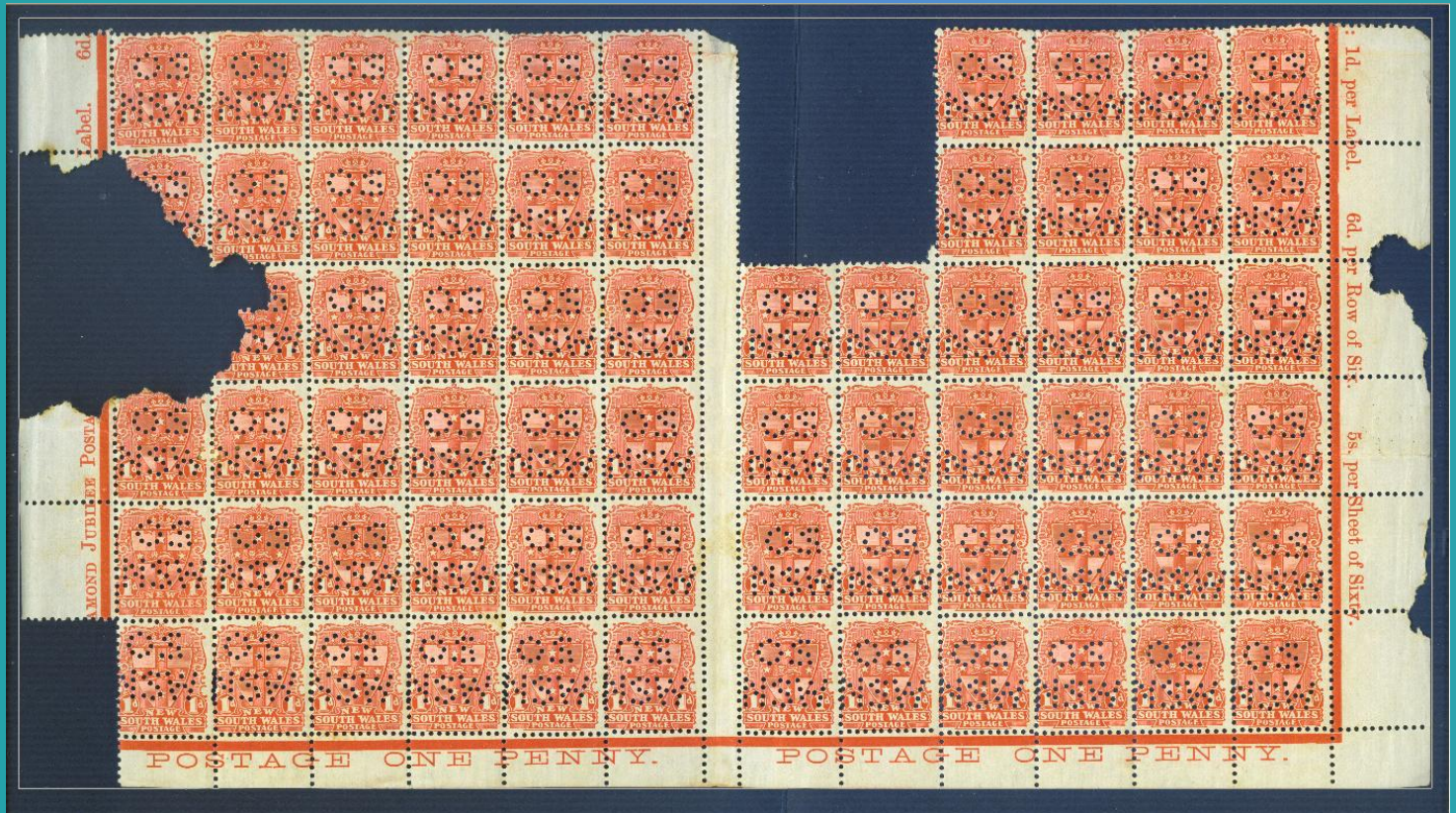


# SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN



THE BULLETIN OF THE PERFIN CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND  
AND AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED - A42434  
ESTABLISHED 1986

No. 111 October 2015



## FEATURE ARTICLES

- GNSW Type A Punctures
- Reviewing HAPP Part 2
- Auction Part 2 Enclosed

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 and NZ) 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) per annum. Back issues are available from the Secretary in both hardcopy and on CD.

## Committee

**President:** David Coath,  
4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria, 3095, Australia  
email: [davidcoath@onthe.net.au](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.au)

**Secretary & Editor:** David Coath,  
4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria 3095, Australia  
Email: [davidcoath@onthe.net.au](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.au)

**Treasurer:** Geoff Dane,  
18 Modbury St, Bungendore, NSW, 2621.  
Email: [geoff.dane@bigpond.com](mailto:geoff.dane@bigpond.com)

**Assistant Treasurer (NZ):** Richard Smolnicki,  
19 Oakleigh Street, Maungaraki, Lower Hutt, 5010 NZ  
Email: [rsmolnicki@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rsmolnicki@xtra.co.nz)

**Auctioneer:** Vacant

**Circuit Manager (Aust):** Mark Saxby,  
7 High Street, Greta NSW 2334 Australia  
Email: [saxbyml@bigpond.com](mailto:saxbyml@bigpond.com)

**Circuit Manager (NZ):** Ray Bennett,  
PO Box 354, Timaru, 7940 New Zealand  
Email: [rayben@xtra.co.nz](mailto:rayben@xtra.co.nz)

**Forgery Detection:** John Graham  
135 Stuart Street, Toowoomba, Qld, 4350.  
Email: [johngrah@ozemail.com.au](mailto:johngrah@ozemail.com.au)

## New Members

# 316 Robyn Thompson (Melbourne)

# 317 Steven McLachlan (Christchurch -NZ)

## Editors Comment

*By David Coath*

Welcome to the SPPB #111. This Issue was to have included the final article on the VG's by Jason Rowe and Neale Scott, however it was not available in time due to Jason's work commitments. I understand that Jason and Neale are still looking to update the VG Catalogue and make this available free to Members on Perfins.com.au

Tom Weir and Arthur Taylor have more than covered the delay in the VG articles with their detailed study of the Dies of the GNSW Type A. This is a ground breaking study and demystifies this complex set of dies.

I would also like to thank Members who have sent postage to help defray our high mailing costs, they were John Amiet, Les Vincent, Harold Waite and David McNamee. If you have any Australian, New Zealand, US or GB mint that you do not need, then please forward it to me and I will see it gets used in the PCNZA's mailings in Australia and New Zealand or is sent to our "Sister" Clubs, SAS/O and the GB Perfin Society.

## Front Cover

*By Arthur Taylor*

At the April Meeting in Sydney, Arthur Taylor shared a part sheet of the OSNSW Type B that he had purchased from one of the Dealers at the Sydney Show. It is an amazing and rare multiple that has now been set to John Graham at the Forgery Detection Unit. With John's imaging skills it is possible that this multiple could provide us with the reference data to expertise this device.

## Club Auction – July 2015

*By David Coath*

In this issue of the SPPB you will find Part 2 of the PCNZA 2015 Auction Catalogue.

It was a successful Auction with 20 Vendors, almost 40 Bidders, 293 Lots offered and over 60% sold. Now you have the opportunity to buy the remaining lots at their Reserve price. First in "bid" is the winner, so have a look at the enclosed Auction Part 2, and see what is available.

Remember all material is offered by Members and the Auction is only open to bids from Members. All payments will be made through the Treasurers (Aust. and NZ) and Members can use Members credits, cheques, cash and PayPal to pay for lots in Australia, New Zealand or from Overseas.

In addition there are 2 lots which are included in a Special Addendum to the July Auction, see the A4 insert to this Bulletin. They were either poorly described, in the case of Lot 287, or, in the case of Lot 115, they were missing from the July Auction. Be aware that bidding is required on these 2 Lots and they are not being offered at Reserve as is the case for the Unsold lots in Part 2 of the July Auction.

## Subscriptions Overdue

*By Geoff Dane*

Subscriptions for 2015/16 are now overdue and you would have received a Subscription Form in the last Bulletin.

