



Circuit Books cont.

Australian Circuit

The Grants have been so successful with this circuit that it has been divided into two circuits. More circuit books are needed as these circuits have an insatiable 'appetite' for perfins. If you have unwanted perfins of any country, official or private why not put together a book or two. Its a good way to get a bit of extra money to spend on more material that you want.

Australian private perfins have been selling very well, often at prices equivalent to normal used stamps. Better officials and foreign perfins also appear to sell quite well.

All enquiries about the Australian Circuit should be directed to Jill & John Grant, P.O. Box 111 Weston Creek, ACT 2611.

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AUSTAMP 90

Austamp 90 will be held in Canberra March 19th to 22nd 1990. A room has been booked for perfin collectors to get together. This meeting will probably be held on the Saturday afternoon.

If you are able to get to the exhibition take the opportunity to meet your fellow perfin collectors

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BRITISH MALAYA CATALOGUE

Peter Giffen is producing a catalogue of perfins of British Malaya. It should be available shortly. Peter has exhibited his Malayan perfins at a number of exhibitions with considerable success.

The book of 64 pages lists 94 different perfins, most with identities, dates of usage, and includes a scarcity rating. An essential publication for Malaysian and world perfin collectors.

You can order a copy until the end of March 1990 at the following prices:

A\$5 to Australian addresses (includes Airmail postage)

NZ\$5 postpaid to New Zealand addresses

Bank notes or cheques payable in Australian or New Zealand currency are acceptable for payment.

Address for correspondence P Giffen  
Baton RD 1  
Motueka, Nelson NEW ZEALAND

WANTED

Can you give me any information about the Tasmanian triangular punch ? The only reference that I have found to such an item was in the Perfins Bulletin October 1973. The article refers to an article in the Essex County Philatelist July 1880. It is noted that the 1d and 4d first issues of Tasmania were punched with a small triangular hole to prevent convict clerks using the stamps as money.

Please contact the editor with any information, even possible references.

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KGV OFFICIALS SURVEY

Please remember to return the survey forms by the end of March 1990. About a dozen forms have been returned so far but to make the survey a success we need quite a few more.

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BACK ISSUES

We have had many requests for back issues of the bulletin. Although we don't have original back issues we can supply photocopies. These are now available from the Secretary/Treasurer at the following prices postpaid.

- To Australia & New Zealand members A\$2-50 each issue
- To members from other countries A\$3-00 each issue

Please contact Geoff if you want back issues.

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WANTED/REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

Do you want to buy particular perfins? exchange items ? want information or identification of perfins?

If so drop the editor a note so your request can go in the next bulletin. We have quite a few knowledgeable perfin collectors in the Club who may be able to help

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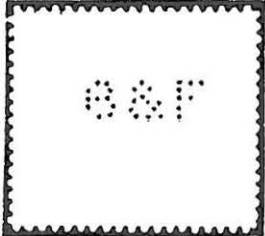
ARTICLES

A few articles are in preparation but still more are needed for future bulletin issues. It would be nice to have a bit more on New Zealand items. How about some information about the ROYAL/100 perfin ? Is there a need for a New Zealand catalogue as well as a detailed guidebook ? Would you like a listing of NZ perfins in the bulletin as a start to this ? Would lists of articles on particular perfins be useful ?

PERFINS ON AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS DUTY STAMPS -an Update

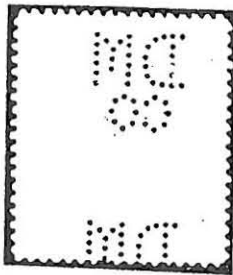
Derek Pocock and Ivor Stockwell provided further information about the Perfins found on Australian Customs Duty stamps. The original article appeared in the October 89 issue of the Bulletin.

Additional patterns



B&F

Issue in British Currency 1/4d



DM/Co

Issue in US currency 1c on 1d

Additional information about patterns illustrated in the October 89 issue of the Bulletin.

CTCo Additional issue in British currency 3d

LF The design stands for EFH used by E F Houghton Co., Philadelphia. Additional issues:  
Issues in British currency 1d,2d  
Issue in US currency 5c on 4d

Jim Catterick provided some information about the use of these perfins on similar Canadian revenues.

There are two CTCo 'patterns' found on Canadian Customs Duty and Excise stamps 1912-1945. One of these patterns has a T one hole shorter than the other.

The EHF pattern is also found on Canadian Customs Duty stamps 1914-1938.

