

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 103 OCTOBER 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.

President	Mark Saxby, 7 High Street, Greta NSW 2334 Australia Email: saxbyml@bigpond.com
Secretary & Editor	David Coath, 4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria 3095, Australia Email: davidcoath@onthe.net.au
Treasurer:	Vacant
Treasurer (NZ payments):	Richard Smolnicki, 19 Oakleigh Street, Maungaraki, Lower Hutt, 5010 NZ Email: rsmolnicki@xtra.co.nz
Auctioneer:	Vacant
Circuit Managers:	
New Zealand	Ray Bennett, PO Box 354, Timaru, 7940 New Zealand Email: rayben@xtra.co.nz
Australia	Mark Saxby, 7 High Street, Greta NSW 2334 Australia
Website	Perfins.com.au

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Welcome to issue #103 of the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin (SPPB), once again it is a bumper edition with many extra articles.

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, a letter or a telephone call.

In the last Bulletin there was some discussion about the increased cost of International airmail postage. With the July issue we trialed a bulk dispatch to New Zealand members with all copies of the Bulletin for NZ enveloped and addressed as normal, but then sent, in bulk, to Ray Bennett. Ray then affixed NZ stamps and mailed them from his local post office. This delivered a 40% saving on mailing costs for NZ members. One issue that surfaced was a slight delay to the arrival of the Bulletin. This will be addressed by issuing the October, and future Bulletins, slightly early.

Given the success of the NZ Bulk dispatch and the attractive International postage rates offered by the NZ Post Office, Ray came up with the idea of extending the dispatch to all non Australian destinations. This means that all our NZ and International members will receive their SPPB from NZ with NZ stamps on it, punctured PCNZA.

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:

- #291 Jim Coots (NSW)
- #292 Bobby Todd (Dunedin – NZ)
- #293 Russel Flett (Dunedin – NZ)
- #294 Dennis Sonter (NSW)
- #295 Geoff Willacy – (NZ)

That is 16 new Members so far this year, but the more the merrier, if you know someone interested in perfins then invite them to join us.

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

Many members have opted to receive a copy of this CD.

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.
This includes postage.

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

INCORPORATION

(Dan Ryan)

We are in the process of incorporating our Association and I have agreed to assist in the development of that incorporation process, and if necessary, the development of the subsequent articles required to ensure that the Club has the structure and tools to achieve the aims of the members, is recognised as a Nor-For-Profit, and carries a formal 'entity' status.

The Incorporated Association's Act is certainly the principle incorporation blue print, however, I have been waiting to see if there are any ramifications for us from the issue of the Australian Charities and Not For Profits Commission (ACNC) Act. There may be benefits to us in pursuing an 'NFP' and/or 'Charitable' status and this will depend on what our collective future intentions are (in any case, this development may not even be possible or desirable). Also, the Committee has asked that whatever structure we use, we must achieve the outcome of flexibility in the respect to the need for regular face-to-face meetings, as our geographical spread makes such Meetings difficult.

In order to get the new structure to our collective liking and to ensure we take advantage of any benefits that may accrue from a wider examination of the ACNC Act (if any) I have asked a senior and very well respected law firm in Adelaide, Fisher Jeffries, to help us.

Fisher Jeffries has been very kind in agreeing to help us through some pro-bono work (given the request has come from the principal of a major Adelaide NFP). We are in discussion now, and we hope to have our options for the future before the end of the calendar year.

In addition we have been investigating the options of a similar Incorporation being achieved through the New Zealand legislation. Ray Bennett and Richard Smolnicki have been investigating options in NZ and these will be considered in choosing the best options for the Club.

Thank you for your patience in all of this, I am sure that the end-result will be all the better for the wait. I am very confident that we will achieve the simplicity, the right structure, and the correct legal basis for our organisation through this additional work. Importantly, depending on what is possible for us, there could be opportunity to grow and develop the capacity of the club and hence, its services to all members.

FINANCIAL REPORT AS AT 30 JUNE 2013 (Richard Smolnicki and David Coath)

Australian Accounts (David Coath)

Profit and Loss Statement as at June 2013

Income	\$
Membership	1,860
Circuit Book Sales	3,400
Publication Sales VG	-30.
CD's	95
AOP	125
Misc	30
Interest	716.61
Total Income	6,196.61
Expenses	
Circuit Book Sales	5,667.70
Accountant	132
Bank Fees	4.50
Library	43.85
Misc	49
Postage	2,721.80
Printing	1,753.90
Prizes	150
Stationery	114

Total Expenses	10,636.38
Net Profit (Loss)	- 4,439.77

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2013

Assets	\$	
NAB Cheque Acct	6,557.12	
NAB Term Deposit	10,000	
Total Assets		16,697.12
Liabilities		
Members Credits	2,454.05	
Total Liabilities		2,454.05
Net Assets		14,178.07

These Reports show a loss of about \$4,500 in the 2012-13 Year. This is not a matter of any great concern and is as a result of the following:

1 Imbalance in trading on the Circuit Books. This is a regular event as the Circuit operates independent of the financial reporting period. You will note that Circuit expenses are \$5,600+ but Circuit revenue is just \$3,500. This causes a \$2,100 imbalance in what is actually a cost neutral process.

2 Late Depositing of NZ Transfer. Each year the NZ Branch operates at a surplus and accordingly transfers monies into the central account. This year it was \$800 but although the transfer was made in time the cheque was not cashed into the Clubs accounts prior to 30 June 2013 and therefore this revenue does not appear in these accounts.

3 Increased Postage costs. During 2012 Australia Post altered their International rates and this lead to a more than doubling of the cost of mailing the Bulletin to non Australian members. This was exacerbated by the increased size of the Bulletin and its enclosures, such as the Auction Catalogue. The Committee has addressed this by shipping the NZ and International Bulletins via NZ which has better International rates. (See Editors Comment on page 1). This is not a complete solution as the trend in all Postal rates is an upwards one.

4 Increased size of the Bulletin. The Bulletin has increased in size and has been exclusively produced in colour. The colour cost is not an issue as we pay just 8 cents a page for colour. In 2010 when we were getting the Bulletin printed in Canberra we were paying 10 cents a page for black and white. So the per page cost has actually gone down and the quality of print has gone up, but the number of pages has increased from 12 pages to about 30 (on average). This has lead to an increase in the Printing cost overall.

New Zealand Accounts

(Richard Smolnicki)

RECEIPTS	June 30, 2013	PAYMENTS	
Bank July 1 2012	\$142.90	circuit sales	\$74.20
Circuits	\$856.05	to PCNZA	\$1,005.03 Note 1
Subscription	\$342.73	Postage	\$0.00
Interest	\$7.27	miscellaneous	\$5.00
Auction	\$0.00	Exhibitions	\$75.00 Note 3
Catalogue	\$0.00	Stamps	\$0.00
misc purchase	\$0.00	auction sales	\$0.00
handbook	\$0.00	Library	\$0.00
Bulletin CD	\$12.00	bank charges	\$30.00 Note 2
Commission	\$0.00	Cash on Hand	\$0.00
		Bank June 30 2013	\$171.72 .
	<u>\$1,360.95</u>		<u>\$1,360.95</u>

- Notes: 1.\$A800 transfer to Australia
 2.Bank cheque charges
 3.Prize for UH2013 exhibition

A simple cash transaction basis is used in preparation of these accounts. As at 30th June 2013 there was \$110.08 in credit balances against the New Zealand members.

