thanks to Mark Freehill (M.E.F. Books) for this article and photos - Ed.

## WESTLAND STAMPS BUYING & SELLING

**AUSTRALIAN MINT PHONECARDS** 

#### TOP PRICES PAID

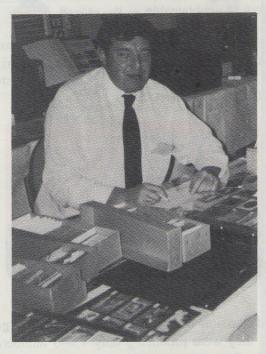
#### This Months SPECIALS

	Mint
\$2 Generic 2nd Print	\$18
\$5 Generic 2nd Print	\$40
\$2 Health & Safety 2nd Print	\$12
\$2 Blood Prefix 109	\$30
\$5 Answering Machine 2nd Print	\$18

## ALSO SELLING PAY TEL AUSTRALIA COLLECTOR PACKS AT \$75

#### LIMITED NUMBER AVAILABLE

P.O. Box 94, Kelmscott, WA 6111 PHONE (09) 397 6268



Michael Hudson of the Sydney Stamp Centre

# NEW AUSTRALIAN PHONECARD ISSUER

#### PAY TEL AUSTRALIA

On the weekend of the Tasmanian Stamp and Coin Fair, some dealers and collectors were travelling back from Tasmania on board the Able Tasman Ferry and upon boarding, they saw signs advertising a payphone phonecard in use on the ferry.

Pay Tel Australia in conjunction with the TT Line Tasmania provides phonecard operated telephones on the Melbourne - Devonport Bass Strait ferry Route.

#### **Chance Meeting**

This apparently was the companies first run with the new phonecard system and but for this chance meeting of collector and manufacturer (who was on board to test run the system) we may not have found out about the new cards until too late, ie., they were sold out and therefore unobtainable.

#### City Views

The initial Pay Tel phonecard collection was a "Three Cities Series" of phonecards featuring full colour views of Hobart (\$20), Launceston (\$10) and Devonport (\$5).



#### **Limited Edition**

In discussion with the manufacturer it emerged that they were producing only 1,000 numbered of the first set collector packs.









# TT-Line

Pay Tel Australia advises that the following card numbers were produced:-

\$ 5	Devonport	2,500
\$10	Launceston	1,750
\$20	Hobart	1.000

This is in addition to 1,000 of each of the above cards contained in Collector Packs.

#### Computerised

The card itself is plasticised with a Mag stripe on the back similar to a credit card stripe. The card value is stored in a central system computer and displayed prior to and during use, or via an enquiry mode.



The cards are unmarked by usage and therefore may be fully used but remain "mint".

The original print number will continue to be available on the new ferry, which commenced its service in late November, until used up (expected early December).

#### **New Series**

A new series of cards to celebrate the introduction of the new "Spirit Of Tasmania", was due for release on the 10th of December.

Print numbers expected are as follows:-

Collector Packs	2,000
\$ 5 Card	10,000
\$10 Card	4,000
\$20 Card	3,000

These cards are intended to last until Easter 1994 at which time a new series will replace them.

It should be noted that the above print runs are only estimations and that extra cards could be printed to cater for demand.

The Collector Packs will remain at 2,000 in number.

#### Regular Issues

It is planned to produce regular phonecard issues which will progrssively feature aspects of Tasmanian transport, culture, tourist attractions, flora & fauna, etc.

#### Value

Due to the very short print runs involved with the first trial of a closed user group on-board the vessel, it is expected that these cards will gain in price very quickly.

#### Stocks

The cards can be obtained through prominent phonecard dealers although some may have missed out in obtaining them due to the unexpected arrival of these new cards on the phonecard scene.

Queries regarding Pay Tel/TT Line Phonecards can be addressed to TT Line Marketing, East Devonport, Tasmania, or to Graham Rorke, Pay Tel Aust., PO Box 456, Blackburn, Vic., 3130.

Three dealers whom have stocks available include:-

Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards Abacus Stamps & Coins Westland Stamps

See Ads in This Magazine For Details



#### How to call on the 'Abel Tasman'



- Pay.Tel mobile payphones are easy to use!
   Simply follow the steps shown opposite to make a call.
- The following notes will help you understand how the Pay. Tel 'phone system operates:
- Pay.Tel is a radio telephone, so you will not hear dial tone when you lift the handset.
- Because Pay.Tel is a mobile payphone, you must dial the destination area code before dialling the required number -Australian capital city and Tasmanian area codes are listed on the hard of this card.
- Have your Pay.Tel phonecard, Mastercard, Visa or Bankcard ready
   you insert & withdraw card AFTER dialling.
- You must press the # button to connect the call don't press this button until the called party answers.
- If the radio signals are too weak to make a call, the display will ask you to try later.
- The display behind the handset tells you how your call is progressing, shows the time remaining of each minute of your call and shows the call cost at the end of the call.

# THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR - SYDNEY NOVEMBER 14

### A DEALER'S PERSPECTIVE

by Don Hill
Knox-Sherbrooke Phonecards

As usual, the week before a major fair was spent sorting out stock, printing price lists and signs, along with normal business.

This proved more difficult than the period prior to the 1st International Phonecard Fair held in Sydney in March 1993, owing to the growth in the hobby since that time.

This time we had decided to take a flight from Melbourne to Sydney on the Friday night, having experienced the fall-out after the 11 1/2 hour drive each way on our previous visit in March. This proved to be a wise decision.

The Saturday was spent walking around Sydney having a sort of holiday from the demands of phonecards but by evening, we were back in the hotel, sorting out our display arrangement for Sunday.

To save time we ordered dinner via room service and I must say the hotel employees are very professional in their job. The waiter wheeled the dining cart in, set up the table and didn't bat an eyelid at the signs, phonecards and collector packs spread out all over the bed, top of the TV and covering all other flat surfaces in sight!

#### New Phonecard Magazine

Later in the evening we met the Editor of the new phonecard magazine over coffee and spent an enjoyable hour discussing the exciting new developments in the hobby over the past few months.

We had such an enjoyable time that we nearly walked off without paying the bill - but the hotel staff are so professional and we were caught just before reaching the safety of the lift.

#### **Sunday Morning**

Sunday arrived and I wandered down to the room holding the fair before the dealers were due to set up.

I couldn't believe my eyes - they had tables in the middle of the room as well - actually turned out to be 26 dealers in attendance compared to 20 last time.

Its always strange in the room prior to the first customers arriving as some dealers try to equalise out their stock holdings, but are wary that the cards they are giving in exchange/sale may be more valuable than they think or less valuable!

#### I Wish!

I was offered some \$1.50 Christmas and took a few, but as it turned out later, I did not take nearly enough!

The doors opened at 10 o'clock and the line of collectors wound its way around between the dealers tables near the door and soon the room was filled as people either went directly to a particular dealer they knew, or browsed their way from dealer to dealer looking for what they wanted.

#### Varied Displays

Some dealers had world cards on display whilst others had Australian or New Zealand and there were some dealers specialising in particular countries.

There was an opportunity to see the 1st Collectors Edition from South Africa - "The Big 5" - soon to be released.

From a personal perspective we were pleased with the response to the Chinese cards and received quite a lot of interest, not to mention orders, for the South African pack.

The Chinese catalogues we were selling proved extremely popular (even the inspection copy which walked off at some point - could the person who accidentally took it please send us \$45 in the post!)

#### **Excellent Demand**

Collectors were present throughout the day and although timed to finish at 5 pm, many dealers still had customers at 6 pm - we had to catch a bus to the airport at 6.30 and had to dismantle

our display, notwithstanding the customer (apology offered here!) at 6.10!

A few serious collectors commented that they could easily have spent another hour or so with dealers.

