

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 104 JANUARY 2014

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 to issue #104 of the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin (SPPB).

Thanks for the continued feedback from members about the 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.

I apologise for the late arrival of this Bulletin. It was held up so as to allow the inclusion of the new draft Constitution and the associated By Laws. These documents have been delayed by the need for the By Laws to be written and agreed at Committee. See the article by Dan Ryan on Incorporation on pages 2, 3 and 4.

As with the last issue of the SPPB, NZ and International members will receive their SPPB with NZ stamps on it, some punctured PCNZA. This is courtesy of Ray Bennett and is necessary to reduce mailing costs.

NEW MEMBERS

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

- #296 Mike Long (USA)
 - #297 Phil Geddes (Sale – VIC)
 - #298 Barry Feddema (USA)
-

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.

ADVERTISE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN (David Coath)

Over the last few issues of the SPPB the Club has faced a series of financial challenges including increased mailing charges, courtesy of the increased size of the SPPB as well as the rate changes introduced by Australia Post.

As discussed in previous Bulletins some of these increased costs have been defrayed by Committee decisions to shift NZ and Overseas despatch to NZ and the continued pursuit of lower printing costs.

Furthermore many Members and Affiliates have chosen to receive the SPPB in a soft copy format and this represents a significant saving in the key costs of printing and postage.

It is the desire of the Committee to try and maintain Membership subscription rates as low as possible, and as a result we are seeking support from members who wish to advertise their Philatelic or other related businesses in the SPPB.

Rates can be negotiated for each advertiser so if you are interested in using this medium then please contact me at davidcoath@onthe.net.com.au

Advertisements will appear as of the April 2014 issue

INCORPORATION (Dan Ryan)

We are in the process of incorporating our Association and I have agreed to assist in this process and the associated articles required to ensure that the Club has both the structure and By Laws to achieve the aims of the members, and carry a formal Incorporated status.

In order to get the new structure to our collective liking and to ensure we take advantage of the Incorporated status, I have asked a senior and very well respected law firm in Adelaide (South Australia), Fisher Jeffries, to help us. Fisher Jeffries are the legal counsel chosen my work and they are one of the top three Law Firms in Adelaide.

Furthermore Fisher Jeffries has been very kind in agreeing to help us through the process on a pro-bono basis (at no cost). On this basis we have received their advice on how to best proceed in this matter.

Their advice is, in short, that the decision to Incorporate is an easy one. Under Australian law unincorporated organisations are not protected by limited liability. In many ways the concepts of incorporated organisations and limited liability companies are similar in that they limit any liability to the assets of the entity.

In an Unincorporated organization, such as the PCNZA is today, any action brought against the Club is “unlimited” that is not limited to just the Club and its assets but to all members and their assets. I know it sounds unreal or unlikely, but the nature of litigation in the Western world today is not about who is to blame, it is also about where the assets are that can be put to a successful claim for damages.

For instance, if a person were to be injured at a PCNZA meeting, at any venue, then the Club could be held responsible. The nature of such legal actions tends to be that the litigant pursues an action against all parties and this would include the venue, organisers, clubs and affiliates, such as the PCNZA.

Now this is an unlikely possibility, but in these circumstances the PCNZA’s responsibility would be unlimited, and would include, in order of priority and accessibility, the assets of the Club, then the personal assets of the Committee Members and then the personal assets of the General Members, until such a point that the amount of the damages and costs had been recovered.

This is clearly not a desirable position and that is why the option of Incorporation is an organisational “no brainer”, as it limits the responsibility of the Club in any litigation, and under any circumstances, to the assets of the Club.

Now the Incorporated Association's Act was introduced across the Australian States in the early 1980’s and this Legislation provided a blue print for all organisations. As a result it is deliberately broad in its structure and the “Standard Constitution” models are intended to serve an equally broad range of organisations. As a result the “Standard Constitution” offers few organisational options and tends to focus on building a basic Constitutional structure that complies with the Legislation and insures compliance with the Act.

The PCNZA has some rather unique aspects to both its structure and operation, as it conducts its major business over two countries and has a membership that is International. This is not a major issue as the “Standard Constitution” format allows the flexibility of non face-to-face meetings, as our geographical spread makes such Meetings difficult.

In this issue of the SPPB you will receive a copy of the new the “Standard Constitution” and further you will receive a copy of the By Laws of the PCNZA. Now with respect to this “Standard Constitution” I will accept any comment but rather than require all members to submit a formal vote I propose to publish all negative comment in the next issue of the SPPB and then ask that any renewal of membership be on the basis of acceptance of the new structure.

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Lastly there is the issue of the associated By Laws (or Regulations, to the Constitution). These By Laws are at an early stage of development and I and the Committee would welcome your input into their structure.

The key aspect of these ByLaws (Regulations) is that they are not an integral part of the Constitution (a constitution should only be changed by a vote of members) but are the administrative requirements which can be decided and promulgated at, and from, the senior Committee Level.

The By Laws (Regulations) will cover issues that are deliberately exclude from the “Standard Constitution” (because administrative arrangements may need more regular amendment) and will include such issues as:

Committee roles such as Circuit Manager, Editor etc..
 Membership Fees
 Circuit Book rules
 Auctions rules
 Bulletin distribution
 Etc.

A draft of these By Laws is included in this issue of the Bulletin and your comments and improvements are most welcome.

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.

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

(David Coath)

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

Treasurer
 Auctioneer

These roles need to be filled irrespective of the Incorporation process which sees the alteration of the Constitution. If a member was prepared to volunteer for one of these positions and was to be accepted, then they would be co opted onto Committee without any Election process.

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 1/2014 – JULY 2014

The Club Auction 1/2013 was a great success with a very good clearance rate and we are now accepting lots for the next Auction which will be issued with the July 2014 SPPB.

If you have any items that you wish to put into this Auction then please send them to:

David Coath, 4 Fleming Crt, Research, VIC, 3095 before 31 May 2014.

A Sellers Commission of 10% will be deducted from the hammer price of items sold at the Auction. Buyers will be responsible for the cost of postage with collective purchase totals of over \$30 requiring Registration.

