

# SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 105 APRIL 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 \$15.00 A per annum for New Zealand and Australian residents and \$25.00 A per annum for residents of other countries (including airmail postage). Worldwide emailed copy of the Bulletin is \$10 A. Back issues are available from the Secretary in both hardcopy and on CD.

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## EDITOR'S COMMENT

(David Coath)

Welcome to issue #105 of the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin (SPPB).

I apologise for the late arrival of this Bulletin. As with the January Bulletin it was held up so as to allow for the inclusion of the new Constitution and the associated voting forms. See separate article by Dan Ryan.

We delayed the Bulletin hoping that we could finalize these was but regrettably this was not possible. These will now be included in the July Bulletin, all going well.

As always if you have any thoughts on the Bulletin, good or bad or any idea for an article, then please drop me an email.

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## NEW MEMBERS

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

- #299 Merv Frisby-Smith (Flinders Park – SA)
  - #300 Andrew Ballis (Melbourne – VIC)
  - #301 Peter Kowald (Wanniassa - ACT)
  - #302 Andrew Turnbull (Lane Cove - NSW)
  - #303 Bill Hewson (Brisbane – QLD)
  - #304 Dave Roberts (Ipswich – Qld)
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## 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 are 50c each, and issues 100 – 104 are \$1 each plus postage at cost.

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## ADVERTISE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN (David Coath)

The Club is facing increases in postage costs and the new thicker colour Bulletin is more expensive to print.

One way to offset some of these costs is to raise money through offering advertising space in the SPPB.

On the back page of the Bulletin you will notice the first of our advertisers. If you want to advertise, or think you know someone who would, then send me an email or letter.

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](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.com.au)

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## INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTION RATES (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 and increases introduced by Australia Post and New Zealand Post.

As discussed in previous Bulletins some of these increased costs have been defrayed by Committee decisions to shift NZ and Overseas despatch of the Bulletin 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. These savings are handed on under the new “Soft copy Membership” which is just \$10 per annum.

It is the desire of the Committee to try and maintain Membership subscription rates as low as possible but with increased costs this is a challenge. The major cost increase has been the increased International postage and accordingly the Committee has

decided to increase the Subscription rates across the board, but in particular the largest increase is being applied to International Memberships.

The new Subscription rates for 2014- 15 are as follows:

Full Membership (Mailed copies of Bulletin)

Australia and New Zealand (\$18 NZ)	\$15 (A)
Overseas	\$25 (A)

However Overseas Members can avail themselves of the Soft Copy at:

Emailed Bulletin Membership (Worldwide)	\$10 (A)
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Your Subscription renewals are included in this issue of the SPPB.

INCORPORATION

(Dan Ryan)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Members who submitted suggestions and alterations to the Draft Constitution and By Laws that were issued with the January Bulletin.

These have been amended, reviewed by Committee and returned to our Solicitors for redrafting.

We are receiving this work pro bono (for free) from the large Adelaide Law firm of Fisher Jefferies. In pro-bono work, of course, we are in Fisher Jeffries' hands and they have been terrific in responding to our requests and questions and redrafts thus far. We have just received the final copy and intend to circulate the Constitution and voting form in the July Bulletin, once we have fully consulted with the Committee.

We are nearly there!

NEW TREASURER

(Geoff Dane)

In March I approached the Committee and offered to fill the vacant role of Treasurer and I am pleased to have been accepted by the Committee and co opted into the position.

I joined the PCNZA in 2008 and most recently I have been the Treasurer of my local Scout Group in Bungendore, NSW.

At present I am transferring the Club's accounts into a version of MYOB that I have and I will be arranging for these to be audited by the Auditor we have used in the Scouts. Following this I will issue a Financial statement to the Committee and this will be in the next issue of the Bulletin.

At present the Bank Accounts are still at the NAB in Eltham but these will shortly be transferred to the Bendigo Bank in Bungendore.

In discussions with the rest of the Committee I have proposed to keep the existing payment methods as well as Paypal, but I will also be offering Direct Debit as a payment option. All the payment options will be outlined in your Subscription renewal which is enclosed in this issue of the Bulletin.

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NEW FORGERY DETECTION SUB COMMITTEE

(John Graham)

The Club has been approached by Geoff Kellow and John Shawley, of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, on behalf of the Royal in London on the matter of some opinions on some Australian Official perfins.

Since the increase in reports of forgeries on ebay, and through other sources, the Club has been increasingly concerned about the prevalence of forged punctures. We do not want a repeat of the problems caused by the VG forgeries which surfaced in the 1980's and which remain in the market today.

The majority of forged patterns coming through ebay are the Commonwealth OS found on the KGV issues. In response to this, I developed a statistical method of determining whether or not a particular strike exhibits the characteristics of a "normal" strike, with a high chance of identifying those which do not.

Now, when presented with a suspect strike, I am able to measure it and compare it to the database of standard measurements. Strikes that fall outside the expected range of values (calculated from a large number of 'good' strikes) can be said to be inconsistent with the true pattern and therefore an opinion can be given that they are not likely to be made by the official devices.

The Club has had some success with this method over the past year or so in having suspect lots withdrawn from auction. Now we have proven the methodology on the KGV OS, we are ready to branch out to other areas where forged versions of official punctures can be found.

Accordingly the Committee has decided to co-opt me onto Committee, to head up a group of members who have expertise in various Official patterns.

The Sub Committee is made up of:

John Graham Bob Littlehales Jason Rowe Andrew Turnbull Tom Weir David Coath

Each of these Members has overlapping knowledge and experience of various Official Government Perfins. Our plan is to build further databases to cover the Kangaroos (large and small OS), NSW and VG issues, and other OS issues of the 1920s and 1930s.