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.

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.

One final point, when I do the puncturing they are done one thickness at a time. This is to give the device an easy life. I try whenever possible to make the strike in Position 1 .

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
Auctioneer

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.

CLUB AUCTION 1/2013 – JULY 2013

The Club Auction 1/2013 closed on 30 September and lots are on their way to the winners and others will be enclosed in this Bulletin. There was a good response to the Auction and much strong bidding from 40 members.

Prices Realised are enclosed with this issue of the Bulletin.

A list of Remainder lots is also enclosed and these are available to members at the reserve. First person in will be the winner. Contact David Coath at: davidcoath@onthe.net.au or on 03 9437 0366.

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 31 May 2014.

NEW ZEALND EXHIBITION - UPPER HUTT

(Richard Smolnicki)

The PCNZA held an informal Meeting during the NZ National exhibition in Upper Hutt on 13 - 15 September 2013.

The Meeting was attended by three members, Harold Waite, Bob Andrews, and me, as well as a visitor, Geoff Willacy. We had a chat about perfin and the hobby and helped with answers to questions from Geoff. The end result was that Geoff decided to join the club.

The PCNZA supported the event by providing a donation of \$75.00 for prizes. The PCNZA prize was awarded to Hilo Dizon (junior) for his "Hologram on Stamps" exhibit.

PCNZA Member Dave Elsmore received a Gold medal for his Queensland Money Orders 1862-1867 one frame exhibit. Dave also received a Special Prize of 2 sensational bird prints, donated by the Wellington Philatelic Society.

VALE – COLIN SALT

(John Mathews)

It is with much sadness that I inform members of the passing of member Colin Salt, Essex, England, in August this year. Colin had been a member of PCNZA for over 20 years, and was an active participant in Club auctions. He was widely respected in philatelic circles, particularly in England, and had written a series of monographs on the Australian machine cancels. I had the pleasure of meeting Colin and his wife when in England, and found that he was also a very enthusiastic follower of cricket. During Test matches between England and Australia, there was a daily communication between us on the changing fortunes of the games. Colin was always humble when England won, and gracious when Australia won! Commiserations have been sent to his widow.

THE OS PERFIN ON QUEENSLAND QUEEN VICTORIA LARGE CHALON ISSUES - (Donald Adams, Dave Elsmore, David Coath, Dan Ryan and Jerry Austen)

Introduction

(David Coath)

In December 2012 a Queensland Member, Donald Adams, listed a 2/6 Queen Victoria large Chalons of Queensland on ebay. It showed the OS Type F in Position 7, Reversed Inverted.

No sooner had he listed it than he received communication through ebay suggesting that the strike was a forgery.

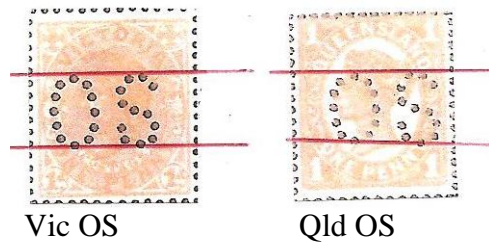
Donald raised the matter with me and his friend Dan Ryan. Now Dan is a Kangaroo specialist and I had to admit that I was not greatly familiar with the pattern and its positions, so I asked Queensland collector, Dave Elsmore and States collector Jerry Austen for assistance. This led to a flurry of emails with scans from Auction catalogues, stamps from collections, magazine articles, references, etc., and led us to the view that the stamp and its strike were both genuine, but that there was some misinformation circulating about this issue. Hence this article which has been drawn from these discussions.

The Queensland OS (OS Type F)

Postage stamps perforated with the OS Type F were issued to Commonwealth Government Departments in Queensland and they came into use from 7 August 1905. Their use replaced the Provisional OS device (OS Type C) which was discontinued and never used again. There has been much confusion regarding the start date of these OS (Type C and F) patterns and the August date has been attributed to the OS Type C. However this is not supported by the postmark evidence which suggests that the OS Type C was in use as early as May 1905. This early usage is supported by both Scudder and Elsmore, see Sources below.

The Queensland OS device produces a similar pattern to the Victorian (or Melbourne) OS device. In fact in some previous studies these have been considered to be the same device, (Andersen AOP, Edition 1 - 1987). Scudder in his article (SPPB # 66 July 2004) noted that the devices were different as the Queensland device was a vertical

array of 12 dies, as opposed to the Victorian device which was a vertical array of 10 dies. Andersen corrected this in AOP Edition 2 – 2007.



The Queensland and Victorian devices also differ in the height of the O. In the Victorian pattern the O and S are the same height (10mm) but in the Queensland pattern the O is only 9.5mm and is slightly shorter than the S at 10mm.

The 12 dies of the Queensland device are essentially identical but there is some slight variation in the vertical separation between dies and this is 14.5 – 15.5mm (Outside of O top to outside of O bottom).

The Queensland OS device was a 12 die device in a vertical array and was designed to puncture a complete column of the contemporary Queensland State Sideface issues of values 1/2d – 2/-, in Position 1. However the device was not suited to making single central strikes in the larger Chalon issues (values of 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1), as these issues were in a larger format, being both wider and taller than the Sideface issues.

The large Chalon issues were printed in sheets of 60 (10 wide x 6 high) with a vertical central gutter which allowed them to be separated into two sheetlets of 30 (5 wide and 6 high). Later printings were done as a full sheet of 60 without the gutter. Given that the width of the large Chalon was similar to the height of the Sideface issues the sheetlets could have been struck in Position 2 in a similar way that the Victorian OS Type F device was used on the similar sized Pictorial issues of Tasmania.

This option was clearly rejected and the Queensland Government Printers chose to make strikes in Position 1 or similar. These large Chalon issues are found in Position 1 and Position 7 which indicates a horizontal fold prior to being feed under the punch die/s. This presents two questions:

- 1 What device was used to strike these Chalon issues?
- 2 How was the folding done?

What Device was used?

The prevailing logic in Government Printing Branches that applied Official perfinns was, “if the stamp did not fit the device, then you change the stamp to fit the device that you have”. Preferably to achieve a single and central strike in Position 1.

This meant that you separated sheets into smaller multiples, (as with the OS on Tasmanian Pictorials), turned the stamps sideways (as with the Victorian OS on the ED VII high vales), folded stamps (as with VG on Kangaroo issues) and rotated sheets under the die heads (as with GNSW and VG.on KGVI and many later issues).

The device that the Queensland Government Printer had was the 12 die, Queensland OS. As discussed above the die separation was not suited to the large Chalons issues, but the strikes found on these issues match the Queensland OS device.

How was the Folding done?

From multiples of these OS punctures on the large Chalons it is clear that at least two methods of folding and puncturing were used as follows:

- 1 Folding the sheetlet into a single row and puncturing it centrally with the top die of the 12 die array.
- 2 Folding the sheetlet into a double row and puncturing it centrally with the top two dies of the 12 die array.