Please note that due to currency movements, particularly in the Australian dollar, the rate for Membership for New Zealand Members is now just \$15 (NZ).



## Nominations for Committee Positions

*By David Coath*

In accordance with Section 11 of the Rules and Section 4 of the By Laws, the Club is calling for Nominations for positions on Committee for the following roles:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Member (Multiple positions)

Nominations need to be made to the Secretary by 31 Decemeber 2015.

## Web site Members area

*By Dave Elsmore*

A Test "Members Area" has been created on Perfins.com.au . At present the "Members Area" only has some rudimentary features but these will be developed in the future.

In time the "Members Area" will contain the Club Committee, Rules, By Laws, Library Lists, Back issues of the Bulletin and a Listing of the Australian Postal issues found with the PCNZA pattern, which is currently being developed by Peter Simpfendorfer.

Access will be limited to Members and will be based on a password. This part of the site is currently being tested and developed, more details in the January Bulletin.

## Meet a Member – David McNamee

*By David McNamee and David Coath*

*Introduction – David Coath*

Much of the following article appeared in the October issue of "The Informer", which is the Bulletin of the "Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania" (SAS/O). The SAS/O is one of the "Sister" Clubs of the PCNZA and they share many Members. Much as we do with the British Society of Australian Philately (BSAP), (the specialist Society in the U.K. which covers the Colonies, and the Commonwealth of Australia) as well as the Perfin Club of the US and the GB Perfin Society.

The SAS/O was founded in 1936 and the Society is 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 around the World and the current roster of directors and officers includes members from Canada, New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom.

The SAS/O conducts an Annual General Meeting, each year, in conjunction with a major philatelic show. Participation is encouraged in the exhibits at the affiliated show and the society sponsors special Gold, Silver and Bronze medals for the three best exhibits with an Australasian theme.

I would encourage Members to consider joining the SAS/O as it is a wonderful opportunity to form lifelong friendships with other collectors who share your enthusiasm for Australasian philately.

Furthermore the Societies publication, "The Informer", is a high quality publication in full colour with about 20 A4 pages of content and it is issued quarterly.

David McNamee is one of the cross over Members of both the SAS/O and the PCNZA, having joined the PCNZA in July 2000 as Member #192. He has long been

the Editor of "The Informer" and this insight into his collecting was part of the "The Informer", Vol. 79 No. 4, of October 2015.

David has combined his interests in Tasmanian philately and perfin to produce some of the best Perfin exhibits in the world. These are available to be viewed at [Perfins.com.au](http://Perfins.com.au), just click the "Perfin Exhibits" tab, they are:

"Perfins on Tasmanian Stamps" (4 Frames)

This is a in depth study of both the Official and the Private perfins found on the postage and revenue stamps of Tasmania, and was awarded a National Gold Medal at PIPEX May 2012 Portland, Oregon, USA.

"Focus on the Holes - Tasmania's Private Perfins" (1 Frame)

This is an exhibit of Tasmanian private perfins on both postage and revenue stamps.

For more information on the SAS/O access their website at <http://www.sasoceania.org/>

### ***Meet a Member - David McNamee***

Looking back on 40 years of membership in the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania (SAS/O), I am saddened to see where we are from where we were. At first I thought it was the enthusiasm and energy of my youth versus the weariness and pain of turning 70. I have come to the final chapters of my collecting life, but the hobby must go on — but can it? I have to believe it will.



November 1975, Age 30, Chairman of SUNPEX at Sunnyvale, CA. My first run exhibiting "Tasmania Pictorials"



David McNamee, September 2013

In January 1975, when my application for membership was published, SAS/O was known by another name. Then we had 281 members, but this was the start of a period of rapid growth that saw us grow to 595 members by 1981. This was the "high water mark" of the Society.

During this period "The Informer" was published and distributed monthly (12 pages). Articles of interest covered the broad spectrum of our Members' collecting areas. There were annual conventions and exhibitions that involved an average of 10% of the membership. It was exciting to be a part of such a vibrant group! Only 49 of those members from March 1981 are still members today. Only 11 members have been members longer than I have, so the march of time moves on.

Today we have less than 200 members and this has meant that the content of the Informer has thinned, but on the positive side, advertisers continue to support our journal's costs, which has kept our membership dues low.

But lower Membership numbers means that we have difficulty staging a convention because so few people are willing to come and fewer Members are exhibiting. This has also affected our elected and appointed positions as fewer Members are able to volunteer.

How did we get to this sad state? Old age, death, the sale of our collections, other interests have taken a toll on SAS/O membership and participation. These losses are not being offset by new members. It is the same story all over philately, so it is doubtful that we could have prevented this. Our Society is nearly 80 years old, so perhaps old age is catching up with us as well.

With my own collecting, I figured out some time ago that I really do not collect stamps. After forming a number of collections, including some that were complete, they quickly lost their attraction and were soon sold. I built a number of exhibits, but after showing them a few times, they lost my interest too. That is when I figured out that what I really collect is knowledge. I use philately to explore the depth and breadth of knowledge about people, places and things, in another time, in other parts of the world. It is a great hobby for the armchair explorer. Google gives me some of the same feelings, except that it lacks the physical touch of historic documents and letters and the discovery of new information no one has reported.

I have sold most of my Tasmania, hopefully to the delight of other collectors, and I have turned my attention elsewhere (Southern Africa, if you must know), so I am giving up the post of Editor of "The Informer" for the SAS/O, in favour of someone else who is still continuing to search and learn about Pacific philately., and who has a collection that can be drawn upon when the in-basket is bare (like now).

I retained a few small areas of Tassie that have not been well-documented, I still have a decent personal library of Pacific philately, and I am still a Life Member of SAS/O, but I need to be moving on.

I have been a member of the Royal Philatelic Society of London for nearly 40 years and a Fellow of the Royal for close to 20 years. With my new interests in Africa I have become the Secretary-Treasurer of the "Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa" (PSGSA) as well as a member of the UK-based "Transvaal Study Circle" and the "Cape and Natal Study Circle". My Pacific interests are served by the "Tasmanian Philatelic Society" (TPS), Royal Sydney Philatelic Society, and I belong to numerous other groups to receive their journals, either out of a broad interest like "Disinfected Study Circle" or because I found them useful to prepare for judging stamp show exhibits, such as the Confederate States Alliance and the New York Collectors Club.

I wish every one of you all the very best with their collecting.

## Reviewing Questionable Listings in HAPP

*By David Coath, Greg Howard and Dave Elsmore*

Further to the article in SPPB #110 here are some more listings from the Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (HAPP) - 2003 that we consider questionable. But as with the earlier article we make a case for each with the evidence that is available.

As it happens we overlooked some from the letters A - C in our first article, so this article will cover the letters A - E.

As we stated in the article in SPPB #110, most of the misreports date from Commercial Perfins of Australia (CPA) - 1992, and may have been in the initial Study of Australian Perfins by Joe Purcell and other Members of the US Perfins Club and others. However these have all been restated in HAPP and it is this more current listing that we are seeking to correct, as it represents the most recent statement on the ongoing study.

The various pattern misreports come in a few general types as follows:

Reports of Security overprints as Perfin patterns

Reports of Customised Queensland Railway stamps as Perfin patterns

Reports based on partial strikes of larger patterns reported as different patterns  
Separate listings for patterns produced from the same device but with missing pins  
Overseas patterns on Australian stamps with no evidence of true Australian use.

Many of these reports are listed in HAPP, and earlier in CPA, as “reported but not seen” and furthermore they then often feature confirmed users. Now we appreciate that at the time that the seminal study of Australian Private Perfins was done, the nature and methods of collection and sharing of information were less developed, but the mixture of an unsighted pattern and a confirmed user is a recipe for error. This fact will be borne out in this and later articles on this subject.

This article will cover just the letters A - E.

## AC.2

The AC.2 pattern is attributed to Arthur Cocks & Co, notably so is AC&CO.1. HAPP lists the patterns as follows:

AC.2 Melbourne 1910 - 1941

AC&CO.1 Sydney 1899 - 1944

But they are actually not two patterns but one.