All payments will be made through the Clubs accounts so as to allow New Zealand members to make and receive payments more easily and to allow payments to be made from Members credits.

Payments by Paypal will also be available to allow Overseas members a convenient payment option.

A NEW 5/- SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE PERFIN FOUND (David McNamee, Dave Elsmore and David Coath)

Recently Dave Elsmore was contacted at perfins.com.au by the leading Melbourne stamp dealer, Michael Eastick. Michael was alerting Dave to the fact that he had recently found a 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge with a VOCO pattern.

The stamp can be found on Micheal's website at:

<http://www.michaeleastick.com/rhome1d.asp>



The precise link to the item is as follows:

<http://www.michaeleastick.com/rDetails1b.asp?cat=&CAT2=&rProductID=INV-90795&this=it>

The item is for sale for \$700 (A). The pattern is VOCO.6

THE ELUSIVE 5/- SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE PERFIN (David McNamee and David Coath)

Editor's Note: The following article appeared in July 2012 issue of "The Informer" which is the journal of the "Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania" (SAS/O). The article was drafted following Mark Saxby's success at achieving a National Gold for his Perfin Exhibit at the Canberra Show in April 2012. Mark's exhibit was entitled

“Australian Private Perfins” and it featured three examples of the 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge issue with private perfins.

You can view Mark’s exhibit on perfins.com.au, just click on the Perfin Exhibits tab and then select the link to “Australian Private Perfins” – 5 Frames – Mark Saxby.

Some of the images in this reproduction of “The Informer” article are different.

“THE INFOMER” ARTICLE

(David McNamee and David Coath)

The Sydney Harbour Bridge series of 14 March 1932 celebrated the opening of one of Australia’s most iconic symbols and a great engineering achievement. The 5/- value is arguably the key commemorative stamp in any Commonwealth collection.

Commercially used 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge stamps are challenging to acquire. Add to that challenge by trying to find one with a private perfin! Off and on, over the past four decades only a few perfins on the 5/- stamp have been discovered. To date there are still only 10 recorded, all off cover.

Three firms are known to have used the 5/- perfin based on the patterns found:

- **Farmer & Co. Ltd** (Sydney, NSW) department store: 2 varieties and a total of 7 copies known. The *Handbook of Australian Private Perfins* (Mathews, 2003) has assigned these patterns *HAPP* Nos. F.1 and F.2.
- **Kodak (Australasia) Pty Ltd** (Melbourne, VIC and Perth, WA) photographic supplies: 1 copy, *HAPP* No. K.8.
- **Vacuum Oil Co.** (Melbourne, VIC and Hobart, TAS) Fuel and oil: 2 copies, *HAPP* No. VOCO.6.

These users have the potential of sending heavy parcels to customers, so the commercial use of the 5/- is plausible.

Farmer & Co.

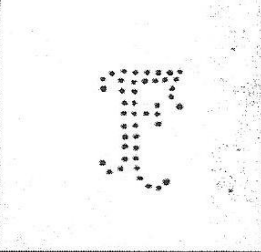
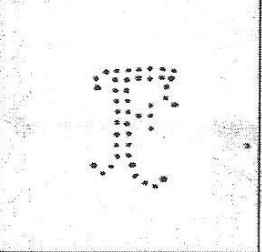
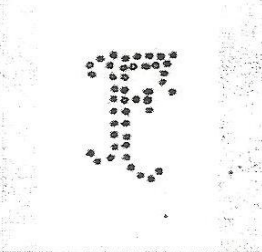
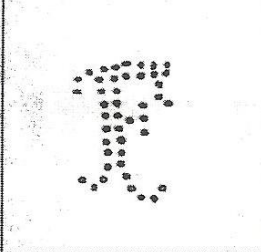
Located in Victoria House, George Street, Sydney, this firm ran a department store and Australia’s first commercially licensed radio station 2FC. The firm was innovative on many fronts, according to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, including being the first business to observe the Half Day Saturday by closing at 1 pm.

The F of Farmers is without doubt one of the most stylish patterns used on Australian Stamps. When struck well it has a beauty to it that separates it from other letter based patterns. Unfortunately, the ornate figure is hard to see. It is found on Commonwealth stamps 1924-1940.

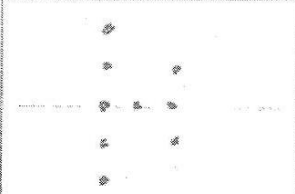
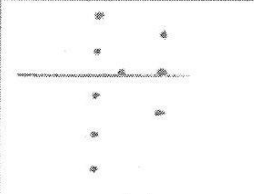
The Farmer perfin device was a two-headed die with F.1 on the left and F.2 on the right. The differences are subtle (see illustrations below). Both are 40 pins 1.2x1.8 cm.

The use on the Sydney Harbour Bridge stamps spanned the period 1932 and the few years after.

The dies (of F.1 and F.2) seem to have been repaired in about 1932-34 and a slightly different pattern was formed. It is nearly impossible to detect any change in the F.1 but it is more noticeable in the F.2 pattern where the curl on the top left of the pattern has a few slightly different pin locations. This later F.2 did not do well and it is characterised by a lot of missing pins.

			
F.1 thin Type 1 1924-1932/34	F.2 thin Type 1 1924-1932/34	F.1 thick Type 2 1938-1940	F.2 thick Type 2 1938-1940

The best way to tell the difference between F.1 and F.2 is from the cross bar as below:

F.1	F.2
	

(Extract from an article in SPPB # 91 of October 2010 entitled “F is for Farmer and Co”.)

Beyond the period of the Sydney Harbour Bridge series, in 1938 the dies seem to have been remade with thicker pins and these are the 2nd types of F.1 and F.2. The remade dies would have removed a fair bit of paper and because of the size of the pattern and the number of pins some holes tended to merge. Not a good thing as at this time the smaller KG VI definitive had arrived.

These thicker pinned strikes are not common coming as they do at the end of the life of the device.

There is some evidence to suggest that the die was modified again very late in its life and that some pins were removed. This produced an “F-shaped” pattern with thicker holes but less pins consistently across the pattern. These patterns are also characterised by blind and poorly struck holes and are barely recognisable as the beautiful F’s that were created by the device in its early days.