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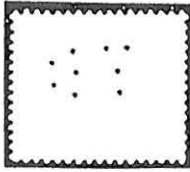
TRAMWAYS BOARD

The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Victoria has used a perfin that looks like a 'TD' but was supposed to be 'TB' standing for Tramways Board an earlier name of the authority.

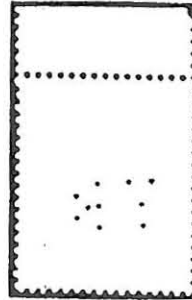
Bryan Toop has solved the mystery of the initials. He reports the

Tramways Board cont.

pattern illustrated below on a copy of the KGV sideface 1 1/2d red small multi wmk p.13 1/2. This pattern is quite clearly a 'TB'.



'TD' pattern  
1930's to 80's



'TB' pattern

At some stage the middle pin was broken or removed. Does anyone have issues of this complete TB pattern with postmarks or early issues of the pattern with the missing pin so that we can date the change?

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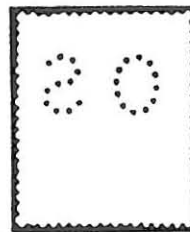
Commonwealth OS (Type H)

A number of people have reported this pattern on stamps previously unreported. The pattern is that found on Kangaroo, KGV sideface issues and 3 commemorative issues 1913-1929. It was used by all Commonwealth Government Departments and State Government Departments in Western Australia, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and New South Wales (New South Wales for a brief period only).

Judith Sidaway reports this pattern on a copy of the 1 1/2d Canberra of 1927. The usual OS perfin found on this issue is the 'Melbourne' OS.



Melbourne OS



Commonwealth OS

Bryan Toop reports this pattern on a copy of the 1/- 1932 Lyrebird. Formerly the only OS perfin suggested to exist was the large OS(s with 12 holes) used by New South Wales in 1933. Even this last pattern had not been confirmed though I understand a copy was on display in one of the Stampshow exhibits.

Ken Moore reports the Commonwealth OS perfin on a South Australian 1d red crown/SA watermark issue, the postmark of which appears to be Adelaide 1902.

In the July 89 issue of the Bulletin a copy of a Tasmanian 2d violet pictorial with this perfin was reported.

What is going on ??

Commonwealth OS (Type H) cont.

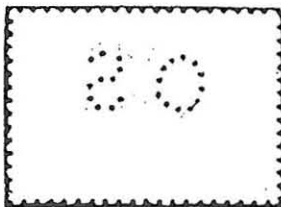
After the introduction of the large OS perfin on the Kangaroo issues the Commonwealth Printer submitted a 'proof' of a smaller OS pattern, the pattern that we are discussing. The proof was submitted on 30th May 1913. The machine/puncturing head would have been in existence prior to this date, but when were they produced? Usage of the pattern supposedly ceased during 1931. While the 1 1/2d Canberra issue falls into the period of usage the 1/- Lyre certainly does not. When was the machine/puncturing head for this pattern destroyed?

There are quite a few possible explanations some of which are given below. I cannot tell which if any are correct at this stage. Does anyone have any more information or ideas?

- 1) All or some of these issues are fakes or forgeries.
- 2) Some of these issues were produced as samples, tests or per favour. Whichever, they were produced on the existing machine/(s) though possibly not between 1913-31.
- 3) The State issues were punctured and issued in 1913 or 1914 thereby using up stocks of stamps held after the introduction of the Commonwealth stamps in 1913. One would have to assume that the postmark on the South Australian issue was incorrect or something of the sort.
- 4) The later issues, 1 1/2d Canberra and 1/- Lyre, were punctured in late 1932 as part of a batch of stamps for the New South Wales Government. There is some indication that something of the sort had happened. A few years ago a collector mentioned that he had a copy of the KGV 1d green C of A wmk with this perfin. This item has not been checked by me but I have no reason to doubt the report as the collector specialised in KGV issues. Also there is the case of the 2d on 1 1/2d KGV red overprint reported with an OS perfin used by the New South Wales Registrar of Births. Again I cannot confirm the existence of this item.



1 1/2d Canberra



SA 1d red QV

What do you think? If you have any further strange issues please let us know about them so that we might get an idea of what is happening. Obviously if offered any such issues a bit of caution may be advisable though even a forgery would be interesting in ones collection.



PRICE WATCH

Prices for State Government officials seem to be reaching new heights. A few examples are below.