We have found no postmark evidence on any AC.2 to suggest that the “device” existed in Melbourne and furthermore, despite the HAPP listing it with a V, neither can we find it used on the postage stamps of Victoria.

Looking closely at many examples of AC&CO.1 it is clear that the pattern is often found as a partial.



Importantly these examples of partial strikes show a strike of the top of the pattern and then an indistinct, or even missing part of the bottom of the pattern. This is a feature of other tall patterns such as RICOLD.1. Note also that the “closing” pins of the C are also sometimes missing.

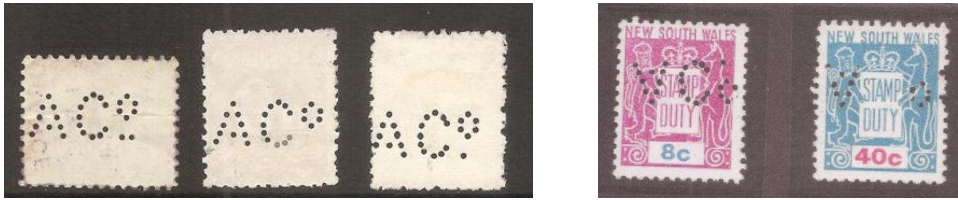
This partial strike of AC&CO.1 that appears to be AC is most common in the late 1930's and 1940's but it is, less frequently, in evidence at other times as well. This most likely lead to the report of AC.2 over such a long period. Also the pattern is rated a Rare. If there had been an AC.2 device in use in the Melbourne office from 1910 until 1941, as HAPP states, then the pattern is unlikely to have been rare. And why no devices, or evidence of use in Cocks other locations in Adelaide and Brisbane, given that these and the Melbourne office were all in existence prior to 1913.

Now AC.2 could be considered to be a separate pattern if it was a change in the AC&CO.1 device that created AC.2. Refer RICO.3, but this is not the case with AC.2/AC&CO.1 as they coexist.

The conclusion is that AC.2 is a partial of AC&CO.1 and is not a separate pattern and it can be deleted.

## ACO.1 and ACO.2

As with AC.2 and AC&CO.1, ACO.1 and ACO.2 are strikes of the same device with ACO.1 being a partial strike of ACO.2.



NB. ACO on Decimal NSW Revenues courtesy of Bill Harley.

The patterns are identical but for the absence of the 2 pins under the O in ACO.1. In HAPP the 2 patterns are both attributed to the Sydney office of Alliance Assurance, but the usage listed in HAPP does not match our findings as follows:

HAPP usage	Our findings
ACO.1 (No pins under O) 1910 - 1950	1940-1949
ACO.2 (Pins under O) 1900 - 1966	1899 - 1940 (1966)

The period of ACO.1 (No pins under O) is mainly restricted to the period 1940 - 1950. The device seems to have been discontinued in about 1950 but returned to service about 1966 as it is reported on Decimal NSW Revenue stamps. In this later state, circa 1966, one of the pins under the O returns suggesting that the device was serviced or repaired.

In summary the patterns listed as ACO.1 and ACO.2 are merely 2 states of a single pattern produced from the same device and are best described as “missing pin” variations of the same pattern. Such missing pin variations do not warrant listing as a separate pattern. This is similar to the situation for HS.3 and HS.4, see the article by Arthur Taylor and David Coath in SPPB # 104 pages 13 - 17.

Accordingly we believe that ACO.1 can be deleted.

## D.4

The D.4 report follows the familiar pattern of being a proven user, in this case Davies & Davies Ltd, in the absence of a pattern or information about what issues it is found on. This suggests that the pattern was not sighted, but most likely came from a list of “known” patterns.

The report dates from CPA and is restated in HAPP, but no pattern has been subsequently reported in the SPPB. CPA listed only 4 “D” patterns but HAPP lists a total of 8 “D” patterns. 5 of these are Melbourne patterns (D.1, .2, .3, .5 and .7) 1 is unknown, (D.8), but this is similar in scale to .3 and .7, so is most likely a Melbourne pattern. D.6 is a Sydney pattern used around 1922 - 1924 but this is after the company of Davies & Davies Ltd ceased trading.

Given that the pattern has not been sighted and reports based on unsighted patterns have proved to be spurious, we conclude that this pattern can be deleted.

## DOYLE.1

Again the DOYLE report follows the familiar pattern of other suspect reports, being a proven user in the absence of a pattern or information about what issues it is found on. This suggests that the pattern was not sighted but most likely came from a list of “known” patterns.



The report dates from CPA and is restated in HAPP. The stated “confirmed” user is certainly a possible perfin user.

P J Doyle (later Pty Ltd) are known to have begun business at Thursday Island in 1889, as a supplier of liquor and cigarettes, and extended operations to Cairns in 1899, where it was to later take over Cummins and Campbells, and Joseph Pease. In 1938 P.J. Doyle Pty Ltd was itself taken over by Carlton United Breweries, however operations have continued under the original trading name.

Given that the pattern has not been sighted and reports based on unsighted patterns have proved to be spurious we conclude that this pattern can be deleted.

## ESCA.1

ESCA.1 was initially reported in CPA and is another example of a pattern listing that was “Reported but not seen”. It was given the provisional user “Engineering Supply Co. of Australia” and stated to have been found on the postage stamps of Australia. This report was reproduced in HAPP.

The report is most likely based on the customised Queensland Railway stamp, which is found in a variety of values and with locations in both Brisbane and Townsville, there are also a series of differing fonts known, see below.



As with similar miss reports of perfins based on other security methods, such as Customised railway stamps or Security overprints, it is clear that the stamps were not sighted by the authors of CPA and were most likely based on lists provided as part of the Purcell or related studies.

We are confident that the perfin pattern ESCA.1 does not exist and that the listing can be deleted.

## Future Articles

Space in this issue of the Bulletin does not permit consideration of anymore patterns but we will have more in the next Bulletin including: ET.6 and .7, FA.2, FBCOLD.1, HB&S.1, HUB.1, IAF.1 and K.1.

## Members Wants

*By Stellen Swenson, Bob Littlehales, Bill Harley and Robert Dedecker*

Most of these were noted in recent Bulletins and are summarized as follows:

Stellen Swenson is looking for an example of a Swedish Perfin cover that has been sent to either Australia or New Zealand. Stellen can be contacted by mail at: Odonbarsvagen 32, SE - 293 41 OLOFSTROM, SWEDEN.

Bob Littlehales would like proving covers of Toowoomba based users such as MCP.1, MCP.2, and others, Bobs address is PO Box 7414, Toowoomba, Qld, 4350, or on email at [bob\\_benny@bigpond.com](mailto:bob_benny@bigpond.com)

Robert Dedecker from France, wants a cover with a French perfin that has been sent to Australia, Roberts address is 4 Les Gericles, 60520 POTARME, France, or on email at: [dedeckerr@yahoo.fr](mailto:dedeckerr@yahoo.fr)

Bill Harley is looking to build his collection of GB perfin patterns. Bill is interested in all reigns but will pay more for items which have clear readable postmarks. Bill's address is PO Box 1295, Dubbo, NSW, 2830. If you have any to offer then ring Bill on 02 6881 8319.

Prof Dr Dirk Spennemann from the School of Environmental Sciences at Charles Sturt University in Albury NSW is researching the history, marketing and distribution of Redcliffe Crown Corrugated Iron.

That company has been provisionally assigned as the user of GB Perfin R0980.01. The perfin reads "RCG/ICo" and has been interpreted as "Redcliffe Crown Galvanised Iron Co".

Dirk is looking for images of a Proving Cover for this perfin. He is also interested in scans of single stamps with this perfin. Can any Member assist?

Note a similar advert will appear in a later issue of the GB Bulletin. Dirk can be contacted at: School of Environmental Sciences, Charles Sturt University, P.O.Box 789, Albury NSW 2640,Australia. Phone: +61-2-6051 9947 E-mail: [dspennemann@csu.edu.au](mailto:dspennemann@csu.edu.au)

If you have some particular perfin interest that you need help with, then please contact the Editor and we can arrange a Members Want advertisement for you.