Folding Method 1



This example from a full sheet from the Australia Post archives shows a vertical column of six. The folding is from the bottom and the entire column is punctured by a single strike from the top die of the OS device to give a clear central strike. This method produces half of the patterns in Upright (Position 1) and the other half in Reversed Inverted (Position 7). In the Griffith study this was referred to as “concertina” type folding.



Folding Method 2

This example of a block of six of the £1 shows the bottom two stamps struck in Position 1. This suggests, although it does not confirm, that the sheetlets could be

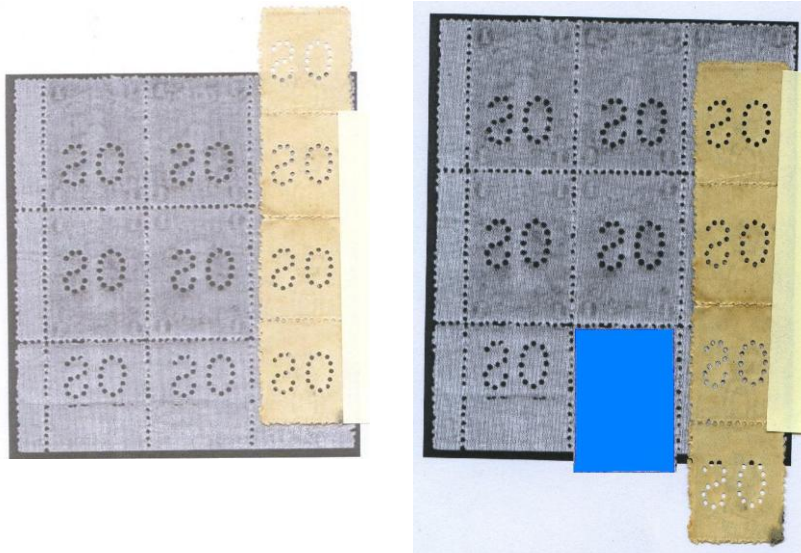
folded just twice, in vertical pairs, and with careful positioning under the top two dies of the device. This resulted in 66+% of the stamps being in Position 1 and just 33+% being in Position 7. It would have been more efficient, but it created strikes in two locations on the stamps. Central strikes and low strikes. The central strikes are similar to the strikes produced by Method 1, but the low strikes are present in examples we have seen. These low strikes are found in both Position 1 and Position 7, indicating that the Folding Method 2 was used on entire sheetlets. This is the Folding Method suggested by Scudder (2013) based on an article in the “Australian Philatelist” (Feb 1909), see Sources.



Low strike

Central strike

Possible Folding Method 3



Reverse image with selvedge Reverse image with full stamp height in blue

The reverse image of the block of six of the £1, overlaid with a column of OS's, suggests that three dies could have been used, which would have allowed sheetlets to be folded just once. This method may have been used but it would have required very careful positioning of the top die very low on the top stamp. The selvedge on this block is quite deep but not as deep as a full stamp. Note the image on the right showing the full height of a stamp in blue. If this method was used it was possible that the bottom stamps would have had a full strike and a partial strike at its base. Such strikes are not known, so either the folding and puncturing was done very carefully or this method was not used.

Australian Official Perfins reports strikes in Position 3

In AOP Edition 1 (1987) Andersen reports strikes of this pattern on large Chalons in two positions, Position 1 and Position 3; however he qualifies his reports by stating that these are generally "reported but unconfirmed". In his AOP Edition 2 (2007) he carries in these reports without qualification but limits them to 2/6, 5/- and 10/- issues only in just the 1905 issues. Further he adds reports of Position 7 for some of these large Chalon issues.

Given what we know of the folding method from full sheets, it is most likely that these early reports of Position 3 were incorrect and that they represented confusion with the very similar strike in Position 7. This is understandable as the O is largely symmetrical and therefore Position 3 and Position 7 are very similar.

It is notable that in our research for this article, which included contact with major Queensland collectors through the States Study Group in Sydney, Auction catalogues, Published articles on these issues, the viewing of archives in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne, as well as posts on the Stampboards forum, we have not sighted a single strike that was not in either Position 1 or Position 7. If anyone has a strike of this pattern in Position 3 then please share it.

11 and 12 whole S's

Griffith (1992), reports that the S in the top most die of the Queensland OS "pull" illustrated in Basset Hull features an S with just 11 holes in lieu of the normal 12.

Such missing pin variations are a common feature in perfins and devices become damaged, worn or a particular pin is simply blocked. This can lead to an incomplete strike.

In Government devices these issues are generally addressed by maintenance and timely repair; however this is not always the case. The OSNSW Type A device used on the Kangaroo issues is plagued by missing pins which are not repaired.

In this block of six of the 2/6 (Griffith Collection sold at Spink 2012) below, you will note that the bottom strike (Position 7) of the central column has a pin "missing" in the S. Yet this strike has been made at the same time and with the same die as the strike above it (Position 1) and in that strike the S is complete. The "missing" pin in the bottom stamp may have been caused by a blockage or the fact that it was the sixth

stamp in the folded stack or insufficient pressure was applied to complete the puncturing process. Such “missing” pins are generally a “red herring”.



Sources

“Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards and Telegraph Forms of Queensland” by Basset Hull (1930).

“Australian Official Perfins” by David Andersen Edition 1 (1987).

“Australian Official Perfins” by David Andersen Edition 2 (2007)

“Melbourne OS” Article by Ken Scudder – SPPB #66 (July 2004).

“Stamp Magazine” Article by Alan Griffith (July 1992).

“Kangaroos and The Early Federal Period. 1901 – 1912” by Brusden White (1999)

“The Stamps of Queensland 1879 – 1912” by Ken Scudder (2013).

“Stamps Punctured for Official Use around 1902 – 05” Article by Bill Lloyd Smith (Philately from Australia, Dec 2011)

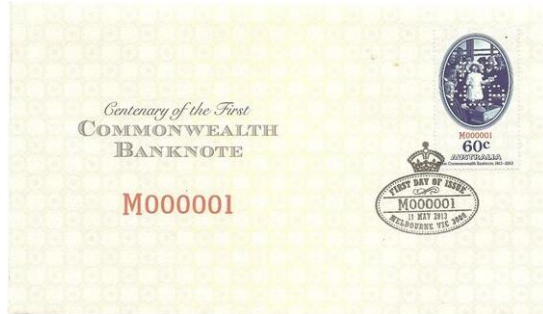
“A Note on OS Punctures in the early Federal Era” Article by Bill Lloyd Smith (Philately from Australia, March 2012).

Auction Catalogue – Spink and Sons, (Dec 2012) Alan Griffith Collection.

SOUVENIR OF AUSTRALIA 2013 – SOME STILL AVAILABLE (Arthur Taylor)

In the SPPB #102 all Members should have received 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.



There are still a small number of covers available so if you did not receive one just send a note to David Coath at: davidcoath@onthe.net.au or on 03 9437 0366 or by mail to 4 Fleming Crt, Research, VIC, 3095. First in, or until stock is gone.

TELEGRAPH PUNCTURES

(Brian Fuller)

I have recently purchased some of these Punctures and this motivated me to sort what I had and to look for information about these cancelling Punctures. What I found was a little surprising. Firstly there is very little written about them in the Philatelic literature and secondly there seems to be a great variety in terms of the sizes of the punctures.