It is likely that the continued deterioration of the device along with the reduction in the size of postage stamps and the onset of World War II all conspired to end the use of this iconic pattern sometime in 1940.



F.1



F.1



F.1



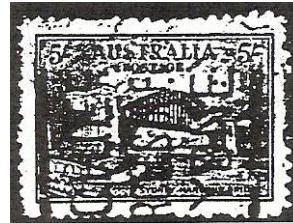
F.1



F.2



F.2



F.1 or F.2 unconfirmed

Kodak (Australasia) Pty Ltd

HAPP K.8 is one of 17 distinct “K” patterns, most of which are tied to Kodak (Australasia) in its various offices in the major State capitals. The pattern has 13 pins arrayed in 0.9x1.4 cm.

K.8 has been found used 1926-1951, and one on the 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge is recorded. There was an erroneous report in *South Pacific Perfins Bulletin* No. 65 (April 2004) of K.5 appearing on this stamp, but closer examination found it to be K.8.



K.8

Vacuum Oil Co.

Vacuum Oil Co. was a prolific user of perfin stamps from 1896-1962. There are 15 different patterns of “VOCO” or “VOCO” and another 6 patterns with “VOC.” Most were used in their Melbourne offices, but some were used in other State capitals and in Newcastle and Wickham, New South Wales. The perfin VOCO.6 uses 34 pins in 1.9x0.9 cm format. Its use in Melbourne 1913-1957 was first reported in the same *SPPB* No. 65 article as the Kodak use. .

A comprehensive study of Vacuum Oil Co. perfin patterns was published in *SPPB* No. 92 (December 2010).



VOCO.6



Michael Eastick pattern

Resources

Mathews, John, *Handbook of Australian Private Perfins*, Canberra: author, 2003.
South Pacific Perfins Bulletin, journal of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia (PCNZA):

No. 9 (OCT 89) VOCO.6 found.

No. 39 (OCT 97) a second VOCO.6 found.

No. 65 (APR 04) F.1/F.2 and K.5 (K.8) patterns on 5/- Sydney Bridge stamps.

No. 82 (JUL 08) another F.1 report.

No. 92 (JAN 11) VOCO patterns.

POSTSCRIPT TO 5/- BRIDGE PATTERNS

(David Coath)

In "The Informer" article I wrote with David McNamee we stated that just 10 examples of the 5/- Bridge had been found with Private Perfins as follows:

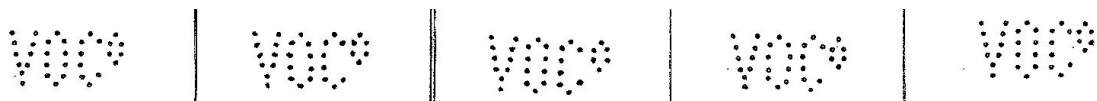
4 x F.1, 2 x F.2 and 1 x F.1/ F.2, 1 x K.8, 2 x VOCO.6

Therefore this latest report from Michael Eastick should give us 11 in total.

However there was possibly an error in the reporting of the 2 VOCO.6's. The first mention of these comes in SPPB #9 and there is no image provided. The stamp is stated as carrying a "Rialto" Postmark. The next mention of a VOCO.6 comes in SPPB #38 and #39 and the image is the same as the VOCO.6 in the article above. What is more this stamp carries a "Rialto" Postmark. Given that no other image of a VOCO.6 has been reported until Michael Eastick's recent report, it is most likely that the stamps reported in SPPB #9,#38 and #39 were actually the same stamp.

The conclusion is that there are now still only 10 private perfins found on the 5/- Bridge. 7 x F.1 and F.2, 1x K.8 and 2 x VOCO.6.

By the way there are actually 5 different patterns covered under the HAPP listing for VOCO.6 as follows:



Melbourne
192?-1955

Hobart
1938-1957

Brisbane
1942- 1948

Unknown
1938-1942(?)

Queensland
1922 (?)

All of the 5/- Bridge VOCO.6's that have been reported are of the Melbourne type and I have confirmed this by comparison of the Eastick VOCO.6 and the fact that the postmarks on these stamps are from Melbourne, being "Rialto" and "Melbourne" ones.

If you are interested in learning more about the VOCO pattern group, then you can refer to the article in SPPB #92 of January 2011 or read it on [perfins.com.au](http://www.perfins.com.au) under the Research tab at: <http://www.perfins.com.au/tabs/t1.html> and click on the link for Vacuum Oil Co.

SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIAN SPECIALISTS/OCEANIA, INC (David Coath)

In this issue we feature an article that appeared in the journal of the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania, Inc, or SAS/O. They are a sister study group who share many of the interests of the PCNZA.

The SAS/O was founded in 1936 and the Society is now a global community of several hundred collectors that share an interest in the stamps and postal history of Australia, New Zealand, and the islands of the south and central Pacific Ocean.

The Society is based in the USA, however, they welcome members from all around the World and the current roster of directors and officers includes members from Canada, New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom.

If you are interested in learning more about the SAS/O then access their website at: <http://www.sasoceania.org>

or write to the Secretary/Treasurer at:

David McNamee

PO Box 37

Alamo, CA 94507, USA

VF.1 – A CHANGE OF STATUS?

(Greg Howard)

The Victorian perfin pattern VF.1 carries a note next to it in the Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (Mathews – 2003) page V-5. The note says “status dubious”.

I can appreciate the reason for this statement of qualification about this pattern, as it is unlike most other contemporary patterns from Victoria. Firstly it is not a Service Puncture, as are most of the Victorian patterns of this time. Secondly it is a Customised pattern and these tend to be more common, while VF.1 is rare. The reason for this is that if a company has the money to spend on a Customised perforator then they normally have a high level of mail volume to justify the purchase of the device and therefore the pattern tends to be common.

Here is a scan of four VF's I found in a bulk lot of Victoria. Note the partial address and a characteristic red envelope.



Here are some other examples of red envelopes, but with no VF.1 pattern, but with part of what appears to be the same address details. These were found in the same bulk lot. The dates on the postmarks indicate use in 1908 just before the reported use of VF.1



This is a copy of VF.1 showing a partial postmark that confirms the use in 1909.