CJ Ross Direct Sale Sept/Dec 1989

Lot 1 AUSTRALIA 1919 Official postcard 1d red surcharged three halfpence "perfin OS/NSW" (Govt. Printing Office) Basic card is ASC no. PC12 Unlisted as perfin F/Used Rare! \$600

Shields Stamps & Coins Special Offers

2 1/2d Roo's 3rd wmk MUH Block of 8 perf WA \$700

Cooma Stamps Oct 89 Advert in Stamp News Australasia

Roos

- 16 SMW 9d violet small perf G/NSW VGU-FU (Penrith CDS) \$30
- 17 CofA 9d violet small perf G/NSW \$12
- 19 CofA 5/- small perf G/NSW FU and very W/C Very Scarce \$115
- 20 CofA 5/- large perf G/NSW (G over N) Clean and genuine Sydney machine cancel. Extremely rare stamp, not yet listed \$140

Cooma Stamps Jan 90 Advert in Stamp News Australasia

KGV heads

- 16 SMW p13 1/2x12 1/2 4d olive Large OS (1933 12 hole OS format) Superb mint block of 4. Two stamps are MVLH (almost MUH) and two are MUH (one has some foxing) The stamps are superbly centered. The rarest of the KGV sideface OS punctures and as a mint block is probably unique. Absolutely rare and genuine-provenance is guaranteed. Sold to me by leading Australian KGV researcher and exhibitor. A superb exhibition assembly \$1000

If you have the money the material is coming onto the market.

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WHAT CAN YOU STILL COLLECT ON A LOW BUDGET

With the prices, high by previous standards, being achieved for some of the rare State Government officials it could make one feel that perfins are out of your depth. Certainly we Australians pay much higher prices for official perfins than anybody elsewhere in the world on a regular basis. Why this is the case is a matter of debate. However it does mean that such perfins as above are well out of the range of many collectors budgets, including mine. This does however not mean that perfins are out of range of the collector with low to moderate means.

There are still many areas that can be collected at low cost, with a great amount of challenge.

- 1) Foreign perfins (non Australian or NZ)
  - Some such are still available for as little as 20c each in Australia.

Most foreign perfins are of course overseas so the situation

What You Can Still Collect On a Low Budget cont.

in those countries is important. A situation of higher prices in Australia or New Zealand is unlikely to continue for too long as material will in time be brought into the country and increase the supply of perfins available.

United States.

The Perfins Club in the United States has about 800 members of whom about 720 live in North America. The average price of lots in Perfin Club auctions in 1988 was just under US\$2. Material sold in these auctions consisted mainly of scarcer US single stamps and small accumulations of other countries perfins. While prices in the US may have been rising it has been slowly. Much US material is available quite reasonably. If you want to collect foreign particularly US material you could do little better than buying from there also.

If you want to collect officials why not collect US States issues such as those from Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey or Hawaii. These perfins in general are quite cheap as most are very common patterns.

Great Britain

Although the Perfins Society is smaller, membership about 250 the auctions form a much more significant aspect of the Clubs activities than in the Perfins Club.. Prices over 1988 averaged about £5 per lot. While this may seem higher than the United States situation this is due to the nature of material auctioned. Most of the Perfins Society material are accumulations and include some very large collections often. The highest realisation of 1988 was £205 for a lot of British private perfins, 1180 different dies of the letters A-D, total 1450 stamps ie about 13p each.

2) Australian State officials

Why not take up the challenge of postmarks on some of these issues. Try to build a collection of FCT postmarks on OS issues. At least you will be sure that you have Commonwealth usage. There must be dozens of postmarks on New South Wales State issues, as an example.

Why not give varieties on OS/NSW 1d reds a go or decimal varieties on VG or G/NSW issues.?

3) Australian private types

Still an area where you can build up a good collection with a good deal of patience but at moderate cost.

As soon as the Australian guidebook is published the major possible areas of research in private Australian perfins could be on single patterns, die plating and the like, much as has happened in the United States since they had a catalogue available.

The outlook for perfin collecting as a reasonably inexpensive hobby is good at least in my opinion.

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PERFIN EXHIBITS AT STAMPSHOW 89

by J Grant

Exhib. 115, B. Jarrett (4 frames) The Official Mail and Stamps of the State of N.S.W. Award: Large Silver. Items of interest included a block of 12 KGV 4 1/2d overprinted 5d with OS/NSW perfin the top row of three double punctured, and a block of 16 1/- Anzac perfined G/NSW. These were in addition to the other spectacular high value roos etc.

Exhib. 142, P. Giffen (6 frames) Perfins of British Malaya. Award: Large Silver with Felicitations. This was a wonderful exhibit even though my Knowledge in this area is limited. Peter's exhibit contained about 40 proving covers including some with censor markings. Items of note were large pieces of MC/P (Municiple Commissioner, Penang)..single line perforator perforating at least 4 at a time and a cover dated March 1909 showing the perfin AG/&Co/LTD (Adamson, Gilfillan & Co. Singapore) with company logo on back.

