



THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BULLETIN

POTTED FEATHER FLOWERS



**HONG KONG
GENERAL CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**

(Established 1861)

9th Floor, Union House,
Hong Kong

Tel: 237177 Cables: Chambercom

THE BULLETIN

Jan. 15th

Chairman:

HON. J. DICKSON LEACH, O.B.E.

Vice-Chairman:

M.A.R. HERRIES, Esq. M.C.

Executive Director:

G. ARCHER

Secretary:

J. B. KITE

Assistant Secretary:

R. T. GRIFFITHS

Business Promotion:

**S. L. CHUNG
C. TSANG**

Certification:

A. G. C. STEWART

Public Relations & Advertising:

**R. P. WOOD
Miss B. CHIU**

Membership Executive:

P. M. LAM

Office Supervisor:

MISS C. W. LI

THIS ISSUE

Our feature for this issue of our bulletin is on Hong Kong's latest industry — the making of potted feather flowers. Our cover picture here shows some samples of these beautiful flowers.

3. Hong Kong's latest Industry — the making of potted feather flowers.
4. Round About. Customs Attache to discuss Australian customs here. HK — best investment prospect in SE Asia. Record year for Telco. Presentation of our Chamber Scholarship.
5. Round About. Entries for Music examination to close on 20th Jan. The launching of "Badenstein". New issue of post office guide on sale. Our library receives some more new books. Statistics course for teachers. Exporters list now on sale. CMA Exhibition closes with new record. "Outdoor leisure in HK".
6. News from D.C. & I.
7. Tenders and membership information.
8. Cologne International Events for 1968. Trade Fairs. Note from the Shippers' Council. License Agreement for Local Manufacture.

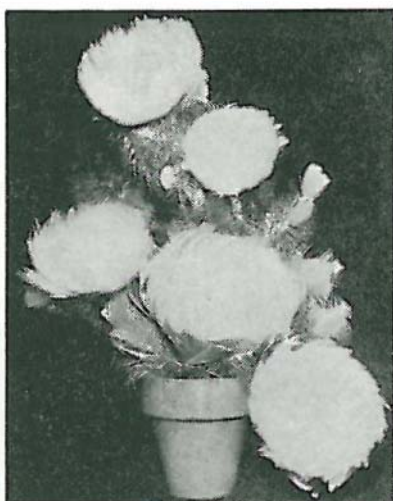
Members are reminded that the contents of the Bulletin are confidential and not for publication.

Hongkong's Latest Industry

THE MAKING OF POTTED FEATHER FLOWERS

The pattern of Hong Kong's postwar industrial expansion has been determined by its position as a major world trading centre and by the influx of refugee labour, which together ensured that the typical Hong Kong industry should be producing low-cost goods for export. Concentration on a limited range of products and markets has bred instability. There is thus the need for diversification. For years Hong Kong industry has been concentrated on textiles, clothing and plastic products which accounted for almost three quarters of the 96 per cent increase in domestic exports and four fifths of the increase in recorded employment between 1956 and 1960. With the passing of time, the need for diversification is even more acute. To cope with this need, Hong Kong industrialists have therefore to exploit into every possible means to invent or create new industries. This does, in a way help Hong Kong to maintain its position as an ever developing industrial centre.

Recently, a new industry in Hong Kong was set up in response to the need for diversification. About four months ago, a Hong Kong company put on the market potted feather flowers. Soon the company was swamped with overseas orders. This industry — the making of potted feather flowers thus has



a firm footing in the Hong Kong industrial realm.

In fact, this making of feather flowers is not new at all. The French have been making them for 50 to 60 years for many sections of the garment trade. Hong Kong started first with the making of corsages, but this product got a poor reception because they were priced too high and could not compete with flowers made of fabrics. Then, attention was given to the making of birds — which did not do so well either. Now the making of flowers and foliage has taken place instead. Even this does not fare as well as was expected, until recently when an owner of a flower manufacturing company thought of putting the flowers in pots.

Demand came first from Australia, then from Japan, where the company was competing well against their local product, Canada and Britain.

