

PAYMENT DETAILS

OVERSEAS ORDERS

- Personal cheques in \$NZ or UK£ Sterling at current exchange rates with the **AUS** payable to: PD Cranwell
- Bank cheque in **AUS** drawn on an Australian bank payable to: PD Cranwell
- PayPal to: petespolarplace@optusnet.com.au or david.jensen@mawsons-huts.org.au
- Payment by VISA or MASTERCARD (see ORDER FORM)

AUSTRALIAN ORDERS

- Cheque/money order to: PD Cranwell or Mawson's Huts Foundation
- Bank transfer to:
PD Cranwell
BSB 633000 Account number 125294025 Bendigo Bank
- or
Mawson's Huts Foundation
BSB 082057 Account number 796050926 NAB
- Payment by VISA or MASTERCARD (see ORDER FORM)

ALL CHARGES INCLUDE POSTAGE WORLDWIDE

Orders can be placed through:

Pete Cranwell

Polar Philatelist and Bookseller

PO Box 620, Rosanna

Victoria 3084, Australia

Phone: 61 3 9459 6720; Fax: 61 3 9459 8887

Email: pcranwell@optusnet.com.au

Website: <http://www.petespolarplace.com>

or through:

The Mawson's Huts Foundation

GPO Box 3850

Sydney NSW 2001, Australia

Phone: 61 2 9321 8242; Fax: 61 2 9321 8243

Email: david.jensen@mawsons-huts.org.au

Website: <http://www.mawsons-huts.org.au>

MACQUARIE ISLAND WIRELESS RELAY STATION

Recovery & Conservation of the Wireless Masts erected and used by the 1911-14 Australasian Antarctic Expedition (AAE) on Macquarie Island.

The AAE, led by Douglas Mawson, arrived at Macquarie Island on 11 Dec 1911, where a five person team was stationed to install and operate a radio station. Their objective was to receive and relay signals from the AAE's main base at Cape Denison on the Antarctic Continent.

The Wireless Relay Station was established on the northern tip of the island on "Wireless Hill", the summit of which is about 100 metres above sea level. The aerial comprised four wires 200 feet (61m) in length suspended 80 feet (24 m) above the ground between two masts. It was led into the transmitter in the Wireless Operating Hut from one end being thus of the inverted "L" type. Normal current in the aerial was about 13 amps. Power for the radio was generated in an Engine House, which was separate from the Operating Hut. The main accommodation hut, known as "The Shack" was established at the foot of Wireless Hill.

The first radio contact made by the Macquarie Island station was with a ship on 13 Feb 1912, and by 12 May 1912 the team began sending daily weather bulletins to NZ; these continue to this day to Australia. It was not until 25 Sept 1912 that a faint signal was picked up from Cape Denison... "contact Pennant Hills (Sydney)" was all that was heard. Four months later, on Feb 3 1913, another signal was picked-up saying that Belgrave Ninnis and Xavier Mertz, two members of Mawson's team, had died. Seventeen days later two-way communication was established.

The last remaining pieces of the Macquarie Island masts were recovered nearly 100 years later in April 2011, by the Mawson's Huts Foundation in partnership with the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, which has responsibility for the island on behalf of the Tasmanian Government. The fragments were returned to Hobart for conservation by the Foundation at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, where they will be displayed.

Mawson's Huts Foundation has produced a number of philatelic and other items relevant to the Wireless Relay Station and the conservation programme, including:

A. 120 overprinted, individually numbered AAT Macquarie Island mini sheets.

B. 131 individually numbered covers with pairs and single 60¢ or \$1.20 AAT Macquarie Island stamps serviced on Macquarie Island (14 APR 2011) during the time the team was carrying out the recovery of the remains of the masts, and at Kingston PO (20 APR 2011) the date the Mawson's Huts Foundation team arrived back in Hobart. Special cachets were also applied to these covers. An insert with the signatures of the Mawson's Huts Foundation team is enclosed with each cover.

C. Sets of 10 postcards which illustrate scenes from the establishment of the Wireless Relay Station in 1911-12 and what remains in 2011.

D. A DVD entitled "*History of the Macquarie Island wireless relay station—1911-14 Australasian Antarctic Expedition*" which includes historic footage of the establishment of the station plus footage taken in April 2011 showing the recovery of the remains of the masts by the team from the *Mawson's Huts Foundation & the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service*. (Format: PAL. Regional code free. Length: approx 15 min.)

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For further information see **PAYMENT DETAILS**

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ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE CONSERVATION OF THE HUTS.



ORDER FORM

A. Overprinted mini-sheet @ AU\$20.00 each

AAT Macquarie Island overprinted mini sheet:(1-120)

B. *Covers (131) serviced on Macquarie Island & at Kingston PO

@ AU\$12.00 each (SOLD OUT.)

(Each cover comes with one copy of Postcard No

i. Cover with pair 60¢ Elephant Seal & single *Pleurophyllum* AAT Macquarie Island stamps: (1-36) **SOLD OUT**

ii. Cover with pair 60¢ *Pleurophyllum* & single Elephant seal AAT Macquarie Island stamps (37- 72) **SOLD OUT**

iii. Cover with pair \$1.20 Mawson's Stacks & single Caroline Cove AAT Macquarie Island stamps (73-10) **SOLD OUT**

iv. Cover with pair \$1.20 Caroline Cove & single Mawson's Stacks AAT Macquarie Island stamps (106-131) **SOLD OUT**

*The small number of covers available is due to the poor quality of the Macquarie Island postmark on some of the covers, which have been withdrawn from sale.

C. Sets of postcards (10 per set) with scenes from the establishment of the Wireless Relay Station on Macquarie Island (AAE 1911-12)

Number of sets @ AU\$15.00 per set

D. DVD entitled: "History of the Macquarie Island wireless relay station—1911-14 Australasian Antarctic Expedition"

(Format: PAL. Regional Code free. Length: approx 15 minutes.)

Number of copies @ AU\$27.50 per copy

TOTAL ORDERED

TOTAL COST \$