## Interesting Korean Perfin Card

*By Brian Fuller*

I found the following perfined card in an Auction lot that I purchased at one of my local stamp Clubs. It was produced for PHILAKOREA and I have found it with the perfin (?) and without. Only the card with the perfin (?) has the PHILAKOREA hand stamp on the reverse so it may have been part of the cancelling process.



Back of Postcard



Front of Postcard

## Officials with Missing Strikes

*By David Coath, Colin Clark-Hutchison, John Graham, John Mathews and Michael Kino*

These items were submitted by Michael Kino and we felt that they were interesting items and worthy of study and sharing. They were featured in an Article in the last Bulletin (#110) and scans were submitted to John Graham at the PCNZA Forgery Detection Sub Committee for assessment.

*1928 Kooka with Missing Strike    1927 Canberra with Missing strike*



### *The 1928 Kooka with Missing Strike*

Firstly a correction, in the Article in SPPB #110 we stated that in reference to the puncturing method used on the 1930 Sturt issue and therefore, most likely, the method used on the 1928 Kooka that:



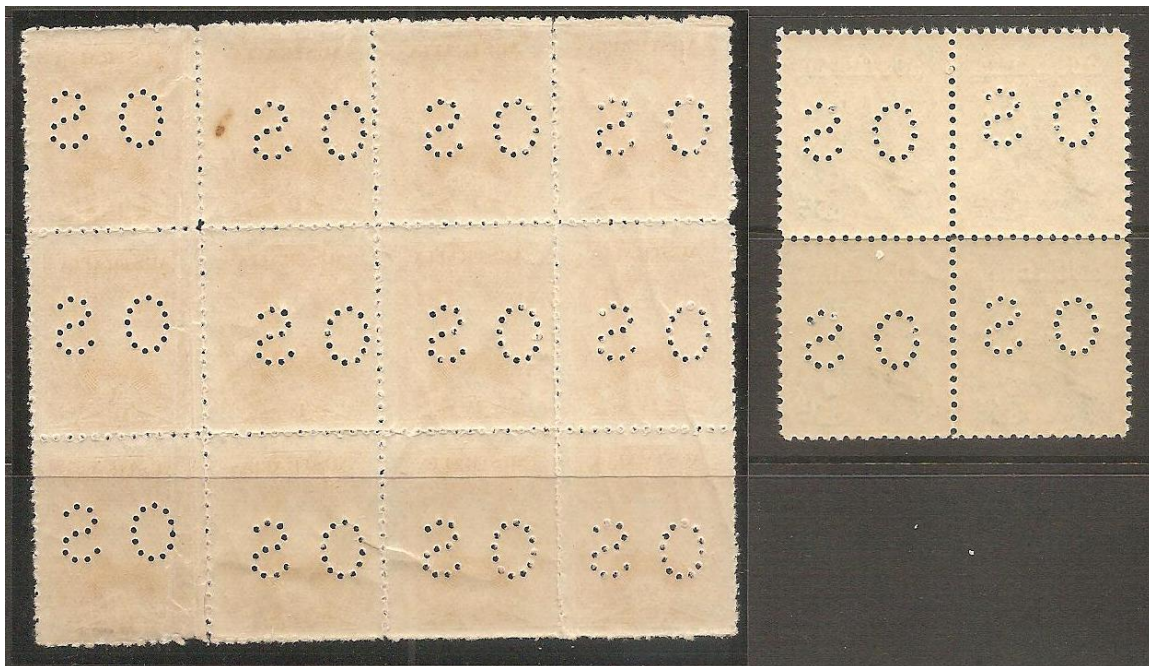
"Note that there is a shift in the relationship between the first 3 columns and the last column (viewed from the front) in the Block of 12 of the 2d Sturt. This suggests that the operator only used the 2nd bank of 6 dies (dies 7 – 12) and he punctured the first 6 (out of 10) Kookas and that he then used this same bank of dies to puncture the remaining 4 Kookas with dies 7 – 10."

However John Mathews suggested that this would produce "double strikes" and that these are not in evidence.

John is correct and the most likely puncturing method was mistakenly described, it is more correctly described as follows:

"Note that there is a shift in the relationship between the first 3 columns and the last column (viewed from the front) in the Block of 12 of the 2d Sturt. (see below) This suggests that the operator first used the 2nd bank of 6 dies (dies 7 – 12) and he punctured the first 6 (out of 10 from the left) Kookas and that he then used this 1st bank of dies (dies 1 – 6) to puncture the remaining 4 Kookas (from the right) with dies 1 – 4."

Now it is possible under this process that the operator used a variation of the above, such as first dies 7,8 or 9 – 12 and then making the second strike with dies 1 to 4,5 or 6. Such variation of puncturing method is certainly present in use of the 2nd Head VG, which is a similar construction to the OS Type H, when the 2nd Head VG is used to puncture the smaller format KGV issues.



This is the Reverse image of OS Type H used on 2d Sturt (1930) Block of 12 and Blue Kooka (1928) Block of 4 as featured in SPPB#110. Note the shift in the banks of horizontal strikes indicating that the puncturing was done in 2 actions.

Editors Note: Thanks to Gary Watson of MOSSGREEN Auctions for his efforts in arranging high quality scans of multiples of OS Typr F's on the the late 1920's Commemoratives from "The Arthur Gray KGV Collection". These and other examples of the OS were used by John Graham to build a database of this pattern so as to allow it to be expertise by the Forgery Detection Sub Committee.





A similar item, showing the shift in strikes, appeared as Part of Lot 414 in MOSSGREEN's auction of "The Arthur Gray KGV Collection" held on 30 October 2015. This Auction featured an amazing array of multiples of these early Commemoratives, and many perforated OS.

It is interesting to note that in this example the shift occurs at the centre of the sheet, as indicated by the imprint.

Image courtesy of MOSSGREEN Auctions (Melbourne)

Now this puncturing method may seem like a lot of trouble to go to in order to puncture these stamps OS. But the approach of the Federal and State printing offices, who were charged with perforating stamps, seems to have been to use manual practices to overcome the mismatch between a perforating device and the layout of a stamp issue.

This is clearly shown with the T puncture from Tasmania that was a stop gap in 1905 and yet it remained in place until the 1970's. The same is true of the GNSW Type C and the 2nd Head of the VG. Such Operator based methods along with folding (Queensland OS on Chalons), and tearing up of sheets (OS Type F used on Tasmanian Pictorials) appear to be the norm.

Now as explained in the Article in SPPB # 110 the missing row on this 1928 Kooka is possible, but unlikely, to judge authenticity, mainly it is the pattern that will tell.

We submitted the item to John Graham at the Forgery Detection Sub-Committee for an Opinion and he made the following statement:

The "3d Kooka pair with one OS puncture fails on all counts. The puncture bears no relationship whatsoever to the normal KGV OS puncture, ... Completely impossible."

This is conclusive, as suspected in the article in SPPB #110 this item is a forgery.

### ***The 1927 Canberra with Missing strike***

The other example with a missing strike was a 1 1/2d Canberra. This is less likely to be a true strike as it is hard to imagine how an operator with a 10 die vertical device could fail to strike one of only 8 rows of stamps. More likely would be strikes of the OS found in the top and/or bottom selvedge.

In any case John's assessment of this pattern was scathing. "Michael Kino's 1 1/2d Canberra with one OS puncture also fails on all counts. The puncture bears no relationship whatsoever to the normal Type F OS puncture. Again completely impossible."

Again this is conclusive, as suspected in the article in SPPB #110, this item is a forgery.

### *Summary*

Rarities in Official perfin strikes certainly exist. Double, even triple strikes, inverted strikes and missing strikes are all reported. In fact as the format of Australian postage stamps changed in the late 1930's, such varieties in the positions of patterns became commonplace. This is because operators used devices designed to be used on KGV and other outdated formats of stamps to puncture the new formats.

But as a rule prior to the introduction of the KGV Definitives almost all strikes of Official patterns will be found upright and struck from the front.