The reason why this industry has caught the fancy of the public is that that flower arrangement can now be done with potted flowers. Ikebana has always been a popular art in Hong Kong, and the idea of getting the feather flowers arranged beautifully in pots is welcomed by buyers overseas. There are many ways of arranging the flowers which is a delicate art. Now the potted product means big business for Hong Kong.

ROUND ABOUT

To discuss Australian Customs

The Australian Embassy in Tokyo has advised the Chamber that Mr. R. G. Stewart, Customs Attache, will be visiting Hong Kong from 2nd February to 6th February, 1968 and will be pleased to see any of our members who may wish to discuss Australian Customs problems. Appointments may be made through the office of the Australian Government Trade Commissioner in Union House, Connaught Road, Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Trade Mission to Australia in October 1967 had been very successful, especially in arousing business interests between the two territories. In order to promote our export to Australia, businessmen have to consider, besides other factors, the question of tariff and customs procedures. It is, therefore, hoped that members will take this opportunity to discuss these matters with Mr. Stewart during his stay in Hong Kong.

HK — best investment prospect in SE Asia

Many manufacturers believe that Hong Kong represents the best industrial investment prospect in South East Asia, according to a survey by the Commerce and Industry Department.

The reasons given included the skilful and hard working labour force, the highly developed banking and commercial infrastructure and a minimum of Government "red tape."

The availability of local capital and the ease by which profits could repatriated were

other factors which made Hong Kong such an attractive proposition to the overseas investor.

"The general picture which emerged from the survey is one of confidence and continued industrial growth in Hong Kong."

Telco. reports record year

In 1967, the Hong Kong Telephone Company achieved an all-time record net gain in exchange lines of 45,113. This compares with a figure of 33,231 for the previous year. The net gain in telephones in

1967 was 52,238 compared with 40,198 in 1966.

On January 1, 1967, the waiting list for new lines stood at 38,490 and on December 31, 1967, this figure had been reduced to 28,623. The waiting list for telephone removals on January 1, 1967, was 3,230 and on December 31, 1967, it had fallen to 2,053.

On January 1, 1968, the company had 280,826 working exchange lines and 353,912 working telephones; this is equal to nearly 10 telephones per 100 population, the highest penetration figure of any country in the Continent of Asia, apart from Japan.

Chamber Scholarship



Mr. J. Llewellyn, Assistant Registrar of the Hong Kong University, introduced Mr. Lau Chun Kay, first year student of the Faculty of Engineering to the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. The University considered many eligible candidates for the annual Chamber scholarship and the successful applicant was Mr. Lau, seen here being presented with a cheque from the Chamber by the Executive Director, Mr. Geoffrey Archer.

These Chamber scholarships commemorate the Chamber Centenary in 1961 when they were first started to help deserving students complete their University studies.

As well as offering financial aid to undergraduates, the Chamber maintains contact with its scholars both before and after graduation in order to help them progress and find suitable and useful places in the Hong Kong community and to develop into experienced and successful executives. The Chamber feels there are many opportunities for university graduates with business interests to develop and play a prominent part in the ever developing society of Hong Kong.

Music Examinations

The Chairman of the Hong Kong Schools Music Association announced that consequent upon devaluation both the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music and Trinity College of Music, London, have agreed to small reductions in the Theory and Practical examination fees for grades only during 1968.

Owing to the late arrival of application forms candidates who wish to enter the Associated Board March Theory examination are advised to obtain their forms without delay from the Music Office, Education Department, Kowloon Central Post Office Building, 6th floor, Nathan Road, Kowloon in order to comply with the closing date of entry of the 20th January, 1968.

Entries for the Spring Practical Examinations of Trinity College of Music will close on the 31st January.

m.s. "Badenstein"

The m.s. "BADENSTEIN", fourth of seven new express liners of **NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD** launched at Flenderwerke, Luebeck on 5th October 1967 joins her sister ships m.s. "FRIESENSTEIN", m.s. "HOLSTENSTEIN" and m.s. "HESSENSTEIN".

The BADENSTEIN (11,500 GRT) runs at a service speed in excess of 21 knots and is specially adapted for the Far East trade. All seven vessels of this new type are equipped with container facilities and a special car deck serves the purpose of carefully accommodating unpacked vehicles being loaded through sideports installed in the superstructure of the vessel.

