

STAMP NEWS AUSTRALASIA

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COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS 400 YEARS

THE WORLD'S MOST EXCITING STAMP MAGAZINE

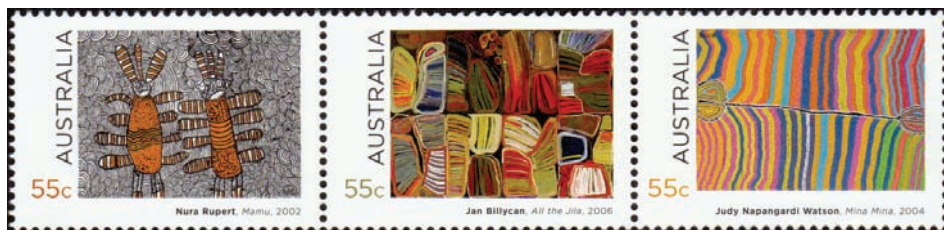
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Australian Stamp Variations

Details of the main variations in recent stamp issues



Aboriginal Art

On 1st April seven aboriginal art stamps were issued under the title of Indigenous Culture. There were three domestic (55c) gummed stamps and two international (\$1.40 & \$2.05) gummed stamps. The three 55c stamps were available as a se-tenant strip. The two international designs were also available as self-adhesive variations in sheetlets of five stamps. The sheetlets did not have the usual roulette cut enabling them to be folded into a “booklet”.

Prior to this issue, the most recent aboriginal art stamp was the 20c Bark Painting issued on 14th November 2008. It was a reprint of the 1971 stamp and came with a new perforation (13.9 x 14.6) as well as an imperforate variation. The image contained the 2008 year code. (See February’s *Stamp News*.)

4 minisheets were issued on 15th April to commemorate the Queen’s birthday this year. The 55c & \$2.05 se-tenant pair were issued in a small separate minisheet and a large minisheet (with a beige border) in the prestige booklet. There were 3 other minisheets in the prestige booklet – two identical minisheets with a pair of 55c stamps and one with a pair of \$2.05 stamps. All minisheets in the prestige booklet had a beige background.

Indigenous Culture			
Variations	5	Cost	\$36.15
Issue Date	1 st April 2009		
Stamp Value & Design	55c Mamu (2008) 55c All the Jila (2006) 55c Mina Mina (2004) \$1.40 Untitled (Mission series, 2006) \$2.05 Natjula (2003)		
Perforations	Gummed stamps: 14.6 x 13.9 Self-adhesive stamps: 11.2 x 11.5 (IDC simulated perforations)		
Strip	3 x 55c se-tenant		
Self-adhesive stamps	\$1.40 \$2.05 (2 sheetlets)		
Sheetlets	5 x \$1.40 self-adhesive stamps 5 x \$2.05 self-adhesive stamps		

Queen’s Birthday			
Variations	5	Cost	\$16.15
Issue Date	15 th April 2009		
Stamp Value & Design	55c The Queen riding at the head of the parade \$2.05 The Queen and Prince Philip view the parade from a carriage		
Perforations	14.6 x 13.9		
Pair	55c & \$2.05 se-tenant pair		
Minisheets	55c & \$2.05 pair (separate minisheet) 2 x 55c 2 x \$2.05 55c & \$2.05 pair (beige border)		

Queen’s Birthday

Two gummed stamps, a se-tenant pair and

Variations & 55c Statistics (2009 ‘First Issue to Date’ Data)	
No. of issues	8
No. of designs	41
No. of stamps*	94
Face value of stamps*	\$59.95
No. of variations	148
Cost of variations	\$439.55
No. of 55c stamps*	87
No. of days to 15-4-2009	84
Average issue rate of 55c stamps*	1 every 23 hours
* Including perforation and self-adhesive variations	

Footnote: The information shown above is based on stamps and variations bought at my local post office. These may differ from those sold at other post outlets. If you find any differences please let me know. The cost quoted in the above summary tables is the minimum cost to obtain one of each variation.

Many variations are only available in sheetlets or booklets containing multiple stamps and are often sold above face value. The cost does not include the cost of single gummed sheet stamps when issued. Scan the QR code with your mobile cell phone to go to the ASV home page. Find out what Australia Post actually issued each year in my 1966-2008 ASV Catalogue.



Australian Stamp Variations home page

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