Exhib. 318, J. & J. Grant (4 frames) Commercial Perfins of Australia. Award: Large Silver with special prize for best Cinderella exhibit. Over 100 proving covers and documents displaying a wide variety of firms.

A few observations.. all exhibits were entered into different classes and all did well. "Philatelic importance" is an area where our exhibit, and probably the other two, fell down in the judging. It will be interesting to see if perfins become more "philatelically important" over the next few years/decades. We have seen four different perfin exhibits now (there was a New Zealand entry at Sydplex) and it would be interesting to see a British perfins exhibit at an Australian Exhibition. There must be collectors who could do this well.

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DEMISE OF G/NSW

The New South Wales Government Printing Office was closed in September 1989 and much of their equipment was auctioned in October by Auctioneers Mason, Gray and Strange. As the New South Wales Government Printer used to puncture stamps with the G/NSW pattern it is probably safe to assume that the G/NSW perfin will no longer be used by the few Departments that did so.

The New South Wales Government and its agencies had the longest usage of perfins of any user in Australia and probably the longest user of official perfins worldwide. Usage started in 1895 of the GR perfin used by the Government Railways and continued for 94 years, through a variety of patters to the G/NSW in recent use.

Undoubtedly quite a few million stamps were punctured and used. Any one like to take a guess as to how many ?

PRIVATE PERFINS OF NEW SOUTH WALES PART 1 : POSTAL ISSUES Update no.1

The original article listing NSW private perfins on postal issues was published in the Australasian Perfins Bulletin July 1988. Additional information has been supplied by quite a few collectors. All of their contributions were much appreciated.

New Patterns

A/M/P/S

Sydney 23/5/1905

CFS

ED/&Co (probably ED/&Co...LD)

HJ/D Type 2 (different D) Found on postal stationary

JS/&Co.

LC

LD

M/P

Sydney 1896

N.Co

PLD

SH/&/CoLD

TCB/&Co

Queensland postmark

TS/F

Victorian postmark 30/4/1912

W.P/&Co

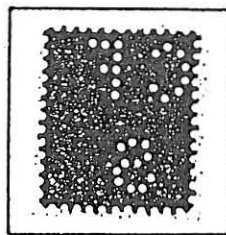
(Bell)

Sydney

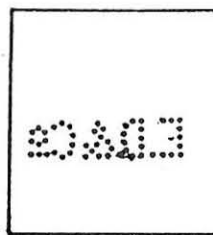
Again we have a couple of perfins applied to New South Wales stamps possibly interstate, TS/F and TCB/&Co. In the case of TS/F 3 copies were reported which does at least indicate it was not an isolated usage.



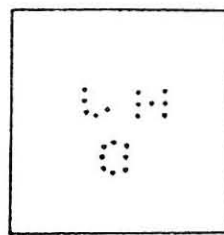
A/M/P/S



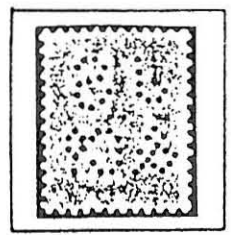
CFS



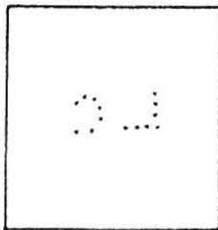
E.D&Co...



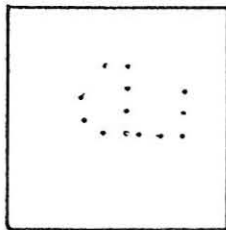
H/JD Type 2



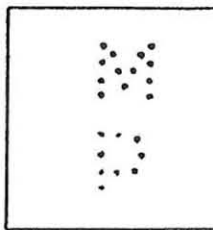
JS/&Co



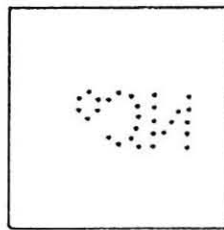
LC



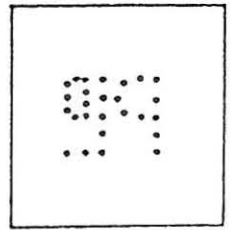
LD



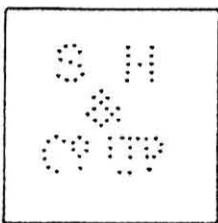
M/P



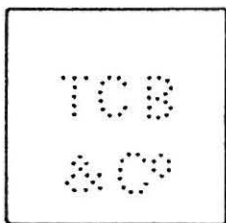
N.Co.