So what do we know?

The pattern can be confirmed and its status is no longer “dubious”

The user was from Melbourne.

Their name was most likely V..... F..... Cooperative Co Ltd.

They used distinctive red envelopes

The device was in use in 1909

The Company was in existence, at least between 1908 – 1909

It is a lot of information but falls short of telling us the user.

Perhaps the patterns VFA.1, VFA.2 and VFA.3 are linked to VF.1. Maybe they are the same user and the letters VFA are important. The VFA patterns are service punctures that are found on issues from 1903, but does anyone have some from other dates, or indeed have them on piece or envelope. Indeed red envelopes or even red staining into the stamp may support a link.

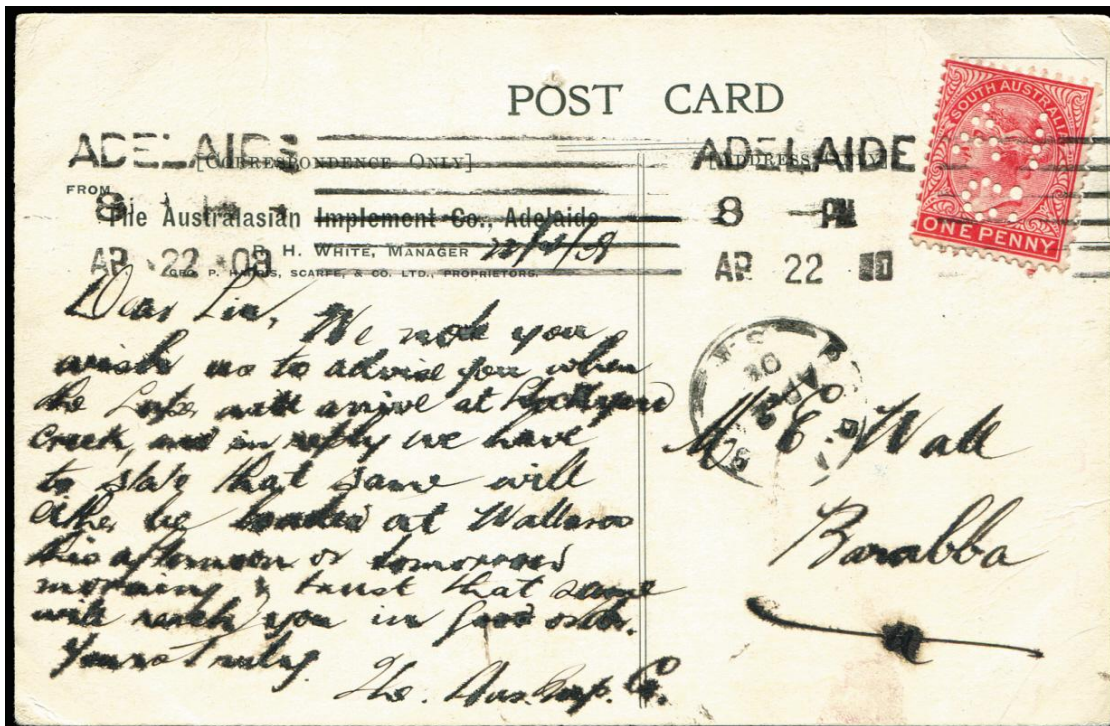
If anyone has any information or examples then please share them with me and perhaps we can put more of this story together.

Contact me at dhow3371@bigpond.net.au or send your information to the Editor.

POSTCARD WITH AICO.1

(Arthur Taylor and David Coath)

The following Post Card was in the Phoenix Auction #26 of 7 December 2013 and was sold to long time PCNZA member Arthur Taylor. It is a superb proving postcard for the "Australasian Implement Co" of Adelaide and is so colorful for the time.



The cover does not show an address for the company but there is something of interest. In the words under "The Australasian Implement Co, Adelaide". There is a line of text that is obscured by the postmark. However by viewing the image of this line under magnification it reads "Geo P Harris, Scarfe & Co Ltd, Proprietors"

This is most interesting as it establishes a link between these companies that may just tell us more about their perfin devices and the related patterns.

Harris Scarfe Link to the Australasian Implement Coy

An article appeared in the Adelaide newspaper "The Advertiser" on 17 April 1903, describing the funeral of Mr George Scarfe. It stated that the funeral:

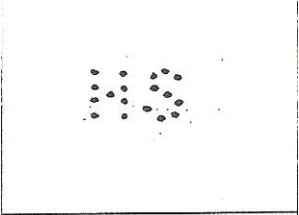
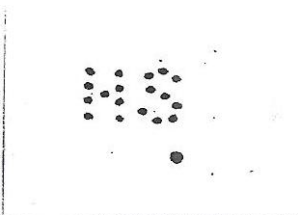
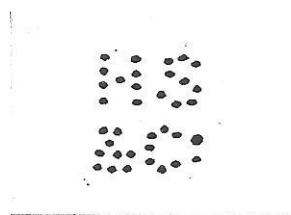
"..took place on Thursday afternoon, the cortege leaving the deceased gentleman's late residence, Wattle Park, Burnside, at half-past 2 o'clock. About 350 employees of the Adelaide and Port Adelaide establishments of Messrs. Harris, Scarfe, & Co., the Australasian Implement Company, the Australasian China and Glass Company, and the Adelaide Steam Rope Works, met at the corner of the North-east-road and Stephens Terrace, Walkerville, at 3 o'clock, and marched to the North Rd Cemetery"

This provides additional support to a link to the relationship of Harris Scarfe to The Australasian Implement Company.

Similarities in the Perfin Devices

Harris Scarfe were long time perfin users in both their offices in Adelaide and Perth. They are responsible for the HS.3, HS.4 and HS&CO.1 patterns but in reality the story is not that simple.