I would like to build a listing of these and even map the various methods puncturing methods. To do this I would like to ask Members for their assistance.

If you have any of these or indeed information about them, would you mind making a photocopy of them or a scan and sending it to me at: bifuller@optusnet.com.au or send it to my address at 17 Fernhill St, Glen Waverley, VIC, 3150.

This will give me the basis of an article that I will prepare for the January Bulletin.

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, Bill Harley)

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.

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

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.

I have spoken with Elspeth Bodley who is the Secretary for Canberra Stampshow 2014 and I can confirm that the PCNZA have a Meeting Room booked for:

Saturday, 15 March 12.30 – 1.30.

I will be arranging through the PCNZA Committee for a suitable prize to be donated by the Club to an Exhibiting category or similar.

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 last month it achieved its 10,000 th visitor.

THE STAMPS OF QUEENSLAND 1879 – 1912 – CORRECTION (David Coath)

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 \$175 plus postage.

I apologise that in the last SPPB I advertised the Pre Production price of \$125

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.

THEFTS OF PERFINNED POSTAGE STAMPS

(John Mathews)

The use of perfinned postage stamps was widely promoted as a deterrent against the pilfering of the stamps, prompted by cases where office boys and others had been brought before the courts for such pilfering. Notwithstanding this publicity, there were still some who succumbed to temptation, and stole perfinned stamps. When the offenders were caught, the perfinned stamps were conclusive evidence of their rightful owners.

Three such cases have been found reported in Australian newspapers. In "The Argus", Melbourne, Victoria, it was reported that stamps with the perfin "M & M"

IN THE POLICE COURTS.

SHOPBREAKING IN THE CITY.

YOUNG MAN'S CONFESSION.

George King, the young man who was committed for trial on Tuesday last on two charges of house-breaking and stealing from the premises of the London Stores and Messrs. T. Gaunt and Co., was brought before Mr. Cresswell, P.M., and Mr. Goldspink, J.P., at the City Court yesterday, on two further charges of having broken into and stolen stamps and chisels to the value of £2 from Messrs. Morris and Meeks, ironmongers, Little Collins-street, on July 19; and with having on September 22 broken into and stolen some curtains and a travelling-bag, valued at £3, from the premises of Messrs. Lion and Mosley, in Russell-street. Accused pleaded guilty to both the charges.

Detective Hawkins said the charges were preferred in consequence of certain admissions made by the accused. At his lodgings in Glenferrie, witness found the curtains and travelling bag, which had been stolen. Accused's landlord told him that he had accepted the curtains from the accused in part-payment for board and lodging. Accused said he had bought them at a sale. A quantity of stamps, bearing the perforation "M. and M." (Morris and Meeks) had been found in his possession.

After further evidence, Mr. Cresswell committed the accused for trial at the Criminal sittings of the Supreme Court on November 15.

(M&M.1) were found in the possession of the thief (see Figure 1). They had been stolen from the premises of Messrs. Morris and Meeks on July 19, 1910. The accused pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment on 25 November 1910.

In the second case, "The Advertiser", Adelaide, South Australia, reported stamps with perfin "G.M. & Co. Ltd" were stolen from the premises of Goldsbrough, Mort & Co. Ltd on 17 June 1930 (see Figure 2). The arrested man originally pleaded "not guilty", but changed his plea at his trial. He received a sentence of 10 months' imprisonment with hard labour for the theft.

←

Fig.1. Theft of "M&M" perfinned stamps

OFFICES ENTERED

Thieves gained an entrance to the premises of Goldsbrough, Mort and Company, Limited, in Light-square, Adelaide, on Tuesday night, and stole stamps perforated with the letters "G.M. & Co., Ltd.," valued at £7 17/. Entry was gained by forcing a window.

Fig. 2. Theft of "GM&COLTD" perfinned stamps

BRICKLAYER SENTENCED

Ten Months' Jail On Two Charges

In the Criminal Court yesterday, Arthur Hewitt, 22, bricklayer, of Knoxville, who had pleaded guilty to having broken into the store of Goldsbrough, Mort & Co., Ltd., at Adelaide, on or about June 17, and stolen postage stamps valued at £7/4/, and duty stamps, valued at 4/, and also to having broken into a building belonging to the District Council of Burnside, at Tasmore, on September 20, and stolen goods to the value of £16/17/6, appeared for sentence.

Mr. R. R. Chamberlain (Crown Prosecutor) appeared for the prosecution. Mr. C. A. Sandery (Public Solicitor) represented Hewitt.

Mr. Justice Napier said he had given consideration to the appeal made by the Public Solicitor for the prisoner, and would suggest to the authorities that his suggestion for segregation should be carried out so far as it could be.

His Honor imposed 10 months' imprisonment on each charge, with hard labour, the terms to be concurrent, and to be served, if possible, at the Adelaide Jail.

Fig. 3. "GM&COLTD" thief convicted



Fig. 4. Theft from Government Savings Bank

again”.

The perfinned stamps were stated to have a denomination of one penny, so there were nearly 800 of them. The two older boys were released on probation to the custody of their mothers for 18 months, on condition that they be of good behaviour, attend church on Sunday and day-school regularly, and keep out of bad company and away from the other boys charged. The third older boy was a second offender and was remanded for discipline to the shelter for fourteen days. The youngest two had, on the previous day, been committed to a correction centre on two other charges of breaking and entering, and were not further punished.

The three perfins involved in these three cases are shown in Figures 5, 6 and 7 (not actual size). Due to the reporting of the case of the theft of the “M&M” perfinned stamps, the identity of the user, having been previously suspected from matching directory entries, has now been able to be confirmed.

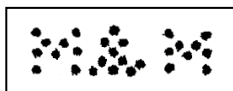


Fig. 5. M&M.1

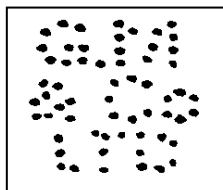


Fig. 6. GM&COLTD.1

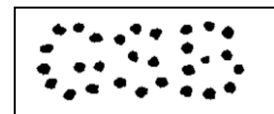


Fig. 7. GSB.1

The third case is highly unusual – the “felons” were 5 boys aged between 5 years and 11 years old! Figure 4 shows the newspaper report of their court appearance on 8 January 1913. Other reports, including the children’s own evidence, appeared separately over the course of the court proceedings. Various boys said that they broke into the Pymont [industrial inner suburb of Sydney - JM] branch of the Government Savings Bank of New South Wales on New Year’s Day, a Wednesday. One boy said “We saw a notice on the door of the bank, ‘Closed on Wednesday’, so we broke into it.” Another said “We saw an open window and got in.” A third boy said “We found the key of the safe in the tin box and opened the safe.” The two youngest boys, aged 5 and 7 years, had remained outside to keep watch! Detectives investigating the theft found “On the desk just inside the bank window the marks of a child’s bare feet”. The stolen property was recovered under their parents’ residences in a nearby suburb, “and both the cheques and stamps [were] too dirty to be used

After finding these items in Australian newspapers, I did a search to see if I could find similar reports in British newspapers regarding British perfin. Not surprisingly, in view of the much larger number of GB perfin users, there were several such reports and I sent a list of their references to Maurice Harp, editor of the Great Britain Perfin Society. Maurice found some more from local sources, and wrote up the combined findings which include some new user identities. Maurice's article starts on page 26 of the GBPS's Bulletin 385 (August 2013), continues on page 22 of the October issue (Bulletin 386), and will be concluded in the December issue.