#### **Strong Demand**

All areas were in strong demand - dealers with mainly used stock reported cards that would have previously been discarded (minor scratches, etc.) were much in demand at the 50c to \$1 price range. This is due to the scarcity of undamaged stock making its presence felt on prices.

Mint cards and packs sold strongly and some of these early packs are still moving upwards.

Many areas were seen to be in short supply and the demand levels being so strong will mean that prices will continue in an upward direction.

#### Mint Prefix Demand

The continued surge in mint prefix demand still amazes all involved. Customers previously only collecting reprints have since moved on to the challenge of collecting the prefix numbers.

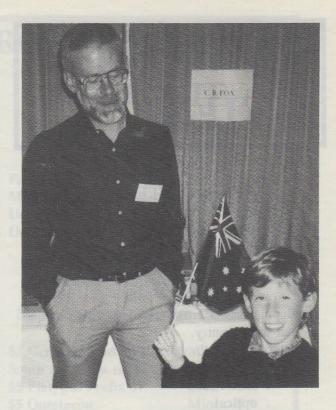
The early numbers are showing some quite high prices - and for the first time, mint prefix cards were offered to dealers for sale - perhaps now the general collector is aware of the sort of value these cards have, they are checking out their collections and deciding to sell them if they themselves are not collecting by prefix. I can't imagine where others would come from.

These cards offered to dealers tended to then get sold to the next person (collector) in line - so dealers didn't actually gain much prefix stock to take to other fairs!

#### Fair a Huge Success

All in all, this fair was a huge success.

If the growth in the hobby continues like it has over the last year, the next fair may call for a bigger room!



Cyril Fox & son Douglas from C B Fox, Melb.



Hendro Winaton of Worldwide Telecard, Wellington, New Zealand.



Phonecard Monthly — Page 13

## A WORLD VIEW

### From INTERCARDS By Peter Granfield

Since the inception of phonecard systems, many different companies have developed their own systems and some countries have chosen to go their own way rather than use existing developments and create another system unique to their own country.

There are three main variants in use:-

- . magnetic
- . smart card
- . optical.

We will look at each of these in turn.

#### Magnetic

This has been the system with the greatest number of variants. The basic principle being that the information is stored on the card in the form of a magnetic field, the place of storage being unseen on some such as the Anritsu system used in Australia and the Tamura system used in Japan (illustrations 1-4)



Illustration 1.



Illustration 2.



Illustration 3.



Illustration 4.

and being visible on others (illustrations 5-9).



Illustration 5.



Illustration 6.



Illustration 7.



Illustration 8.



Illustration 9.

Magnetic systems are prone to corruption of the data by another magnetic field such as a credit card. If stored in a wallet or purse against a credit card, which has a stronger magnetic field, the credit on the phonecard can be wiped.

An advantage of of these two systems is the very thin card used and production costs of around 15c per card.

Cases of fraud involving the sophisticated reprogramming of magnetic cards has occurred in more than one country.

The Anritsu and Tamura cards both give an indication of the approximate remaining credit to the user by means of a punched hole. On the Anritsu system (illustrations 1 & 2) the indicator scale is a standard length regardless of the value of the card.

So on a \$2.00 card a hole will be punched for every 30c call made, ie., a maximum of 7 holes. However, on a \$20.00 card (\$21.00 credit) there is insufficient room to punch a possible 70 holes so the card only gets punched a maximum of 11 times as the remaining credit value decreases.

There goes the theory that it was a free call because it didn't punch the card.

On the Tamura cards (illustrations 3 & 4) the use indicator is longer on a card with a greater number of units, although this appears to be a logarithmic extension.

The much flouted theory that blocking the punched holes allows the reuse, or extension of credit, is total nonsense because the card reader

#### ROSS L. CAMPBELL

## COMPLETE COLLECTIONS

Packs to Christmas 1992	(15)	\$695
Mint to Christmas 1992	(63)	\$925
Used to Christmas 1992	(63)	\$320
Used 1 Hole to Xmas 92	(63)	\$500

#### Send For My Selling List of Mint, Used and Packs Some <u>Examples</u> From the List

Mint	\$60	
Mint	\$93	
Used	\$30	
Mint	\$7	
Mint	\$7	
Mint	\$7	
Mint	\$13	
eneric)	\$35	
As Above but slightly marked		
	\$15	
	Mint Used Mint Mint Mint Mint eneric)	

IF YOU WANT ANY
PARTICULAR CARD
OR SET
PLEASE LET ME KNOW

#### **EXCHANGE WELCOME**

#### **ALSO BUYING**

ORDERS SENT FOLLOWING DAY
THAT I RECEIVE THEM

POSTAGE \$2.50 On Orders Under \$100 \$2.50 Extra per 5 Packs

PO BOX 10, CHATSWORTH ISLAND NSW 2469

> PHONE OR FAX (066) 464386 (No Sunday Calls Please)

is reading magnetic information, not holes. The holes are merely punched as a consumer friendly gesture.

Illustrations 5 & 6 show a Danish card by DLRCT and a Falklands Islands card by Autelca, a Swiss company.

With these systems the information is stored on the visible magnetic strip. With both of these cards it is necessary to insert the card in a phone to determine any remaining credit.

Illustrations 7 & 8 are from Singapore and New Zealand and both are produced by GTP of the United Kingdom.

Some, like the Singapore card illustrated, have a use indicator which has a dent punched in the card as it is used, whereas others, like the New Zealand card, has no use indicator and again it is necessary to insert the card into a phone to determine the credit.

Illustration 9 is an Itallian card commonly referred to as an Urmet system, but can be made by at least 3 different companies.

Before using these cards, you are required to tear of the perforated corner. Unless this is done, the card will not be able to be inserted far enough into the phone to allow operation.

These cards, as with a few others, have an expiry date after which the card becomes invalid.

#### **Smart Card**

This is the system with the second greatest number of variants.

The storage of these cards is done on a processor chip which is built into the card. The greatest part of what is visible is the contacts which connect to the chip.

It is necessary to insert the card into a phone to determine if there is any credit remaining on the card. Mint cards usually come in a sealed pack as proof of being unused.

Smart cards have the added advantage of being far more flexible in what they can be used for. The memory capacity is such that they can be used for funds transfer and many other uses.

Denmark have just successfully trialed a system which uses the one card for phone, laundry, parking, snack and newspaper machines.

Illustrations 10-12 show smart cards from three different countries, with three of the many different contact formats as well as different chip locations on the cards. There is now a standard chip location.



Illustration 10.



Illustration 11.



Illustration 12.

#### Optical many and made stom in

This system, which to my knowledge is unique to Landis & Gyr of Switzerland, uses an optically encoded information strip which is embossed into the plastic phonecard.

The card reader verifies the information and burns part of the strip as the credit is used up.

Optical cards are free of environmental influences such as magnetic fields and high humidity which makes them ideal for tropical countries.



Illustration 13.

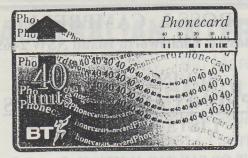


Illustration 14.

There have been no recorded cases of fraud where this system is in use.

The information strip is usually white allowing easy identification of the value left on the card. However in some cases the strip is the same colour as the remaining card design and it is then necessary to catch the light on the card to see what appears as tracking on the strip area. The more units available, the longer the use indicator.

In some cases such as the British 200 unit cards, there are actually 2 strips on the card, one near the top and one near the bottom, each bearing 100 units. These cards are turned upside down to access units 101 to 200.

## SEND TODAY

FOR A FREE COPY OF OUR MONTHLY DIRECT SALE LIST

## "THE COLLECTOR" FOR PHONECARDS

OUR LISTS CONTAIN DETAILS ON AUSTRALIAN AND WORLD CARDS MINT AND USED, PACKS AND SPECIAL EDITIONS ALL LISTED FOR DIRECT SALE

PHONE, FAX OR WRITE NOW TO

#### JACKMANS STAMPS AND COINS

78 LOCKYER AVENUE, ALBANY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA 6330.

TEL (098) 416338 FAX (098) 421702

## THE WORLD'S SMALLEST PHONECARD

Measuring just 30mm by 70mm, this phonecard issued by Valtion Rautatiet VR, the State Railways of Finland, is the smallest phonecard in the world.



