

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 102 JULY 2013

The South Pacific Perfin Bulletin is published by the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia (PCNZA) four times each year. Club subscriptions (including payment for the Bulletin) are A \$10.00 per annum for New Zealand and Australian residents and A \$15.00 per annum for residents of other countries (including airmail postage). Back issues are available from the Secretary.

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EDITOR'S COMMENT

Welcome issue #102 of the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin (SPPB), once again it is a bumper edition with many extra articles. Some articles planned for this issue are not included, regrettably this includes the study of the Dies of the Type A GNSW that is being prepared by Tom Weir. These dies have never been successfully identified and confirmed in the past and they are proving difficult. Tom has a draft structure and image of the dies in order but there are some anomalies to be addressed before he is ready to publish the study. Hopefully it will be ready for the October edition.

To partially fill the gap there is a short article in this Bulletin about the 10 dies of the GNSW Type C device by Arthur Taylor.

Thanks for the continued feedback from members about the new format and increased number of articles. Remember if you have any thoughts for an article or wish to make some input, or comment, be it positive or negative, then please just drop me an email or a letter.

In the last Bulletin there was some discussion about the increased cost of International airmail. With this issue we are trialing a bulk dispatch to New Zealand members. All copies of the Bulletin for NZ will be enveloped and addressed as normal but then sent, in bulk, to Ray Bennett. Ray will then affix NZ stamps and mail them from his local post office. It is estimated that this will provide about a 40% saving on mailing costs for NZ members.

In addition some members, including overseas members have chosen to receive a "soft copy" of the Bulletin. As outlined in the Membership Renewal insert in the last Bulletin, members who take up this option will automatically receive a copy of the SPPB's 1 – 100 CD.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following members who have joined since the previous issue

- #282 Gary Watson (Prestige Philately)
- #283 Glen Stephens (Stampboards)
- #284 John Mullavey (Greensborough – Vic)
- #285 Ray Roberts (Lindenow – Vic)
- #286 Bob Littlehales (Toowoomba – Qld)
- #287 Frank Glen (Cromwell – NZ)
- #288 Les Vincent (Landsborough – Qld)
- #289 Erik Brouwer (Maldon – Vic)
- #290 Thomas Eyval (Vic)

BACK ISSUES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN – (1 – 100)

Many members have opted to receive a copy of this CD. I must apologise that one or two of the early versions did not work as they should have. This was due to faulty copying from the master CD. Thanks to Ken Yorke and Maurice Harp (GB) for pointing this out.

Both Ken and Maurice found that they needed to install “Flash Player” in order to display the PDF files.

The CD does need a recent version of Adobe Reader to play so make sure that you have this. If you have Adobe already you should be receiving regular updates.

If anyone has any issues with the CD then please let me know the issue I will either address the problem or send you a replacement CD.

Thanks again to David MacNamee (USA) and Dave Elsmore (Qld) for their efforts in reorganising, formatting and preparing the CD of Bulletin back issues.

If you wish to order a copy of the CD or hard copies of any back issues then these are available from David Coath as follows:

CD with issues 1 – 100 Cost \$10 (A) within Australia and New Zealand.
\$15 (A) Rest of the World.

Printed copies of an issues from 1-99 for 50c each, plus postage at cost.

PERFINS ON FACEBOOK

(David Andersen)

Traffic on perfins on Facebook is growing and this is being supported by its promotion through overseas Perfin Clubs.

This is a new way to share information and connect with other collectors, give it a try at:

http://www.facebook.com/?ref=tn_tnmn#!/groups/229194150465173/

PERFINS ON YOU TUBE

(Dave Elsmore)

Looking at links for perfins on line I came across the following link to a You Tube video on the subject.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuRzuSXGSaI>

It goes for about 50 minutes and the focus is on US perfins but the Americas Stamp Club should be congratulated for posting it and breaking this new ground.

The acoustics in the room are not very good and the slides are often hard to read but the discussion raises so good points and it will not be long before this form of information sharing is more common.

INCORPORATION

(Dan Ryan)

Due to the size of this Bulletin and the need for mailing of the Auction Catalogue we will not be able to include any discussion or content of the draft Constitution.

Members will find this in the October Bulletin.

If any member has some specific input or experience on the matter of Incorporation that they wish to share then please contact me at danryan@ozemail.com.au

FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 2013

(Richard Smolnicki and David Coath)

Due to time limitations the Financial Report has been held over to the October Bulletin.

CLUB PERFORATOR

(Arthur Taylor)

Orders for perforated stamps have increased and a few members have sent me stamps for perforating. Give it a try, it is easy.

Next time you buy some stamps from the Post Office or get them from any other source, think about getting them perforated so that your mail will promote our hobby.



Here is Arthur perforating some stamps while in Melbourne for “Melbourne 2013”

Remember the stamps need to be Australian or New Zealand stamps from the period after the date the device came into service, February 1998. They need to be in multiples (no single stamps) as these are easiest to accurately fit under the punch head. No peel and stick stamps please as these tend to gum up the mechanism

Send your stamps me: Arthur Taylor, 19 Sundowner Ave, BERRARA, NSW 2540

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

(David Coath)

There are a number of vacant positions on Committee that need to be filled as follows:

Treasurer

The previous Treasurer, Lindsay Parker, has resigned and I am currently holding the Clubs accounts.

The accounts are now set up on MYOB and the number of transactions is small on a month to month basis. Membership payments make it a bit busier at around June/July each year, but this is not too much trouble as many members retain credits and these just need to be reduced.

If you are interested in taking on this important Committee position then please contact me David Coath at: davidcoath@onthe.net.au or on 03 9437 0366.

Auctioneer

This position has been vacant since its creation in March 2012 although the Club is still conducting Auctions.

This position would have responsibility for conducting the Clubs Auctions. This includes receiving lots, creating descriptions, and preparing them into a printed Auction catalogue for distribution with an issue of this Bulletin. Then the position has the task of receiving bids, deciding winning bidders, dispatching invoices, receiving payments and distributing lots to successful bidders.

The Auction is a once a year process at present so the task is not arduous, in fact I have just done the job myself and it was quite interesting.

I would be happy to hear from anyone who is interested in taking on the position and indeed the responsibilities of the position could be altered to fit the individual.

If any member has an interest in the position then they could contact David Coath at: davidcoath@onthe.net.au or on 03 9437 0366.

PERFIN AUCTIONS RUN BY BOB SZYMANSKI

(David Coath)

Bob Szymanski is a member of the US Perfin Club (President 2000-2005 and 2009-2011) as well as a member of our sister group the BNAPS Perfin Study group in North America. Bob is also now a member of the PCNZA.

Bob conducts private auctions of perfin material on a regular basis. Anyone who belongs to any recognised perfin club is welcome as a bidder.

If you wish to participate in these Auctions the easiest way is to get in touch with Bob directly. He can be contacted via email at perfinman@comcast.net or by mail to:

Bob Szymanski
10 Clarridge Circle
Milford, MA 01757-1371
United States of America

CLUB AUCTION 1/2013 – JULY 2013

The Club Auction 1/2013 is enclosed with this issue of the SPPB.

The last Club auction was a great success for seller and buyers alike and achieved well over 80% sales.

The next Club Auction will be issued in the July 2014 Bulletin so if you have something that you wish to offer up in that Auction, just send it to David Coath, 4 Fleming Crt, Research, VIC, 3095 before 30 June 2013

PRESTIGE AUCTION IN MAY 2013 – PERFIN LOTS SOLD – (David Coath)

In the last Bulletin there was an article advising of a few perfin “hoards” at the then upcoming Prestige Auctions in May 2013. Gary Watson had said of the lots:

“I expect this perfins hoard will create a lot of interest. Most of it has been off the market for 50+ years. ”

The major lots were the accumulations of Victorian perfins collected by Max Watson (Gary’s father) a noted collector of Victoria. Further there was a similar lot that had been the accumulation by Philatelic Legend, Bill Purves. The Purves collection had been in Max’s possession since Bill passed away in 1979. As advised in the Auction catalogue Max donated the funds from the sale of the Purves collection to the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria.

In speaking with Max and Gary at the Auction and later at Melbourne 2013, I was able to get some background on these collections.

Bill Purves was passionate about Victorian philately and considered that the perfins of Victoria were part of the total study of that subject. For this reason he, and with his encouragement, Max Watson, built up accumulations of Victorian, and later Australian perfins. It was intended to use these as the basis of a study of Victorian perfins.

In the front of Purves’s collection there was an undated letter (but it is post 1964) that included the following paragraph:

“When I mentioned to a friend that I had done some work on this subject (the Perfins of Victoria ..Ed) the suggestion was made, not too seriously, that this cheap and unglamorous field was the last thing that one could expect to associate with a somewhat elderly and rather senior philatelist. My reasons for this addiction will shortly appear, but let it be said – and immediately – that there are serious fields of “poor mans philately” which remain and that it would be a terrible thing if at anytime the hobby closed its ranks to all but the well to do.”

Purves goes on to foreshadow the release of a publication entitled “An Introduction to the Perfins of Victoria.” For more background on Purves see the Australian Dictionary of Biography.

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/purves-james-richard-william-11467>

There was also a file of correspondence in the sale (Lot 22) which featured communication between such notables as Purves, Juhl, Dr Derek Pocock (Past President of the PCNZA) and Joe Purcell (who produced much of the study of Australian perfins that became CPA, Grant /Mathews in 1992). I secured this lot and will share the contents related to Perfins in future Bulletins.

REVENUE PERFINS OF NSW COMPLETED

(Dave Elsmore)

The NSW Chapter of the Revenue Perfins of Australia is now completed and available FREE online at:

<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/PRPofA-index.html>

Or just follow the links from: <http://www.perfins.com.au/>

We would like to take this opportunity to thank members of the PCNZA who have assisted with this huge Chapter.

Bill Harley
Arthur Taylor
David Andersen

Greg Howard
Norm Hart
Brian Magee

For a full list of contributors see:

<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/PRPofA-index.html>

AUSTRALIA 2013 FIP WORLD STAMP EXHIBITION

(David Coath)

The PCNZA held a Meeting at the Australia 2013 FIP World Stamp Exhibition at the Exhibition Buildings in Melbourne between 10 – 15 May, 2013.

Thanks to member, Dingle Smith, we had secured a Meeting Room from 10 - 12 am on Sunday 12 May, 2013.

The Meeting was attended by about 30 people including:

Members: Bill Harley, Frank Franchi, John Graham, Lindsay Parker, Arthur Taylor, Dave Elsmore, Ross Edwards, Ken Scudder, Richard Smolnicki, Bob Newbold, David Hopper, David Walker, John Waugh, David Coath, Sam Chizik and as is normal for any Perfin event anywhere in the world, Harold Waite.

Guests: B Todd, Russell Flett, Tom and Eileen Schluter, Bob Littlehales, Tom Eyval, Peter Rooke, John Walker, Peter Siggs, Loren Meyer, Kevin Keast, Frank Glen, and John Mullavey. Many of these people have now become members.