Editors Comment

Although John does not state this, I would suggest that his Newspaper searches were done through the National Library of Australia (NLA). The NLA has an excellent site entitled TROVE see: <http://trove.nla.gov.au/>

This site allows free access to the NLA's scanned Magazines, Newspapers, Photographs, Books, Maps etc.. It is an excellent site and easy to navigate. I would highly recommend it to Members researching any perfin users and the like.

VG PERFINs – A FRESH LOOK

(Jason Rowe and Neale Scott)

Over the years there has been a significant emphasis placed on the forgeries found of these Perfin patterns, and we believe that this has served to turn many new collectors away from what is a very rewarding and challenging field.

In recent times, with the formation of several major collections, and with information gathered from some existing collections, the full extent of the forgeries has become clearer. To see where we are today it is important to consider the history of events.

In 1991 when the 5th Edition of "Victorian Government Punctures" (Neale Scott and Bryan Toop), was in the planning stages, it was found that many previously unlisted VG perfin had made their way into Bryan's collection.

It seems that the strategy of the forgers/sellers was to infiltrate Bryan's collection, which would ensure a listing in future catalogues, and then they would provide a source of supply to meet the demand from collectors chasing these new finds/listings. This selling operation was based in Queensland and it is expected that the forging was also done there.

With the vast amount of previously unlisted and rare material already secured in Bryan's collection and with more on offer from a single and unusual source, alarm bells rang. Neale Scott, with the help of Jim Dean, (Jim was co author of "Victorian Government Punctures" Edition 2 – 1982), set out on an intensive investigation of the suspect items.

Neale's approach was to build full set of 1:1 images of the dies of the four heads, with particular focus on the First and Second heads. He then confirmed the order in which the dies were arrayed and the method of puncturing. Then by comparing this with other information such as, plated flaws and postmarks, he was able to prove that the

previously unlisted patterns being offered were not struck by the original dies and where therefore forgeries.

This conclusive evidence that the items being sold were indeed forgeries allowed action to be taken through the Queensland Police against the sellers. This intense pressure forced the selling operation to cease. However, the whereabouts of the devices used to create the forged patterns is still unknown. Attempts were made to contact the suspected die maker, but he was reluctant to talk about the issue and had retired to an Aged Care facility.

In 1993 the 5th Edition of “Victorian Government Punctures” was published with Neale’s findings, the method used in identifying forged patterns, and a listing of all the identified forged copies. However, at this point the scope of the selling activity and therefore the amount of the forgeries in the market was still unknown.

By the late 1990s the realisation of the deception had severely dented Bryan’s enthusiasm for collecting VG Perfins, and as a result he sent many, but not all, of the listed forgeries held in his collection to Neale.

Unfortunately Bryan passed away in 2003 and the location of his collection remained unclear until October 2009 when a large 2 volume collection was offered on eBay from a Melbourne stamp dealer. The collection had been purchased by him from a local auction house in 2002 and it had been kept largely intact.

The collection contained many rare perfins, but some of the key high value and other rare items were the remaining forgeries.

These were listed as separate lots on eBay and the seller was contacted numerous times and alerted to the true nature of the patterns. The seller was a past PCNZA member and was knowledgeable about perfins. However the seller was unwilling to remove these lots from sale and the auctions went ahead with the main collection selling to David Coath and myself, but with some of the single lots selling to others at several \$100s. (Pic 1&2)



Pic 1 \$2 Bass



Pic 2 1 Pound Roo

During the auction attempts were made to contact the highest bidders and inform them of the true nature of their pending purchases, but with vigorous bidding on some items and eBay’s privacy policy making contact with the winning bidders extremely difficult, the message was not always able to be shared.

All the lots were sold and to our knowledge only one bidder returned their purchase to secure a refund. Over time these items will reappear in the market place, as one has just recently (Pic 3).



Pic 3 These Robes forgeries have recently were from Bryan Toop's Collection.

The sale and identification of Bryan's collection closed a chapter in perfin history, but there were still many questions left unanswered.

The 1993 catalogue has 14 pages of identified forgeries, with the majority of these now being accounted for. Many are single examples and the fact that others have not been seen in the Perfin market suggests that they are one of a kind. Perhaps the one that was created for Bryan to purchase and list, but due to the closure of the selling of forgeries the subsequent copies were never made.

No other unlisted forgeries had surfaced in the market until June and September 2004 when a large Sydney auction house offered 18 high value VG perfin lots. All had the same distinctive perfin patterns linking them back to the Queensland source, more concerning was the amount of other Government perfins also offered. It is unclear whether the vendor was a victim of the original scam or someone with access to the forged material or even the dies. (Pics 4 & 5)



Pic 4



Pic 5

In 2007 a Melbourne auction house offered three high value Kangaroos 5/ to £1, the top two values once more displaying the distinctive forged patterns and due to privacy rules no background information could be given on the seller. (Pic 6)



In recent times there has been much communication on Philatelic forums and many philatelic articles written, including in the SPPB, publicizing the sale of forgeries on Ebay.

These Ebay sellers from Sydney have used a distinctive VG pattern (see Pic 7) that is unlike the true dies or the Queensland forged dies that were in the Toop collection.



Pic 7

Conclusion

Yes there are forged VG patterns in the market today, but they are mainly the result of a limited number of forged dies which have distinctive characteristics that make them identifiably different to the images of the Dies of the 1st and 2nd Heads that are illustrated in "Victorian Government Punctures" Fifth Edition 1993.

What is more, although the VG has been forged onto a large number of issues, most of these exist in very small numbers and many were unique examples that were only located in the Bryan Toop collection.

So with knowledge, good references and communication between members these forgeries can be identified and isolated and Members can collect VG's with confidence and once again turn the focus to the genuine used copies and entice

existing and new collectors to dust off their holdings and again embrace this part of philatelic history.

As collectors of VG's we are indebted to the founders of this study and we should thank , John Elford, Jim Dean, Bryan Toop and Neale Scott for the knowledge and input they have invested into this challenging and rewarding part of our hobby.

In the next PNZA Bulletin we will have a closer look at the 1933 – 1935 1st head Die types.

In the mean time if you have any questions or information to share about VG's I can be contacted on email at: buddahboy10@live.com

Editors Comment

Jason and Neale will be doing a series of articles about the various Heads of the VG's in subsequent issues of the SPPB and it is hoped that this work and the work already undertaken by Jason, Neale and others will lead to the production of a new Edition of the Catalogue in the future.

“Victorian Government Punctures” Fifth Edition 1993 is currently out of print but the PCNZA has access to a PDF of the Catalogue and can print out copies on request. The Catalogue is \$15 plus postage of \$3 for Australia or at cost to other destinations.

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

This is 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 NZIC devices the terms are essentially the same as all of the NZIC devices have a punch head with a single die.