Five holds are installed with a total capacity of 770,000 cbft. which includes refrigerator space of 29,000 cbft. 11 bulk liquid tanks, two of which are stainless steel tanks can carry 44,150 cbft. of liquid cargo.

Further a special chemical compartment of 8,000 cbft. meets the requirements of customers. Cargo handling equipment consists of 14 conventional derricks with a lifting capacity upto 10 tons and additionally 4 deck cranes will be fitted (lifting capacity of 30 tons is located between hatches 3 and 4 — a

further 80 tons derrick will be installed at hatch 2. The main propulsion unit is a MAN Diesel engine with 18,400 HP giving the full loaded vessel a speed of 21 knots plus.

New issue of Post Office Guide

A completely new issue of the Hong Kong Post Office Guide is on sale at all post offices at \$5 per copy.

It is in loose-leaf form and amendments are sent to purchasers at appropriate intervals on payment of a fee of \$1.

"The guide provides useful information about the post office services and charges and should be of interest to all firms having any significant amount of postal business, especially with other countries," a spokesman for the Post Office said yesterday.

Library — New Books

1967 Canadian Trade Index published by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

1967 Issue Directory of Members published by the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong.

1967-1968 Auckland Chamber of Commerce Directory of Members.

Small Industry Bulletin for Asia and the Far East No. 4 published by the United Nations.

Statistics of Imports and Exports of Thailand B.E. 2510 (for the months of January, March, April and December 1967).

Annual Statement of Foreign Trade of Thailand B.E. 2508 (1965).

Statistics course for teachers

The Department of Extra-Mural Studies, University of Hongkong, is offering a course on "Elements of Statistical Geography" for geography teachers and research workers. Methods of sampling, correlation and techniques will be discussed in detail.

The course will start on Friday, January 19, from 5.45 to 6.45 pm at the department's Town Centre.

Exporters List on Sale

A new edition of the Hongkong imports and exports classification list, which came into force as from January 1, is now available for sale.

Copies of this new edition, which incorporates the existing 1965 edition, as amended in 1966, as well as certain new amendments, will be obtainable from the Government Publications Centre at the Star Ferry concourse on Hongkong Island at \$5.50 each.

The imports and exports classification list is made up of two parts, a countries list and a commodities list. The commodities list is based on the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification, revised (S.I.T.C., revised).

The commodities list sets out the classified descriptions of some 2,500 items and the related code numbers under which goods imported or exported should be entered on all trade declarations before submission to the Commerce and Industry Department.

CMA Exhibition Closes with New Record

The Silver Jubilee Exhibition of Hong Kong Products sponsored by the Chinese Manufacturers' Association closed with a record attendance of 2m visitors, \$10m worth of sales at the fair and more than 1,000 overseas trade enquiries.

In a speech closing the fair which lasted 36 days, Mr. C. K. Choi, President of the CMA, said the exhibition was the best held so far, adding "this magnificent effort could only have succeeded through the co-operation of all concerned."

"Outdoor leisure in H.K."

A pamphlet in colour, "Outdoor Leisure in Hongkong," has been prepared by the Government Information Services Department describing the outdoor recreational facilities available here.

Copies are obtainable free from public enquiry centres, and distribution is also being made through schools, clubs, Kaifong associations, youth groups and public libraries.

NEWS FROM D. C. & I.

Australia

Temporary Restriction on Imports of Knitted Coats, Jumpers, Cardigans, Sweaters and the Like

Further to O.T.R. Circular No. 22/67 dated 9th September, 1967, the Department has now been informed that the Australian Government has imposed temporary restrictions on imports of the following products:—

Australian Customs Tariff Paragraph No.

<i>Tariff Paragraph No.</i>	<i>Description</i>
60.05.121	Coats, jumpers, cardigans, sweaters and the like, knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberised; with chest measurement under 34 inches
60.05.129	Coats, jumpers, cardigans, sweaters and the like, knitted or crocheted, not elastic or rubberised; other

For the year ending 30th June, 1968, import licences are being issued to Australian importers on the basis of 100% of the value of imports in the year ending 30th June, 1967. Imports since 1st July, 1967 will be debited against these licences.