For their interest Guests were later sent copies of SPPB's 100 and 101 as well as a summary of the available perfin publications and this has resulted in many sales and at least 3 new memberships. Guests will also be included onto the list to receive SPPB issue # 102.

Apologies: John Mathews, Mark Saxby and Brian Fuller.

I am sorry if I missed anyone, we had a sheet circulating for people to write their names on but that is an imperfect process as it fails to capture everyone who attends.

The objective was to keep the Meeting informal and to just have an unstructured discussion about perfin related issues raised from the floor. Unfortunately the acoustics in the room were rather poor. This was mainly a factor of the wooden structure of the building, but it was not helped by the fact that the meeting rooms were near a busy part of the Exhibition and that the partition walls were rather low and thin.

Despite this there were good discussions over the entire term of the Meeting and as usual these spilled over into the Coffee lounge after the Meeting was adjourned.

A highlight of the Meeting was provided by Ross Edwards from WA. When I noticed that Ross was in the room I asked him a question that had been on my mind for some time. Given that he was from WA was he the Ross Edwards that played cricket for Australia as a middle order batsman and specialist cover fieldsman, in the early 1970's. Ross confirmed that this was the case and even produced his "Baggy Green" from his briefcase. He had brought it to Melbourne as he was going to speak to his daughter's school class and wisely would not let it out of his sight. Thank - you Ross.



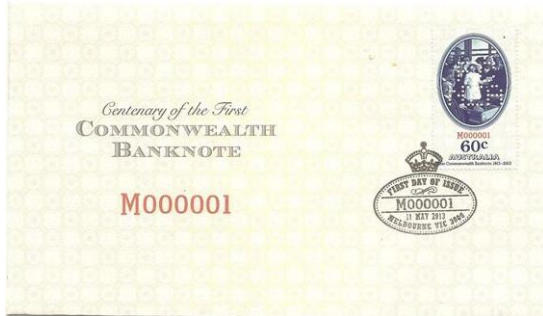
Members and Guests at the PCNZA Meeting at "Australia 2013"

SOUVENIR OF AUSTRALIA 2013

(Arthur Taylor)

In this issue all Members will receive a Commemorative cover from the Australia 2013 event held in Melbourne in May 2013.

The cover features the 60 cent stamp issue commemorating the issuing of the first Australian Banknote in 1913. The stamp has been improved by the addition of a strike from the Clubs PCNZA perforator.



PCNZA CLUB WEBSITE

(David Coath and Dave Elsmore)

Dave Elsmore who runs the popular Australian Perfin site, perfins.com.au is now hosting the PCNZA on perfins.com.au.

The site is up and running and can be accessed at perfins.com.au. Initially it will be a simple promotional page for the Club but it also lists the available perfin publications and how to acquire them.

In time the site will grow to include a Members area that will feature Bulletin Back issues, Library lists and other resources. So visit perfins.com.au and there will be more details in the future Bulletins.

The site is very popular and gets nearly 1000 visits a month of which almost half are unique visitors.

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

(David Coath)

Thanks to all the members who have paid their Membership for 2013-14 by using the form in the April Bulletin. I apologise for any confusion in that form and thank Rod Sell for his help in improving the wording for next time.

If you have not paid your Membership yet it is now due and the rates are:

\$10 A (\$12 NZ) for New Zealand members

\$10 A for Australian members

\$15 A for Overseas members

Remember all Cheques and Money orders need to be made out to the PCNZA

Could you please forward your payment now, these are the payment options:

New Zealand members please send cheque, cash or money order payments to:

Richard Smolnicki, 19 Oakleigh St, Maungaraki, Lower Hutt, 5010, New Zealand

Australian members please send cheque, cash or money order payments to:

David Coath, 4 Fleming Crt, Research, VIC, 3095

Overseas members

Option 1: Please send cash payment of \$15 Australian, US, Canadian or 15 Euros to:
David Coath, 4 Fleming Crt, Research, VIC, 3095, Australia

Option 2: Pay \$15 by PayPal to davidcoath@onthe.net.au

Overseas members: Special Offer

Overseas members may opt to receive a “soft copy” of the Bulletin by email.
If you choose this option then you still need make payment via the 2 Options specified above but you will receive a complimentary copy of Bulletins 1- 100 on a re writable CD that they can also use to store subsequent editions of the Bulletin.

NEW ZEALND CIRCUIT BOOKS

(Ray Bennett)

Here's a call to all our New Zealand members who are not on the New Zealand circuit book list.

Join in the fun and gain the most from our Club. This is the easiest, best and cheapest way to find new material for your collections.

Contact: Ray Bennett
PO Box 354
Timaru 7940
New Zealand

You won't regret it.

AUSTRALIAN CIRCUIT BOOKS

(Mark Saxby)

Thank you to all the long time circuit members for your continuing support of our club's circuit books and a big welcome to our members who have just started to become involved with the circuit.

If I could just remind everyone of the few things that need to happen to keep the circuit moving.

1. Keep the books moving around the circuit (don't keep them too long).
2. Return ALL slips back to the circuit manager at the same time that you forward the books on to the next member.
3. The slips from books with no sales from them still HAVE to be returned as this allows me to map where the books are.
4. All books must be posted by registered mail.
5. When sending books on make sure that they are wrapped in plastic to protect them from moisture. Glad Wrap works a treat.
6. Payment by cheque and money orders are to be made payable to Mark Saxby.

If you want to join the circuit just send me an email to saxbyml@bigpond.com or write to me at:

Mark Saxby
7 High St
Greta
NSW 2334

MEMBERS WANTS (Stellen Swenson, Michael Millar, Glen Stephens, Bill Harley and Jerry Austen)

If you are searching for something in particular or looking to secure material for study consider putting a note here:

Electrolux Security Overprint

Stellen Swenson a member from Sweden is collecting world perfins used by Swedish Companies. Unfortunately there are none known on Australian stamps so he is keen to obtain the next best thing, a Security Overprint.

He is looking for a Security Overprint, preferably on a receipt or document of the Electrolux Company. This overprint was found on the revenue stamps of NSW as "E'Lux" and is listed as E'Lux.a in the Revenue Perfins of New South Wales and can be viewed at <http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/n-Revenue-ZE-Perfins.html>

If you have an example then please contact Stellen at: Stellen Swenson, Odonbarsvagen 32, SE-293 41 OLOFSTROM, SWEDEN.

Mint OSNSW Type A on Kangaroo issues

New member Glen Stephens is looking for 2 mint values of this pattern to complete a set that he acquired at the recent Phoenix Auction.

He needs mint examples of the 2 d Grey and the 5 d Brown from the 1913, 1 st Watermark issue perforated OSNSW Type A.

If you have any then please let Glen know and you can negotiate a price.

He can be contacted via email glen@glenstephens.com or by writing to him at "Lothlorien" 4 The Tor Walk, CASTLECGAG, NSW 2068.

Michael Millar wants S Crown O and HM/SO on Great Britain

For his detailed study and soon to be exhibit of these Government patterns Michael needs:

S Crown O – GB Cat # S5630.01M:

1929 Postal Union Congress 1½d SG 436

1935 Silver Jubilee 1d and 1½d SG 454 and 455

1939 KGVI 10/- dark blue (or indigo as it is sometimes referred to) SG 478

7d 11d SG 471

11d SG 474a

HM/SO – GB Cat # H5200.01M:

HM/SO – GB Cat # H5200.01aM (the 1949 Provisional):

4d grey SG 468

1/- and 475

HM/SO - GB Cat # H5200.02

2d Machin SG 726.

If any of your members have any of the above needed items I'll be delighted to buy them, or trade if something can be worked out.

A (Tattersalls) Patterns on Tasmania

Bill Harley is still looking for more "A" perfin patterns on the issues of Tasmania.

He prefers ones with clear postmarks as his study is related to the usage of the various devices/patterns across the full term of their service.

You can contact Bill by phone on 02 6881 8319 or write to him at Bill Harley, PO Box 1295, DUBBO, NSW, 2830

Multiples of the WA

Jerry Austen is looking to map the dies of the WA device used by the Western Australian Government in 1903 – 04.

To help with his research Jerry needs horizontal multiples. 1;1 scale photocopies will do.

If you can help please contact Jerry on jausten@ozemail.com.au or via mail to:

Jerry Austen, 16 Cherrywood Ave, WAHROONGA, NSW, 2076

INTERESTED IN COLLECTING OVERSEAS PERFINS? (Barry Senior, Frank Franchi and Dieter Habicht)

Canada

Member Norm Hart reminded me of the excellent on line Catalogue of Canada which is free.

<http://www.bnaps.org/PerfinHandbook/PerfinHandbook.htm>

The site is run by the The British North American Study Group (BNAP) and they also offer an excellent journal "The Perforator".

Back issues to 2005 are available to be viewed on line at:

<http://bnatopics.org/hhlibrary/newsletters/n-perf.htm>

If you are interested in joining contact Barry Senior at: barry.senior@nf.sympatico.ca

Currently they are involved in a project to remove questionable reports of usage of the A4 perforator of the Anglo-Newfoundland Development and the A11 perforator of Ayre & Sons Ltd. Interested in helping contact Barry at:

Barry Senior
4 Whiteway Place
Clarenville, NL
A5A 2B5
Canada

Italy

Long time PCNZA member Frank Franchi is looking to get in contact with other members who are interested in collecting, studying and swapping Italian perfins.

Franks address is: PO Box 166 Niddrie, VIC, 3042 and he can be contacted on email at: frankfranchi@hotmail.com

Scandinavia

Dieter Habicht a member from the Northern Territory, is interested in Scandinavian patterns.

Dieter has provided the Club with a list of Finish and Norwegian patterns and if you are interested in receiving these just send a letter or email to David Coath and a copy will be mailed to you.

Also Dieter is keen to correspond with any members who are interested in collecting and swapping Scandinavian patterns.

You can write to Dieter at PO Box 305, Yulara, NT, 0872.

NEW ZEALND EXHIBITION - UPPER HUTT

(Richard Smolnicki)

I have booked a time with the Organising Committee for perfin collectors to get together during the NZ National exhibition in Upper Hutt on 13 - 15 September 2013.

The tentative time has been booked for 2 - 4pm on Saturday 14 September.

As in the past the PCNZA has supported the event by providing a donation of \$75.00 for prizes.

CANBERRA STAMP SHOW – 14 – 16 March 2014

(Dingle Smith)

The Canberra Stamp Show will be held on the 14 – 16 of March 2014 at the usual venue, the “Hellenic Club” Cnr Matilda Street and Callam St, Woden ACT 2606.

Although I will not be involved in the management of the event this year, I will be securing a Meeting Room for the Perfin Club to hold its usual meeting. Details will be included in the October Bulletin.