Background to the New Zealand Insurance Company Limited in Australia

The New Zealand Insurance Company Limited (NZIC) had offices up and down the length of Queensland, and indeed around Australia. Many of these offices had perforating devices with the letters NZ/IC and to make matters more confusing the patterns produced by these devices are in most cases quite similar. They generally 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 and PCNZA member, 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 NZIC patterns.

Because of the link to New Zealand these NZIC 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 histories 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 covers the rather complex web of offices, devices and patterns that are the NZ/IC group.

In particular the way that Mathews (HAPP 2003) 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 NZ/IC group are similar but they have been made by different devices in remote locations. Given this there is a need for accurate and 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.

For the purposes of the study of Perfins on Revenue stamps we found only six NZ/IC patterns used on revenue stamps but in order to describe these in context I found it necessary to clarify the entire pattern group, 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. The HAPP numbers are the same as the pattern numbers in Samuel (2012). For patterns that are found on revenue stamps and therefore fall within the scope of Dave Elsmore 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 NZIC found on a revenue stamps it is denoted as EC NZ/IC.a (Qld).

NZ/IC Pattern Group – Introduction

The images in CPA and HAPP of the patterns of the NZ/IC group are generally fair. However NZIC.1, .4, .5 and .6 are all distorted from the true patterns.

As stated above the use of “types” to define variation within patterns and incorrectly attributing devices to Company office locations are the chief areas of confusion in this group.

NZIC.1

EC NZ/IC.b (Qld)

This pattern is listed as being used in both the Adelaide and Brisbane offices. This is entirely possible, and perfin devices have been known to move between offices with other users. What is more the usage does not overlap.

The device was first used in Brisbane where you often see the pin in the cross bar of the N missing. The pins are quite fine in much the same manner of the Melbourne device NZIC.6.

In 1908 it would appear that the device moved to Adelaide but there seem to have been subtle changes to the device as the pattern from this point features slightly thicker pins and makes a clearer strike with the pin in the N always in evidence. It is possible that the device was refurbished prior to going into service in Adelaide. However the top pin of the I is often missing in the Adelaide usage.

The CPA and HAPP images are imperfect but if you overlay a Brisbane version on an Adelaide one you will find that despite the minor change in pin thicknesses the pattern is the same. The pattern is best described as 2 types of a single pattern, a Brisbane type and an Adelaide type.

This pattern is found on State postage stamps of Queensland and then postage stamps of South Australia and less commonly on Commonwealth issues until at least 1922. It is not found on revenue stamps of South Australia.

Usage NZIC.1 1908-1922

EC NZ/IC.f (Qld)

NZIC.2

Listed in CPA as a Brisbane device with only one type this was altered in HAPP to be 2 types and it was stated to have been used at the Adelaide and Brisbane offices, as with NZIC.1.

Actually the “types” are 2 devices, one located in Brisbane and the other in Toowoomba. The CPA/HAPP images are both accurate representations of the Brisbane device so I have elected to leave NZIC.2 as the Brisbane device and describe the Toowoomba device as NZIC.8.

NZIC.2 is found on postage stamps of the Commonwealth period (between 1913 and 1920+) and also on revenue stamps of Queensland of the same period.

Usage NZIC.2 1913-1920

EC NZ/IC.c (Qld)

NZIC.3

This is the pattern as listed in both CPA/HAPP and the image is a good representation of the pattern. It is reported as a Brisbane device but it is actually a Townsville device.

It is found used on postage stamps of both Queensland and those of the early Commonwealth period. It is also found on Queensland revenue stamps.

Usage NZIC.3 1895-1919

EC NZ/IC.a (Qld)

NZIC.4

This pattern with its characteristic full stops after each letter is the easiest of the NZIC group to identify. Samuel (2010) includes some great detail about it (see pages 73 and 74) including an image of the device and 2 specimen impressions of the pattern. The specimen strikes suggest that it is possible that it was a 2 die device, but if this is the case the images are so similar as to be the same. I would doubt it is anything more than a single die device as it seems to be able to give good central strikes onto a wide variety of stamp issues of different sizes and this is much easier to achieve with a single head device. Further the separation shown on the specimen strikes is not consistent with the spacing of multiples strikes that I have seen.

The usage reported by Dell, Mathews and Samuel, collectively, is interesting and consistent with what I have found. I have seen Rockhampton, Maryborough, Charters Towers, Townsville and Brisbane usage as well as use on NSW revenues, which would suggest the device spent time in the company's Sydney office. What is more much of this usage overlaps. I am yet to find a usage with the same date but I have postmarks 9 days apart in September of 1898 from Rockhampton and Townsville. This proves little as the date the stamp is perforated and the date it is used will vary but it does indicate the close timing of remote usage.

These may be receiving postmarks from incoming mail or use by travelling agents, as the published history of the Company a "Bold Century" (published by the company in 1959) indicates that formal offices in Townsville and Rockhampton did not open until 1907 and 1908 respectively.

Still the evidence of remote usage in many Queensland towns as well as interstate in the same period cannot be discounted and it is possible that there were multiple devices with identical dies.

Alternatively it is possible that the device was located at a central office and that perforated stamps were issued to user areas from this office. This is the method adopted by larger users such as State Governments.

The pattern is found on postage stamps of Queensland and Australia and revenue stamps of Queensland and New South Wales.

Usage NZIC.4 1889 – 1934

EC NZ/IC.a (Qld)

NZIC.5

This is one of the rarest NZIC's. The device is distinctive but the images in CPA and HAPP are slightly distorted and are not a true representation of the pattern.

From postmark evidence the device was most likely located in the company's office in Warwick which was a sub office of the Toowoomba office.

Contrary to the reports in HAPP, which indicates use on Queensland revenues, I can only find this pattern on Australian postage stamps in the Commonwealth period. Also HAPP reports a 2nd type (refer Update #1 – October 2005). Both of these are likely mistaken reports of the pattern that is NZIC.7 which is found on Queensland revenues and is similar to .5.

Usage NZIC.5 1913-1932

NZIC.6

As reported in CPA and HAPP this is a Melbourne device. The images in CPA and HAPP are the same but they are not very good and the C is rather misshapen and the full stops after the Z and the C are omitted. It is possible that the scan used was from a partial strike.

The pattern was very fine and some pins are missing over its usage. The company had started its office in Melbourne in the 1860's but the postmarks that I have seen are all from the 1890's.

To date it is only reported on the postage stamps of Victoria but the usage is during the period in which postage stamps were inscribed "stamp duty" so it is possible that an example of this rare pattern may be found with revenue use.

Usage NZIC.6 1890-1897

EC NZ/IC.e (Qld)

NZIC.7

This pattern is not listed in CPA or HAPP but I have sent details of the pattern to John Mathews and he has allocated the number NZIC.7 to it.

It is a pattern from a device located in Cairns and it is found on both revenue and postage stamps over a broad time period.

The company history does not state the date of the establishment of the Cairns office but it would most likely have been after the Townsville office (1907). This is supported by evidence of the pattern on Edward VII revenue issues.

The pattern is rare. It is found on Australian postage stamps around 1929 but is known on Queensland revenue stamps from around 1910.