When you find something different you should treat it with suspicion and consider sending it off to John Graham at the Forgery Detection Unit to get an Opinion.

## The GNSW Type A Punctures – Unravelling the Dies

*By Tom Weir, Arthur Taylor and David Coath*

According to Andersen (2007) the G/NSW Type A puncturing head was introduced in mid May 1933 and was in use until the smaller format KGV stamps came into use in 1937. It was a modification of the OS/NSW Type C made by removing the S and modifying the O into a G and was thus of the same format as the OS/NSW Type C puncturing head. This was of 12 dies arranged horizontally into two groups of 6 separated by a space to allow for the gutter between the left and right panes. This primarily suited the layout of the KGV heads, although it was also applied to a few Kangaroo issues as well as the 1932 Zoological series, 1934–48 Airmail, 1935 Anniversary of Anzac and 1935 Jubilee of KGV. The KGV heads were values with either Small Multi watermark (perf 13.5 x 12.5) or C of A watermark.

The first published attempt to sort out the 12 dies was by H. A. Hammond in 1954. With the help of G. E. Owen and E. N. Palmer, he used about 400 KGV 1d Green stamps consisting of strips and singles with constant plate flaws and produced the following interpretation as shown in Figure 1. As you would imagine, this illustration is rather crude by today's standards, but it gave the first insight into the difficulties of distinguishing the 12 dies. In fact he quotes, "From a philatelic point of view this head is rather a disappointment as it was very carefully made and, with the exception of the G on Nos 1 & 2 of the right pane, there are no outstanding differences in any of the letters so that the plating of single stamps is practically impossible".

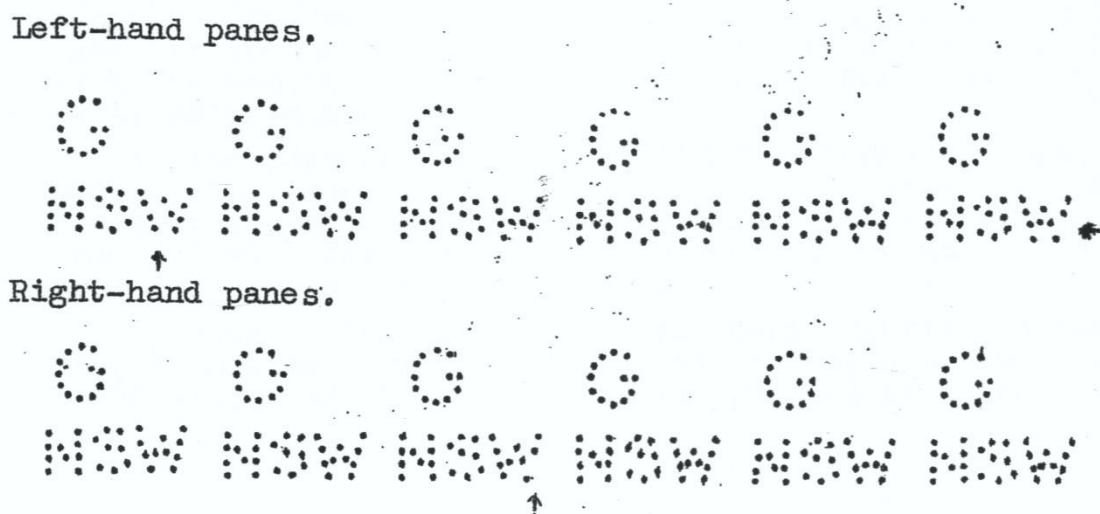


Figure 1: Die layout 1 to 6 and 7 to 12 from Hammond 1954



Hammond also noted that there were missing pins exhibited by the stamps he examined. This correlates well with the statement by Andersen that "Damage to the G/NSW dies in the form of missing pins appeared quickly". The topic of missing pins will be discussed at a later date.

All three of us have been collecting KGV heads with this G/NSW Type A puncture for a while and we thought it might be possible to apply new ideas and techniques to the problems encountered by Hammond. One of us (Tom Weir) has been studying constant plate flaws on KGV heads of all values for many years and it was concluded that this could be used in a way similar to that used by Hammond to determine with certainty the identity of the 12 dies. Used in conjunction with pairs, strips and gutter blocks from all of us, totalling many thousands of stamps, we believe that we can now present the layout of the 12 dies with certainty and can supply details of how to tell the 12 dies apart.

Our interpretation of the layout of the 12 Dies are as in Figures 2 and 3:



Figure 2: Reconstructed Die layout 1 to 6 and 7 to 12 of GNSW punctures using correlated strips of 3 of 4d Olive and 2d Red.



**Figure 3: Reconstructed reverse Die layout 6 to 1 and 12 to 7 of GNSW punctures using correlated strips of 3 of 4d Olive.**

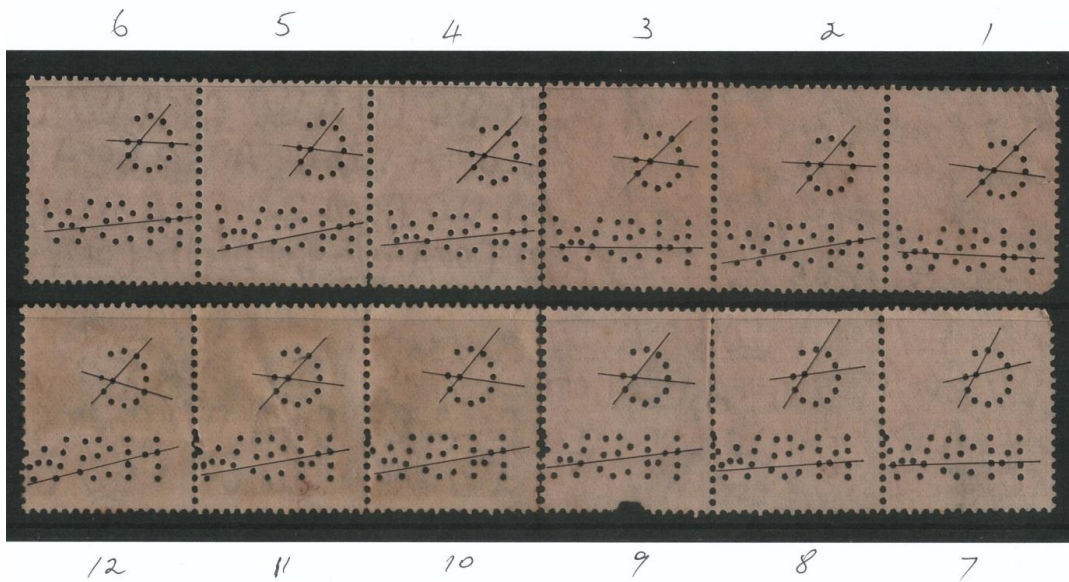
In order to help distinguish between the 12 dies, we need to have a numbering system for the holes in the letters G, N, S & W. This numbering system is shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 4: 4d Olive Die 2 showing the numbering of the holes.**

The dies can be placed into six different groupings according a series of lines drawn through various holes of the letters G, N and W. These lines are shown in Figure 5. Our groupings are initially determined by the angle of the line passing through holes 11 and 12 of G in relation to hole 5 of G.





**Figure 5: 4d Olive as in Figure 3 showing lines used to distinguish the various Dies.**

**Group 1: Dies 2 and 6:** The line through holes 11 and 12 of G passes through hole 5 of G.

In **Die 2** the line through holes 10 and 12 of G passes the edge of hole 3 of G.

In **Die 6** the line through holes 10 and 12 of G clearly passes between holes 2 and 3 of G.

**Group 2: Dies 1, 3, 5 and 9:** The line through holes 11 and 12 of G passes the lower edge of hole 5 of G.

In **Dies 1 and 3** the line through holes 10 and 12 of G passes through hole 3 of G. It is difficult to then distinguish between Dies 1 and 3, but the following will help:

In **Die 1** the line through holes 6 and 8 of N passes just above hole 3 of W.

In **Die 3** the line through holes 6 and 8 of N passes through hole 3 of W.