HAPP lists these as

		
HS.3 1 A C USED 1921-1963	HS.4 1 As VC USED 1917-1964	HS&CO.1 4 ASW VC USED 1908-1921

In addition there is a note at the end of the H section about these patterns and this provides some excellent background to the timing of the usage of these devices. The note is as follows:

Re HS.3-4 & } HS.3, HS.4 produced from a 2-die perforator used in Adelaide.
 HS&CO.1 } The same machine originally produced HS&CO.1 from which the letters "&CO" were removed about 1916. A nearly identical HS&CO.1 machine was used in Perth until 1921. In 1922 or 1923, the Perth branch merged with Wm. Sandover & Co. to form Harris, Scarfe and Sandovers Ltd at 683-699 Hay St., Perth, and used the WS&CO.1 perfin.
 For further reading, see the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin, October 1989 and October 1999.

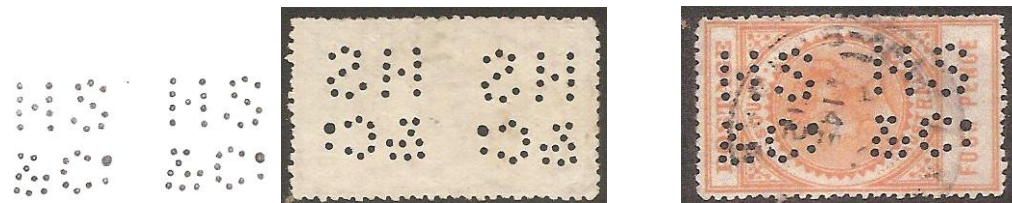
Re HS.4 also known on a South Australian Railways Parcels Stamp.

From my study of these I can say that this is essentially, although not entirely correct. The variation of usage dates for the HS.3 and HS.4 is not possible but this will be explained in detail later. Further the definition of the HS&CO as a single pattern is odd, especially given that the note states that there were two devices in two remote locations. What is most helpful are these kinds of notes in HAPP, the problem is that they are rarely as useful and informative as the ones about this pattern group.

The two HS&CO devices were located in Perth and Adelaide and these were both two die devices in a horizontal array. This is most likely why the HAPP listing stated 4 types and 2 locations. As opposed to the CPA listing of a single type located in Adelaide.



One in Perth - Used 1908 until 1922



One in Adelaide 1907 until at least 1919

The patterns made from the dies across the two devices are very similar, but with comparisons of clear strikes you will note slight differences that will allow you to at least separate out the two remotely located devices. In particular the tops of the ampersands are different. Try overlaying yours on the images above which are in 1:1 scale. This process will be assisted by the fact that the different patterns appear on the Pre Commonwealth State issues of Western Australia and South Australia. Postmark evidence is also helpful.

The main characteristic of the HS&CO devices is the large pin that forms the main part of the O of Co

In about 1920 (the note in HAPP states 1916, but I cannot find postmark evidence to support this earlier date, furthermore I have HS&CO strikes used on issues that came out in 1919) the Adelaide device was altered with the removal of the &CO. Later in about 1922 the Perth device ceased to be used. The note in HAPP states 1922 – 1923. My sources favour the 1923 date.



The change in the Adelaide device spawns a new pattern, HS.4. As can be seen from this pair of 1935 KGV Jubilees, the large pin that constituted the main part of the O of Co was retained in the two dies of the device.

It is notable that only the Adelaide device was altered in this way. All readable postmarks that I have seen on the HS.4, and indeed HS.3, are from Adelaide or from other South Australian locations or Broken Hill, which is just across the SA border in NSW.



In some strikes such as this one from the 1940's, postmarked Port Pirie (SA), the large pin from the O is missing on one of the dies. It is most often, but not always, the right hand die. This is not a permanent loss of a pin as the pin is present in later strikes



Such as this one on the left from about 1960. The image on the right from the mid 1940's shows a faint outline of the left hand large pin and no sign of the right hand large pin.



Furthermore there are times that the larger pin is not in evidence in the strike of either of the dies. Such as with the strikes of the two dies on this issue from 1954.

This is not a new piece of information and a block was illustrated in SPPB #9 of October 1989 by an unnamed author, but the report was most likely made by David Andersen. At the time David was the Editor of the SPPB, (he edited Issues # 5 – # 99) and further he was also responsible, along with John and Jill Grant, for compiling and publishing in the SPPB, the “Australian Survey”, which produced the first published listing of Australian Private Perfin pattern images and users.

In fact the article is referred to in the Notes page of both Commercial Perfins of Australia (CPA) and Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (HAPP). Referred to yes, but perhaps not heeded.

Conclusion regarding HS.3 and HS.4

The HS.3/.4 pattern is part of a two die device that started as the HS&CO.1 device located in Adelaide. There was a “sister” HS&CO (also called HS&CO.1) device located in Perth but the collective 4 dies of these devices are very similar.

The two dies of the HS device from Adelaide are essentially identical. In some strikes of the device either of the dies can be found with and without the larger pin forming part of the “&Co”. It is more often the right hand die, but it can be either and when viewing single strikes the left and right dies are not discernable.

The transient absence of pins in a pattern, for various reasons, is a feature of almost all perfin patterns and such “missing pin” variations do not deserve listing as separate patterns.

Therefore if the four dies of the two devices that create HS&CO.1 are so similar as to be considered to be a single pattern, then there is no justification for the two dies of the Adelaide HS&CO.1 to be considered to be two separate patterns merely because of “missing pin” variations. HS.3 and HS.4 are the same pattern.

What does this mean in respect to AICO.1?

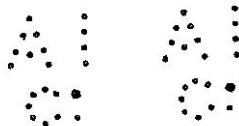
We know that the Australasian Implement Company was owned by Harris Scarfe, and we also know that both the three Harris Scarfe devices (HS&CO.1 x 2 and HS.3/.4) were two die devices in a horizontal array. The Harris Scarfe devices and the Australasian Implement Companies (AICO.1) all featured a large pin in the die formats. Perhaps the AICO.1 has a similar two die layout to the HS&CO.1 device?

Working with Arthur Taylor we had a close look at all of our AICO.1's and found that this device was also a two die device in a horizontal array.

When looking closely at the examples that we had, Arthur and I could notice subtle differences in the patterns. Two clear varieties become obvious but we could not map the die locations and format until we found this example on a 1927 Canberra issue. Note that this is the late usage and the device has degraded and the pattern is not complete.



