1932: PAPUA'S FIRST PICTORIAL ISSUE
AN OVERVIEW THROUGH POSTAL COVERS

INTRODUCTION

At the beginning of 1932 postal administrator Hubert Murray requested a new postage stamp series to replace the Lakato (local fishing ship) issue that dominated Papua's stamps since 1901. Murray's motivation was straight forward: to increase the Colony's income through philatelic sales.

On November 14, 1932 a new series of 16 stamps was issued. These stamps were absolutely beautiful, printed in intaglio, rich in colour and meaningful to the people of Papua. In the first year of issue, more than ten thousand pounds in stamp sales was achieved, six times more than the previous year's sales. A true success story and money maker that dominated Papua's philatelic income for the next twenty years after which Papua and New Guinea amalgamated and issued a new pictorial series on October 30, 1952.

EXHIBIT PLAN

With the use of postal covers this exhibit will offer an overview of this beautiful pictorial series and show how the people of Papua used these stamps in their everyday life.

Page 1 Will feature a personal letter affixed with the "Bird of Paradise" issue.
Page 2 Local covers showing the engraved new series.
Page 3 Registered letters and Printed Matter mail.
Page 4 Censord Mail during World War II
Page 5 International Mail
Page 6 Personal Registered Mail depicting more of examples of the new issue.
Conclusion.

Personal cover from Abau, Papua, dated March 20, 1933, affixed with a decorative block of four of the 2p Bird of Paradise issue, destination: Port Moresby, Papua