Soon, we expect to be in a position where the Club can offer expert opinions on various patterns.

The processes are being worked through at Committee level, but it is expected that the Forgery Detection Sub Committee would offer opinions at a fixed rate to Dealers and Auction Houses and at a discounted rate to Members. In this regard, we have already

had informal discussions with APTA, and have received a welcoming response.

It is early days, and the Committee has not (at the time of writing) finalised the review of the methodology, but in time I believe that we can build a formidable weapon and team to combat this threat to our hobby.

If you have any thoughts on this matter, or examples of suspect material (official perfins only) then please contact me at:

John Graham, 135 Stuart St, Toowoomba, Qld, 4350 or via email to:  
[johngrah@ozemail.com.au](mailto:johngrah@ozemail.com.au)

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#### COMMITTEE VACANCY - AUCTIONEER

(David Coath)

The Committee position of Auctioneer is still vacant.

The Auction is run only once a year so the role is not a large one.

If a member is prepared to volunteer for this position and was to be accepted, then they would be co opted onto the current Committee.

If you are interested in the position then contact David Coath at:  
[davidcoath@onthe.net.au](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.au) or on 03 9437 0366.

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#### CLUB AUCTION 1/2014 – JULY 2014

The Club Auction 1/2014 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.

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#### 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 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 to Brian Fuller at: [bifuller@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bifuller@optusnet.com.au) or send it to Brian Fuller, 17 Fernhill St, Glen Waverley, VIC, 3150.

To “muddy the waters” the following were sighted on ebay recently:



They were in a group of lots that featured Telegraph Punctures but others with T patterns.

REVENUE PERFINs OF AUSTRALIA – SOUTH AUSTRALIAN AND  
COMMONWEALTH CHAPTERS RELEASED (Dave Elsmore)

Its time again to announce another volume of the much searched and read Commercial Revenue Perfin of Australia, this time it is the Commonwealth chapter and the South Australian chapter, but more on the South Australian chapter in the July SPPB. The Commonwealth chapter includes the patterns found on the Australian Custom Duty Stamps, which I know many of you have a particular interest in.

I am hoping you will all find some time to check over these new Chapters as neither is very large, and please let us know of any additions for values we do not list.

In the past PCNZA Members input has been most valuable, and both David Coath and I thank you for this. All contributions are recognised on the opening Index page.

Anyway here is the link:

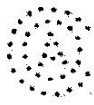
<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/Commonwealth-Revenue-Perfins-A-Z.html>

or access it via my Revenue page at: <http://www.ozrevenues.com/>

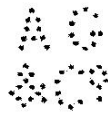
or via the Clubs Perfin website: <http://www.perfins.com.au/>

As a taste, here are the images from the Commonwealth Chapter, you will note many new reports to this rare and avidly collected group.

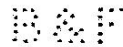
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Commonwealth PERFIN FINDER 1 of 1



ACO.a



AG/&amp;Co.a



B&amp;F.a



B&amp;S.a



CS/L/SA.a



CTCo.a/b



DM/Co.a



EFH.a



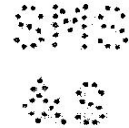
GT.a



N.R/Co..a



NR//Co.a



SMS/&amp;S.a

Check the website for Company Background and Device information on these.

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**MEMBERS WANTS** (Bill Harley, Mike Hert, Michael Kino, Gordon Monk and Stellen Swenson)

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

A (Tattersalls) Patterns on Tasmania

(Bill Harley)

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

IDH.1 Patterns of the Infectious Diseases Hospital

(Mike Hert)

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](mailto:mikehert@hotmail.com) or by mail at Mike Hert, PO Box 864, BANKSTOWN, NSW, 2200.

Private Perfins on the Sydney Harbour Bridge Issues

(Michael Kino)

Michael Kino is looking to build a collection and listing of the various Private Perfins that are found on the 1932 Sydney Harbour Bridge issues including all values, 2d (recess and letterpress) 3d and the 5/-.

If you have any of these that you wish to report or trade then please contact Michael via email at [Michael.kino@gmail.com](mailto:Michael.kino@gmail.com) or by mail at Apartment One, 14 Lumeah Rd, Caulfield North, VIC 3161 or by telephone at 03 9523 1914.

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Wanted a KGV 1d Red Die 3 Perforated T

(Gordon Monk)

Gordon Monk from South Australia is a KGV specialist and is looking to locate a KGV 1d Red Die 3 with a perf T. The Die 3 is not reported on the Commonwealth OS but it is found with an OSNSW Type C. It is reported with a T pattern but in all of Gordon's searching he is yet to find one. Can anyone help? If so contact Gordon at 4 Kinnear Crescent, ROSTREVOR SA, 5073 or by email at: [acharman@sa.chariot.net.au](mailto:acharman@sa.chariot.net.au)

Stamps and small Proving Cover of AICO.1

(Stellen Swenson)

Stellen Swenson is looking for examples of the AICO.1 pattern and a small proving cover. AICO.1 was used by the Australasian Implement Company and they were agents for the Belgian "Mellotte" and the Swedish "Aktiebolaget" separators. Stellen can be contacted by mail Odonbarsvagen 32 , SE – 293 41 OLOFSTROM, SWEDEN.

## GREAT STATISTICS FOR PERFINS.COM.AU

(Dave Elsmore)

March 2014 was the busiest month yet for traffic on Perfins.com.au with 983 unique visitors making 1668 visits to the site over the month and generating over 20,000 hits on various parts of the site.