Puhelimen maksukortti Betalkort för telefon Ei lunasteta takaisin/Ej återbetalning

20<sub>mk</sub> № 03142

These phonecards have been in use since August 1988 when twelve payphones were installed on the inter-city trains in Finland. The phonecard is used in Ericsson 431 radio-telephones and utilises the Swedish magnetic Myntsystem.

The phonecards are sold only by conductors on board the inter-city trains - that is why these cards are not readily obtainable. Anyone for a train trip to Finland?

Submitted by: Cyril Fox

68 Chelsea Park Drive Chelsea Heights VIC 3196

SEE THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THIS MAGAZINE FOR AN ARTICLE ON THE RECENTLY RELEASED FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN GENERAL ISSUE (NATIONAL) PHONECARDS FEATURING FIVE DIFFERENT ANIMAL PAINTINGS BY DENIS C. MURPHY.



SETS OF THE ANIMAL CARDS CAN BE ORDERED NOW FROM:-

C.B. FOX 68 Chelsea Park Drive Chelsea Heights Vic 3196 Ph. (03) 772 1950

## DEALERS DIRECTORY MINI ADS

Four to Six Boxes Per Page

\$ 30 Per Box For 1 Month \$ 80 Per Box For 3 Months

\$140 Per Box For 6 Months

ADS TO REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR MINIMUM OF 3 MONTHS

## WESTERN COLLECTABLES

BUYING & SELLING PHONECARDS FROM AUSTRALIA & THE WORLD ALSO COINS, STAMPS, ANY COLLECTABLES.

118a The ENTRANCE ROAD
THE ENTRANCE 2261
Phone: 043 343730
MAIL & PHONE ORDERS
WELCOME

#### - BUYING & SELLING -

ALSO OFFER FANTASTIC COLOURFULL THEMATICS

Filmstars-Animals-Sports Cars-Aircraft-Ships Bridges-Art-Comics- Japanese Lifestyle-Fish Scenery-Clocks-Advertising-City Scapes-Girls Love-Fashions-Lighthouses-Towers-Railway Temples-Palaces-Waterfalls-Fireworks-Lanterns City at Night- Space-Overseas Scenes-Christmas and many more.

APPROVALS AVAILABLE....Cards from \$1.50

#### **JACK KOCH**

GPO Box 1701 Adelaide SA 5001 Phone: (08) 212 1787 (Shop 66 - Hindley Street) Remember: I'm Only a Phone Call Away

#### ROSS L. CAMPBELL

PO Box 10, Chatsworth Island NSW 2469

BUYING - SELLING
PHONECARDS & STAMPS
LISTS AVAILABLE

PHONE OR FAX (066) 46 4386 - No Sunday Calls

## AUSTRALIAN PHONECARDS

Buying and Selling TOP PRICES PAID FOR

Mint & Used Cards All Collectors Packs

Special Issues
Collections or Single Cards
Want Lists Always Welcome

#### JOHN FIOCCO

Tel: (02) 7446049 or 018 648887 11 Durham Street Concord 2137

## STRATHFIELD STAMPS and Coins

BUYING & SELLING
AUSTRALIAN PHONECARDS
TOP PRICES PAID

#### - THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL -

- \*\* Geneva 91 Anritsu Speciman \$1,950 \*\*
- \*\*Anritsu Test Cards (Used) from \$ 175 \*\*

TEL: (02) 764 3034 SHOP 68 STRATHFIELD PLAZA STRATHFIELD

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

Saturday, 19th March, 1994 - 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) 913 2028.

### BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR

To be held during the first half of 1994
Preliminary Notice
Date and Venue to be announced

#### 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) 913 2028.

#### 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) 913 2028.

# WHY THESE CARDS MUST GO UP IN PRICE

The following article provides a description of two particular cards which are considered as a "must" for anyone wishing to complete either a prefix or type collection, or for anyone with an eye to investment for the future.

#### The \$5.00 Geneva Blue Koala Card



In October 1991, the 6th World Telecommunications Exhibition and Forum was held in Geneva, Switzerland.

Telecom Australia had a stand at the exhibition and to commemorate the event they issued a blue \$5.00 card featuring the Koala.

This card was issued in three editions or types, namely:-

- . a cardboard sample card "speciman" of which apparently some 10,000 were released in Australia (not Geneva);
- . a very limited number of **45-50 cards** which were overprinted by the manufacturer, Anritsu, for distribution to standholders at the exhibition;

. 11,100 cards (numbers 10500000 - 10511099, ie., Prefix Number 105) which were originally meant to be distributed in Geneva and of which some 6,000 to 6,700 were returned to Australia and sold to the public at face value by Telecom Australia.

There has been considerable conjecture as to the status of the third category above, ie., is this a special issue card which should be classed in the same category as the Cambodian cards (which also received a Telecom prefix/print number) or is this a general issue card which forms part of the Australian listing.

I feel it should be classed in the latter category due to the fact that they were available to the public in Australia and were/are valid for use in Telecom's payphones.

The prices for these cards are rapidly on the increase. Two months ago the retail price for this card was between \$45 to \$55.

At the mid November, International Phonecard Fair in Sydney and the late November APCC Phonecard Fair in Adelaide, the card was selling for as low as \$75 (not expected to last) and as high as \$140.

Due to the very small print run for this card and the continuing influx of phonecard collectors, this card is considered a **must for your collection** if you havn't one already.

It is also viewed in the excellent investment category and if you can afford to, some should be purchased, particularly if obtainable in the vicinity of \$75-\$80.

#### The \$1.50 1992 Christmas Card



No other card issued by Telecom Australia has created quite such a "stir" as this card.

Due to the uniqueness of its distribution, some collectors I have spoken to or dealt with, do not know that it even exists!

This \$1.50 Phonecard featuring a choir of native birds, was a give-away by Telecom as a goodwill gesture to subscribers to their quarterly magazine and to people whom had purchased Telecom Phonecards or albums and accessories during the year.

The card was mounted in a Christmas Card Presentation Pack (total of 10,000) and was one of three Christmas cards issued (the other two being a \$5 Wombat at the Beach and a \$10 Koalas on Christmas Eve.

The balance of the \$1.50 cards were made available for purchase at \$6.00 each by general collectors, clubs and dealers.

Telecom at the time had approximately 4,000 persons whom fell into the first category and as such probably "felt safe" in issuing 10,000 of the \$1.50 card.

However due to the sharp increase in collector numbers in late 1992 and more so since, this small print run has led to this card being much sought after.

Needless to say, the entire printing was sold out within days of issue.

Details for this card are as follows:-

Telecom No.
No. Printed
Print Run

N920610a

10,000 (in a pack/card) 21,850,000-21,859,999

It is estimated that Australia currently has 30,000 people whom actively collect phonecards and many believe that this figure is likely to double in the next 12 months. This figure does not include overseas collectors who enjoy collecting Australian Phonecards.

On this basis, it is not hard to figure out what must happen to this card, price wise.

It currently retails for between \$60 and \$70 but if you look at the past performers and read into it other relevant statistics, this price will rise.

The availability of this card as a 1 hole or multi hole card is even more **limited** than the mint card as the only way to get a used card is to intentionally use up a mint one, which is like "chewing up" a \$50 + note (although I did read somewhere that someone **once** found a used \$1.50 Christmas in a phone box recepticle).

Another interesting aspect of this card is that some have been found with a "blob" or flaw on the card. At the APCC Phonecard Fair in Adelaide on the 27th of last month, one was auctioned to a dealer for \$120.!