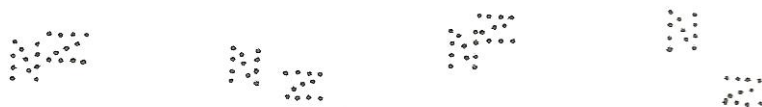
NZ.4 MULTIPLE FOUND

(Bill Register)



Bill Register sent in this rare multiple of a Samuel NZ.4. As you can see from the postmark it was used in London in July 1941. NZ.4 was one of 3 provisional issues of NZ that were made following the damage to the Sloper works during the London Blitz.

As Samuel observed the pattern was made with 2 strikes of an N, the first strike of the N in Position 1 and the second in Position 4 to give the appearance of a Z. The pattern is clearly made with a single die device and this is confirmed by the inconsistent relationship between the various “N” and “Z” strikes.



Tracing of the “N” and “Z” strikes from the multiple.



Reference: New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials – R D Samuel 2 nd Edition 2010. Pages 62 – 67



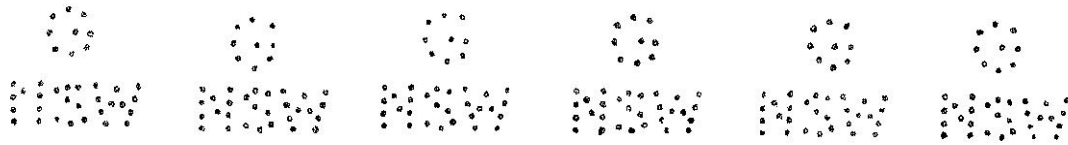
For further reading on the NZ Provisionals see:

SPPB # 24 July 1991 Article by Robert Samuel

New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials (Edition 2 – 2010) by Robert Samuel
pages 62 - 67

GNSW TYPE C DIES

(Arthur Taylor and David Coath)



Die 1

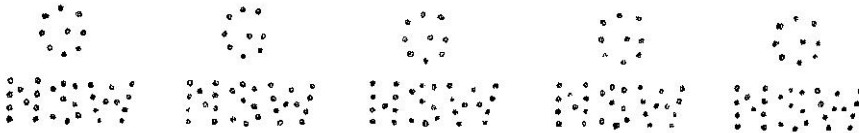
Die 2

Die 3

Die 4

Die 5

Die 6



Die 6

Die 7

Die 8

Die 9

Die 10

Please note that this is a 10 die device in a horizontal array with no break. In the above layout Die 6 is duplicated so as to show the relationship to the nearby dies 5 and 7 and yet allow the dies to fit in portrait on an A4 page.

Arthur Taylor made the trip to Melbourne to Australia 2013 in May and like most of the attendees he spent most of the time touring the huge range of dealers, exhibits and special displays at the Exhibition Buildings. However after a couple of days Arthur had seen enough and wanted to spend the Monday on something different.

Knowing Arthur was a specialist in the GNSW I dug out a box of GNSW's that I had and let Arthur loose on them.

Arthur is very keen on the Type C GNSW because this device has been the subject of some little know forgeries. This will covered in a future SPPB article.

Some time ago Arthur in conjunction with David Andersen had identified all of the 10 GNSW Type C dies, so this is somewhat "stale news" that we show them here. However an image of the dies was not shown in David's study, AOP – 2007.

The dies that were identified by Arthur and David Andersen where numbered in reverse but I have followed the convention of the VG and most other multi die listings by numbering these from the front.

The dies were mocked up by Arthur using just 2 large multiples that he found in my GNSW box.

If you find any different die types or different relationships between dies then please share them and we will show them here.

NZL.7 (HAPP) OR NZL.10 (SAMUEL) - I WAS WRONG! (David Coath)

No you are not having an episode of déjà vu and neither is this a repeat of an Article from SPPB #101. Some parts will be familiar but it is a report of additional information that has come to light regarding this rare pattern that should be of interest to collectors on both sides of the Tasman.

In 2010 I wrote a series of articles about the NZL (New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency) and NZIC (New Zealand Insurance) pattern groups found on the stamps of Australia. These appeared on the Research Tab of Perfins.com.au, refer:

NZL: <http://www.perfins.com.au/articles/nzl.html>

NZIC: <http://www.perfins.com.au/articles/voco.html>

I had found that neither HAPP nor Samuel (2nd Edition) accurately described these patterns, their locations or their true usage ranges.

In my study I reported that the existence of HAPP NZL.7 (Samuel NZL.10) was "Doubtful", I make a rather complex case over 3 long paragraphs, but in the end my conclusion is:

"To conclude, I would say that in the absence of someone producing an example of one or more of the types of NZL.7 that we can say that the pattern does not exist in the form of the image as presented in CPA and HAPP.
Usage NZL.7 doubtful"

Well as reported in SPPB #101, I was wrong, because I have since found one and although it does not have a complete strike and it does not quite match the pattern image from HAPP or Samuel it does appear to be an example of NZL.7 (.10). What is more it carries a postmark showing the correct usage date of 1907. Note this was mistaking written as 1906 in my similar article in SPPB #101.

Accordingly I have corrected the Research published on Perfins.com.au and I showed these images in SPPB # 101 so as to confirm my error and show that the pattern does exist.

Further I have improved both Research pieces on Perfins.com.au by adding in Samuel (Edition 2) numbers so as to allow New Zealand collectors to better cross reference their collections with my findings.

But the plot thickens, during Australia 2013 in Melbourne, I had a visit from Arthur Taylor and he showed me the following example of NZL.7 (.10) that is complete. Again the pattern does not quite match the HAPP/Samuel image, but the characteristic

curved base to the Z is in evidence so it is reasonable to regard it as an example of the NZL.7 (.10) pattern. I have compared it to mine and they match so Arthur's example provides further confirmation that the pattern HAPP NZL.7 and Samuel NZL.10 exists. Once again Arthur's example carries a 1907 postmark.



My pattern

Arthur's pattern

Reverse

HAPP Listing/Image

Please if you find any errors, in this, or any other parts of my published research, then please bring them to my attention and I will correct them.

FALSE LOGIC – ITS EFFECT ON RESEARCH

(John Mathews)

In the April 2013 issue of this Bulletin, there was an article on page 9 entitled “I WAS WRONG!”.

It refers to an article written on the web site, [perfins.com.au](http://www.perfins.com.au) (refer to the “Perfin Research” tab at <http://www.perfins.com.au/articles/nzl.html>), in 2010 by the author of that Bulletin article. Part of this article relating to pattern NZL.7 started with the words:

“Firstly let me say that I have never seen an example of a pattern like the one listed as NZL.7” [obvious reference to “Handbook of Australian Private Perfins” (HAPP)].
The section on NZL.7 ends with:

"To conclude, I would say that in the absence of someone producing an example of one or more of the types of NZL.7 that we can say that the pattern does not exist in the form of the image as presented in CPA and HAPP. Usage NZL.7 doubtful".

The assumption that there was an “absence of someone producing an example of one or more of the types of NZL.7” flies in the face of the fact that an example was owned by a respected collector/member of PCNZA whose collection was one of several major perfin collections sighted by John Grant and myself in 1991 when we were compiling “Commercial Perfins of Australia” (CPA). So at least three people had seen an example over 20 years ago!

Then, there is the logic used which can be paraphrased as “If I (or anyone else) have not seen an example of NZL.7, then NZL.7 does not exist”. A true conditional statement related to this is “If I have seen X, then X exists”. This is our fundamental definition of existence (see Oxford English Dictionary). The Contra positive form of that (true) statement is “If X does not exist, then I cannot see (or have not seen) X”, and the Contra positive form is logically equivalent to the conditional statement. The form “If I have not seen X, then X does not exist” is called the Inverse form of the conditional statement, and is false. If the Inverse form is used in an argument, then that argument is invalid. In the context of the web site article, this use of the Inverse form is not only invalid, but could even be considered to have a somewhat arrogant tone, especially as the pattern’s inclusion in catalogues implied that it existed and had been seen.

The 3 paragraphs from the web site article between the excerpts quoted above attempt to provide various arguments in support of his desired conclusion of “doubtful” usage. The first of these paragraphs states his opinion (not fact) that the relatively large size of the pattern in relation to the Queensland stamps of that time would make its use “unsuitable”. The author overlooks the fact that there are many perfin patterns larger than NZL.7 on stamps no bigger than those Queensland ones. For example, consider TYSLD.1 on KGV1 definitives, or SB.1 on Kangaroo and map issues, just to cite two.

The next paragraph in the web site article points out that NZL.7 is not included in various other early perfin references prior to 1992, which is when CPA was published. He, again incorrectly, expresses his opinion that it was therefore most likely to have come from among a report of patterns received from a group of eminent collectors in North America. Anyway, why should he think that a report from this group should support a conclusion that the pattern was “doubtful”!

In the penultimate paragraph on NZL.7, he says that it “has characteristics similar to NZL.9” and later that “the image of [NZL].7 is however of a larger scale than the [NZL].9” pattern. This ignores that even if early photocopiers did not reproduce exactly identical scale images to the original, they would not distort an image such as to make NZL.9 look like NZL.7. Incidentally, if an original image was a reverse one (e.g. from the back of the stamp), then prior to the advent of scanners, the image would have to have been photocopied onto a transparency, the transparency then placed upside-down and photocopied to produce a “normal” image, which was then pasted into the text document which was the master copy from which the printer produced the book. That is, from the original, there would have been three photocopy processes – it is any wonder that it was almost impossible to get a perfect 100% scale reproduction in a book? No-one else has expressed to me any difficulty with using the images in CPA or HAPP. Even the author of the web site article had considerable trouble himself achieving a 100% reproduction of a perfin pattern in a recent issue of our Bulletin!

The 2010 article remained unaltered on the web site until 11 April 2013. On 21 February 2013, I had pointed out to the author that the logic was false. In his reply the same day, he admitted that he had “found one ... in a group ... about a year ago.” When I suggested that he should have amended his web site article before my email of 21 February 2013, he failed to give a definite response.

On 11 April 2013, his web site article was updated with the words "Well someone did produce one, me. So NZL.7 exists but needless to say it is very rare." "Someone did produce one, me"? – the writer had only re-discovered a pattern which at least three other people had seen over 20 years earlier!

Lastly, if my eyes don't deceive me, the postmark year on the stamp illustrated in the April 2013 Bulletin is not 1906 (as included in that Bulletin article) but 1907, which agrees with the usage year in HAPP.

Comments by the Editor

(David Coath)

I thank John for his detailed argument. In SPPB #101 I have already admitted and apologised for my error regarding this pattern NZL.7 (.10) and the web site has been updated. Further this lesson has ensured that I will be doubly careful in the future.

I could evade this issue and John's criticism by hiding behind the qualified nature of the statement that I had made in respect to this pattern. That is that the "pattern does not exist in the form of the image as presented in CPA and HAPP". This is true, as the patterns found by Arthur Taylor and myself do not strictly match the image of NZL.7 (.10) in CPA, HAPP and Samuel (Edition 2). They are very similar, but given the very similar nature of the patterns within the NZL group the image does not provide certainty. The patterns that have been found could be an entirely "new" pattern and a pattern could be found that more closely or indeed exactly matches the image of NZL.7 (.10) in CPA and HAPP.