By close comparison of our two variants we were able to map the two dies as follows:



The differences between the dies are minor but the easiest one to see is the position of the hole under the large hole for the O of CO. In the left hand die it is directly under the large hole but in the right hand die is slightly to the left. We would recommend overlaying your examples over the image above to confirm which die they are.

Summary

So a colourful and beautiful Postcard can start us on a journey that takes us from the Australasian Implement Co, through the patterns of Harris Scarfe and returns us to Australasian Implement Co to find something new about the AICO.1 pattern.

Sources:

South Australian State Library

Harris Scarfe web site <http://www.harrisscarfe.com.au/about-us>

Wikipedia

Private Revenue Perfins of South Australia – Dave Elsmore and David Coath

Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (HAPP) John Mathews 2003

TROVE

Phoenix Auctions

TELEGRAPH PUNCTURES OF AUSTRALIA (Brian Fuller, Dave Elsmore and David Coath)

In the October Bulletin Brian invited members to help expand our collective knowledge of this rather understudied area of perfins and indeed philately.

Brian wanted to build a listing of these and even map the various methods puncturing methods. 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 Brian at:
bifuller@optusnet.com.au or send it to Brian Fuller, 17 Fernhill St, Glen Waverley,
 VIC, 3150.

The information provided to date has asked as many questions as it has answered and I share here some of the reports, perhaps other members can add to them.

The first thing that became clear was that the title “Telegraph Puncture” was not entirely descriptive of the patterns or the purposes that these punctures were applied to.



For instance these relative low values of used postage stamps sent in by Max Watson that feature a small puncture. Purpose unknown.



And this example provided by Dave Elsmore showing some pre decimal high values used to pay a Telephone account.

More details in the next Bulletin.

MEMBERS WANTS

(Bill Harley and Mike Hert)

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

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

MEMBERS WANTS (Continued)

Mike Hert is looking for Perfins IDH.1 of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Fairfield, VIC.

Mike can be contacted by email at: mikehert@hotmail.com or by mail at Mike Hert, PO Box 864, BANKSTOWN, NSW, 2200

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 12.00 – 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 this site.

The PCNZA part of 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 have a look around, there will be more details about developments in future Bulletins.

The perfins.com.au site is very popular and this reflects the growing interest in our hobby. In fact traffic for 2013 was almost double that of 2012 and the number of “unique visitors” is a strong indication of the scope of interest.

Perfin.com.au statistics for 2012 and 2013 are as follows:

Year	Unique Visitors	# of Visits	Pages	Hits
2012	3,236	5,815	19,850	113,631
2103	6,361	11,095	31,302	190,019

VG PERFINs – The First Head

(Jason Rowe and Neale Scott)

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.

Although the “Victorian Government Punctures” Fifth Edition 1993 is currently out of print, 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.

MEET A MEMBER UPDATE – DEREK POCOCK #21

(Dr Derek Pocock)

In the last Bulletin we included a article on Australian Perfin Pioneer Dr Derek Pocock. In the Editor's note at the end of the article I noted that Derek had recently been made an Emeritus Judge by the Australian Philatelic Federation (APF).



Here is Derek receiving his award (left) with Michael Blake and Alf Campe.

Photo courtesy of Stamp News November 2013 Volume 60 No. 11

USER FOUND: HUDDART, PARKER & CO

(Dave Elsmore)

Recently I received an email from Greg Howard in Tasmania with a copy of a new report of revenue use on Service Puncture from Victoria. See New Reports for HP&CO.

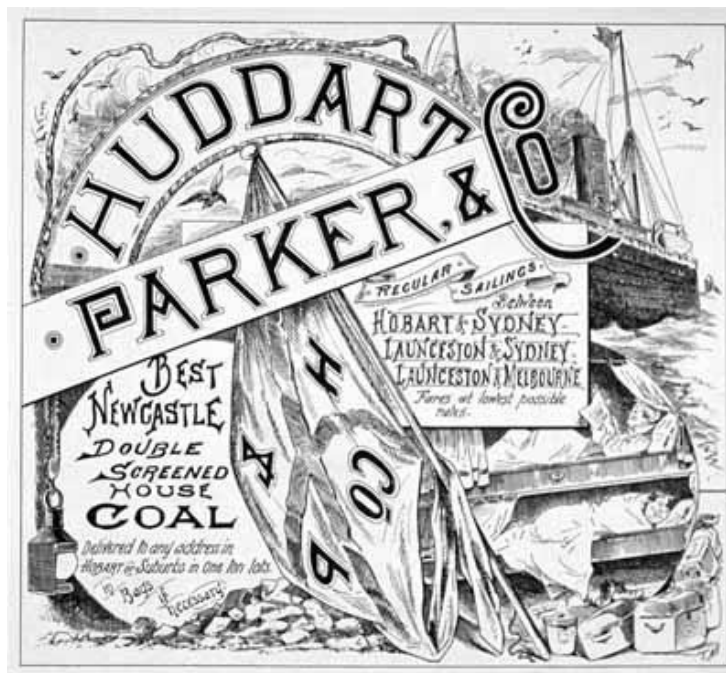


Both stamps that Greg shared had partial strikes of a company cachet that included the word “Parker”. I launched a TROVE search and I cannot state too strongly just how powerful this website is. This led me to the Tasmanian Archive and Heritage Office which provided some details of a company called “Huddart, Parker and Co who were a Shipping Company that operated between Hobart, Launceston, Melbourne, Sydney and Newcastle.

Their address was: 466 Collins St, Melbourne, VIC

Initially Mr Parker, Captain Webb & John Traill were partners in a shipping business and later James Huddart joined and it became known as Huddart, Parker & Co. The company was floated into a Limited Company 23 January 1889 with the Company Directors; Jas Huddart, Thomas J. Parker, Thomas Webb, John Traill & J. E. Parker. (son of J. J. Parker).

The company name is often found misspelt as “Huddard” in lieu of “Hoddart”.