Usage NZIC.7 1910-1929

EC NZ/IC.d (Qld)

NZIC.8

This is a separate listing of a pattern which was earlier listed as a “type” of the Brisbane device NZIC.2. The pattern is actually different to .2 and the device that produced it was located at the Toowoomba office

It is found on postage stamps of Australia as well as Queensland revenue stamps.

Usage NZIC.9 1913-1930

Summary of Usage of NZ/IC Group by Office

City/Town	Pattern #	My usage	HAPP usage
Adelaide	NZIC.1	1908-1922	1901-1912
Melbourne	NZIC.6	1890-1897	Unknown
Brisbane	NZIC.4	1889-1934	1889-1936
	NZIC.1	1900-1908	1901-1912
	NZIC.2	1913-1920	1913-1930
Sydney	NZIC.4		
Toowoomba	NZIC.8	1913-1930	1913-1930
Townsville	NZIC.3	1895(?) - 1919	1901-1915
Warwick	NZIC.5	1913-1932	1893-1936
Cairns	NZIC.7	1910(?) - 1929	Unlisted

Conclusion

In the study of these NZIC 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 hear from any member who has evidence that would disprove or indeed provide supporting evidence to any of my findings. Please have a look at your NZIC's and share 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

MEET A MEMBER – DEREK POCOCK #21

(Dr Derek Pocock)

Moving to Western Australia in 1973 from England, I brought with me, one wife, three children, my mother, then aged 72, and my stamp collection consisting of some half dozen albums of just general collections. But, first some background.

I was born in London in 1931 (so now at 82 – cannot catch Leo I am afraid) and was educated at the Royal Masonic schools for 10 years following the early death of my father. Here, I developed the ambition to be a Forensic Pathologist. We had several interesting murders after WWII; they were the only doctors whose name got in the newspapers, and it seemed to combine Sherlock Holmes and medicine.

After leaving school, I first worked in a hospital pathology department before going into the Army (Medical Corps) as a National serviceman. Two years later on demobilization and still a private, though with A1 trade certificates (the sergeant major was a C3), I entered Medical School in London and qualified 5 years later. After intern jobs I got back to a Pathology specialty where forensics were seen as the black sheep of medicine – the “patients were all dead” and you had to go to give evidence in court. However, a chance opportunity to enter the field came along, and, with some trepidation, I accepted. I found that, not only could I do the work, I was seemingly suited to it.

Meanwhile, I married a fellow doctor whom I met at the hospital – actually across the bridge table where a quick game was a relaxation between operations and emergency admissions. After 45 years we still play bridge together, much to the surprise of our fellow bridge players!

Three children followed in the next 6 years. During this period I did a sabbatical year attending the Institute of Criminology in Cambridge so I could give a “criminal” opinion in the witness box beyond the strictly medical evidence.

With circumstances in London affecting my workload, when a chance advertisement arose for a Forensic Pathologist in Australia, I accepted. Double my current salary and half the workload, it was an important opportunity not to be rejected, though the decision came much to the surprise of colleagues and also my wife! So, we embarked for “Down Under” and we have never regretted our move for one moment.

Now, to stamps. The new country had a thriving philatelic community which quickly became an integral part of my lifestyle. Amidst children’s school and games, dutiful gardening, and night calls to suspicious deaths, I joined in the “stamp world of Australia”. I had a specialist collection of North Borneo which I started to exhibit. Other areas were added for some variety, like Nepal, Nicaragua, and Western Australian, mainly forgeries and their Railway Parcel issues.

It was by chance too that lead to perfins and I began amassing what I could of what was then a neglected area locally. This developed into a cooperation with other students of Australian perfins and resulted in the production of the book Commercial Perfins of Australia by my friends John Grant and John Mathews.

Other philatelic commitments resulted in the formation of the Western Australian Study Group and later as representatives to the newly created Australian Philatelic Federation, where I later served as President in the 1980’s. This lead to philatelic judging at State, National, and then International levels, all of which have been very rewarding ways to serve the hobby.

Judging goes with exhibiting. I have shown North Borneo and Nepal Postmarks, Nicaraguan Airmails and Postal Stationery, and the Railway Parcel Stamps of

Western Australia – also similar for Rhodesia – at international exhibitions, as well as building fun collections like “Alice in Wonderland” and the forgeries of Burma and Western Australia.

I still collect perfins, but have reduced my areas of interest to Western Australia and Ceylon. Even these are somewhat in abeyance due both to lack of material and my latest interest in Picture Postcards. This is a burgeoning field with fine collections being built up and now exhibited at philatelic exhibitions in Australia, New Zealand, US, and South Africa. My own interests are quite varied being Western Australia, Missionary Societies, Ceylon, the paintings of Sir Edwin Landseer, and recently the issues of my old school!

The children are all grown, married, working, and have produced 8 grandchildren for my wife to dote over and baby sit. I myself retired about 8 years ago on the premise that 40 years of corpses was enough and other things like travel, bridge, Collecting (capital C), and music are more interesting. I am musical ignoramus! My philatelic library runs to over 3,000 titles, and, like my CD's, all are catalogued in my computer, which too is virtually the limit of my computer skills.

Retirement is fun, should be anticipated with pleasure, and long may it continue!

Editor's note: Derek has recently been made an Emeritus Judge by the Australian Philatelic Federation (APF). Derek is a pioneer of the study of Perfins in Australia and was a correspondent with and a significant contributor to the Joe Purcell Study of Australian perfins that was the seminal work on Australian Private Perfins. When Joe died his family passed the Study to Derek who worked on it before handing it on to John Grant who with John Mathews produced “Commercial Perfins of Australia” (CPA) in 1992.

THE STAMPS OF QUEENSLAND 1879 – 1912 – CORRECTION (David Coath)

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 \$175 plus postage.

I apologise that in the last SPPB I advertised the Pre Production price of \$125

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.

ADDED INFORMATION ON THE OS ON THE 1927 CANBERRA (David Coath & Colin Clark Hutchison)

In the SPBB No 101 of April 2013 in the article on “Forgeries of Official Perfins on the 1927 Canberra” we stated that the OS type F, or as it is generally known as, “The Melbourne OS”, had been used for the Canberra and also the WA Centenary and the 1929 Airmail issues.

As “The Melbourne OS” device consisted of 10 dies in the vertical array it is clear that the device was reduced by 2 dies to accommodate the Canberra which was printed 8 rows in the vertical, as were the WA Centenary and the 1929 Airmail issues.

No OS Canberra’s have been recorded with the OS in the selvedge except for a selvedge block of 6 (Fig 37 Page67 of Geoff Kellow’s book) which we consider to be a forgery. As far as we are aware no OS has been observed in the selvedge of the issues of the WA Centenary or the 1929 Airmail. See the following image from Lot 148 of the “Hardy Collection” Phoenix Auctions (Melbourne) #24 of 25 October 2013.



PERFIN QUIZ

(Norm Hart and Dave Elsmore)

What is this??



Norm Hart recently shared this lettering found on a Victorian small numeral 2d Revenue. The lettering could be “ghosted” onto the back of the stamp from being affixed to a document or form, however if so the words seem to be going in the wrong direction.