Again, it is recommended that the \$1.50 1992 Christmas card be purchased now for your collection and/or as an investment item.

This article was prepared by the Editor with the assistance and comments as provided by Peter August from the <u>Universal Coin Co.</u>, 20 Centre Place, Melbourne, Vic 3000 (see ad at page 1).

#### CRICKET OVERPRINT

The card featured was provided by W. Ray Dobson from Christchurch, New Zealand



The overprint reads:Australian Cricket Tour of New Zealand 1993

Test Marches One Day Games Aust 1, NZ 1, Aust 3, NZ 2

A total of 500 cards were Overprinted on the \$2 Generic (GC2) in Christchurch, New Zealand.

The issue date was 31 March 1993.

Issue Price - Aus\$5.00

Should anyone be interested in purchasing copies of the Overprint, they can either contact:-

W. Ray Dobson 176 Main Road Christchurch 8008 New Zealand

or the Editor of this magazine.

#### **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

## TELECOM ARCHIVES

## by Mark Freehill M.E.F. Books, Sydney

Telecom Australia exhibited part of their archives at last months Australian International Phonecard Fair in Sydney.

As this was quite a significant exhibit, I thought that readers might like some details of it.

#### Showcases

The exhibit consisted of two showcases containing various proofs, original art work and specimans, etc.

#### Geneva Card

The original art work for the 1991 Geneva card (featured elsewhere in this magazine) was exhibited. This shows some of the initial ideas presented to the Phonecard Design Approval Committee and how the final Koala design evolved.

The Geneva card was produced for sale at the Australian Stand at the International Telecommunications Exhibition, Telecom '91, in Geneva.

#### \$20 Western Quoll

"The Phonecard That Never Was", a twenty dollar card depicting the Western Quoll was also on display. It was originally going to be part of the Endangered Species series which was released in February, 1993.

This set was originally going to consist of two \$5 cards, a \$10 card and a \$20 card, but the set was reduced to three cards and the \$20 was not included.

#### **Landscape Series**

Proofs of the Australian Landscape series showing production instructions prior to printing were shown.

Whilst the majority of Telecom Phonecards are now produced in Australia, this series was produced in Japan as some links are still maintained with the original manufacturers, Anritsu.

#### Speciman Cards

A series of speciman cards were also on display. Telecom produced a series of speciman cards whilst the Phonecard system was in the initial stages of introduction throughout Australia.

These cards were prepared purely as a promotional product to present Phonecards as an advertising medium to companies that may advertise in the future.

The original art work shows the designs that were presented to the Phonecard Design Approval Committee.

Other material on display included art work for the Willy \$5 card showing how a design is marked up for colour processing in the preproduction stages.

#### **Business Cards**

Also, the \$2 Generic card and Telecom's business cards which were produced for staff in the collector's group at the beginning of the group's formation, were featured.

All in all, Telecom's exhibit proved to be a very popular and fascinating display.



Leo Funnell, National Manager, Phonecard Collector Service

## BANKNOTE FAIR SUCCESSFULL

By Mark Freehill M.E.F. Books, Sydney.

The Australian International Banknote Fair was held in Sydney on Friday 19th of November at the holiday Inn Menzies.

It proved to be a success and was popular with collectors and dealers, several of whom reported their best ever banknote fair. Many collectors were able to add new notes to their collections.

Good steady business was carried on throughout the day. As usual, Australian banknotes proved very popular with a number of significant sales in this area. Decimal banknotes were strong with many collectors looking to fill gaps in their collections. World banknotes were also in strong demand with many dealers having good new stocks at the fair.

#### **New Buyers**

A number of new buyers were also in the market. Dealers had a good chance to meet many recent and established local collectors plus many of their clients from previous fairs, some of whom had travelled long distances to attend. Collectors had ample time to spend choosing notes and discussing their collecting needs.

#### **Exhibitions**

Note Printing Australia had a special exhibition titled, "Design Elements Featured on the New \$10 Note", the exhibit graphically showed the various elements incorporated in the design of Australia's newest note.

IBNS member, Peter Symes from Canberra also exhibited at the Fair. His display which consisted of a large viewing box set up with an ultra violet light, vividly showed the various security devices found in many modern banknotes that can only be seen under ultra violet light. Both exhibits proved very popular with collectors.

#### Phonecards Featured

Phonecards were featured at this fair as many banknote dealers also deal in phonecards. Christchurh, New Zealand phonecard dealer, Steven McLachlan stayed on in Sydney specially to attend the banknote Fair.

#### **Good Publicity**

The Fair received very good publicity and was mentioned on radio many times during interviews and in "Whats On" segments.

Both Channel 7 and Channel 10 TV News filmed the Fair and segments were shown on the evening news.

Makers of a special video for the Royal Australian Mint also filmed at the Fair.

#### Changes

This will be the last time that the banknote fair will be held on a Friday. In future, it will be held on a Saturday so that many more collectors can attend the fair on the weekend.

The next Australian International Banknote Fair will be held in Sydney on Saturday, 19th of March, 1994, at the Holiday Inn Menzies.

## EDLINS OF CANBERRA

THE NATIONAL CAPITALS
LEADING TRADER &
AUCTIONEERS IN TELEPHONE
CARDS, COINS & STAMPS

Shop 10, Garema Arcade, Bunda Street, Canberra City 2601

Phone:(2 lines) 06 248 7859

06 258 6845

Fax: 06 259 2316

All Mail to: PO Box 98, Belconnen, ACT 2616

#### BUYING

- \* All Australian & World Telephone Cards Purchased - not just the hard-tocome-by-cards.
- \* Prompt Payment by Return Mail.
- \* No Lot too Large.
- \* Regular Interstate and Overseas Travel to purchase.
- \* Australian Mint and Used Prefix Numbers keenly sought.

#### SELLING

- \* Retail. Wholesale and Auctions Sales.
- \* Australia's largest Collection of Collector's Packs, Mint, Used and World Cards.
- \* In Attendance at all Major Coin, Stamp and Phonecard Shows.
- \* Free Illustrated Price Lists Available on Request.
- \* Overseas Enquiries from Dealers and Collectors Welcome.
- \* Quality Cards always Supplied Satisfaction Guaranteed or Prompt Refund on Request.
- \* Pricelist on Prefix Numbers Available on Request.
- \* Australia's Largest Range of Phonecard Accessories.

## MADONNA AND THE ADELAIDE PHONECARD FAIR

Submitted by:- Don Hill Knox- Sherbrooke Phonecards

This was the second time we travelled over to Adelaide for a Fair and we were looking forward to this first "phonecard only" Fair as opposed to it being a stamp, coin and phonecard Fair.

Adelaide is a much smaller city than either Sydney or Melbourne and so we were not expecting to sell "heaps" of stock but never the less decided to fly over rather than drive to save some valuable time, which has become more difficult to find since the phonecard business is growing so quickly all the time.

#### To Drive or Not To Drive

Well, after hearing the following tale you may wonder why driving is not more often used to travel from Melbourne to Adelaide!

Our first problem was actually our own fault. We were 15 minutes from home on the way to the airport when the thought suddenly occured to us that we may have locked the cats (Sandy & Jasper) in the house without access to food and water!

We quickly drove back to discover that we hadn't done this after all! So with plenty of time to catch our flight we set off again making good time in towards Melbourne until we hit the Madonna Queue!

#### Madonna!

I wasn't too keen on Madonna up to this point and as we slowly crawled through town, I became less keen on her (well, her presence in Melbourne at least).

After selecting an alternative route we managed to reach the Tullamarine Freeway to join the Melbourne rush hour traffic jam on the Freeway.

Madonna was discussed again and the thought of actually missing the flight (which was the last

to Adelaide that night) started to appear in my brain.