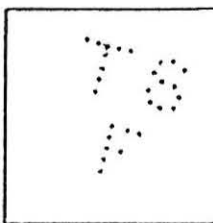
PLD



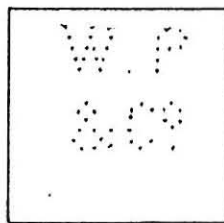
SH/&/CoLTD



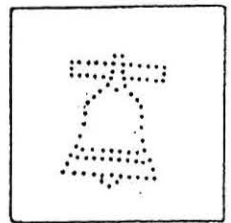
TCB/&Co



TS/F



W.P/&Co



(Bell)

Additional identities and postmarks

A Type 1	Atlas assurance Co.
AAA/Co	Australian Alliance Assurance Co.
AC/&Co.	Earlier postmark 19/4/1903
BCL Type 2	Postmark 1/1906
BW/L	Sydney postmark
EB/LTD	Elliot Brothers & Co.
E&/Co	Edwards & Co.
ED	later postmark 8/7/1906
FM	Federated Mutual Insurance Co., Sydney
H&A	postmark 1893
HB	later postmark 23/11/1910
HC/&Co	Hill Clark & Co., Sydney
HH	postmark 1899
HHG/Co	later postmark 1903
HJ/D Type 1	earlier postmark 2/10/1901
JI/N	postmark 4/11/1911
K	Kodak Ltd
LR	Lloyds Registry of Shipping
M.B./S	earlier postmark 1901
M.H	postmark 8/11/1911
N.Q./I:Co.	earlier postmark 1900
OD/V	Ostermeyer Dewez & Van Rompary
P.W.	copy bears Permewan overprint in purple. Other postmarks Bombala, Jamberoo, Wagga
RH/&Co	postmarks 1/11/1906 to 1911
RL	later postmark 10/1907
R&S/LD	Reckitts (Overseas) Ltd., Sydney 4/1906 to 7/1907
SB Type 2	postmarks 1910 to 1913
SB/NE	Sargood Butler, Nichol & Ewan 1904 to 2/8/1906
SH/&Co Type 1	postmarks 9/10/1893 to 17/9/1910
SH/&Co Type 2	earlier postmark 1904
S.H./&Co	postmark 7/12/1900
T	later postmark 1900
W.G&Co	> W. Grace & Co. <u>or</u>
WG/&Co..Ld..	> W Gardiner & Co.

New South Wales Postal Issues with Perfins: Additional data

Pattern	Issues (ASC Catalogue numbers)
AC/&Co.	20, 53
A.H/&S.	52b, 54, 69a
AK	52b, 54, 81
AM/F	19
A/M/P	19, 52b, 81
A/M/P/S	52b
A&R/LTD	54
A.S	19, 51, 54, 71
BCL Type 2	19, 54, 72
BP	30, 69a
BR Type 2	52b
BW/L	19
CF/S	70
CI	71

New South Wales Postal Issues with Perfin:Additional data cont.

Pattern	Issues (ASC Catalogue numbers)
CL/AC	19
CP/SCo	70
DC/&Co Type 2	19,71
D/&Co.Y.	52
DJ/LTD	51,69
EB/LTD	19,52,69a,72a,81
E&/Co	70
ED	69a
ER/&Co/LD	19,41,52b
FA/&Co	51,54
FG	52b
FM	52b
G&Co./S	51,70
HB	20,52b,81
HH	69
HH/&Co	49
HI	30
HSCo	19
I.H	30
J.McE/&co	81
JS	71
JS/&Co	70
J.S/S	19,32,40
K	54
KLTD	71
LC	70
LR	52b,54,67
L.&L.&G./ Insurance Co.	19
L/S Type 1	49,69
L/S Type 2	51,52,65
MB Type 3	70
M/P	49,70,71
N.Q./I.Co.	54,72a
OD/V	20
O.L	20,26
PLD	71
P.W	52a,52b
RH/&Co	71
R&S/LD	69a,71
SB Type 1	52b
SB Type 2	19,52b,54,71,72a
SB/NE	51,81
SH/&Co Type 1	54,72a
SH/&Co Type 2	19,20,81
S.H/&Co.	19,26,52,52b,53,71
T	19,26,27,65
TCB/&Co	70
TS/F	70
VOCo.	20,51,81
W&A/McA/LD	52b,72,72a,81
W.G&Co.	52b
WG/&/Co..LD	52b ,81
WILLS	19,51,70,72a