The most popular page accessed was the PCNZA link which lists the details of the Club, Membership details, perfin publications and a link to a copy of the SPPB # 100.

There were visitors from over 30 countries but most visits were from users in the USA and Australia.

The most hits were generated by Australian users, indicating that they went deeper into the site and viewed more detailed content.

So if you have not had a look at the site then, what are you waiting for.

If you have any thoughts about things that you would like to see on the site, things you like or indeed things you do not like, then please send me an email at:

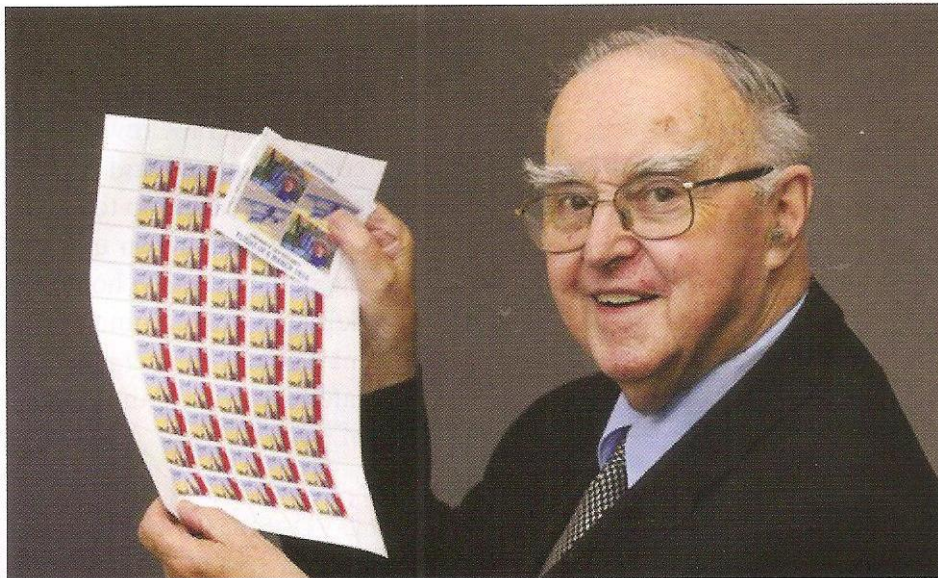
[dave@ozrevenues.com](mailto:dave@ozrevenues.com)

## RAY BENNETT FEATURED IN STAMP NEWS

(David Coath)



Ray Bennett, the Club's New Zealand Circuit Manager, was featured in the April Edition of Stamp News (Australasia) in the informative "Stamps in the News – Globally" (page 27) that is compiled by Margo Campbell. Ray as President of the Timaru Philatelic Society was showing the Customised advertising labels that the Club has issued with the approval of New Zealand Post, to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first successful Air Mail flight in New Zealand.



*Timaru Philatelic Society president Ray Bennett shows off some of the new stamps that will be issued as part of the 100th anniversary celebrations of airmail in New Zealand.*

The labels feature the plane flown by Will Scotland in 1906 which saw him make a rather eventful flight that was the first to include a parcel. But it was not until March 1914 that a successful flight with mail was made between Timaru and Christchurch. A distance of some 92 miles (148 kilometres)

It is surprising to read that this was not the first flight in the area as Pioneer aviator Richard Pearce, also from the Timaru area, had made a series of powered flights between 1902 and 1903, that actually predate the Wright Brothers flight on 17 December 1903. For more read here:

<http://www.ctie.monash.edu.au/hargrave/pearse1.html>

Or simply type Richard Pearce New Zealand Aviator into your search engine.

The labels will be used on the Bulletin envelopes for New Zealand and Overseas Members that are posted from New Zealand by Ray.

To secure some of the Labels contact the Timaru Philatelic Society Inc, PO Box 237, Timaru, 7940, New Zealand or contact Ray at: [rayben@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rayben@xtra.co.nz)

NEW ZEALAND PATTERN U.D.C.o – MYSTERY SOLVED (Harold Waite, Jeff Turnbull and David Coath)

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In Samuel Edition 1 (1991), Robert listed the pattern U.D.Co, but he could not find any likely user and neither could he establish any approval for the use of such a pattern.

The report was repeated in Edition 2 (2010) as follows:

Rarity Rating G



Pf. 37

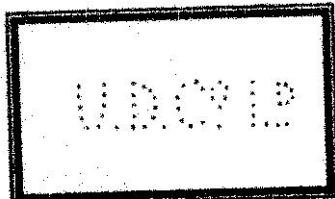
Samuel (1991e) recorded this perfin on a fiscally used copy of the 2/- 1898 Pictorial (London print). An attempt had been made to clean the stamp making the pen cancellation illegible. No further examples have been reported.



Recent correspondence between veteran New Zealand collector Harold Waite and GB Revenue specialist Jeff Turnbull has solved the Mystery, as Jeff explained in "The Mail Coach" (#50 of October 2013)

"..the image you feature is only a partial image . The true die is U.D.Co.Ld.

The perfin is actually produced by a cancelling machine which punches through the stamp and document together..."



Full Strike of U.D.Co.Ld      Strike of similar device found on Australian Revenues

The image on the left is the full strike of the pattern taken from Jeff's comprehensive GB Revenue Catalogues which can be viewed at:

<http://www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/publicat/revenues.html>

Or by going to the GB Perfin Society Web site and then clicking on the Publications tab. Be aware that Jeff's catalogues are in PDF form and are vast, so the full download may take some time.

According to Jeff, the pattern is that of "The Union Discount Company of London Ltd who were located at 39 Cornhill, London EC3.