The above action is of a *temporary* nature pending full consideration by the Australian Tariff Board of the request by the Australian knitwear industry for additional protection. As far as the Department is aware, no date has yet been announced for the Tariff Board enquiry. Additional information is being sought and a further O.T.R. Circular will be issued when a Tariff Board enquiry has been announced.

Total Australian imports of the products concerned were worth A\$6.1 million in the year ending 30th June, 1967, of which A\$2.3 million were from Hong Kong.

Review of Protection Against Imports of Sand Boots and Shoes

The Department of Trade and Industry in Canberra is holding an enquiry regarding requests received from Australian industry for a review of protection and, pending the outcome of that review, temporary protection against imports of the following products:—

Australian Customs Tariff Paragraph No.

<i>Tariff Paragraph No.</i>	<i>Description</i>
	Footwear with outer soles of leather or composition leather, and footwear with outer soles of rubber or artificial plastic materials and uppers of other than rubber or artificial plastic materials:—
64.02.210	— Sand boots and shoes, in sizes exceeding size 1 in the second series of footwear sizes or the equivalent
64.02.290	— Sand boots and shoes, other

Interested parties, either in support of or in opposition to the request, have been invited to submit their views to the Department of Trade and Industry for consideration. The Department will submit results of the enquiry to the Minister of Trade and Industry who may then refer it to a Special Advisory Authority for enquiry and report. Any temporary protection which may be accorded on the recommendation of the Special Advisory Authority is in the nature of holding action pending Government consideration of the general question of protection for the Australian industry concerned following the usual enquiry and report by the Tariff Board.

Total imports into Australia of sand boots and shoes amounted to A\$722,000 in 1966/67, of which A\$83,000 were from Hong Kong. (Mr. J. Y. C. Ng, Tel. H-453939)

Identification Marks For H.K. Manufactured Steel Bars

It was learned that identification marks will be required to be rolled onto steel bars during manufacture before they can qualify for Hong Kong origin certification.

The Certification Coordination Committee, which consists of representatives of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Hong Kong Industries, the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong, the Chinese Manufacturers' Association and the Commerce and Industry Department, have decided on this move to protect local exports against possible substitution by foreign origin products.

The Committee has decided that, with effect from January 1, 1968, all round steel bars to be exported under Certificates of Origin issued by any member of the Certification Coordination Committee must bear the manufacturer's identification mark which should be registered for this purpose with the Commerce and Industry Department.

"All steel mills are, therefore, invited to register with the Commerce and Industry Department before January 1, 1968, any identification marks which they propose to roll onto their round steel bars for export under Certificates of Origin."

Certificates of Origin will not be issued for round steel bars which do not incorporate a registered identification mark after January 1 except (a) where it can be shown that the unmarked steel bars were manufactured before this ruling came into effect; and (b) where the Certification Coordination Committee gives prior approval to any member organisation to issue certificates for unmarked round steel bars. For example, in cases where a buyer stipulates that no physical markings should appear on round steel bars, the member organisation concerned will consult the Committee and approval will only be given for very exceptional reasons and on production of documentary evidence.

Exporters and manufacturers are therefore advised in their

own interest to consult the appropriate certificate issuing body before accepting such orders.

A team of inspectors from the approved certificate issuing organisations will visit registered steel mills at the end of December to record stocks of unmarked round steel bars.

Applications for certificates for these round steel bars will be accepted on a coordinated stock reducing basis.

Any enquiry concerning registration of identification marks should be addressed to either Mr. H. P. Lee, Assistant Trade Officer, Certificate of Origin Section, Room 12A, Fire Brigade Building, first floor, Hong Kong (telephone H-234444) or Mr. H. W. P. Wong, Industry Assistant, Certificate of Origin Section, Room 10A, Fire Brigade Building, first floor, Hong Kong (telephone H-248439).

TENDERS

Hong Kong

Tenders are invited for the following:—

Supply of paper and stationery.

Supply of Chinese language periodicals for Hong Kong Government.

Supply of bicycles.

Purchase from the Hong Kong Government of un-serviceable room coolers.

Purchase from the Hong Kong Government of un-serviceable motor vehicles.

Tender forms and further information may be obtained from the Stores Department, Oil Street, North Point.

MEMBERSHIP

Resignation

Ceres Coiffure Manufacturing Co.