#### Airport at Last!

After 15 minutes in this crawl, the trafic thinned and we managed normal speed to the airport. We arrived at 7.40 for the 8.00 pm flight and after parking the car and running to the check in counter and straight to the front of the queue, we were kindly told that the baggage was closed but the bags could be sent the next day (the day of the Fair)!

I was stunned (it was 7.50 pm now) and showed a certain amount of unhappiness with the situation. The check-in person told us he would try and get them on the plane but we should hurry to the boarding gate (gate 1 perhaps ?- no. gate 10).

#### Stressed

Upon arriving at gate 10 and in a certain amount of stress, thinking we might not get our stock to Adelaide and imagining how stupid we would look sitting at empty tables at the Fair, the Ansett staff member on duty told us that we had indeed had our bags put on board. We were relieved!! - that is until she said "I think we have a small problem".

"What I asked?

"We only have one seat left", came the reply!
Well, I expressed the fact that we needed to get
there tonight and she was saying we could go
back to the lounge and go tomorrow!

And all our stock was on the way to Adelaide on its own!

I didn't feel like walking back to the lounge and asked what could be done to get us on this flight or another. This was the last flight she said, and we can not put you on an Australian flight (because we got the cheap tickets I think).

Anyway, to cut a few minutes reading short - it was now 7.57 pm and only our protestations and the staff's confusion about what to do with our bags, stopped the flight from leaving on time.

Phonecalls were made and it was discovered that five staff were on the flight and it was then decided that one was going to come off.

Just then another late passenger turned up! He was told to go back to the lounge - which he did with just the one comment - "what, you have sold my seat to someone else?!

#### It Gets Better!

While the four Ansett staff were discussing as to whom to take off the plane from the five

employees on free flights, the other late passenger got back to the lounge and got booked into the original empty seat!!

So we were back to one seat down and two unhappy (possible) passengers.

The other passenger came back down but by then we had won back our seat and it had been decided that another staffie was to move into the "jump seat" - what ever that meant!!

#### Good News at last!

This still left one short and then it was noticed that two people who had checked in had not actually turned up to the plane.

The end result was that 65 seconds later we were all on board and the plane was off!!

One of our seats was even in first class!

Anyway, back to the reason for the article in the first place - the Fair!

#### The Fair

The Fair had representatives from Canberra, Melbourne and of course Adelaide, in attendance. Many were from the Rosebud Club coming over to support the APCC.

There was a wide range of stock on show and the attendance was high throughout the day.

In the afternoon, an auction was conducted from almost 300 lots. One room was used to display all the material on the walls and from what I saw, it was all good quality material. A large majority of lots were contested and some interesting results were noted.

#### Auction

Firstly, many of the quality higher valued cards were not contested by the locals but by the interstate dealers.

It seems that the locals are a little behind some of the current price developments in certain cards.

The \$1.50 Christmas cards were sold for \$55 to dealers. A \$1.50 dot flaw went for \$120 and the Geneva Bears went for about \$70, again to dealers.

#### **Excellent Organisation**

The organisers of the Fair are to be congratulated on a tremendous effort all round. The service given to the dealers was much better than that given by some of the regular Fairs and included travel arrangements, organising lunch on the day and providing an excellent venue at cheap cost to the dealers.

This encouraged so many to attend and considering Adelaide's small population and hence smaller number of collectors, this did

help to reduce overheads and give the dealers a chance to make a small profit.

The dealers did not all fare the same due to the particular interests of the collectors who attended on the day.

It seemed that a large number of collectors who had just "looked" at the Fair in May, had decided to buy now and they were picking out the cheapest cards from the 50 cent box to fill gaps.

#### **Positive Signs**

This development of having boxes with cards having scratches etc., is actually a very positive sign for the hobby.

In the early days, collectors could take their time to get the perfect cards but now the used cards are "drying up" and new collectors are demanding cards quickly to fill gaps, so they are TAKING THESE CHEAPER CARDS FOR NOW TO QUICKLY FILL GAPS IN THEIR COLLECTIONS.

In view of the population in Adelaide, this Fair was an outstanding success and is a reflection of the hard work put in by the committee of the APCC and this event shows what can be achieved by phonecard clubs on their own.

#### Rosebud Fair January 1994

In closing, the Rosebud Club now have the chance to show that we here in Melbourne, can also put on an event to this standard when we hold our Fair in January next year.

Was the trip home uneventfull? - Ed.

SEE NEXT MONTHS MAGAZINE FOR FULL DETAILS ON THE SUBSCRIPTION DRAW. BIG BE TO DETAILS FINALISED BUT ONE LUCKY WIN SUBSCRIBER WILL **PLUS** AIRFARE RETURN EXPENSES TO EITHER LONDON OR NEW YORK NEXT YEAR. PRIZE TO BE DRAWN THE 20TH OF MARCH 1994 IN SYDNEY AT THE NEXT INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR AT THE HOLIDAY INN MENZIES.

Life Member:
ANS (Aust.), IBNS
Member:
NAA, NAV, NSSA, RNSNZ,
ANA (USA), RNS, LNC, NI,
SPMC, LANSA



Celebrating Forty Years in Numismatics 1949 - 1989

### M.E.F. Books

Specialising in books relating to Numismatics, Philately, History & Travel

#### PHONECARD - PHILATELIC - NUMISMATIC - HANDBOOKS & CATALOGUES

#### THE LATEST EDITIONS - ORDER NOW!

#### \*\*\*\*\* PHONECARD CATALOGUES - LATEST RELEASES \*\*\*\*\*

**COLLECT AUSTRALIAN PHONECARDS**: 1993 Edition by Graham Bird & Ken Sparks. 32 pages, illustrated throughout in full colour, a wealth of information. \$8.95 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

AUSTRALIAN PHONECARD CATALOGUE: 1992 Edition edited by Graham Bird & Ken Sparks. 23 pages, illustrated throughout, contains much helpfull information. \$10.00 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

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).

TASMAN NEW ZEALAND TELEPHONE CARD CATALOGUE :- First Edition. 23 pages, illustrated throughout, plus varieties. \$5.00 (plus \$2.00 p & p). \$6.50 (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).

CATALOGUE OF SINGAPORE STAMP & POSTAL STATIONERY. MALAYSIA - SINGAPORE - BRUNEI PHONECARDS: by Steven Tan. Latest (11th) 1993/94 Edition. 106 pages, illustrated in <u>FULL COLOUR</u>. Completely updated and expanded, includes the latest catalogue and price list of Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei phonecards illustrated in full colour with latest prices. \$16.00 (plus \$4.00 p & p).

SINGAPORE STAMP & POSTAL STATIONERY & MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE PHONE CARD CATALOGUE by Steven Tan. 10th Edition. 68 pages, illustrated in FULL COLOUR. Includes Singapore & Malaysia phonecards. Half Price - SPECIAL - was \$9.00 - NOW \$4.50 (plus \$2.00 p & p).

M.E.F. BOOKS, P.O. BOX 523, NARRABEEN, NSW 2101. Tel: (02) 913 3036, Fax: (02) 913 2028.

## MAU ZEDONG PHONECARD ISSUE FROM CHINA

#### **COMMEMORATIVE PHONECARDS**

The year 1993 is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mau Zedong (Mao Tse Tung).

Mau was perhaps the greatest statesman of the Peoples Republic of China having been "proven" on the battlefield as a great tactician and in politics, as a great politician.

He also had another side to his character as can be seen from the many poems that he wrote througout his life.

Jiangsi province issued this set of six phonecards in October 1993.

Each card shows Mau at a different stage of his career in front of short pieces from his four most famous poems.

The phonecards are issued in three different denominations - 20 Yuan, 50 Yuan and 100 Yuan.



Mau In His Younger Years



Mau at the Communist Party Inuauguration



Mau During the Jiangsi Military Uprising



Mau at the Time of the "Long March"



Mau During His Time at Yenan



Mau Portrayed in Middle Age

This set of six phonecards issued by the Telecommunications Authority of Jiangsi Province, is particularly notable in that this is the first time that a specific person has been featured on a Chinese phonecard.