However I will not seek to evade this criticism in this way but rather look for the message that is inherent in John's criticism. Now unless I miss the point, I believe that the essential message of John's article is, that if it is in the catalogue, then it is to be believed. Given my experience with of NZL.7 (.10) this argument is hard to counter.

However in my study of the NZL's I questioned, provided contrary evidence and made corrections to the catalogue (HAPP) in the following areas:

- Corrected most pattern images
- Corrected all but 1 usage periods (NZL.7)
- Identified 2 true types
- Eliminated 1 false type
- Identified 2 new patterns
- Corrected 2 device locations
- Provided details and background about each device/pattern

Did I get these right? John has clearly read the study a number of times and he makes no case against any of these findings. He only makes a case against my observations about NZL.7. An error I admit to and have altered before I received his article.

I would put it to you that John's case that the catalogue (HAPP) is to be believed, has little substance. As my study finds it is sometimes wrong. John's focus on the NZL.7 is a classic "straw man" argument technique, in which a debater falsely defines the opponent's position, in this case, condensing my criticism of HAPP regarding the

NZL group, to be just the existence or not of the NZL.7 pattern, and then refutes it. In doing so, claiming to have refuted the true argument.

My study is much larger than just the NZL.7 and if John, or anyone else for that matter, wishes to refute any details within it, then he is welcome to do so and I will ensure that his views are published in the SPPB.

Nobody likes to be criticised, but if you do not want to be criticised, then do not say anything. No person, not John Mathews, not me, not anyone, should think that they could write something, be it a catalogue or an article and imagine that it is above question, review, reconsideration, correction or the expression of contrary opinion. There are no “sacred cows” in a scientific like study such as ours.

Yes our study is like a science, in any case the study of Perfins follows the Scientific Method. Under the Scientific Method all facts are questioned, data is retested, more observations are made and existing theories (scientific facts, catalogue listings, whatever) are ultimately replaced by better ones. In turn these better ones are replaced by ones that are better still. This process is not a personal process or an attack on the previous researchers and scientists. It is the pursuit of the true facts.

When I do research that produces different theories, data and conclusions about perfins and in doing so I criticise and seek to correct the work of a catalogue, I am doing this in respect to the information in that catalogue and not making a personal attack on the author of that catalogue. John Mathews, David Andersen, David Dell, Robert Samuel, Bryan Toop, Jim Dean, John Elford, Neale Scott, John Grant, Dr Derek Pocock, Joe Purcell or anyone else that has ever written anything about Australian perfins, are our pioneers. They deserve our respect for what they have done to build and add to our knowledge. Even if what they wrote is sometimes later found to be wrong, it is more often right and in any case we could not know what we know today without it.

So, should we blindly believe a catalogue? No. All information is to be questioned if the ultimate truth is to be found. I certainly welcome any questioning and criticism of my work or studies and only hope that what I write makes you look harder at what you have. Prove me, a catalogue or anyone one else wrong and in doing so you will advance our hobby.

STUDY OF THE NZL PATTERNS USED IN AUSTRALIA. (David Coath)

Reproduced from the article published in Perfins.com.au, note some content may differ slightly due to reformatting. Some editing has been done, punctuation corrected and the term “die” has been used in lieu of the term “head” and I thank David Andersen for correcting my misuse of these terms in some of my other published studies. For the purposes of the study of these NZL devices the terms are essentially the same as all of the NZL devices have a punch head with a single die.

Background to the NZL Introduction

The New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency (NZL) had offices up and down the length of Queensland, and indeed around Australia. Many of these offices had perforating devices with the letters NZL and to make matters more confusing the patterns produced by these devices are in most cases quite similar. They used these devices to create perfins in both postage and revenue stamps.

I have been working on an online catalogue of perfins on Australian revenue and railway stamps entitled “The Private Revenue Perfins of Australia” with well known revenue collector Dave Elsmore from Queensland. We are building the catalogue State by State starting with Queensland and this meant collecting information about Queensland users including the users of the NZL patterns. Because of the link to New Zealand these NZL patterns have always been of special interest to New Zealand perfin collectors who consider these to be New Zealand patterns. Therefore in order to assist with this research I purchased a copy of “New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials” (NZSWPI) by R D Samuel (2nd Edition 2010). This is an excellent catalogue and Samuel and the editors bring the New Zealand patterns alive with many images, as well as a pocket history of the New Zealand perfin users. The scope includes reference to patterns used in New Zealand and abroad, including Australia.

For the patterns on Australian stamps Samuel relies heavily on, “Handbook of Australian Perfins” (HAPP - Mathews 2003) and to a lesser extent “Commercial Perfins of Australia” (CPA -Grant and Mathews 1992) and these extracts are in some instances cross referenced with somewhat dated and disjointed references to Samuel’s first edition (1968) and to images provided by NZ perfin pioneer David Dell (1993). In short none of these publications/references, in isolation or indeed collectively; as is attempted in Samuel’s catalogue, adequately cover the rather complex web of offices, devices and patterns that are the NZL group.

In particular the way that Mathews categorises similar patterns as “types” of a single pattern is unhelpful and often misleading, especially when you are trying to build a definitive list of the patterns, devices and their locations. In many cases the patterns within the NZL groups are similar but they have been made by different devices in remote locations. Given this there is a need for high quality images of patterns so that collectors can confirm which pattern is which. Unfortunately both CPA and HAPP and therefore NZSWPI, have many poor or imperfect pattern images and therefore the pattern groups are littered with miss reported usage dates and other errors.

As far as I can determine there are only 3 NZL patterns used on revenue stamps but in order to describe these in context I found it necessary to clarify the entire pattern groups, build usage timelines and provide revised images of all patterns.

For numbering I have used HAPP numbers and added to the catalogue number sequence as required. (Samuel numbers added later. Ed) For patterns that are found on revenue stamps and therefore fall within the scope of Dave Elsmore’s and my new web based catalogue, I have used the identification system which is Elsmore/Coath number or EC.#. It actually uses letters not numbers and because these EC “numbers” are State based I will specify the State in the listing, for instance for the first NZL found on a revenue stamps it is denoted as EC NZL.a (Qld).

NZL Pattern Group

The reference images for the NZL group in CPA were generally rather poor. In particular the images provided for NZL.1, .2 and .3 and to a lesser extent .4 and .5 were not representative of the actual patterns. In HAPP the images were re drawn and they were better overall, but the images for NZL.4, .5 and .9 were still incorrect. This would have certainly sown confusion amongst collectors, which would have lead to misreporting of usage dates and issues for patterns within this group.

In addition some of the start dates for usage seem rather arbitrary and convenient. For instance the patterns NZL.2 and .3 both list usage from 1900. Not only is this not supported by postmark evidence that I have seen, but it predates the earliest known application of 1906. Both of these early start dates are found in CPA and it is possible that these start dates were based on the issue date of some Queensland stamps found with the pattern.

Accordingly you will note that the usage dates that are quoted differ from those in CPA/HAPP which were reproduced in Samuel 2nd Edition.

NZL.1 (Samuel NZL.4)

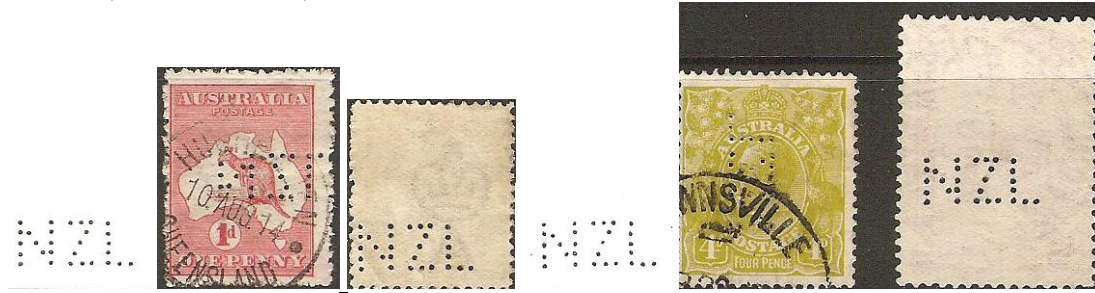


Described in both CPA and HAPP as having 2 types this is an attempt to describe 2 patterns produced by 2 separate devices, one in Sydney and the other in Melbourne. NZL.1 is closest to an image of the Sydney device which has larger pins and produces a clearer strike than the Melbourne device which has finer pins. The Melbourne device is listed in HAPP as NZL.8.

Both are single die devices and there is no variation that could be defined as representing a 2nd type of either pattern.

NZL.1 is found on postage stamps of New South Wales and Australia.

Usage NZL.1 1912-1938

NZL.2 (Samuel NZL.5)

Type 1 1907-1914

Type 2 1930-1936

This is listed as a single device but curiously with usage periods of 1900-02 and 1935-36. Usage in both periods seems to have centred in Townsville and nearby towns including Hughenden.

Close examination shows slight variation in the pattern in the different usage periods. Most distinctive is the upright of the L which in the earlier usage tends to lean back towards the top and in the later usage tends to lean forward.

Given the very similar nature of these patterns and the shared location it is difficult to define them as 2 patterns.

Most likely it is a single device that was discontinued and much later reintroduced following some minor alterations/repairs.

The pattern is found on postage stamps of Queensland and Australia. The later type 2 is only found on postage stamps of Australia.

Usage NZL.2 EC NZL.a (Qld) Type 1 1907-1914 Type 2 1930-1936

NZL.3 (Samuel NZL.6)

A straight forward pattern, of a device that was in use for a long period of time. As mentioned above the early usage (from 1900) is doubtful and not supported by postmark evidence.

The device was most likely located in the Rockhampton office as these postmarks predominate.

Blackall and Longreach postmarks are found but these towns are on the east - west road running inland from Rockhampton, so these postmarks are consistent with the device being located at Rockhampton.

The pattern is fairly consistent over its long life, but in about 1932 it alters slightly. This is noticeable in the change to the shape of the base of the L. In pre 1932 usage the base is generally straight but with the centre pin slightly below the other pins. In the post 1932 usage the last pin of the base of the L is lower.

Late usage after 1953 is characterised by many missing pins especially in the N and Z.

Type 1 is found on postage stamps of Queensland and Australia as well as Queensland revenue stamps. Type 2 is found on postage stamps of Australia and Queensland revenue stamps.

Given that both patterns are found in the same location and the difference is small the variation in the pattern is best described as 2 types of a single pattern, with the following usage:

Usage NZL.3 Type 1 1912-1932 Type 2 1932-1957

NZL.4 (Samuel NZL.7)



This is a rare pattern made by a device located in the Brisbane office. It is characterised by a very bent right leg of the N near the intersection with the cross bar of the N. It is somewhat similar in style and scale to NZL.9 and the new one I have listed which would be NZL.10. It is possible that this NZL.4 device was later modified to become .9 and .10.

NZL.4 is only found on postage stamps of Queensland.