902 Regent House, Hong Kong.

Cheung Fat & Company
126 Wing Lok Street, West, Hong Kong.

David J. Hamnett, Ltd.
804 Bank of East Asia Bldg., Hong Kong.

Far Eastern Shippers
61 Wyndham Street,
1/F, Hong Kong.

Fung Keong Rubber Manufactory Ltd.

409 Shaukiwan Road, Hong Kong.

Harley Mullion & Co. (Hong Kong) Ltd.

P. & O. Building, 13th floor, Hong Kong.

Hong Kong Glove Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

702 Regent House, Hong Kong.

International Industries Ltd. Entertainment Bldg. 17/F, Hong Kong.

International Transistor Corp. (HK) Ltd.

7/F. Lead On Industrial Bldg., 18 Ng Fong St. San Po Kong, Kowloon.

Kuang Ming Flashlight Bulb Mfg. Co., Ltd.

Cheong Wah Fty. Bldg. 39-41 Sheung Heung Rd. 5/F, Kowloon.

Kum Hing Land Dev. & Agency Co., Ltd.

9 Wing Kat Street, 1/F, Hong Kong.

Oriental Electric Corp. T.H.

67 Queen's Road West, Hong Kong.

Ray & Lawrence Ltd.
604 Kayamally Building, Hong Kong.

Sampaguita International Ltd.
622 H.K. Hilton Hotel, Hong Kong.

Union Corporation

1006 Commercial House, Hong Kong.

Universal Rattanware Manufacturers Ltd.

701 Commercial House, 35 Queen's Rd. C., Hong Kong.

Victors Trading Co.

802 Fu Hing Bldg. 9-11 Jubilee St., Hong Kong.

Wealth Industries

Entertainment Bldg. 17/F, 30 Queen's Road C, Hong Kong.

The Wig King
612 Pioneer Bldg. 748A,

Nathan Road, Kowloon.

T. W. Wu & Co. (H.K.) Ltd.

Stanhope House, 734 King's Road, Hong Kong.

Change of Address

Comluck Corporation
Room 1125 Kowloon Commercial Centre,

Tsimshatsui, Kowloon.
(Formerly 602 Man Yee Bldg.)

General Far Eastern Trading Co., Ltd.

1232 Kowloon Commercial Centre,

3 Salisbury Road,

Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.

(Formerly P. & O. Building)
Goddard & Company, Ltd.

D'Aguilar Place, 9th floor,

D'Aguilar Street, Hong Kong.
(Formerly 103 Victory House)

Hong Kong Union Waste Co.
Room 1132, 11th floor.

Kowloon Commercial Centre,
Kowloon.

(Formerly 3 Maple Street,
Kowloon)

Ko Wah Trading Co.

708 Kwong On Bank Building,
Queen's Road C, Hong Kong.

(Formerly 159 Des Voeux Road
W.)

Marlene (H.K.) Limited

301-2 J. Hotung House, 3/F,
Hankow Road, Kowloon.

(Formerly 813 Shaws Building)

Pacific Trading & Agency Co.,
Ltd.

701 Canton House, 7th floor,
54-56 Queen's Road C,

Hong Kong.
(Formerly 104 Bank of East
Asia Bldg.)

New Members

American Manufacturing Co.
51/53 Tsui Fung St. 1st floor,

Wongtatsin,
Kowloon.

Bank of Montreal
P.O. Box 15756,

Hong Kong.

Big Road Manufacturing Factory
360 Des Voeux Road West, 2/F.,
Hong Kong.

Carling Brewery (H.K.) Ltd.

14½ Mile Castle Peak Road,
N.T.,
Kowloon.

K. C. Chu Company

719 Kowloon Commercial
Centre,

Salisbury Road,
Kowloon.

Chung Mei Metal & Plastic
Factory, Ltd.

15-17 Hing Yip Street,
Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Eastern Electronics Company
Ltd.

Rooms 1013-4 Alexandra House,
Hong Kong.

Fashion Wigs Centre

1535 Kowloon Commercial
Centre,

3 Salisbury Road,
Kowloon.

Gems & Arts Industries

428 Man Yee Bldg.,
60-68 Des Voeux Road C,
Hong Kong.

Glofar International Ltd.