Jeff also noted that the pattern is known on the stamps of Great Britain, India, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, Peru, Cuba, Mexico, Columbia and Brazil.

To the right of the U.D.Co.Ld image is a similar application that is listed in the Revenue Perfins of Western Australia. Which, with Jeff's assistance, we were able to described as follows: "This cancelling device (type II) can be found recorded between 1883-1914. Applied in London by the National Bank of India Ltd upon receiving Foreign Bills. In this case the Western Australia adhesive travelled to London 'rubber stamped' only, with the cancelling device applied upon bill payment."

These cancelling patterns can prove a difficulty to perfin collectors as the devices tend to be larger than perfin devices for stamps as they are intended to cancel the stamp and document and therefore they can often be seen only as partials on the actual stamps.

#### GNSW TYPE A - FORGERIES FROM EUROPE (?) (Arthur Taylor and Neale Scott)

The following gross forgeries were found in a large perfin collection being broken up in Brisbane. They were part of an Australian Official Perfin collection that was annotated in German suggesting that it was collected in Europe.



The collection has been colour copied with copies distributed to John Graham of the Forgery Detection Sub Committee, as well as David Coath, Tom Weir and David Andersen.

The inconsistency of the patterns suggest that they were created using a pin by pin approach rather than a fake die. Someone has gone to a lot of trouble to produce these very poor representations of Australian Official perfins. But with such poor results you would wonder why.

It is not unusual for Stamps News (Australasia) to feature discussions about perfin and "Revenue Review" columnist Dave Elsmore has a "Perfin Corner" with each issue.

But this is the first time that we have been mentioned in Glen Stephens "Market Matters" (pages 61 – 62). Glen has been a Member of the PCNZA since May 2013 and it was Glen and his Stampboards Team that did a lot of the "heavy lifting" in respect to the detection of OS forgeries on ebay. This was followed up by a relentless campaign by a Stampboards team, that saw these ebay traders cease selling forgeries on ebay.

In his recent article in Stamp News, Glen is very complimentary of the PCNZA and the SPPB. In fact he linked a copy of the # 104 Bulletin in his email version and other information about the Club which he characterised as "the best Club value out there."

This lead to a series of perfin related discussions on Stampboards and some membership enquires.

CANBERRA STAMP SHOW – 14 – 16 March 2014

(David Coath)

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

The PCNZA had a Meeting Room booked for Saturday, 15 March 12.00 – 1.30.

There were only 5 attendees, John Mathews (ACT), Bob Newbold (SA), John Mullavey (VIC), David Walker (QLD) and myself.

There was no formal agenda but I presented a Financial Statement and this produced some spirited discussion. John Mathews presented some of his own estimates of the Club's expenditure and he expressed concern with the amount spent on the production and distribution of the Bulletin.

I made no apology for this expenditure as I consider the Bulletin to be the fundamental communication tool of the Club and it therefore its printing and distribution deserves to be fully funded.

It was suggested that John raise his concerns with Committee and this has been done and some of the issues have been addressed but some of the other more detailed questions will need to await the completion of the audit which is being organised by the new Treasurer Geoff Dane, (see separate Article).

Bob Newbold pointed out that the move to Incorporation would necessitate more formal reporting and this was agreed and welcomed.

Apologies, Harold Waite, Dave Elsmore, Mark Saxby, Geoff Dane, Arthur Taylor and Bill Harley.

UPDATE ON PRIVATE PERFIN ON THE 5/- SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE  
(David Coath and Brian Magee)

In the article on these that appeared in the last SPPB it was stated that there were only 10 or possibly 11 of these known.

A report that was not contained in that article was one that appeared in SPPB #39 by Brian Magee. The pattern was another VOCO.6 and had a clear postmark of “(REGISTERE)D/7 SE 32/MELBOURNE VIC” so this is clearly different for the 2 listed in the last Bulletin.

#### THE PATTERNS OF THE ADELAIDE CO OPERATIVE SOCIETY. (David Coath)

The Adelaide Co-operative Society was formed in 1863 and registered in 1886 and it was the first known Co-operative in South Australia. A Co-operative is a form of business like a private or public company except that to be a shareholder you must be involved in the production of the goods sold by the Co-operative and indeed only shareholders can be involved in the management and conduct of the business.

From about 1900 the Co-operative occupied premises at 35 Angas St, on the corner of Nelson St, Adelaide, the building was later occupied by the South Australian Housing Trust from 1959 when the Co - operative moved to a 5 story premises in Hindley St, Adelaide.

The Adelaide Co-operative Society was a producer, manufacturer and consumer Co - operative which ultimately sold a huge range of goods including groceries, furnishings, drapery, clothing, furniture, paints, iron mongery, crockery, boots, cake, bread and small goods. The Co-operative was still operating as recently as 1962. “Commercial Perfins of Australia” listed a single ACS pattern (ACS.1) with usage between 1915 and 1948, but the “Handbook of Australian Private Perfins” listed two ACS’s, (ACS.1 with usage between 1915 and 1948 and ACS.2 with no specified usage) and further ACS.2 was not attributed to the Adelaide Co operative Society. But in the research I did with Dave Elsmore for the recently released “Private Revenue Perfins of South Australia” we found that there were in fact three 3 distinct ACS patterns which we have listed as follows:

AC/S.a	used 1913/4-1915
AC/S.b (HAPP ACS.1)	used 1915-1920
AC/S.c (HAPP ACS.2)	used 1920-1950



AC/S.a



AC/S.b



AC/S.c

Although we have not been able to find proving covers or revenue documents to categorically prove that all these patterns are attributable to the same user, the circumstantial evidence is strong, as follows:

- 1 the fact that they all are found used in Adelaide
- 2 they have the same pattern layout, AC/S
- 3 that AC/S.a and AC/S.b share many pin positions,

- 4 there usage does not overlap and what is more it forms a contiguous  
chronology
- 5 that the collective usage period is within the confirmed existence of the  
Adelaide Co-operative,

Collectively this provides a strong base of evidence to consider them all to be patterns from devices owned and used by the Adelaide Co-operative Society.