Usage NZL.4 1906-1910 (?)

NZL.5 (Samuel NZL.8)

This is a distinctive pattern, larger than most of the other NZL's and it has large clear holes. The device is attributed to the Brisbane office but I doubt this, as its usage period overlaps with the NZL.6 device, which is known to have been located in this office.

More likely it is a Sydney device that replaced the NZL.1 device which ceased to be used in about 1938. All issues that I have seen show Sydney style roller cancellations. HAPP (update #1 October 2005) lists a Sydney postmark of 1940 but fails to correct the location of the device from the Brisbane office.

This pattern is only found on postage stamps of Australia.

Usage NZL.5 1937-1940

NZL.6 (Samuel NZL.9)

Another distinctive NZL pattern with large clear holes and a unique cross bar in the N which starts very high and finishes very low in relation to the legs of the N.

This is another Brisbane device with usage reported from 1906 until 1950. This early usage seems unlikely as I am yet to see the pattern on a Queensland issue and the large holes combined with the size of the pattern would have almost consumed one of these small Queensland State issues.

The earliest postmark I can find on a Commonwealth issues is 1917.

This pattern is only found on postage stamps of Australia.

Harold Waite (NZ) has sent me a copy of the following stamp that is clearly a NZL.6 but with an earlier date of April 1916

Usage NZL.6 1916-1953

NZL.7 (Samuel NZL.10)



In my first version of this study in 2011 I had not seen a copy of this pattern. I have subsequently found a single example which may have been the reference pattern for the listing in CPA and later HAPP.

In the 2011 version I had said this:

“Firstly let me say that I have never seen an example of a pattern like the one listed as NZL.7. It is reported in CPA and unlike most of the other NZL patterns the exact same image is used in HAPP.

It is reported to have been used in 1907 but the pattern is very large and would have been unsuitable for the small format Queensland issues of this time. Oddly the pattern is described in CPA as having 2 types which is not a very common feature for non service punctures listings in CPA.. The pattern is not listed in Samuel’s first edition which only lists the patterns we know of as NZL .1, .3, .5 and .8.. Further it is not mentioned in Dell’s articles on NZL’s in early issues of the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin (SPPB). In particular Issue #1 of 1986 in which he notes the 4 patterns listed in Samuel and lists 2 more. The first one is later listed in CPA as NZL.6 and he also shows a partial of a pattern that is most likely the pattern I describe as NZL.10. Furthermore the pattern described as NZL.7 is not listed in the Members Survey of Queensland patterns in SPPB #4 of June/September 1987 and it is not noted as a new pattern in any SPPB that pre dates the issue of CPA in 1992. This means that Grant/Mathews most likely had a report of the pattern and image in their source documents from the late Joe Purcell (refer the Foreword and Acknowledgements in CPA page i).

The NZL.7 pattern has characteristics similar to NZL.9 and patterns of similar appearance which I describe (CPA/HAPP numbers used for uniformity only as they have not been confirmed by John Mathews) as NZL.10 and .11. The image of .7 is however of a larger scale than the .9/.10/.11 patterns. I would attribute this to an error in the storage, copying and/or reproduction of the image. Such “photocopier” errors, as I have heard them called, are fairly common in HAPP and seem to occur when images are stored in a particular software format and then reproduced using slightly different publishing software.

To conclude, I would say that in the absence of someone producing an example of one or more of the types of NZL.7 that we can say that the pattern does not exist in the form of the image as presented in CPA and HAPP.

Usage NZL.7 doubtful”

Well someone did produce one, me. So NZL.7 exists but needless to say it is very rare. (See also SPPB # 102)

Usage NZL.7 1907

NZL.8 (Samuel NZL.11)



This pattern was not listed in CPA but was subsequently listed in HAPP. This is most likely due to confusion between this pattern and NZL.1 which is a Sydney device with a similar pattern. The main difference is that the .1 pattern has larger diameter pins and therefore makes a pattern with larger clear holes.

NZL.8 is a Melbourne device that is found on Victorian issues from about 1908 and Commonwealth issues until 1948. Some usage on NSW issues has been reported but this is late in the immediate pre Commonwealth period when cross use of States stamps is more common.

Usage NZL.8 EC NZL.b (Qld) 1908-1948

NZL.9 (Samuel NZL.12)



As with NZL.8, NZL.9 was not listed in CPA but was included in HAPP. The image of NZL.9 in HAPP is slightly distorted from the true pattern and there are a number of other similar unlisted patterns to .9 and this would have lead to confusion with this pattern.

NZL.9 is a Brisbane device and it was only in service in the early Commonwealth period. The device was apparently not very robust as there is evidence of missing pins in the base of the L in early (1913) usage.

HAPP states that it was used between 1910 and 1957. This is clearly not the case and is further evidence of the confusion with usage dates that has been sown by the poor quality of some NZL images in both CPA and HAPP. NZL.9 is not found on Queensland issues and the only NZL usage as late as 1957 is limited to the NZL.3 pattern. Admittedly .9 and .3 are similar in scale but not in pin location.

This pattern is found on postage stamps of Australia and revenue stamps of Queensland.

Usage NZL.9 1913-1914

NZL.10 Not listed



This pattern shares many similarities with NZL.9 but it is a later device (1915) and it has a characteristic angle in the base of the Z which is not present in .9. It is possible that this pattern was the one recorded by Dell in Issue #1 of SPPB, but it is impossible to confirm as the pattern shown was missing many pins. In fact the only NZL.10 that I have seen is also a partial, as the base of the L is not complete.

NZL.10 was another Brisbane device and it is possibly a modification or repair of the NZL.9 device.

It was very short lived being replaced by the NZL.6 device in about 1917.

Usage NZL.10 EC NZL.c (Qld) 1915

NZL.11 Not listed



NZL.11 was located in Rockhampton and is only found on the issues of Queensland. It is most likely to be the device that was the subject of the March 1906 Application and Approval.

Late usage is characterised by many blind pins and it is clear that by about 1910 the device was no longer sound. It was replaced in 1912 by the NZL.3 device.

Given the similarity in scale to the NZL.9 and .10 patterns it is possible that .11 is actually the parent device to these later Brisbane device(s).

NZL.11 is found on postage stamps and revenue stamps of Queensland.

Usage NZL.11 1906-1911

Summary of Usage of NZL Group by Location

City/Town	Pattern #	My usage	HAPP usage
Sydney	NZL.1	1912-1938	1906-1936
	NZL.5	1937-1940	1937-1957
Melbourne	NZL.8	1908-1948	1906-1945
Brisbane	NZL.4	1906-1910(?)	1905-1910
	NZL.7	1907	1907
	NZL.9	1913-1914	1910-1957
	NZL.10	1915	
Rockhampton	NZL.6	1917-1949	1906-1950
	NZL.11	1906-1911	
	NZL.3 (type 1)	1912-1932	1900-1950
Townsville	(type 2)	1932-1957	
	NZL.2 (type 1)	1907-1914	1900-1902 and 1935-1936
	(type 2)	1930-1936	

Conclusion

In the study of these NZL pattern groups I have looked at thousands of these patterns but it is entirely possible that there is evidence that would add to this study and indeed contradict some of my findings.

I am happy to share my pattern images with anyone who would like a copy of them so just drop me an email or a letter. (The images in this SPPB should be 1:1)

Once you have sorted out your NZL's I would be keen to hear what you find.

References

Commercial Perfins of Australia-Grant/Mathews (1992)
 Handbook of Australian Private Perfins- Mathews (2003)
 HAPP Update #1 October 2005- Mathews
 HAPP Update #2 February 2012 – Mathews
 New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials-RD Samuel (2010)
 South Pacific Perfin Bulletin various articles
 Bold Century-The New Zealand Insurance Company Limited 1859-1959

NZL – A FINAL – “FINAL WORD”

(David Coath)

Let me restate that I think that the NZL pattern group and the similar NZIC group, are important areas of study for members of the PCNZA, as they are collected and cross listed in both New Zealand and Australian perfin catalogues.

But, despite the heading to this article, there can be no final word.

The study of Australian (and in this case also New Zealand) Private Perfins is still a developing study. This is clearly evidenced by the huge number of new reports and proving covers that are listed at the end of this Bulletin.

Furthermore in SPPB # 98 (see page 5) John Mathews wrote an article regarding the possibility of a Supplement to HAPP. In this article he stated that he had “over 720 new listings” which is a huge addition to HAPP which already contained about 3000 patterns.

As members you can all continue to be part of developing our knowledge and to do this all you have to do is search for patterns, critically analyse what you have and what you find and share this with other collectors.

If you cannot find someone to share it with, send it into the Bulletin and I will share it.

MEET A MEMBER – Enid Honiss

I arrived in Christchurch, from England, shortly before my 8th birthday. I was an only child and all I wanted for my birthday was a stamp album and some stamps.

I happily collected stamps of the world and received lots of contributions from helpful adults. When I was 12 I joined the Junior Stamp Club of the Christchurch Philatelic Society, was the only girl member and became involved in competitions.

I learnt a lot and started to specialise in NZ stamps only. By about 16 I was too busy with study to spend any time with philately so just retrieved all stamps that came along putting them aside in cardboard boxes in the hot water cupboard where they accumulated for the next 10 or more years. By this time I had graduated from University as a Speech Language Therapist, married, travelled overseas with my husband on a working holiday, returning to NZ by travelling overland for several months in a VW combi van through Europe, the Holy Lands, Iran & Iraq & Asia to Bombay. I continued working for several years until after our 3rd child was born.

We were then living on the Kapiti Coast. (section of the coast of the south-western North Island north of Wellington and opposite Kapiti Island, Ed). While staying home with our 7 children I renewed my interest in my stockpile of stamps, but couldn't afford to fill in all the missing gaps. Shortly after, I discovered “The Tasman Catalogue of New Zealand Perfins” published in 1970 by Laurie Franks. I had always been curious about those stamps in my collection with the odd holes but knew little about them. Here was the answer to my collecting interest. Forget about the unaffordable expensive gap fillers and build up a collection of these cheap, affordable, fascinating perfins that fitted in with the housekeeping budget and fulfilled my interest in history. After all there were only 66 varieties listed. I wrote away for the introductory offer of 15 different perfins for \$2. A couple of years later we moved to Kerikeri in the Bay of Islands where my husband was teaching and I returned to work as the Speech Language Therapist for Northland for the next 20 years based at Kaikohe..

From that time I've specialised in perfins and Northland (NZ) Postal history. I continued collecting NZ stamps as they came along, finally discontinuing them in

2000. For a while I extended my perfin interest to worldwide, but now concentrate only on NZ.

My perfin collection developed rapidly in the early years. Hardly anyone else seemed to want to collect them. They were readily available and very cheap. I aimed at obtaining all stamps issued that had been perfined but not all positions and was able to build up a reasonable selection of covers in the early days. I have belonged to the Kerikeri Stamp Club now for the past 40 years and was urged by other collectors, to get my stamps out of their boxes and envelopes and on to sheets so I could exhibit them. At that time members of the neighbouring Whangarei Stamp Club were all going to visit and exhibit at Stampex 86 and invited me to join them. There wasn't much time, entries were closing so I made a hurried decision to do it. I then had to commence compiling an entry. I had already contacted the organisers saying I had insufficient material for 3 frames and could I submit 1 frame instead. They agreed, but were unsure as to which category to place it in. NZ Postal History was agreed on.