Could it be a new Security back print like those done for Tattersalls and transferred to the back of the stamp via a Mimeograph or Roneo machine which allowed a typed format to be transferred onto another printable surface.

What do you think? Let us know. Norm: hartland87@bigpond.com or Dave dave1@bigpond.net.au

NEW REPORTS

(John Amiet, John Mathews, Bill Register, Harold Waite and Greg Howard)

This is a new part of the Bulletin in which members can share new or updated reports of perfin and users. All members are invited to share any information within their collecting interests. Please forward any reports to the Editor.



Reported by Greg Howard

S&D This is not only a new pattern listing but it is also a previously unreported letter combination. Members are invited to search with resources such as TROVE to try and establish possible users. The likely period of use is in about 1900, or slightly earlier. The S is close to the edge of the stamp suggesting that the S&D could be part of a larger pattern but such wide patterns are rare in Service Punctures and when they are seen, such as LS&S.2 they tend to be struck in Position 2 (Reading Up).



Reported by Greg Howard

L&W HAPP lists L&W.1 without an image as “Reported but not seen” with a confirmed user of Lister & White. A quick look on TROVE shows them to be Wholesale Fruit Merchants who operated in Melbourne around 1900. This is consistent with this Victorian issue.



Reported by Greg Howard

CHC Another new report and indeed another new letter combination. A Service Puncture used in Melbourne around 1900.



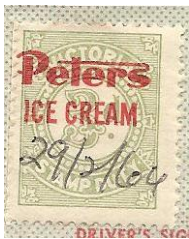
Reported by John Amiet

Bon Mache security overprint. The Revenue Perfins of Western Australia lists three different security overprints for Bon Marche Limited in Perth. Given the date of the usage this would most likely become the new BON MARCHE LTD/PERTH.a with the existing BON MARCHE LTD/PERTH.a being renumbered as BON MARCHE LTD/PERTH.b



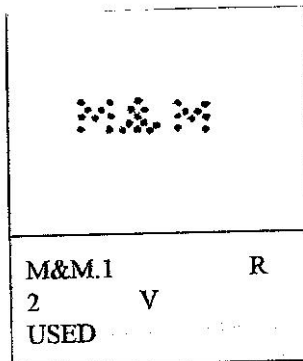
Reported by John Amiet

YEC/LTD The format looks typed so it may have been produced on a Mimeograph or similar device. Or simply typed to give an effective and inexpensive security overprint. The user is known to be Yellow Express Carriers and this can be found on "Revenue Perfins of Victoria (Draft) at <http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/Victoria-Revenue-ZY-Perfins.html>



Reported by John Amiet

Peters Ice Cream This is an unreported security overprint for Peters, and the first to be reported in Victoria, the others being found on stamps of Western Australia. See the listing in Private Revenue Perfins of Western Australia at: <http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/WA-Revenue-ZP-Perfins.html>



Reported by John Mathews

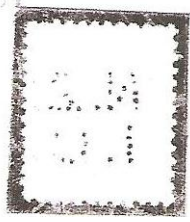
John Mathews reports (see article page 17 of this Issue) that he has found evidence which confirms that Morris & Meeks (Iron merchants of 409 Bourke Street, Melbourne) were the users of perfin pattern M&M.1.

John reports that this and other new Identities will be included in the forthcoming Update to HAPP" (#3).

Additional Information on NZIC

(Bill Register and Harold Waite)

In the last Bulletin we included a report by Bill Register of use in New Zealand of what was later an Indian NZIC device.



Reported by Bill Register

The report was:

“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.”

Harold Waite has sent in some more information on this device/pattern. Harold reports that this device was not approved for postal use in NZ and hence it is very rare use on these issues. Harold reports that the NZ Post Office was very strict on unauthorised perfin use and would apply Postage Due fines to such articles. Therefore this pattern is more often found on NZ revenue stamps. Harold reports use of NZIC.8 (Samuel) in Calcutta as early as 20 April 1905 on EDVII issues which is significantly earlier than the reported usage in Samuel (Edition 2)

AUCTION WATCH AND OTHER FINDS

(Tony Nobilo, Jason Rowe, Dave Elsmore and David Andersen)

Highlights from Auctions in New Zealand Reported by Tony Nobilo

Mowbray 443 August 2013

1839 AWF on 1d Universal cover	reserve \$25NZ
1840 AWF x 3 on 1d Universal covers	reserve \$60NZ

Mowbray 444 September 2013

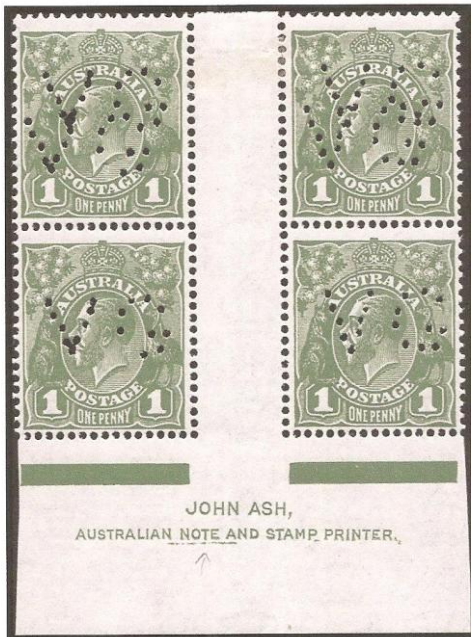
2202 1980 “Royal 100” on RPSNZ Cover	reserve \$75NZ
2203 “NZ/1990” on ½ d 1940 Cent x 15 MUH	reserve \$30NZ
2204 “NZ/1990” on ½ d 1940 Cent x 10 MUH	reserve \$20NZ
230 Perfins Approx 140 mostly Australia	reserve \$35NZ

Auckland City Stamps 199 September 2013

67 NZL on 2d Grey Roo 1 st wmk	reserve \$10NZ
68 NZL on 1d Red Roo 1 st wmk	reserve \$10NZ
71 NZL on 2d Grey Roo 3 rd wmk	reserve \$10NZ
1552 9d Terraces Perf W&T/W	reserve \$40NZ

Auckland City Stamps 199 September 2013 (continued)

2635	1 ½d Boer War	Perf W&T/W	reserve \$30NZ
2457	“Thank You” on 1c Mineral	Block of 6	reserve \$20NZ
2458	BNZ on GB KED VII	1d	reserve \$10NZ
2459	BNZ on GB KED VII	1d	reserve \$10NZ
2460	BNZ on GB KED VII	2 ½ d	reserve \$10NZ
2461	BNZ on GB KED VII	6d	reserve \$10NZ
2295	VOCO on 1929 Nurse		reserve \$50NZ

Other Reports

Lot 1082 at Phoenix Auctions (23 September 2013) Reported by Jason Rowe

A beautiful VG multiple on an imprint block that shows some of the key features of the VG First head. These are Die 6 and 7 showing the spacing for the gutter. Both the 1st and 2nd Head devices were designed with this spacing to suit the KGV issues. The double strike on the upper row is rare and would most likely have been caused by the operator not feeding the head up, so that it would be over the next horizontal row of stamps.



Reported by David Andersen

Three GNSW Type C all turned up recently in a group of mixed GNSW's from a Charity source.