The AC/S.a is only found used between 1913/4-1915. It is similar in size and scale to AC/S.b but the top 3 pins of the A are different. Late strikes of ACS.a often show sections of the inside triangle at the top of the A missing indicating that there was a problem with the device. It seems likely that the device was repaired at this point (1915) and that the repair resulted in the AC/S.b pattern.

The AC/S.a pattern has bold pins and note the pair of pins that make up the second top row of the A. The left hand pin is lower than the right hand pin.

The AC/S.b pattern is different. Note that the relationship between the pair of pins that make up the 2nd row of the A is reversed to what is found in AC/S.a, now the left hand pin is higher than the right hand pin. Also the left hand base of the A is more splayed.

All of these AC/S devices were most likely single die devices. Make sure to check what you have of these and please let me know if you find any evidence to either support or indeed disprove the findings of this study of this pattern group.

#### References:

- “Commercial Perfins of Australia” – Grant/Mathews (1992)  
 “Handbook of Australian Private Perfins” (HAPP) – John Mathews (2003)  
 Trove  
 David Tuckwell (Flickr)  
 “Revenue Perfins of South Australia” – Elsmore/Coath

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.

If you want to be involved in a Study Group on the VG patterns then please contact Jason at: buddahboy10@live.com

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.

PERFIN QUIZ

(Murray Lawson and Dave Elsmore)

In the SPPB #103 we asked - 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>

Murray with the help of his friend Ross, produced a good case for the user being the “Occidental Life Assurance Company of Sydney”. The company had a short stay in Australia in the late 1800’s but later returned through an American subsidiary and in the 1980’s that were certainly trading in Australia as “The Occidental Life Assurance Company of Australia.”. In the Australia arm of the company were the victim of a substantial fraud that forced the company to close.

If you have any other information about this company or any other stamps, postage or revenue, that shed any light on the user then please share it with me at: [dave@ozrevenues.com](mailto:dave@ozrevenues.com) Your input may help us find the user.

#### HONG KONG SECURITY MARKINGS

(Rod Sell)

Any Members interested in the study of the perfins of Hong Kong should visit our website entitled “Hong Kong Security Markings Study Group”  
<http://rodsell.com/hksmsic/hksmsic.html>

You will find comprehensive lists of the different user companies and there patterns as well as the issues that they are found on.

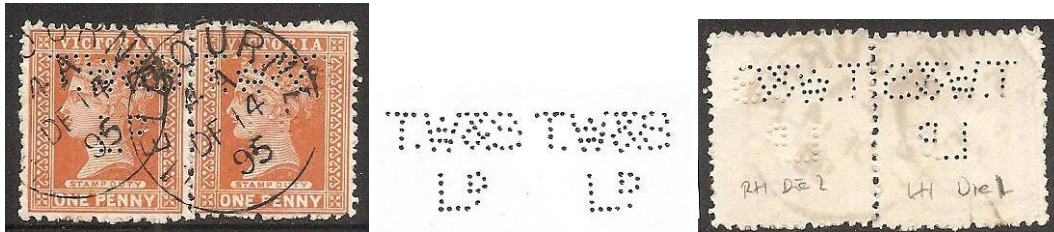
If you want to join our study or have any information or questions about Hong Kong perfins then please contact me on: [rodsell@RodSell.com](mailto:rodsell@RodSell.com)

#### TWS&LD.1 - IS A TWO DIE DEVICE

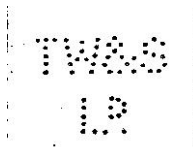
(David Coath)

While sorting through Victorian perfins for the study that I am doing with Dave Elsmore on the “Revenue Perfins of Victoria” it has been amazing how many patterns from the “Stamp Duty” era of Victoria (prior to 1901) that we have found used as revenues. Many, such as the TWS&LD, are previously unreported used on these revenue issues.

The other thing that surprised me about these was that when I looked hard at a pair that I had on postage stamps, I discovered that there seemed to be 2 different dies. The pins on the TWS&LD device are rather fine and can often be indistinct but close examination of my examples of these confirmed that there were strikes of a 2 die device in a horizontal array. This is most peculiar for a Victorian device of this period (1895 -97) and I cannot recall another like it.



Looking at the style of the pattern and considering its 2 die layout, it seemed to me that it was most likely sourced in England. This lead me to the GB Catalogue and I found a similar pattern in a very similar format.

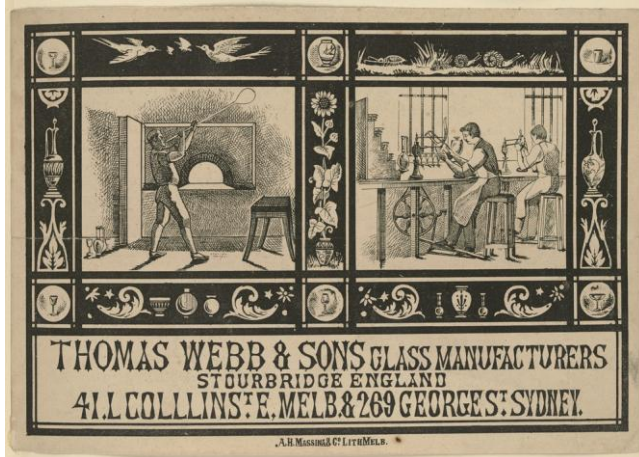


GB pattern T5190.01 (provisionally) Thomas Webb & Sons Ltd

A quick query to Steve Steere the GB Society Secretary and he reports that:

“T5190.01 only has an unconfirmed identity for Thomas Webb & Sons, Ltd, Glass Manufacturers, Stourbridge.....The only thing connecting the identity to the die is the postmark as far as I know. There is no mention of die composition, probably as no multiples have been found, and none on any large format stamps.”