I was working fulltime, had 7 children at home and gave myself a stiff schedule of completing 4 sheets a week, all written up by hand. I almost made it. I had to take a days "sick leave" from work in order to finish it in time for posting on the last day. At the same time I had also been assisting 2 of my younger children to complete their entries for Stampex as well. I had a wonderful trip to New Plymouth with my Whangarei friends and was so excited to receive a bronze medal for my efforts. Most people said it was the first perfin entry they had ever seen and there was great interest in it. I will always remember with horror the comment made by one of the "more traditional" judges as he went over my entry with me about how he didn't approve of perfins and had thrown 100's of them away from his own collection. Later I entered 3 frames in Royal 100 and Sydplex in 1988, again travelling to Auckland and Sydney to both exhibitions with my fellow Whangarei exhibitors. What a wonderful time we had! Again we all received medals. While at Sydplex, I was able to attend one of our early Perfin Club of NZ and Australia meetings. I was amazed at how comparatively plentiful Australian perfins and covers were in comparison with the paucity of our NZ ones.

In the early years, David Dell had been in contact with me for quite a while and told me all about his plans to form the Perfin Club of NZ and Australia along with Robert Samuels. After David Dell (1) and Robert Samuel (2) I became member No 3.

Since that time I have expanded my collection enormously, learnt lots more, but I haven't exhibited again. Instead I have spent time accumulating material, giving talks and displaying my collection at clubs. Now I am retired I aim to pull it all apart and start preparing a new exhibit for some exhibition in the not too distant future. See you there soon.

MEMBERS ACIEVEMENTS

David Wood Phoenix Auctions

Congratulations to member David Wood along with business partner Ken Pearson and staff, including member Matt Hancock, for the huge success of their Auction Sale #20 “The Stuart Hardy Collection – Part 2” which was held on 9 May 2013. The result was a new Australian sale record of \$2,587,000

Dave Elsmore

Congratulation to Dave for his International Gold for his 8 frame display “NSW Revenues” at the recent Australia 2013.

Dave Elsmore and David Coath

A great result for the online publication “Revenue Perfins of NSW” which was awarded an International Vermeil in the Literature section at Australia 2013.

Ken Scudder

Also at Australia 2013 the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria launched the new reference by member Ken Scudder, entitled “The Stamps of Queensland 1879 – 1912”.

The book is the result of almost 20 years of work and is one of the most important new books on Australian Colonial stamps for many years. The book totals 400 A4 pages with over 100 in colour, and costs A \$125 plus postage.

The book is available from the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria (RPSofV), PO Box 490 Ashburton, VIC, 3147 or by emailing their Publications Manager, Peter Leitch on pleitch@inet.net.au

In the latest issue of “Philately from Australia” the Journal of the RPSofV, Assistant Editor Bill Lloyd - Smith has written a detailed review of Ken’s book. If anyone wishes to see a copy of Bill’s review I will send them one. Send an email to davidcoath@onthe.net.au or write to David Coath, 4 Fleming Crt, Research, VIC, 3095.

PERFIN QUIZ – ANSWERED (?)

What is this??



In the last Bulletin we issued the challenge to members to identify this pattern. In some ways the challenge was unfair as when we put this item up we had no idea what it was either. But we thought that the discussion might bring us closer to knowing.

We received a number of responses but the best were received from Murray Lawson and Bill Waterson and the CD was awarded to Murray.

Murray started by correctly identifying the stamp as a 5/- QV Bi colour of NSW. He agreed with our suggestion that it was a cancelling device and the component (NEY) being most likely a partial of SYDNEY.

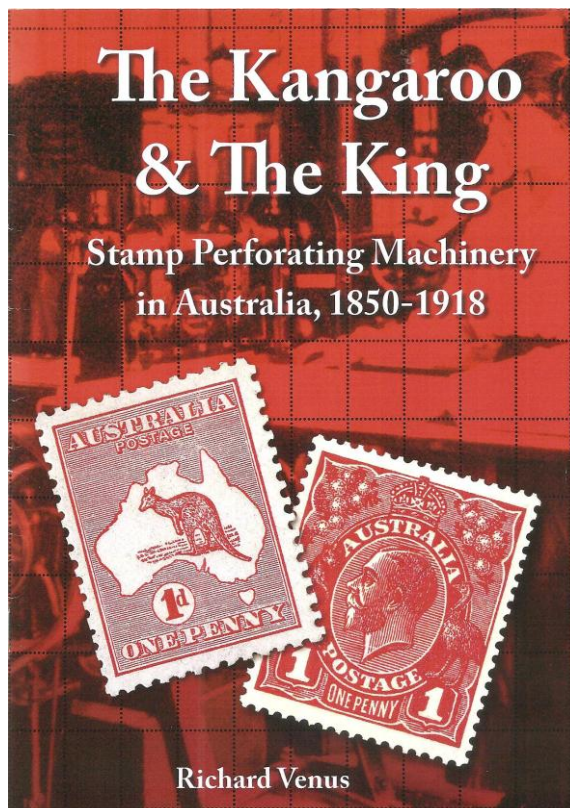
Murray also noted that the device was large but more importantly suggested that the top section of the pattern arched and that the possible structure of the entire pattern was closer to a semi circle.

Bill suggested the purpose of the strike was most likely not related to the stamp, as is often the case with larger cancelling devices and that a fuller strike would be found on a document such as a Bill of Sale or Government Department receipt.

Well done to Murray and Bill and all who took up the challenge.

BOOK ON THE EARLY PERFORATING MACHINES

(David Coath)



When I was looking at the Literature entries for Melbourne 2013 I came across this small book on the perforation devices of the early States and early Commonwealth period.

It is not exactly perfins but it gives you a background to the kinds of devices used to apply perforations to various early issues of Australia. The perforation devices were similar in scale and manufacture to the larger Government devices and in the case of the T pattern of Tasmania they were the same.

An interesting and very readable book that is available from the author for just \$10 plus postage. If you are interested you can write to the author Richard Venus at PO Box 826, Glenelg, SA 5042 or via email at rjv@esc.net.au

A fuller review was written by Bill Lloyd – Smith in “Philately from Australia” the journal of the RPSofV. If you want to read this, or indeed have a loan of the book, I have purchased and donated to the Club Library, then please drop me an email or a letter.

NEW REPORTS (John Amiet, Dave Elsmore, Gary Watson, Bill Register, and in particular Greg Howard)

This is a new part of the Bulletin in which members can share new or updated reports of perfins and users. The reports in this issue are a good mix of Australian Private perfins as well as some Overprints and New Zealand. In addition this issue we have a range of new proving covers which will allow you to make some notations in your catalogues. All members are invited to share any information within their collecting interests. Please forward any reports to the Editor.



HAPP lists 11 different PG's. Like this example of a new PG they are all Service Punctures. Many of the listed PG's have many types but none feature this style of P. The variation in contemporary later Service punctures (post circa 1910), such as the RR and YR groups which show a great deal of variation, even in simple patterns with two letter structures.

This is attributed to the failing eyesight of the principal Service Puncture provider, Edward Moulden (see HAPP pages 2- 4 and CPA page 31)



Another Service Puncture but HAPP lists no FR&CO. It is interesting that the moving of a single pin in the top of the R could see it as a K. There are many FKC's, FKC&C's and FKC&CO's but these are from a slightly later period, 1903 onwards, and they almost always carry Flemington postmarks. This is new and it will be interesting to see who the possible users could be.



A new Shell security overprint previously unreported in Magee or Revenue Perfins of Australia. Now added at:

<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/Queensland-Revenue-ZS-Perfins.html>



An amazing find as this previously unreported pattern is produced by a Customised device. Such a device would represent a significant investment to a company and this generally means that they are in use for a number of years. Given such a user has enough mail volume to see the need to protect their stamps in the first place, the resulting mix of high mail volume over an extended period, generally means that the patterns produced by customized devices are listed as Very Common to Uncommon. The user is unknown but the letter combination is similar to that used by The Australian Metal Company. (see covers below).

The thing about The Australian Metal Company was that although it was located in Australia, with headquarters in Melbourne and branches at Adelaide, Broken Hill and Sydney, it was actually a German owned company. As with other German companies, and perfin users, Justus Scharff (JSS.4) and Lohmann & Co (L&CO.1 – see article below), these were forced to cease operations in Australia during World War 1, and in the case of The Australian Metal Company their assets were seized and disposed of by the Australian Government.

If the AMCO device was owned by The Australian Metal Company such action could have meant that the device was only in use for a very short period and then seized and scraped. This is of course conjecture, but it is a theory that fits the known facts.



This is an example of NZIC.8 (Samuel) which is found, rarely, on the issues of India, with a possible location of Calcutta and a usage period of about 1910 +. (See Samuel Edition 2 page 77). This is the first report of usage of this pattern on a New Zealand stamp and the postmark of 188?. This is significantly earlier than the usage in India. The scale and layout is rather similar to the NZIC.6 (HAPP and Samuel) found in Melbourne in the 1890's. It would seem that the device may have spent some short amount of time in NZ before being sent to India. Difficult to say as the usage in both India and New Zealand is not clear.

If you have any of the dates for either New Zealand or Indian usage of this pattern then please share them this might allow us to learn more of the possible relationship between the usage of this device .



Proving cover for JMP&S.3. The records of this user are somewhat unclear. In CPA J M Peck where the confirmed user for JMP&S.1 and the possible users for JMP&S .2, and .JMP&S. 3 was unlisted.

HAPP listed .3, but with no user but the users for .1 and .2 both became unconfirmed users. Odd.