In **Dies 5 and 9** the line through holes 10 and 12 of G clearly passes between holes 2 and 3 of G. It is then difficult to distinguish between Dies 5 and 9, but the following will help:

In **Die 5** the line through holes 3 and 5 of N passes just above hole 4 of W.

In **Die 9** the line through holes 3 and 5 of N passes through hole 3 of G.

**Group 3: Dies 4, 10 & 11:** The line through holes 11 and 12 of G clearly passes between holes 5 and 6 of G.

In **Die 11** the line through holes 10 and 12 of G passes through hole 3 of G.

In **Dies 4 and 10**, the line through holes 10 and 12 of G passes the upper edge of hole 3 of G. It is difficult to then distinguish between Dies 4 and 10, but the following will help:

In **Die 4** the line through holes 3 and 5 of N passes through hole 3 of W.

In **Die 10** the line through holes 3 and 5 of N passes just below hole 3 of W.

**Group 4: Die 12:** The line through holes 11 and 12 of G passes almost through hole 6 of G and the line through holes 10 and 12 of G passes through hole 3 of G.

**Group 5: Die 7:** The line through holes 11 and 12 of G passes through hole 4 of G and the line through holes 10 and 12 of G passes through hole 2 of G.

**Group 6: Die 8:** The line through holes 11 and 12 of G passes between holes 4 and 5 of G and the line through holes 10 and 12 of G passes between holes 2 and 3 of G.

From what has been said above you can see that it is not at all easy to determine the correct Die for individual stamps in all cases unless they show a constant plate flaw. Some are easier than others; for example, in the last 3 groups with single dies, Dies 7, 8 and 12 have features that stand out from the rest. In Group 1, Dies 2 and 6 can usually be distinguished from each other. In Group 2 the difficulty lies in distinguishing between Dies 1 and 3 and between Dies 5 and 9. Group 3 allows for the separation of Die 11 but there is difficulty in distinguishing between Dies 4 and 10.

If you have pairs of stamps, the task becomes a little easier as each pair can only have one place in the row of 12 dies. It gets easier with multiples of 3 or more in strips as their positions can be determined with even more certainty.

One thing that makes the determining of a particular die much harder is poorly punctured holes in the stamps, and these occur with regularity. The poorly punched holes make it difficult to accurately line up the holes needed in the identification outlined above.

The following Figures show some of the examples used in the Die layout determination:



Figure 6: 1d Green showing Dies 1, 2 & 3 and 9.



Figure 7: 2d Red showing Dies 7, 8 and 9.





Figure 8: 1 1/2d Brown showing Dies 6 and 7. Figure 9: 3d Blue showing Dies 6 and 7.



Figure 10: 4d Olive showing Dies 7, 8, 9 and 10.



Figure 11: 2d Red showing Dies 10, 11 and 12 (left) and Dies 4, 5 and 6 (right)

This concludes the first part of our determination of the Dies of the G/NSW Type A puncturing head. Further articles will give more detailed close-ups of the 12 different dies, discuss the issue of missing pins and how that can be applied to each die, variances in the position of the punctures on each stamp, inverted punctures, forgeries and stamps other than KGV heads that have the G/NSW Type A punctures applied.

#### REFERENCES:

Andersen, D. 2007. *Australian Official Perfins 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*. Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia. 216pp.

Hammond, H. A. 1954. G/NSW puncturing head. *Australian Commonwealth Specialists Society of Great Britain Bulletin 1954*. p 166–167.

#### *Editors Comment*

This article came together rather fortuitously. Arthur had been working on these dies of late and had produced what he considered to be an accurate “mock up” image of the 12 dies. With Arthur’s help to get me started, I had also been working on a “mock up” and was fairly confident that what I had showed the 12 dies in the correct order. Both Arthur and I had used horizontal multiples as the basis of our images.

But the article really took shape when we shared our findings with Tom, and Tom shared his extremely thorough research into these difficult dies, and it is this research that is the main input into this article.

Tom had used multiples as well, but he had not been satisfied with just proving the dies by this means. Based on his knowledge of the plateable flaws on the KGV he proceeded to prove the location of each die, and not only for a single value, but for all values found with the GNSW Type A. This is very similar to the method used by Neale Scott in his Exhibit on the VG’s that later formed the basis of the “Victorian Government Punctures (5<sup>th</sup> Edition Scott/Toop – 1993).

Tom is to be congratulated on his excellent study and we should all look forward to the next chapter of his ground breaking research in future SPPB’s.

## Double Strikes

*By David Coath*

In the article on “Reviewing Questionable Listings in HAPP” that appeared in SPPB #110, we identify the pattern listed as CK&W.1 as being questionable, as it appears to be a Double strike with the component patterns being CK.2 and CW.2.

These double strikes are rare but they need to be seen for what they are and not considered to be separate patterns and were reported in Commercial Perfins of Australia CPA 1992. The following is an extract from page 28:

#### **Multiple Punctures**

There are instances recorded where a single stamp was struck with two separate perfins, known to have been used by separate firms. The example at right illustrates the perfins RRC.1 and GSC.1 on a one penny King George V stamp of approximately 1915.

Presumably these multiple punctures occurred where a stamp punctured in a batch for a particular firm, was caught up in a separate batch for a different purchaser. These multiple perfins, while of little beauty, are of considerable interest.

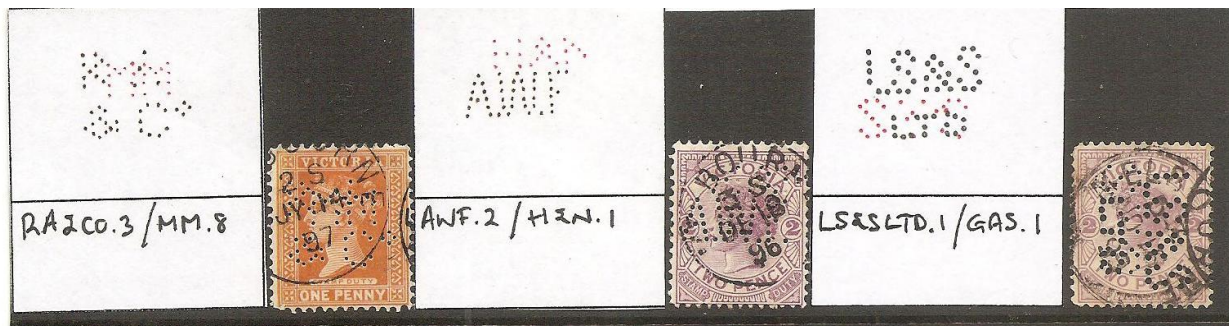






Now the CK.2 and CW.2 double strike (see image on left) looks like it could be a CK&W, if you ignore the shape of the C of CW.2, but given that these double strikes were reported in CPA, this pattern should have been seen for what it is.

Here are some other double strikes. I recall seeing one at a Club Meeting in Sydney some years ago, as I recall it was submitted by Lindsay Parker.



### ***RA&CO.3 and MM.8***

The first of these is RA&CO.3 and MM.8. It is impossible to say which strike was first and it scarcely matters. Both patterns are from Temporary dies that were used by Stamp Vendors. The likely reason for this double strike is that the Stamp Vendor made up too many stamps for one client and then had to reuse them. Logic would suggest that it was more likely that the MM was over struck with the larger and more complex pattern, but the Stamp Vendors margins were likely so slim that either is possible.

I have called this RA&CO.3 because it is the scale and size of RA&CO.3 but has no serifs. I note that the 2005 Update to HAPP the words "also found without serifs" were added.

### ***AWF.2 and H&N.1***

The next is AWF.2 and H&N.1. This is an odd mixture of a Customised pattern and a Temporary pattern together. The postmark shows usage in 1896. These were dark days for the Australian Widows Life Assurance Society (user of AWF) as it had lost heavily in the Land Boom that had collapsed in the early 1890's and in 1896 the AWF wrote off a total of £125,000 capital as losses from the Boom. Perhaps they sold some of their stamps back to a Stamp Vendor and he reused them. Remember the postal regulations regarding perfins meant that they could not cash them in at the Post Office. Another possible reason is that the Stamp Vendor was willing to sell his over production of H&N at a discount to AWF. But this seems unlikely as Holdenson and Nielson were consistent users of 2d values so from 1896 - 1901.