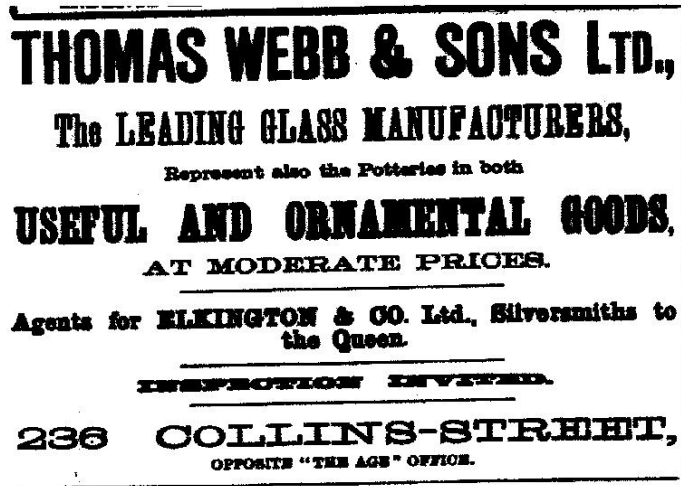
Despite the similarities in the patterns this is far from a confirmation of an identity in either England or Australia. But what if we could find Thomas Webb & Sons Ltd, in Australia? Well we did and here is an advertising card that was on TROVE.



Thomas Webb & Sons, glass manufacturers, Stourbridge, England, 41 Little Collins St. E., Melbourne and 269 George St., Sydney Dated between 1851 and 1885.



Thomas Webb & Sons Ltd sent a display and representatives, including their employee, John McCrea, to the Sydney and Melbourne Exhibitions of 1879 and 1880 respectively. Later they established branches of the company in both Melbourne and Sydney and McCrae was appointed Manager of the Melbourne office, which was initially at 41 Little Collins Street, but later (before July 1890) moved to a dedicated building, the "Webb Building" at 234 – 236 Collins Street.



Advertisement from the Illustrated Australian News July 1890.

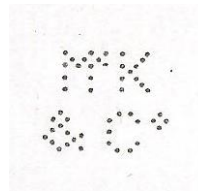
In about 1899 the parent company sold the Australian operations to a Mr J Riley who took McCrae into partnership and McCrae continued to manage the Melbourne operation. The company expanded its product range from glassware into tiles, china and related products. In 1930 the company was acquired by the Myer Emporium.

That is the story of Thomas Webb & Sons Ltd in Australia but there is more about the parent Company at an excellent website here: <http://gorgeousglass.org.uk/webb/>

If anyone has anything that they can add to this research then please let me know.

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

Tattersall's A pattern on Revenue



A on Revenue Overprint

MCK&CO.1 used on Revenue

The above A.a pattern for George Adams (Tattersall's) of Collins St, Hobart, Tasmania, represents the first and very important find of this pattern on a revenue. The issue has been reported on postal/revenue issues before but these examples have always been postally used.

See David MacNamee's excellent exhibit on [perfins.com.au](http://perfins.com.au) at:

[http://www.aape.org/exhibit\\_view\\_frame.asp?intExhibitNumber=81&intCurrentFrameNumber=1](http://www.aape.org/exhibit_view_frame.asp?intExhibitNumber=81&intCurrentFrameNumber=1)

Or just click on the Perfin Exhibits tab on the Home page and scroll down to "Tasmania's Private Perfins by David MacNamee".

MCK&CO.1 used on Revenue

This is a new report of this pattern on a Victorian revenue. One of the many new reports in the "Revenue Perfins of Victoria" which can be found at [perfins.com.au](http://perfins.com.au)

D(CO).1 on a Revenue but also a User identity.



This is an example of D(CO).1, but used on a Revenue, which is previously unreported. The interesting information from the Revenue use is that part of the company cachet is visible at the top of the stamp. (see magnified view at right). It is faint but it reads "Dean &..." which suggests that the user was Dean and Co. This was the early name of the company that would become W (William) and G (George) Dean and Co which used the patterns in the W&GD group (W&GD. 1 - .19) and most likely the WGD group (WGD.1 - .9).

The W&GD and WGD groups are known to be used from about 1896 until 1919. This usage fits well with the D(CO) group usage which is earlier, 1895 – 1897.

CPA and HAPP provisionally attributed D(CO).1 - .3 to Dalgety & Co Ltd, HAPP added D(CO).4 - .6, but assigned no user.

Given the evidence above I think we can safely attribute the D(CO)'s to Dean & Co.

You will find these now listed in the "Private Revenue Perfins of Victoria" which is currently being compiled, to see the huge range of Victorian Revenue stamps with Private Perfins and Security Overprints, go to [perfins.com.au](http://perfins.com.au) and click on the Free Revenue Perfin book tab.