Company advert Circa early 1900's

CORRECTION TO HAPP - ADDRESSES OF IOA BUILDINGS (Dave Elsmore)

The IOA devices were used by The Insurance Office of Australia and they are reported on the following issues:

IOA.1 Postage stamps of Australia and revenue stamps of Victoria 1922 – 1946

IOA.2 Postage stamps of Australia and revenue stamps of NSW 1920 – 1964

HAPP lists the addresses for both the IOA.1 and the IOA.2 patterns as, 37 Queens St , Melbourne. The Update to HAPP #2 of February 2012 corrected this in part by stating that IOA.2 “Used Sydney Office”.

The 37 Queen Street, Melbourne address was the head office of the 'North British & Mercantile Insurance Co. Ltd'. This company had provided financial support to the IOA after 1923. This support was required following some poor underwriting decisions at the IOA’s London office in 1922.



IOA Office Melbourne (on right) 1924
54 - 56 Market St, Melbourne



IOA Office in Sydney 1920's
265 George St, Sydney
Later (post WW2) 259 George St

Sources: TROVE

Private Revenue Perfins of NSW (Elsmore Coath)

Private Revenue Perfins of Victoria (Elsmore Coath)

PERFIN QUIZ

(Dave Elsmore)

What is this??



The OL.1 is a rare pattern reported on the postage stamps of NSW but this is only the second one that I have seen on a revenue stamp. The user is unknown.

See the listing for OL.a in Private Revenue Perfins of NSW:

<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/nsw-Revenue-O-Perfins.html>

The example we show on the site is a 3d and it has a manuscript cancel, but this 1/6 shows part of company cachet. The words on the cachet seem to be “Insurance” and a Y which could be the end of the word “Sydney”.

What do you think? Let me know at dave1@bigpond.net.au Your input may help us find the user.

NEW REPORTS

(John Amiet, Dave Elsmore, David Coath and Greg Howard)



JME&CO.3 previously unreported on Revenue stamps.
Is now listed in Private Revenue perfins of Victoria as JME/&CO.a



MH&COLTD.2 previously unreported on Revenue stamps.
Is now listed in Private Revenue perfins of Victoria as MH/&CO/LTD.a



New listing for HAPP?. HP&CO. Like HP&COL.1. There is evidence of a blind pin at the base of the C and then another in line with it after the O.

In any case a pattern previously unreported on Revenue stamps. Is now listed in Private Revenue perfins of Victoria as HP/&CoL.a



HP&CO.1 previously unreported on Revenue stamps. Is now listed in Private Revenue perfins of Victoria as HP/&CO.a

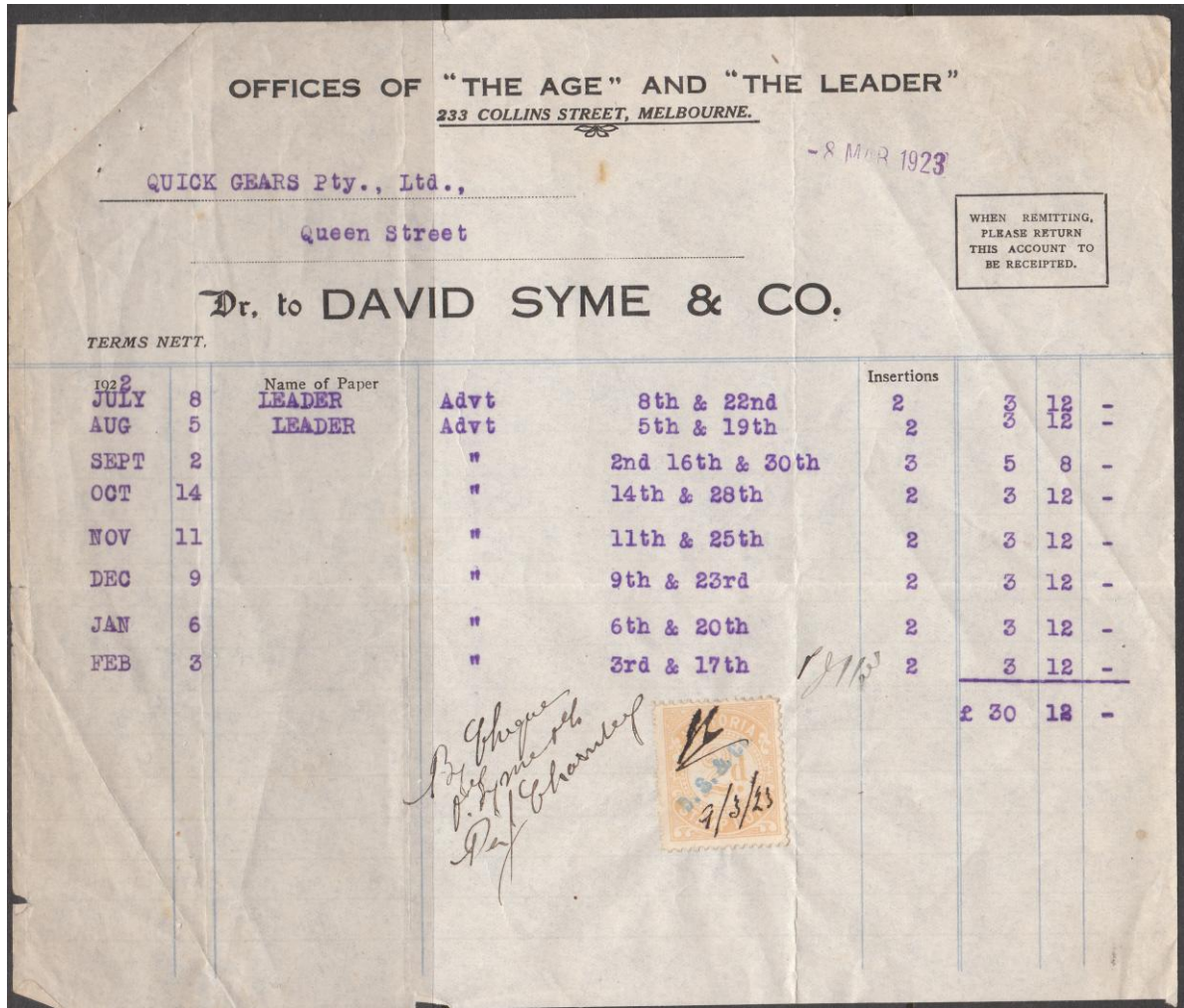


MH.1 previously unreported on Revenue stamps. Is now listed in Private Revenue perfins of Victoria as MH.b