### ***LS&SLTD.1 and GAS.1***

The final example is another mix of a Customised pattern with a Temporary pattern in this case LS&SLTD.1 and GAS.1. As before we can only speculate on how the double strike occurred. Both users were well established companies whose perfin use transcends this use in 1899. The dominant pattern is clearly LS&SLTD.1 and this makes it more likely that this company was the actual user of the stamp. There is a case to be made that the 2d was first perfined with GAS.1.

In 1899 the Metropolitan Gas company had their own customised perforator, GAS.2, which was in use from 1888 until 1940. However they also purchased stamps from Stamp Vendors with various GAS Temporary patterns such as GAS.1, .6 and .7, but there are other unlisted GAS Temporary patterns numbered GAS.8 - 12 and I have seen further examples of these that would add 4 - 5 extra GAS Temporary patterns to the list. All with usage between 1899 and 1905.

Now the vast majority of these GAS patterns are struck on 1d Orange and later 1d Pink QV issues, as the primary use was for the mailing of accounts. Therefore it is conceivable that the 2d may have been an over production of the GAS.1, which the vendor sold on to another user. Then the LS&SLTD.1 pattern was applied and this almost obliterated the initial perfin with its larger and thicker pinned device.

If anyone has an example of a Double Strike of a Private Perfin then send in a scan and we will share it with other Members.

## An Interesting GNSW Type C Item

*By David Coath*

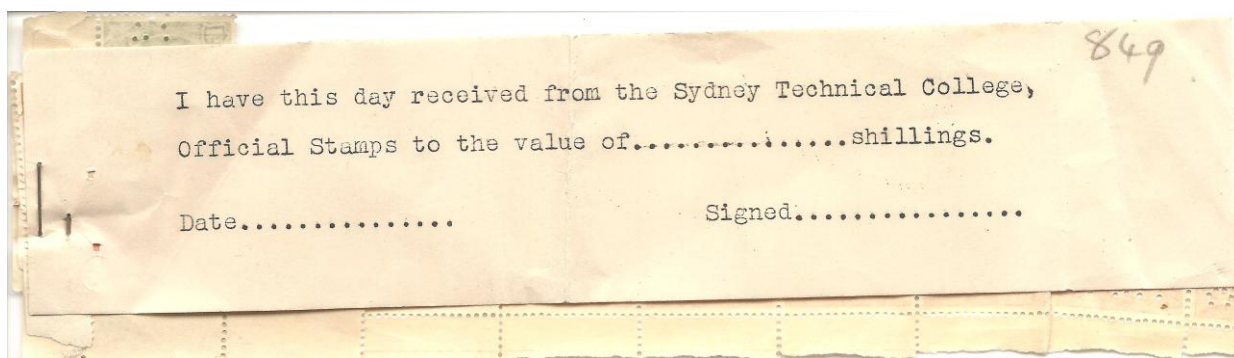


Image reduced slightly

Above are the receipt and, presumably, the part content of a distribution of GNSW Type C.

The issues are the 1/2d Kangaroo (perf 14x143/4) issued January 1942, 1d Brown QM (wmk) issued January 1943, and the 1 1/2d Green QM (wmk) issued December 1942, so the piece dates from about 1943.

The Receipt is interesting as the point of distribution is not a central source but rather a remote user, the Sydney Technical College. The Receipt, which is incomplete as it lacks total value, date and signature, may not have been issued, but it indicates that distribution of punctured stamps could occur below the level of a School user. The number 849 in the top right hand corner of the Receipt is in pencil and may be contemporary, suggesting that some log of issued stamps was kept.

But this seems to be a rather loose accounting process and we can only speculate on the "procedures" that would operate with more remote users, such as a small School or Police Station.

Little wonder that there is such a large amount of mint State Government perfins in the market. Look at the huge amount offered in our recent Club Auction, and this came from just two sources in the Club.

## New Reports

*By David Coath, Greg Howard, Dave Elsmore, Murray Lawson, Barry Pawson and Simon Conk*



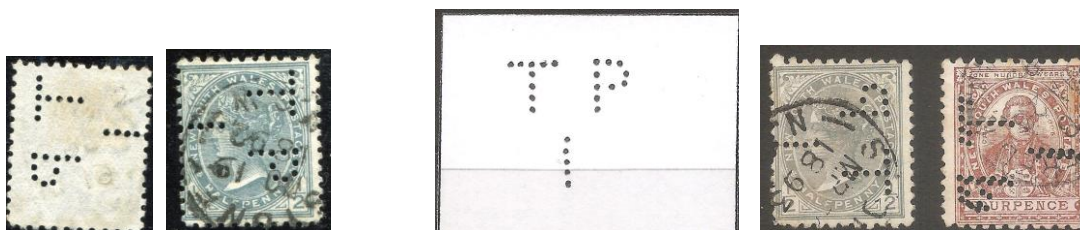
Reported by Greg Howard this early security device used in January 1866 by the "Colonial Sugar Refining Company". It is now featured on the "Other" page of the Revenue Perfins of NSW along with other similar embossing on Revenue stamps.



One of these HB.8's was spotted on ebay by Dave Elsmore. Noting the regular spacing of the strikes he judged that the pattern could have been made by a Multi die device. Comparison with a similar 5/- supports this being the case. The device appears to have had at least 4 dies in a 2x2 layout, but it may actually be larger.

The layout and separation of the dies suits making central strikes on the small format QV issues of South Australia and this is the issue that the pattern is most commonly found on.

Does any Member have any multiples of HB.8 that could shed more light on this find?



Another interesting new report, this time from Barry Pawson (NZ) who reports that he "recently bought a NSW stamp with the perfin TP/I or (L).... The stamp is upright in the scan and appears to be postmarked SYDNEY 19 NOV 1892"

We found two other examples of the pattern, see above, which are postmarked in early 1893. The strike of the 4d Cook shows the base of the I, so the pattern is



most likely TPI as Barry had suggested. An interesting find of a Customised device apparently used for a very short period of time.

Does anyone else have examples of this pattern or any thoughts as to the user?



This item was initially reported by Simon Conk and Dave Elsmore and then later by Greg Howard. It was all the result of single ebay listing of a group of Railway stamps. It is a strike of WH/B.a (HAPP WHB.1) of W H Blackham, 59 - 61 King St, Melbourne. The pattern is known on the Postage and Revenue stamps of Victoria and later the Postage stamps of Australia from 1907 until at least 1946. However this is the first report of it on a Railway stamp.

The company was started by William Henry Blackham and Blackham had worked at both Charles W. Gray and Company (confirmed perfin users), and William Adamson and Company and in 1907 he acquired Charles W. Gray and Company. That company had been an Auctioneer, Produce Merchant and Export Agent, with a focus on the Dairy Industry. Blackham expanded the company to include specific dairy equipment as well as general farming equipment, such as stationary engines.



This was a report by Greg Howard in SPPB #103, but I take the opportunity to share it again as more information has come to light. It is clearly an L&W but the only L&W listed, is a dubious report dating from CPA, that proves the pattern to Lister & White and yet does not feature an image of the pattern. Such confirmed users to unsighted patterns are dotted throughout CPA and HAPP, and in the main these have been based on miss reports from non perfin sources such as Security Overprints or Customised Railway stamps. See the articles on "Reviewing Questionable Listings in HAPP" in this Bulletin and SPPB # 110.

But Lister & White are worth of investigation, HAPP lists them as being located in "Western Market Building, Little Flinders St (an early name for Flinders Lane) Melbourne", and confirms usage on Victorian postage stamps.

The L&W above is a Temporary pattern, so the user could be a transient one. Details on Lister & White are limited but they seemed to have been Produce Agents and this fits with the location in the Western Market Building, see the following extract from Revenue Perfins of Victoria below.



“The Western Market was established in 1841 and was Melbourne's first official fresh food and vegetable market. It operated on the site of the National Mutual (now SunCorp) Building, 433–455 Collins St, which covers the block of Collins, Market and William Streets, and Flinders Lane.”