316 Holland House, Ice House
Street,
Hong Kong.

Hip Tung Hing Trading Co.
63 Des Voeux Road West, 2/F,

Hong Kong.
Kodak (Far East) Ltd.
9th floor, Shell House,
Hong Kong.

Kwok Cheung Metalware Manu-
factory
Inland Lot No. 3, Block A, 1st
floor,
Chai Wan, Hong Kong.

Mansfield Corporation
13 Queen's Street,
Hong Kong.

Maywell Wigs Mfg. Co.
Wing Chai Industrial Bldg. 9th
floor Flat B,
Ng Fong Street, San Po Kong,
Kowloon.

Merdeka Corporation Ltd.
128 Connaught Road C, 1st floor,
Hong Kong.

Mutual Trading Corporation
44-46 Des Voeux Road C,
1101 Yat Fat Bldg. Hong Kong.

Northwest Airlines, Inc.
23 Connaught Road, C,
Hong Kong.

Oceanic Trading Co., Ltd.
1316 Central Building, Pedder
Street,
Hong Kong.

Tai Cheong Trading Co.
403 Canton House, 54 Queen's
Road C,
Hong Kong.

Tonley Trading Corporation
1121-22 Kowloon Commercial
Centre,
Tsimshatsui, Kowloon.

U.S. Summit Corporation
(Overseas)

Kavamally Bldg. 14/F,
22 Queen's Road, C,
Hong Kong.

Wing Wah Manufacturing Co.
204 Hotung Bldg. 10 Stanley
Street,
Hong Kong.

Change of Name

Tung Tai Trading Corporation
Ltd.
1522 Prince's Building,
Hong Kong.
(Formerly Tung Tai Trading
Co.)

Change of Room Number

Transocean Agencies
517 China Building,
Hong Kong.
(Formerly 515 China Bldg.)

Cologne International Events 1968

January	Tuesday 23 to Sunday 28	○ International Furniture Fair
February	Thursday 15 to Sunday 18	○ International Household Goods and Hardware Fair
March	Friday 29 to Sunday 31	○ International Fair FOR THE CHILD
2nd part of August		○ International Men's Fashion Week
August/ September	Tuesday 27 to Sunday 1	16th Convention of German Dental Surgeons and Den- tists and 17th International Dental Exhibition
1st part of September		○ International Household Goods and Hardware Fair
September	Saturday 7 to Tuesday 10	IFMA—International Bicycle and Motor Cycle Exhibition
September	Thursday 19 to Sunday 22	○ International Fair of Lin- gerie, Foundation Gar- ments, Underwear and Swimwear
September/ October	Saturday 28 to Sunday 6	photokina — World Fair of Photography
October	Friday 11 to Sunday 13	○ International Fair FOR THE CHILD
October	Sunday 20 to Tuesday 22	○ SPOGA — International Trade Fair of Sports Goods, Camping Equipment and Garden Furniture
		○ Admission restricted to trade visitors

TRADE FAIRS

Italy. The 32nd Fiera Del Levante will be held in Bari from 10th to 23rd September 1968. For further information please contact Dr. Favero of the Italian Trade Commissioner, Hong Kong.

Belgium. 41st Brussels International Industries Fair will be held from 20th April to 1st May 1968. Members interested in participation may write to the Hong Kong Trade Development Council for application. For further details contact Francis Y. W. Ng, Telephone 670151 extension 52.

Italy. The Milan Trade Fair will be held from 14th to 25th April 1968. Members interested may contact the Honorary Representative, Italian Trade Fairs, 204-206 Edinburgh House, Hong Kong, for further information.

Note from the Hong Kong Shippers' Council

The Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. Ltd. has advised that all cargo operations, with the exception of any essential berthing and, or unberthing of vessels, will be suspended during the Chinese New Year Holidays, which will be celebrated from 5 p.m. Monday 29th January, to 8 a.m. Thursday 1st February, 1968.

Licence Agreement for Local Manufacture

Australian manufacturer seeks interested companies associated with air conditioning field to accept licence agreement for local manufacture of newly developed low cost flexible ducting materials. Details at Chamber or by writing to the Export Manager, P.O. Box 110, Burwood. 3125, Victoria, Australia.