AMCO .2 Front of a Christmas Postcard printed in Switzerland. (See reverse below)

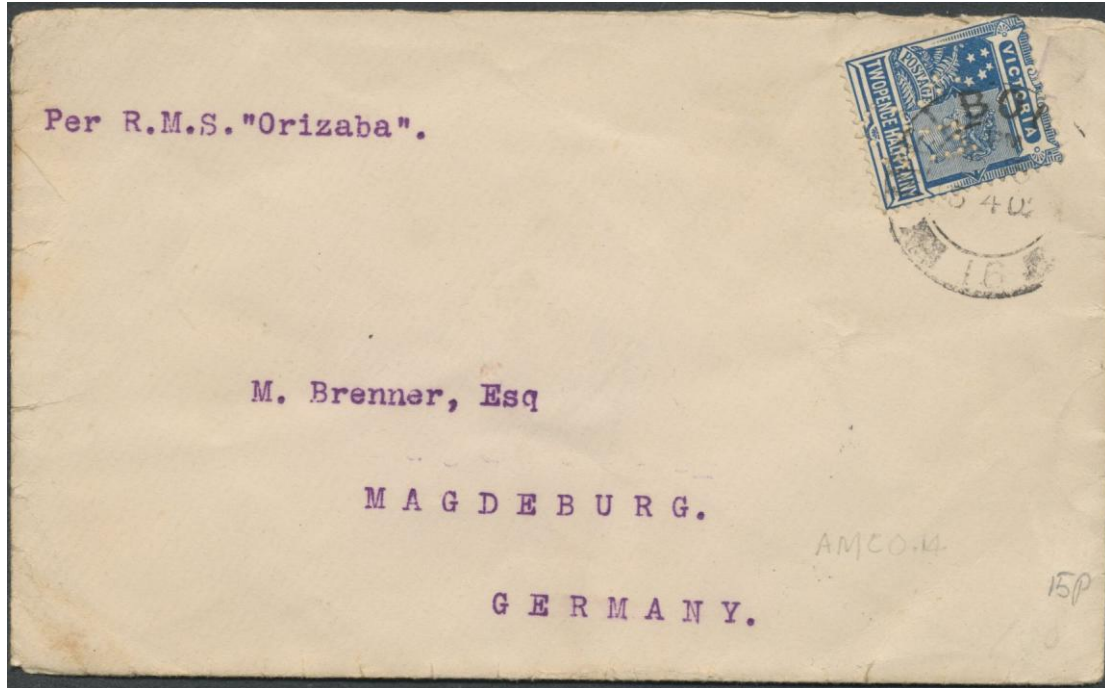


Back of AMCO.2 Postcard proving Australian Metal Co. in Melbourne.

The AM&C, AMCO and AM&CO patterns are all Service Punctures found only on the issues of Victoria over the period 1900 – 1914. Furthermore AMCO.1 and

AMCO.5 are both confirmed to be Australian Metal Co., and now AMCO.2 and AMCO.14 (see below) are now confirmed to this user as well.

Given this, and the absence of any other prospective user, (see HAPP Possible Users – page 13) it seems appropriate to attribute the balance of the group to Australian Metal Co. as probable user.

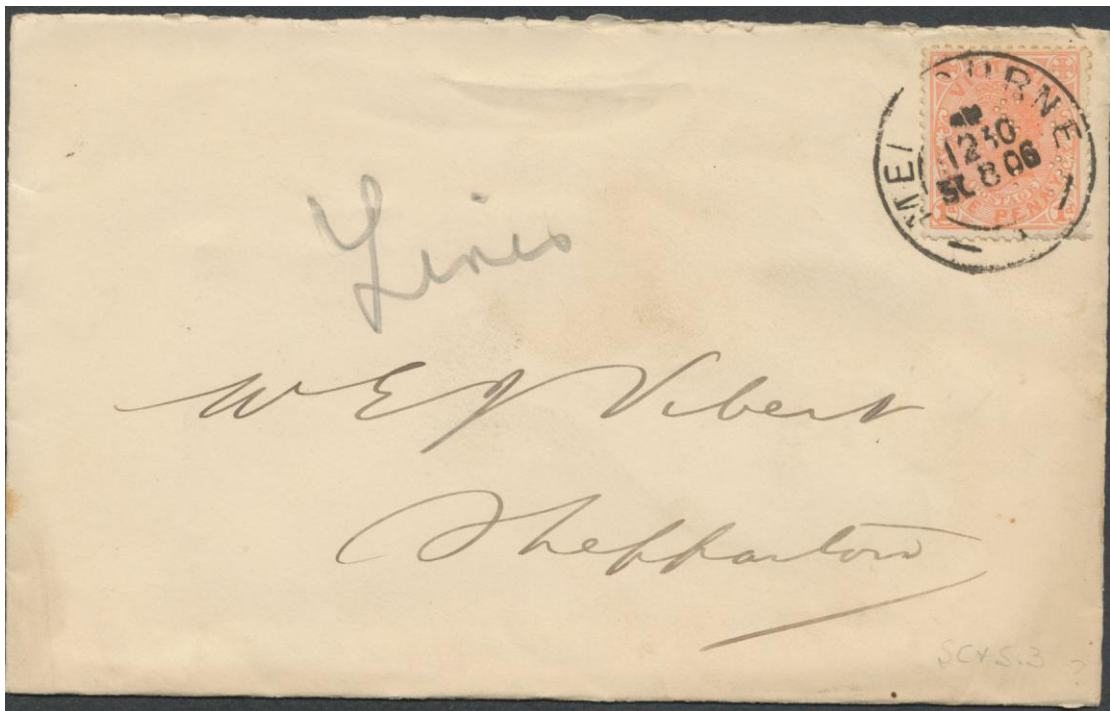


AMCO.14 front of envelope to Germany



Back of envelope to Germany, proving Australian Metal Co as the user for AMCO.14. It would be interesting to build a chronology of the various This could be supported further by building a chronology of the various AM&C, AMCO and AM&CO patterns to see if this usage was contiguous. The usage of the Victorian AM

may add something as well. This would need to be mapped against the history of the Australian Metal Co.



Front SC&S.3 letter to Shepparton in 1906.



Back of SC&S.3 cover proving S Cohen and Sons. This confirms the pattern to S Cohen & Sons who are listed as confirmed user for SC&S.2 but probable users for all of the other SC&S 1 – 25 patterns as well as the SCS and SC ranges.

As with the AM&C, AMCO and AM&CO groups above our knowledge of the SC7S, SCS and SC groups could be aided by a detailed cross member survey of the group to build a chronology of the use of each pattern.



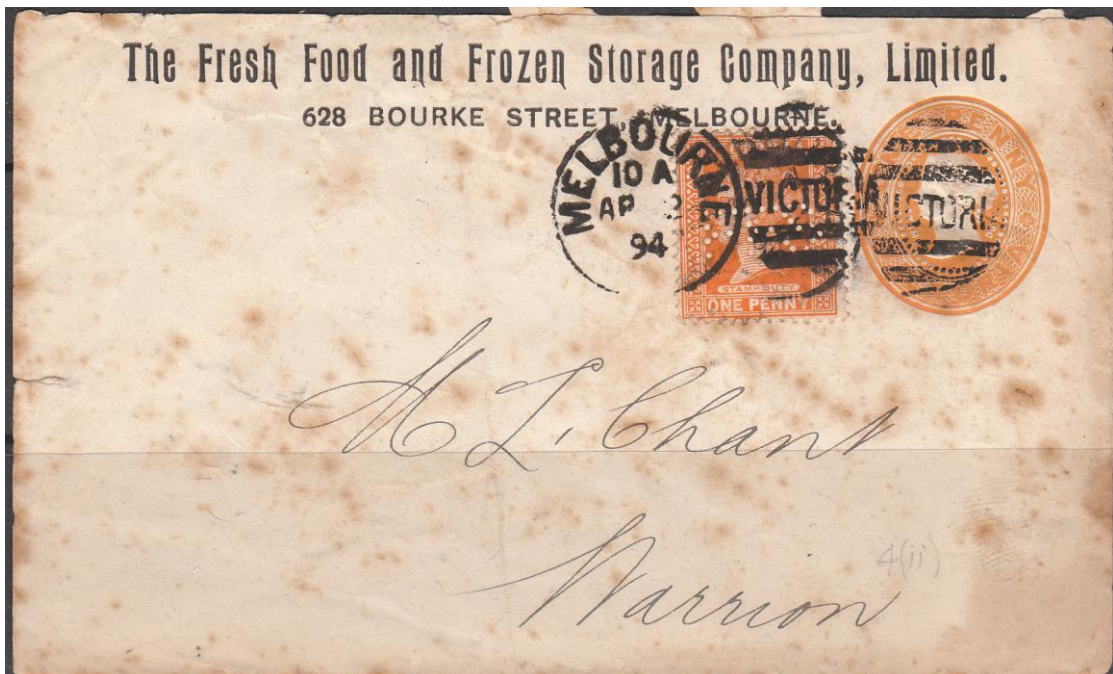
Front STCO.1 envelope to South Yarra.



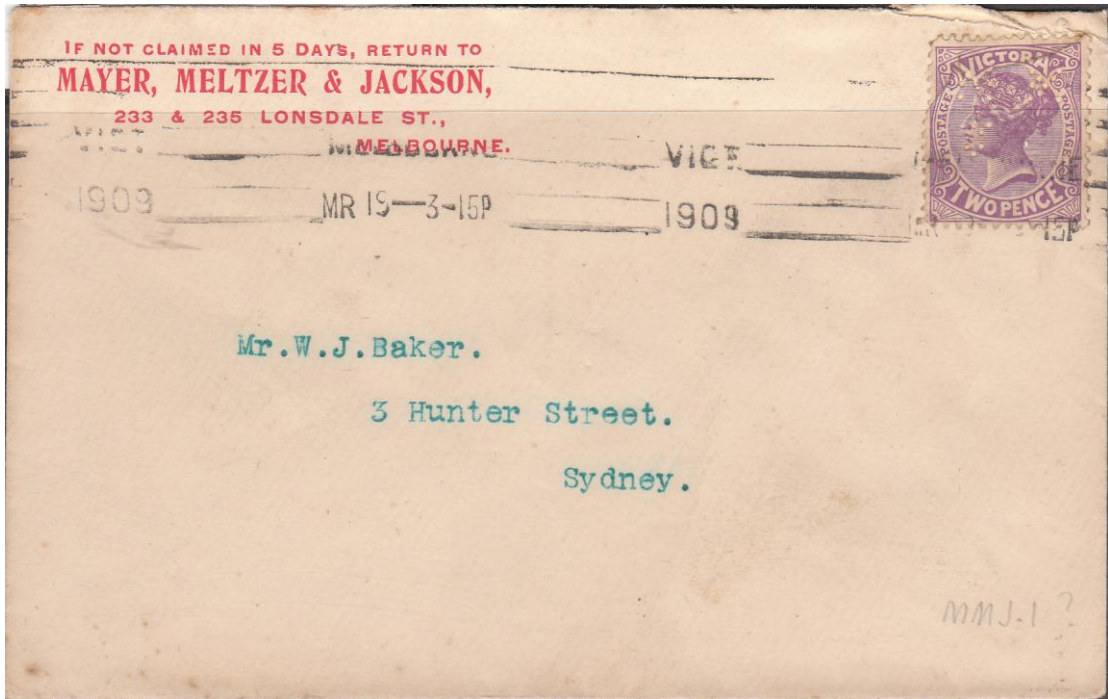
Back of STCO.1 envelope to South Yarra proving user as The State Tobacco Co (Pty Ltd). Previously the user was unknown. Given this new confirmed user it would be reasonable to provisionally attribute STCO.2 to the same user.