This image shows the Western Market Building, northeast corner. The right hand side is the Collins St (north) frontage, the left hand side of the image shows the Market St (East) frontage as Market St descends towards Flinders Lane. Addresses in Little Flinders St (Flinders Lane) would have been on the back end of the building.

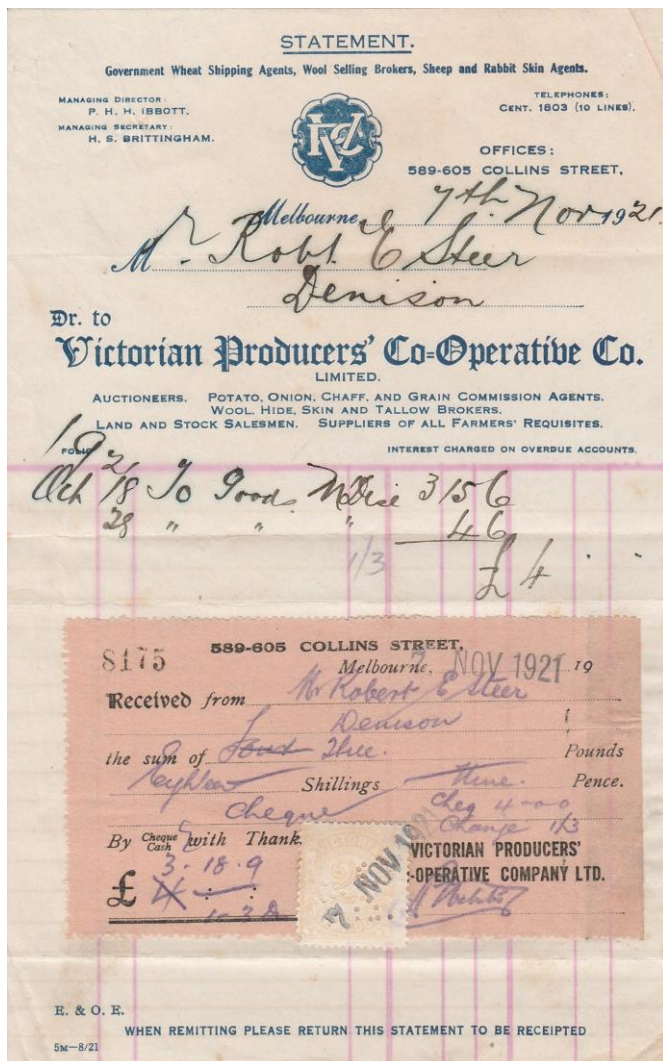
The stamp with the L&W pattern dates from the 1890's and from what we can find of Lister & White they were certainly operating in the late 1890's, on the balance of evidence, Lister & White should be assigned as a Provisional user and this L&W considered to be L&W.1.



This is an amazing report from John Amiet. It is difficult to tell from the image but this pattern is FJCO.a (FJCO.1 in HAPP) which is proved to Foggitt, Jones & Co. Ltd. I can confirm the pattern as I have sighted the item. In addition the stamps are on paperwork for orders for processed meats and this is the core business of Foggitt, Jones & Co. Ltd.

Now the HAPP listing for FJCO.1 is odd in respect to the usage dates for the device. HAPP states that the pattern is found used from 1914 - 1917 and then in 1949. The date of 1934 was added in Update #2 of February 2012. Now the 1914 date is consistent with the Application to perforate stamps and I have examples of the pattern on 1<sup>st</sup> watermark Kangaroos, but then I have issues on all of the watermarks

of the KGV and then KGV1 definitive issues, indicating contiguous use of the device between 1914 and at least the mid – late 1940's . Now this usage is 1956 which is much later than the use on postage stamps. The continued usage of the device on revenue stamps, after use on postage stamps has ceased, is a common practice in other large firms and may be due to the advent of Meter devices to provide secure postage while perfins continued to be used on revenue stamps.



(Image of document reduced)

This is a report from Dave Elsmore and Greg Howard. It is a document that features VPC.1. This pattern is reported on both postage and revenue stamps, but this document has some interesting address information. It is dated 1921 and gives the address as, 589–605 Collins St. It seems that the company later moved to 578–584 Little Flinders St. HAPP lists 495 Collins St, as the address from 1923.

Clearly the company had different locations and indeed Bulk stores and Regional offices, but I would ask Members if they could help us date the location of the main office over time.

I have covers from 1950 – 1959 that place it at 578–584 Little Flinders St, but oddly I cannot find any proving cover or document to place it at 495 Collins St. Perhaps this is after 1959, or for a short period at some other time.

If you have proving covers or documents to assist then please share them and we will put an update into the next Bulletin.



# Auction Watch

By David Coath, Greg Howard, Harold Waite and Dave Elsmore



Reported by Greg Howard this great high value cover (Image reduced) was listed in a recent Phoenix Auction. The postage of 15/- and 9d is a huge sum in 1957. Interestingly the the 5/- multiple shows 2 of the 3 dies of the IH.18 device.



This report from Dave Elsmore was on ebay in August. It was listed at 99 cents but attracted spirited bidding and after 13 bids it sold for \$46. The strikes indicate that the device punctures in a horizontal array of dies. No multiple strikes on State Officials are common, but such strikes seem to be more common on South Australian issues than any of the other Colonies. Multiple strikes can be found on the "Long Tom" issues and this may be due to operator error in feeding on the horizontal head of dies as the feeding on distance would differ between the Long Tom and smaller issues.

Harold Waite from New Zealand sent this extract from the Auckland City Stamps Auction on 22 August 2015, Lot 1015, the lot sold for almost \$570 (including Commission and GST)

## PERFINS

1897 (9AU) Sargood, Son & Ewen Ltd Printed envelope bearing a 1d Rose 2nd Sideface Pair Perfined "SSE" addressed to Riverton. Backstamped Riverton 10 AU 97 receiving cancel. The stamp has light perf staining. Scarce

# JIMBO'S

JIMBO'S PHILATELIC SERVICE

2000+ stamps lots offered every month

PLENTY OF OFFICIAL & PRIVATE  
PERFINS

Join our free Mailing List  
P.O. Box 2155, Ivanhoe East, Vic, 3079  
OR Phone Jim (03) 9497 2292



**STAMPBOARDS.com**  
Where Philatelists Meet

WORLD'S NUMBER ONE STAMP DISCUSSION BOARD.  
If you can two-finger type ... you can join in the fun!



POSTAL AUCTIONS

## BROWSE, BID AND BUY

IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

Tell us your collecting interests and we will  
**BUILD YOUR OWN CATALOGUE.**

Only **Premier** will build a customised catalogue  
with just the items that interest you.

This service is available on the website or in print.

Auctions held every 6 to 8 weeks. Each  
auction contains 3500-4000 lots of world-wide stamps,  
perfins, covers, stationery, postmarks & postcards.  
Estimates from less than \$5 to \$1000s.

Our website also provides a free searchable list of post  
offices from Australia and 8 other countries.

Visit our Website [www.premierpostal.com](http://www.premierpostal.com)

Or contact us at:

Email: [david@premierpostal.com](mailto:david@premierpostal.com)

Phone: (03) 9038 8136, Fax: (03) 8677 2858

GPO Box 4346, Melbourne Vic 3001

Level 2, 170 Queen St, Melbourne Vic 3001



**PHOENIX**  
[www.PhoenixAuctions.com.au](http://www.PhoenixAuctions.com.au)

## 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:

Post paid

\$10 (A) within Australia and New Zealand.

\$15 (A) Rest of the World.

Printed copies of any issues from 1-99  
are 50c each, and issues 100 onwards are  
\$1 each plus postage at cost.

## PERFINS.COM.AU

*The place to visit for:*

PCNZA Home Page.

Award Winning Exhibits

In Depth Research Papers

Perfin Book, Now 4000 Pages

Regular NEW Finds Recorded.

*Hosted by [ozrevenues.com](http://ozrevenues.com)*