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AUCTION WATCH AND OTHER FINDS (Tony Nobilo, Jason Rowe, Ross Ewington, David Wood, Gary Watson and Dave Elsmore)

Highlights from Auctions in New Zealand

(Tony Nobilo)

1537 1988 "ROYAL 100" M/S MUH reserve \$25NZ Passed in  
2928 GNB LD x 2 on 1d Universal reserve \$60NZ

Mowbray 450 March 2104

1772 AWF sideways on 1d Universal reserve \$25NZ

Auckland City Stamps March 2104

699 NZ Collection including MGM, VOCo, and RICOLTD reserve \$100 NZ  
Plus range of Australian NZL (6) and NZICo. India (total 23 items)

700 Royal Insurance receipt with 2/- KGV + 2/6 Brown Arms reserve \$100 NZ

701 VO/CO Dunedin on 1 1/2 d KGV pair + spare (3 items) reserve \$100 NZ

MOSSGREEN AUCTION February 2014

(Dave Elsmore)



Sold for \$274.50 A

"Lot 348: 1903 (SG.237) 1/2d Green Pictorial, lithographed on V over Crown paper; perforated OS double in a single and pair. Each unit has the OS puncture in distinctly different positions proving that the perforating was carried out in several operations. Crease not affecting front of the pair & minor gum faults. (3)."

These are similar to the ones shown in David McNamee's superb Exhibit "Perfins on Tasmanian Stamps" which is on Perfins.com.au see the Exhibits Tab or the url is: <http://www.ozrevenues.com/exhibits/t1/f1.html>, see Frame 4 page 13.

David considers that they are most likely printers waste.

The description includes the statement, "Each unit has the OS puncture in distinctly different positions proving that the perforating was carried out in several operations." This statement is true but falls well short of an explanation of the perforating process. These were punctured with the OS Type F or Melbourne OS which was a 10 die device in a vertical array. This means that horizontal pairs do not show any consistent relationship. The consistent spacing is between the vertical pairs. See "Australian Official Perfins" pages 27 – 29.

Ebay Highlights

(Dave Elsmore)



WS/CO.a and GDCo.a on Railway stamps

Sold for GBP 6.50



NZ Group highlighted by the rare MLS.1 and an unreported J (?) NM/Ld, sold for GBP 113.00 with 14 bids.

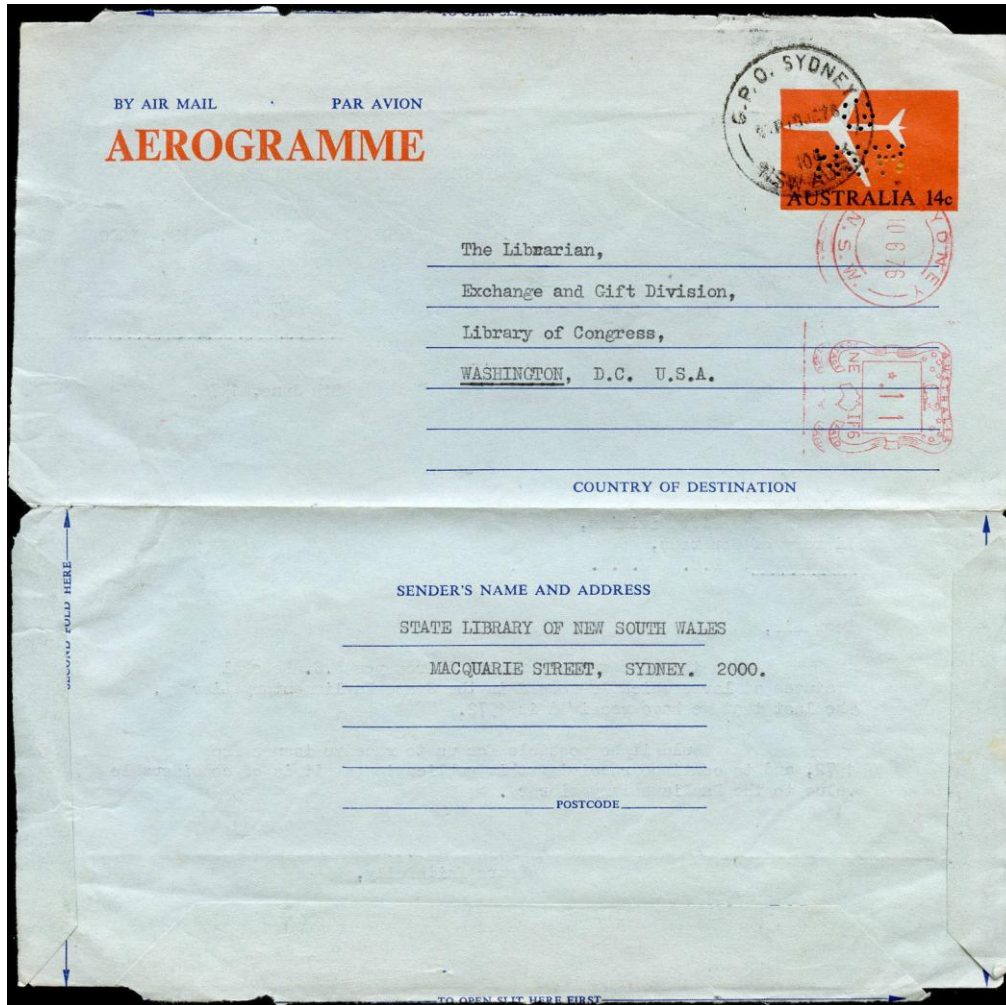
Can anyone help with more information about the J (?) NM/Ld. Given the strength of the bidding and the high price paid there would seem to be a story to be unearthed.