# A.P.C.C. PHONECARD COLLECTORS FAIR

by Robert Ulseth

ADELAIDE'S FIRST PHONECARD COLLECTORS FAIR presented by the AustralianPhonecard Collectors Club Inc. on the 27th of November 1993, was a very successfull day.

Entusiastic collectors started arriving an hour before opening time and a steady stream of collectors continued all day.

#### **New Collectors**

It was good to see so many new collectors and others who did not know how well established the hobby was, attending the Fair.

Many visitors took the opportunity to enrol as Club members.

#### Large Range of Cards

Edlins of Canberra, Knox-Sherbrooke of Victoria and John Fiocco of NSW, plus local dealers Unley Coins, Jim Beauregard-Smith and Arcade Stamps, were present.

Combined with A.P.C.C. members, interstate club members and the Rosebud and District Club, on offer for sale was the largest range of telephone cards ever seen in this state.

Sales were steady all day as collectors took the opportunity to stock up on Australian cards and choose from the extensive range of overseas cards.

The Fair was the first release in Adelaide of the new magazine,"The Australasian Phonecard Monthly". It was instantly accepted by collectors with many good comments.

#### Auction

The 1 pm auction, offering 276 lots, was well attended. Bidding on some items was spirited, with excellent prices being realised.

The most sought after lots were mint cards and packs. All packs offered sold at well above the reserve price.

Serial number collectors present were prepared to bid high to obtain that needed card.

It would appear buyers holding off on purchases of early phonecards will now do so at their own peril!!

#### **Unique Item**

A most unique item appeared at the Fair. It was a small flat phonecard sixed brass container. On the hinged brass lid was printed TELECOM AUSTRALIA and inside was a mint N91012-1, \$2 Blood Transfusion phonecard signed by Alicia Heriot, the designer of the Red Cross series. A rare gem indeed!

#### Club Card

A Limited Edition of 3,000 Club Cards were prepared for the Fair with permission from Telecom Australia and Tourism South Australia. The face of the card features the South Australia \$10 Kangaroo Island phonecard (see page 30) 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 id coding.

A quantity will be retained by the Club, offering current and new members one card from their order to match their Club membership number. There will be no limit to cards purchased and collectors can obtain cards through the Club at \$3 per card (post paid within Australia).

#### See Box Ad on page 34 for Club details.

Thank you to all those who assisted at the Fair and the dealers who attended.

Special thanks to Telecom Australia Pay Phone Services Adelaide and Parramatta for their support and promotional material and the Stamp Collector for door prize donations.

#### DISTRIBUTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Robert S Dean of the GPO NEWSAGENCY, GPO Lane, Brisbane, has agreed to act as the Brisbane distributor for "The Australasian Phonecard Monthly". Copies of the Magazine will be on sale at this Newsagency and others in Brisbane. Full details will be available in the January issue.

Negotiations continue with **prospective distribution agents** in other major centres. An update will be provided in each forthcoming issue.

The January issue will also contain a full listing of the name and address of all dealers whom stock this magazine.

### C.B. FOX - Phonecard List No. 3.

Phonecards keep pouring in from every corner of the world - this list features cards from over 100 countries. Recent additions include - Peru, Russia, Syria, Tunisia, Gabon and Vanuatu.

The Australian Section is growing larger and in keeping with current collecting trends, mint cards are listed by prefix number. Scarce prefix, used cards, are also listed.

The Price List contains illustrations of world cards, is a black & white photocopy, contains 11 pages (1/2 A4 size) and is stapled in the middle.

In addition to cards listed by price, the List contains many snippets of **interesting** information in regards to cards, cinderella's and general world news.

This List is obtainable from Cyril Fox, 68 Chelsea Park Drive, Chelsea Heights, Victoria 3196, Australia. Phone (03) 772 1950.

### FAIRS - SHOWS - AUCTIONS

5-6	Feb. 1994	Stamp, Phonecard & Coin Show	Adelaide Hilton	Adelaide
6	March 1994	NSW Phone., Stamp & Coin Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
19	March 1994	Aust. International Banknote Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
20	March 1994	Aust International Phonecard Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
	April 1994	Stamp, Phonecard & Coin Show	Gateway Hotel	Brisbane
1	May 1994	NSW Phone., Stamp & Coin Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney
7-8	May 1994	Stamp, Phonecard & Coin Show	Kings Hotel	Perth
3	July 1994	NSW Phone., Stamp & Coin Fair	Holiday Inn Menzies	Sydney

FOR FREE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THIS SECTION, WRITE TO THE EDITOR

## 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.

Australian Phonecard Collectors Club Incorporated 64 Concord Drive, Reynella, S.A. 5161.



Secretary: Mrs. G. Hymers

This very successfull and expanding Club was the first phonecard collectors club in Australia.

The first meeting of eight interested collectors was held on the 22nd of January 1991 and the Club was incorporated the 25th of March that same year.

Although somewhat hesitant at the beginning as to whether the idea of collecting phonecards would be successfull, a meeting between interested collectors and Telecom Payphone Services was held in Adelaide to guage the interest in the hobby and to help Telecom to formulate their policies.

This meeting was very successfull and a similar meeting was held in Melbourne. From this the hobby started to accelerate and other clubs started to form.

The Club is still the largest in Australia representing intrastate, interstate and international members. The Club has at this present stage 240 members.

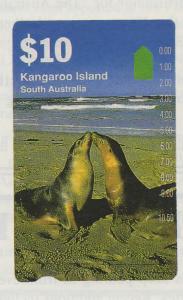
Meetings are very well attended with an average of approximately 70 people at each meeting with numbers on the rapid increase.

During the Club's initial year, the first Phonecard Catalogue in Australia was published by it, being compiled by their Sales Superintendant, Rene Steffen.

A second edition followed in 1992 and the third is presently being compiled and should be released in February.

A bi-monthly Club Magazine is published and is available free to members.

The Club Promotional Card (featured below) which was released in conjunction with the Club's first Phonecard Fair, will be offered to existing and new members as well as collectors.



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

See article at page 28 for full details on this card as well as a report on the Fair - Ed.

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

President: Brian Koop

In conjunction with the article on the A.P.C.C. Promotional Card, the following is reproduced from last month's magazine, in regards to the Melbourne Phonecard Club's Promotional Card. The Card itself is also produced in colour - Ed.



#### 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 1993.

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

The Club itself 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) 458 4594 or (03) 484 4112, evenings.

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

#### President: John Thomas

The Rosebud & District Phonecard Collectors Club Inc. is holding a Phonecard Fair on Saturday, the 8th of January 1994, at the Rosebud Swimming Pool, Foreshore, Point Nepean Road, Rosebud. This is opposite the end of Boneo Road.

Dealers will be in attendance, both buying and selling.

The Fair will be open between 10.00 am and 4.00

Melway map 170 A.1.

#### Springvale Club P.O. Box 194, Ormond, Victoria 3204.

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

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.

#### <u>Kangaroo Phonecard Club</u>, P.O. Box 706, Springwood, QLD 4127.

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

We have noticed that there are quite a few clubs and business houses who are not aware that we have a newly elected committee which is as follows:-

President:	Wim Matzer	(07) 209 7915
Secretary	Tina Whitworth	(07) 808 8871
Treasurer	June McNab	(07) 203 6527
<b>Exchange Supt</b>	John Cook	aftendance fee
Magazine Ed	Viv Daddow	(07) 349 1849

Please amend your records accordingly.

The first major Phonecard Fair by a leading phonecard club in Queensland will be held on the 30th of January, 1994, at the Trans Continental Hotel in Brisbane.

For any information about this Fair, please ring the sub-committee Chairman, Viv Dadow on (07) 3491849, or write to P.O. Box 706, Springwood, Old., 4127, marked for Viv's attention.