A new report of a security overprint now listed in the Other section of Private Revenue Perfins of Victoria as DAVID SYME/& CO. LIMITED.a

See example on proving document on page 25



A Proving document of the security overprint DAVID SYME/& CO. LIMITED.a

AUCTION WATCH AND OTHER FINDS (Tony Nobilo, Enid Honiss, Arthur Taylor, Jason Rowe and Dave Elsmore)

Highlights from Auctions in New Zealand (Tony Nobilo)

Mowbray 445 October 2013

2927 DB&Co x 3 on 1d Universal reserve \$60NZ
2928 GNB LD x 2 on 1d Universal reserve \$60NZ

Mowbray 447 December 2013

1733 AWF sideway on 1d Universal reserve \$25NZ

Mowbray 448 January 2014

2147 1988 "Royal 100" block of 10 reserve \$75NZ
2148 "NZ/1990" on 1/2 d 1940 Cent x 15 MUH reserve \$30NZ

2149 “NZ/1990” on ½ d 1940 Cent x 10 MUH	reserve \$20NZ
Mowbray (International) Sale 22	
939 - New Zealand Perfin and Security Overprint Collection of 337 items plus 40 UK, Australia and India, NZ related.	reserve \$2000NZ
940 – New Zealand Perfin collection 183 items	reserve \$1250NZ
Auckland City Stamps 200 December 2013	
1574 HB on 6d Red Kiwi	reserve \$50NZ
2564 World Perfins 1100+ items	reserve \$500NZ
Auckland City Stamps 201 January 2014	
2266 N pattern on ½ Mt Cook on Postcard	reserve \$350NZ
2267 Pair of GB, NZ covers	reserve \$125NZ
2692 World Perfins 1376 items	reserve \$500NZ
Kiwi Stamps – Postal Bid Sale 33 November 2013	
32 as well as being the Front cover image was a VOCO Proving cover for Vacuum Oil	reserve \$250NZ

Other Reports form New Zealand

(Enid Honiss)

Here is another interesting Auction item this one from Mowbray Collectables. Major International Stamp Auction Sale No. 22, which closed on 12th October 2013.

““CUFF & GRAHAM” commercial security overprint in black on 1d SSf p12 x 11 1/2 with manuscript date 10/7/84. This is just the second example recorded (Samuel listed only "2/12/84?") Clearly very rare. A predecessor of the "C&G" perfin.””

Kiwi catalogue R652. Cat. \$750. Estimate was for \$500. Sold at auction for \$950.

See Samuel (2010) page 79 – 80 for details on the Overprint.

Steve Zirinsky Newsletter #13

(Enid Honiss)

Steve Zirinsky is a PCNZA member from the US and he runs an excellent web site at:

<http://www.zirinskystamps.com>

Part of Steve’s service to his customers is a free Newsletter that is emailed out. You can obtain this by registering on Steve’s site.

In Newsletter #13 from November 2013 Steve offered this inverted OS on a 2d Papuan Lakatoi.



As described by David Andersen in “Australian Official Perfins – Edition 2 (2007) on page 48, there were two different OS devices used on these Papuan stamps. These were OS Type J, (1908-1912) and OS Type F (The Melbourne OS, 1912 – 1931)

These patterns are about the same size but differ in that in Type J has an O which is higher than the S, while in the Type F, the O and the S are level.

As described by David Andersen (1st paragraph page 48) the Type J was a single die device and as a result much variation in positions has been reported, including inverted, double, sideways etc., however this variation is rare. Therefore David’s listing on pages 49 – 52 of AOP offers a simplified listing of the most common position, that is Position 1.

PHILAS Auction No. 116 of 9 November 2013 (Arthur Taylor, Jason Rowe and David Coath)

Late in the week leading up to this Auction I got a call from Arthur who was at the Auction as a Volunteer preparing for the sale. Arthur knows his VG’s and he also noted that this Lot 1085 was one of a series of VG images that had been in the article on “VG’s A Fresh Look by Jason Rowe and Neale Scott in SPPB #103.

The lot in the Philas Auction was:



Described as follows:

Lot 1085 CofA wmk £1 grey good used, rarely seen perfed VG, part perf of G has taken out a side perforation, never-the-less rare \$250

In the image from SPPB #103 the 1 pound Grey appears in the top right hand corner of the top row.



This is not to suggest that the stamp is a forgery, but it is certainly worthy of expert viewing and opinion. In the case of the image from the Sydney Auction house (SPPB # 103) that included this stamp, many of the other items are transparent forgeries. In particular the T's are laughable and indicate no knowledge of the way that this pattern is struck. We extended the offer to send the stamp to Jason Rowe and Neale Scott for their opinion. The stamp was passed in at Auction and we have repeated our offer of an opinion, but to date we have not been contacted by Philas.

Ebay Highlights

(Dave Elsmore)

Perfins on Queensland Railway stamps listed and sold in October 2013

6d with perfin TBS of Thomas Brown and Sons	Sold for \$99 US
6d with perfin L of Lowood Creamery	Sold for \$199 US
6d with perfin TCB/&Co of T C Bernie and Co Ltd	Sold for \$30 US

Perfins on NSW Revenue stamps listed and sold in October 2013

£50 with perfin SBI of South British Insurance	Sold for \$76 A
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FUTURE ARTICLES

(David Coath)

I am sorry to say that 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 his study of these is proceeding well and he shared with me completed mock ups of the 12 dies for the 2d Red and the 4d Olive issues each proved to its position in the die array by being se-tenant or by a known consistent flaw. This is the same method that Neale Scott used to plot the 12 dies of the 1st and 2nd Heads of the VG Device. The article is still in progress and will be put into a Bulletin as soon as it is finished.

Details on the First Head of the VG Device – (Jason Rowe and Neale Scott)

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

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

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

The Telegraph Punctures of Australia – (Brian Fuller)

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