The multiple above of SG.3 was described as:

“1941 3d Brown King George Sixth block of 8 private perfin SG with double perfins and sideways inverted perfins. This appears to be from the centre of the sheet and the sheet had been folded in half prior to being perfinned creating sideways inverted stamps, they have also double perfinned in two places. Quite spectacular fine used piece and probably UNIQUE!!”

Seeing these on ebay I thought they showed that SG.3 of (Sargood Gardiner) might be a multi die device. Closer examination showed that the separation was not consistent and that this series of strikes was achieved with a single die device. The part sheet has been folded as the seller suggests but the horizontal strikes are a series of single strikes. It is a nice multiple but hardly unique as Sargood Gardiner were prolific postage users and I have since been shown some similar multiples.



GNSW Type D on Aerogramme as featured in David Andersen's "Australian Official Perfins" on pages 140 – 141. Sold for \$113.50 US with 15 bids



Nice Advertising stamps with perfins. Described as ZF but almost certainly a partial NZF.1 or NZF.1a. Still a rare multiple on advertising stamps.



Listed as “1913 5/- KANGAROO, 1st WATERMARK, PERFORATED "OS / NSW", FINE USED”. I suspect “fine used” is the most overused description on ebay. In any case \$212.50 with 13 bids represents strong interest.

1d KGV Engraved on HB&CO.3

(Ross Ewington)



Tasmanian Stamp Auctions closed 1 March 2014 Sold for \$37 A

**“(BB1512) AUSTRALIA - engraved 1d red KGV with H.B. & CO private perfin (H&B CO.3) - soundly used from Launceston”**

*“(BB1512) AUSTRALIA - engraved 1d red KGV with H.B. & CO private perfin (H&B CO.3) - soundly used from Launceston. Rated 'C' by Mathews however this is a much earlier use than the recorded 1921 and private perfins on this particular stamp are uncommon.”*

I agree (Ed) the Engraved KGV is one of the harder to find issues struck with a private perfin.

VG 3<sup>rd</sup> Watermark Mirror Pair 2<sup>nd</sup> Head

(Jason Rowe)



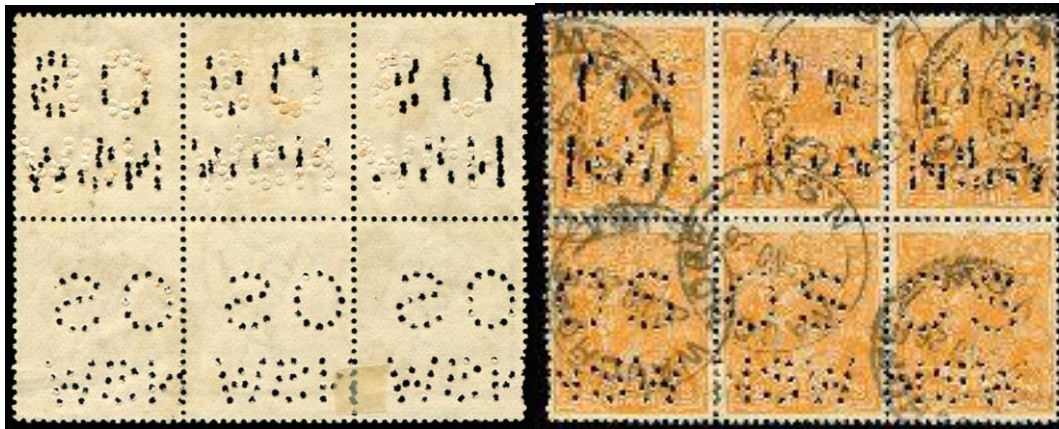
Examples of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Watermark are rarely found perforated VG. This position A Die 2 and position C Die 2 was sold on Ebay for just \$42.20

A rare multiple on this very hard to find value and watermark combination.

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OSNSW Type C multiple

(David Wood)

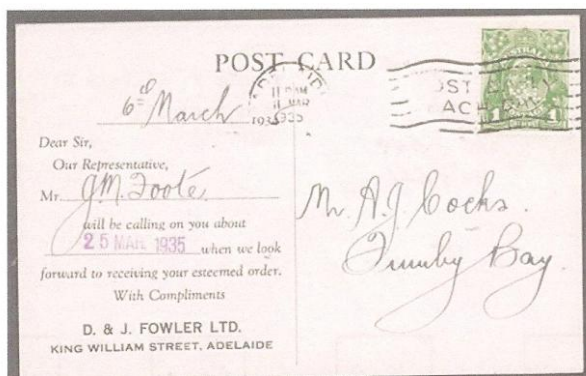


Phoenix Auction #28 March 2014. Lot 1130

A rare double strike multiple of the OSNSW Type C. Reserve \$90 Sold for \$115

Colourful Postcards of D&J Fowler

(Gary Watson)



Prestige Philately Auction # 190 May 2014 Lot 1285 Reserve \$190

Superb proving postcards of D&J Fowler lot of 3 (1 not pictured)

## 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)

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)

**PERFINS.COM.AU**

**THE place to visit for:**

**PCNZA Home Page.**

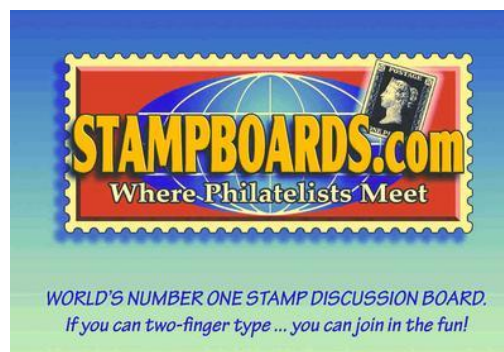
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