He will be able to answer your questions in regards to -

table sizes and costs

. parking facilities & access

. trading hours for the Fair and dealers

. public transport & accommodation

On behalf of the Committee and all our members, I would like to wish all Phonecard Clubs in Australia and their members a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Successfull 1994.

PS. 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.

#### <u>Capricorn Phonecard Collectors Club</u> <u>P.O. Box 3069, Rockhampton Shopping</u> Fair, Queensland 4701.

#### President: L. Sendon

This Club was formed on the 15th of August, 1992. It meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month, at the Orange Grove Hall, Alexandra Street, North Rockhampton, at 7.30 pm (no December 1993 meeting).

The Club has a \$5.00 joining fee for new, senior members, whilst membership fees are as follows:

Senior Members \$5.00 per year Assoc Members \$4.00 per year Junior Members \$2.00 per year.

An attendance fee of \$1.00 for Seniors and 50c for Juniors is collected per meeting night to help off-set costs associated with supper, papers, newsletters, etc. Visitors and new members are most welcome.



#### Printed Collectables Club of South Australia Incorporated

The Secretary, P.O. Box 183, Greenacres, S.A. 5086



Secretary: Andy Jansen

This Club's member's interests are extremely wide ranging and not confined solely to phonecards as such, although several members do collect them.

Club meetings are held at the Recreation Hall, Hampsted Centre, Hampstead Road, Northfield (Bus Stop 24), on the third Thursday of each month at 8.00 pm.

Visitors and new members are most welcome! Annual Fees include a quarterly magazine and other membership privileges and are as follows:

Senior Members	\$15.00
Junior Members	\$ 5.00
Family	\$20.00
Concessional	\$ 7.50

This is the Club for anyone interested in virtually any printed item which is collectable.

#### STOP PRESS

#### Phonecard Collector Group Inc P.O. Box 39, Nobby Beach, Qld 4218

This Club (which meets with the Gold Coast Philatelic Society) has also released a Promotional Card which is similar to the original Telecom \$5.00 Gold Coast card.

A total of 2000 of these cards have been printed and are available to collectors Australia wide at \$3.00 each, postage included.

Cards can be ordered from the Club by writing to the above address.

SEE NEXT ISSUE FOR CLUB DETAILS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This month's letters consist of a cross section of the many received, following the first edition of the magazine.

These respones included comments, criticisms and suggestions and provided information essential to the improvement and expansion of this magazine.

Please write to:-

The Editor

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

Dear Sir,

Early this month I received the first copy of a very well presented and informative magazine, which I am rereading due to the volume of good articles. I've already transacted with several dealers and although there were a couple of price rises, they tried to supply the bulk at advertised prices.

I would like to make the following suggestions:-

- (a) Lightly cancel the stamp As many of your subscribers would also be stamp collectors like myself, it would be appreciated if the stamps used on the envelope could be lightly cancelled on the corner instead of a big black smudge all over it, like mine was.
- (b) The hand addressing of envelopes, both front and rear, seems very labour intensive.
- (c) Page 32 makes mention of a Gold Coast Collectors Group and a promotion card but there is no detail of a club address, etc. Perhaps this could be included in a later edition. I realise its up to each club, perhaps they
- (d) Variation in prefix number size in same series.
- (e) I'd like to see an article on the first issue of the Telecom Speciman and Business Promotion Cards, giving the history, quantity, etc.

Looking forward to future issues.

W.H. Ballina NSW

Ed. - Unfortunately for stamp collectors, from the December issue of this magazine, subscriptions will be forwarded under Print Post Service and as such will not have stamps on the cover.

The envelopes themselves will be pre stamped and prepared.

See the Club & Society News page for information as to the Phonecard Collector Group on the Gold Coast. Note also details on the A.P.C.C. Club Promotional Card.

The section on variations was covered earlier in this magazine at page 5.

The January Issue will carry a detailed article on Telecom's Speciman and Business Promotion cards.

The following are excerpts from a letter received by a magazine contributor and passed on to me for inclusion in this section -Ed.

........ I have just received a copy of the new Phonecard Monthly and would like to congratulate you and others who made it possible.

A magazine such as this has been eagerly awaited by phonecard collectors.

The general introductory articles were excellent. Hopefully in the future the magazine can also run some more specialised columns on particular cards (many interesting stories to tell) and perhaps a column such as "Market Matters" in the Stamp News.

Also, a list of current and future prefix numbers would be helpfull.

Best wishes for the magazine.

Ed - The above requests have been noted and as the magazine expands, will be catered for.

Dear Sir

An SOS for another 10 magazines please, at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for an excellent advert which I would like to keep for the next edition.

J.H. Tasmania

Ed - This letter also contained information as to the new closed user phonecards which are in use on the Melbourne-Devonport ferry. This information assisted in the compilation of the article early in this magazine. See also the cover.

Dear Sir,

Your magazine "Aust. Phonecard Monthly was requested in my Newsagency tody. From enquiries, I was able to ascertain it is being distributed at present, mainly by subscription.

This Newsagency is one of the largest phonecard retailers in Queensland and I am also a dealer in Phonecards.

I am actually located with a bank of 30 odd phones beside my front door.

I believe you could enjoy good sales through this outlet, particularly for the collector who may not wish to be committed to a subscription for whatever reason.

I would welcome discussing an arrangement with you to establish your magazine with my collectors and customers - many of whom are from interstate and overseas.

I look forward to your response.

R.D. Brisbane

**ED** - See the News Update section for the outcome of discussions.

## 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** 

### 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

Phone (03) 458 4594 or (03) 484 4112

#### 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

#### ADVERTISE WITH THE CLUB & SOCIETY DISPLAY ADS

\$40.00 Per Box For 12 Months

ADVERTISMENTS TO REMAIN UNCHANGED FOR SIX MONTHS

## AUSTRALIAN PHONECARD COLLECTORS CLUB INC

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

Meets Second Tuesday of Each Month (no January meeting) at 7.30 pm, TOC-H-Hall, Delaine Avenue, Edwardstown (off south Road)

Activities Provided for Members Include; Auction, Direct Sales, Exchange, Discussions, Reference Library, Postal Auction via Magazine, Displays.

Information Brochure Available, Club Secretary Mrs Glenis Hymers At Above Address or Phone (08) 381 3449

#### 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

## SUBSCRIBE TO A NEW MAGAZINE (1ST ISSUE NOVEMBER 1993)

## "THE AUSTRALASIAN PHONECARD MONTHLY"

#### SAVE AND OBTAIN YOUR MAGAZINE EARLY!

\$30.00 For Twelve (12) Issues - Australian Surface Mail \$34.00 For Twelve (12) Issues - Australian Air Mail

Recommended Retail Price \$3.00 Per Copy

ALL SUBSCRIBERS BETWEEN 8 NOVEMBER 1993 & 18 March 1994 WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR ENTRY INTO A DRAW TO SELECT ONE PERSON TO RECEIVE A RETURN AIR FARE (WITH EXPENSES) TO EITHER LONDON OR NEW YORK. FULL DETAILS JANUARY ISSUE.

## TO BE DRAWN 20 MARCH 1994 AT THE INTERNATIONAL PHONECARD FAIR IN SYDNEY

	\$110 9/3 Page	Societies & Clubs
Commenc	e Your Subscription To:	
The Austr	ralasian Phonecard Monthly	
P.O. Box	1309, Tamworth, NSW, 2340.	
Please Sen	nd The Australasian Phonecard Monthly To:	
Name	\$250 t/2 Page (As above)	
SOLO		
	DEALERS BIRRET DISC AGNIMBALL	
State .	PostcodeCountry	TELEPHONE CARDS
\$30.00	Australian Surface Mail	
\$34.00	Australian Air Mail	
\$40.00	New Zealand, New Caledonia, Papua New Guine	a, Solomon Is., Vanuatu.
All Above	Amounts In Australian Dollars	
Cheque/M	Ioney Order Enclosed For \$	
	AULE CELEBRICE	A HISTORY AND AND AND THE

#### CLASSIFIEDS

Advertising in the Classifieds costs only 40 cents per word advertisment (minimum \$8.00). Payment may be made by Postal Order or by Cheque.