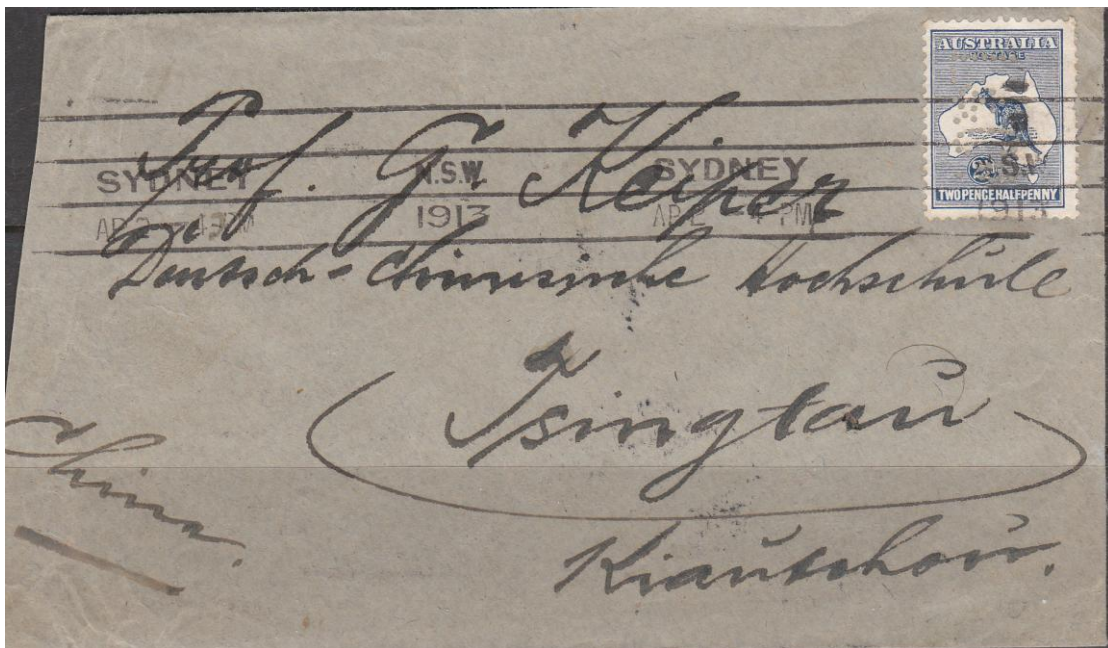
J&W.1 proving cover for Johns and Waygood. The user tried to remove the company identity but was happy to use their stamps on this envelope most likely intended for Tattersalls in Hobart. The same user could be provisionally attributed to J&W.2 and J&W.3.



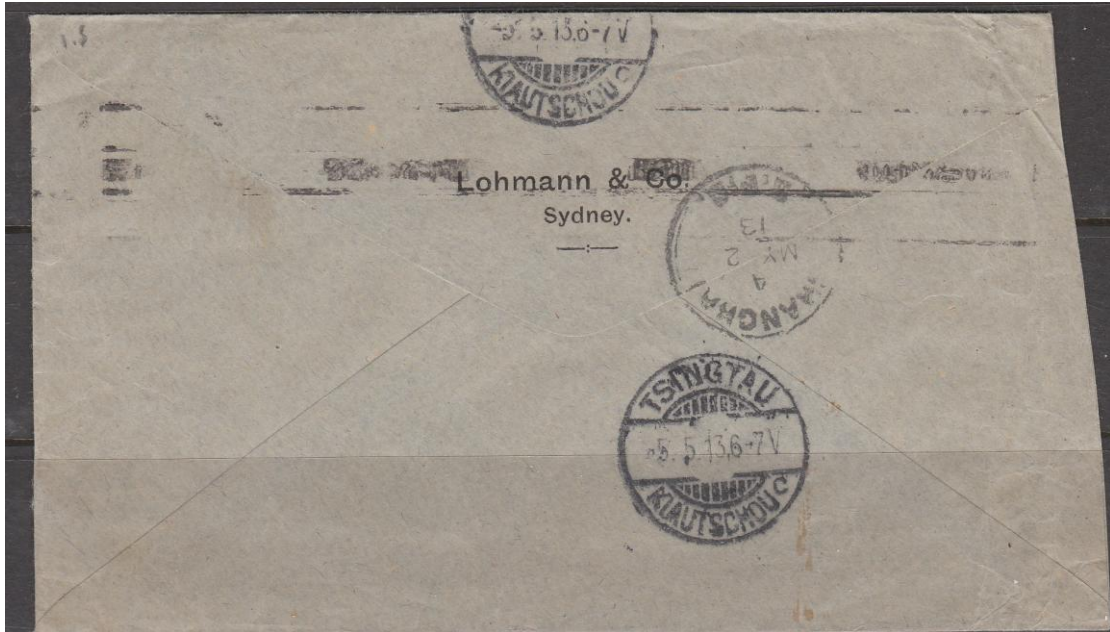
Confirms user off FFS.1 to be The Fresh Food and Storage Company, Limited, as provisionally listed in HAPP.



MMJ.1 already a confirmed user but this report confirms the address and brings the usage back to 1909.



L&CO.1 front from Sydney addressed to the German Kiautschow Bay concession in China.



Reverse of L&CO.1 cover proving user as Lohmann & Co the German based Pacific traders and brokers that operated out of Sydney until 1915.

Here are some details about the company from an extract from Revenue Perfins of Australia.

Lohmann & Co

Import/Export Agents, later Wool Brokers
 Address: 7-11 Bridge St (Burns Philip Building), Sydney, NSW
 Later (after 1919): Hunter St, Sydney, NSW

Background: Frederik Alfred Lohmann was born in Bremen, Germany and first came to NSW in 1891 to try and establish some direct wool purchases on behalf of an Antwerp (Belgium) Merchant Bank and some Continental Spinning mills.

In 1892 he established Weber, Lohmann & Co with Arthur Webber and the company traded successfully as an import /export and shipping company, and established branches in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. However in 1901 the company was the subject of an expensive legal action when they failed to produce payment for a ship, the SS Ormazan when it was delivered to Melbourne as agreed.

Lohmann returned to Germany where he sought financial backing and re established the company as Lohmann & Co (Bremen). He then returned to Sydney to build up Lohmann & Co as a major wool trader.

Lohmann returned to Germany prior to World War 1, which was fortunate as many of his management and employees at Lohmann & Co were interned in late 1915 for the duration of the War. Lohmann was President of the Bremen Chamber of Commerce in 1914-15. He died in 1919.

The company Lohmann & Co continued in Sydney after the war and was located at Hunter St. This was most likely under the management of George Waldthrausen who had joined the company in 1909 and whose family became the chief shareholders.

The identity of the user of the L&CO.a device was confirmed in South Pacific Perfin Bulletin #102 of July 2013 as Lohmann & Co. Prior to this confirming cover Lohmann & Co had been the most likely user as their company name fitted the letter sequence and that the company was known to have operated in Sydney at the time of the known use of the device.

An important additional piece of evidence, albeit circumstantial, was that the cessation of usage of the L&CO.a device mirrors that of the JS/S.a device (late 1914 to mid 1915) and that the activities of both companies were known to have been suspended during World War 1 due to their German ownership.



This item was Lot 414 at the recent Prestige Australian Colonies Auction. A superb cover with cross State usage and a TPO postmark. The cross State usage is in the period in which this was most common, in 1912, as the Postmaster General was trying to use up stocks of State stamps prior to the issuing of the Kangaroo series. The cover is reply paid cover and proves Price Griffith (Melbourne?) for PGM.1. Given the evidence of this proving piece it is also reasonable to assign Price Griffith as the provisional user of PGM.2.

AUCTION WATCH

(Tony Nobilo, Jason Rowe, Dave Elsmore)

Highlights from Auctions in New Zealand

Mowbray 440 April 2013

1896 AWF cover	reserve \$25NZ
1897 AWF cover (multiples)	reserve \$60NZ
1898 1851 DB&CO cover	reserve \$60NZ
1899 1852 GNB LD cover	reserve \$60NZ

These had been offered earlier in the year and were again passed in.

Auckland City Stamps 198 May 2013

642 NZL on GB 1883 QV 1/- Dull Green SG 196	reserve \$50NZ
1834 N pattern of NZ on 1 d Universal	reserve \$10NZ
2157 1d Red 1937 Coronation perf VOCO	reserve \$10NZ
2214 6d Peace perf VOCO	reserve \$10NZ
2635 KGV 2d Fiscal perf M&C/Ltd	reserve \$40NZ

Ebay Highlights

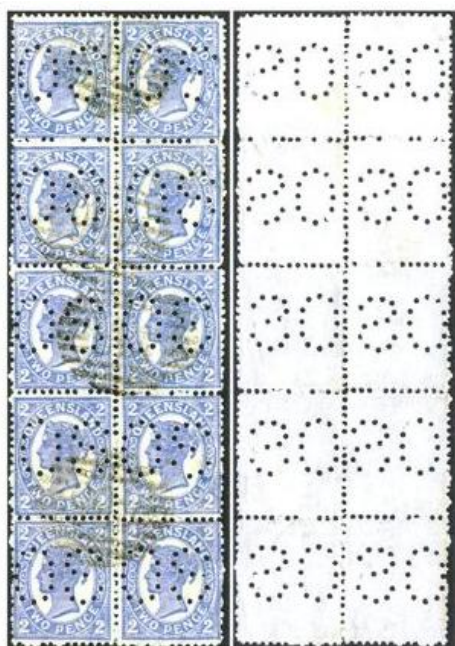
This VG cover featuring a 3d AIF was listed on ebay in April 2013. The 3d as a single franking is quiet rare but this had the added value of being struck with the 2nd Head device of the VG. Clean cover with Censor marking a bargain at \$12



The Provisional OS of Queensland (AOP OS Type C) is a scarce pattern that was only in use for a couple of months in 1905. This is the largest multiple that has been seen and when it appeared on ebay in April 2013 it attracted a great deal of interest. When it closed it had 23 bids and it sold for \$365.

To learn more on this pattern go to perfins.com.au and click the Research Tab and scroll down to the article by Dave Elsmore on this, entitled "Queensland Provisional OS Perfin" or find it directly at:

http://www.ozrevenues.com/Articles/queensland_commonwealth_os_perfin.htm



FUTURE ARTICLES

Sorry some items have been pushed forward because this issue was full or the articles were not complete.

The GNSW Type A 12 Die Head – (Tom Weir)

Tom informs me that this article will feature a full illustration of all 12 dies in order with a key to identifying feature of some dies. The article is still in progress and will be put into a Bulletin as soon as it is finished.

The Bryan Toop VG Collection – (Jason Rowe)

Jason has this in draft and it will be edited by Neale Scott

NZ Patterns found on the 1/2d Mt Cook issue – (Alastair Watson)

Review of the BNZ patterns of New Zealand – (Arthur Taylor)

Collecting the NZIC patterns of Australia – (David Coath)

The True Chronology of the Tattersalls A Patterns – (Bill Harley)

The Chronology of Official Perfins in Australia – (David Coath)

The OS perfin on Queensland QV large Chalon issues – (Donald Adams, Dave Elsmore, David Coath, Dan Ryan and Jerry Austen)