Classifieds taken for two months receive the third month free.

Address your ads to: The Australasian Phonecard Monthly, P.O. Box 1309, Tamworth, NSW, 2340.

Closing date for Classifieds is the 24th of December for the January issue.

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.

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

SPECIALISING in world wide and Aussie-related phonecards. over 100 countries now in stock including South Africa, Bolivia, Canada, Spain, Russia, Sri Lanka, Greece, Mauritius and the Vatican. Write today for a FREE price list. Cyril Fox, 68 Chelsea Park Drive, Chelsea Heights, Victoria, 3196

FOR SALE OR SWAP Many Australian and some overseas Phonecards. Contact Mr R Ball on phone number (068) 62 5437.

BUYING all mint and Australian phonecards. Top prices paid for all prefix numbers and reprints. Write or phone. Westland Stamps, PO Box 94, Kelmscott, WA 6111. Phone (09) 397 6268.

MINT PREFIX EXCHANGE I have many spare Mint Prefixes to Exchange. Send me your list of spares, plus your needs list and I will make an offer. 172 Swimming and 182 Encoding Error Available. New Zealand used exchange partner wanted. Eric Schuenemann. 1 Harricks Road, Keilor Park, VIC 3042. Ph (03) 336 3750.

#### Classified Categories are:

- . Auctions
- . Banknotes & Coins
- . Fairs & Shows
- . Philatelic
- . Societies & Clubs
- . Telephone Cards

#### **AUCTIONS**

POSTAL Auction every month includes phonecards philatelic items FREE Catalogue from Ron Murphy, Box 88, Wynnum, Qld., 4178. Phone (07) 396 0825.

#### **TELEPHONE CARDS**

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

#### ADVERTISING RATES

#### DISPLAY ADVERTISMENT RATES

#### BLACK & WHITE

\$150 Full Page

\$110 2/3 Page

\$ 80 1/2 Page

\$ 60 1/3 Page

\$ 45 1/4 Page

\$ 30 1/6 Page

\$ 20 1/12 Page

#### COLOUR

\$450 Full Page (Inside Cover, Inside Back Cover, Backcover, Centrespread)

\$250 1/2 Page (As above)

#### CLASSIFIEDS

40 cents per word (minimum \$8.00)

#### **DEALERS DIRECTORY MINI ADS** FOUR TO SIX BOXES PER PAGE

. \$ 30 Per Box For 1 Month

\$ 80 Per Box For 3 Months

. \$140 Per Box For 6 Months

#### **CLUBS & SOCIETIES**

8 x 1 Page Boxes

\$40 per Box for 12 Months

Advertisments to Remain Unchanged for 6 Months.

#### **SUPPLEMENTS**

(eg. Dealer's Price Lists)

\$ 80 Per Page Based On Print Run Of 3,000 For First Two Issues.

Cost Includes Editor Providing - Paper - Copying

- Stapleing - Insertion In Each Magazine.

## ABACUS STAMPS AND COINS



SHOP 10, MATHERS LANE HOBART TASMANIA 7050 PHONE: (002) 343494 FAX: (002) 291032

#### **SELLING PHONECARDS**

BRITISH TELECOM BATTLE OF BRITAIN MEMORIAL FLIGHT PHONECARDS. THESE CARDS ARE ILLUSTRATED WITH THE PLANES AND SQUADRON MOTTO IN A NUMBERED PRESENTATION FOLDER AND ARE MINT. LIMITED EDITION OF 1000.

No 1. LANCASTER BOMBER OVER LINCOLNSHIRE	\$85
No 2. SPITFIRE IN FLIGHT	\$50
No 3. HURRICANE IN FLIGHT	\$50
No 4. LANCASTER ON TARMAC	\$40
No 5. MEMORIAL FLIGHT	\$40
SELLING FULL SET AS ABOVE FOR \$250	
BRITISH MERCURY SET OF FOUR BATTLE OF BRITAIN MINT	
COMMEMORATIVE SET. CARDS INCLUDE SPITFIRE, DOGFIGHT,	
HURRICANE AND TARMAC SHOT.	\$95
HURRICANE AND TARGINE SHOT.	
No 1. DAMBUSTER SERIES - THE RAID - LIMITED EDITION	
	\$30
AND NUMBERED IN PRESENTATION FOLDER.	
No 2. THE AIRCREW. NOW IN STOCK	\$30
	CADDC
SOLOMON ISLANDS WW II GUADALCANAL COMMEMORATION	CARDS
\$10 GUADALCANAL 1942 USED	\$ 8
\$20 SHERMAN TANK USED	\$18
\$50 AIRFIELD USED	\$40
SPECIAL	

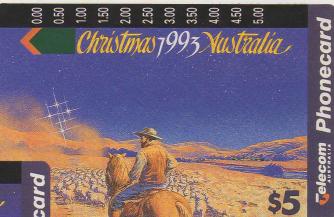
THE FIRST AUSTRALIAN CLOSED USER PHONECARD PAY TEL AUSTRALIA COLLECTOR PACKS LIMITED STOCKS AVAILABLE - PRICE ON REQUEST

Selling Australian Cards \$50 GENERIC (MH) \$20, (1H) \$25. \$50 KOALA 1st Issue (MH) \$25

WE ACCEPT VISA/BANKCARD/MASTERCARD/CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER ALL ORDERS SENT CERTIFIED MAIL. ORDERS OVER \$50 ARE POSTAGE FREE

## Christmas 1993 Australia







To celebrate Christmas 1993, Telecom Australia has commissioned Sydney artist Vincent de Gouw to produce the stunning, uniquely Australian scenes that appear on this year's Christmas Phonecards.

Individual Card Designs (No	ot available in a Special Editions folder)
Description	Number required Price in \$ Aust Cost
Australian Outback Christmas	\$5.00 \$
Australian City Christmas	\$10.00
For each 20 individual card designs ordered, or part thereof, a For example 1-20 cards \$2.50, 21-40 cards \$5.00.	add \$2.50 for postage and handling.
TOTAL ORDER: (including postage	e and handling) = \$
I wish to pay by: Tick appropriate box sei	Do not 1)  International Bank Draft in \$Australia out to "Telecom Australia Payphone Services"  VISA  AMEX  DINERS CLUB  ICI
2) Cheque (orders posted in Australia only) m	nd cash  International Bank Draft in \$Australia and out to "Telecom Australia Payphone Services"
wish to pay by: Tick appropriate box set set 2)	nd cash  International Bank Draft in \$Australia out to "Telecom Australia Payphone Services"  VISA AMEX DINERS CLUB JCH
wish to pay by: Tick appropriate box service.  Cheque (orders posted in Australia only) m  BANKCARD MASTERCARD  CARD NUMBER  CARD HOLDERS  SIGNATURE	International Bank Draft in \$Australia and out to "Telecom Australia Payphone Services"  VISA AMEX DINERS CLUB JCH  EXPIRY DATE:  DATE:  M M Y Y
wish to pay by: Tick appropriate box set set 2)	International Bank Draft in \$Australia and out to "Telecom Australia Payphone Services"  VISA AMEX DINERS CLUB JCH  EXPIRY DATE:  DATE:  M M Y Y
wish to pay by: Tick appropriate box see see 2) Cheque (orders posted in Australia only) m  BANKCARD MASTERCARD	International Bank Draft in \$Australia and out to "Telecom Australia Payphone Services"  VISA AMEX DINERS CLUB JCH  EXPIRY DATE:  DATE:  M M Y Y

