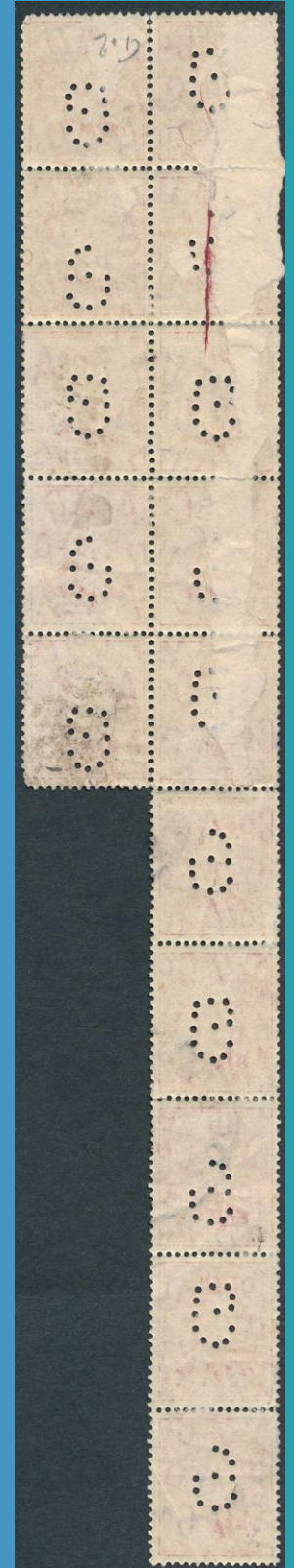


SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN



THE BULLETIN OF THE PERFIN CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND
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ESTABLISHED 1986



FEATURE ARTICLES

- GNSW Type A Punctures
- Reviewing HAPP Part 3
- WA State pattern defined

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318 Jamie Davidson (Bathurst–NSW)

Editors Comment

By David Coath

Welcome to the SPPB #112. This Issue was to have included the final article on the VG's by Jason Rowe and Neale Scott, however this will now be issued with the April Bulletin as both Neale and Jason are on holidays at the time of this going to print.

Tom Weir and Arthur Taylor filled in for the October Bulletin with their detailed study of the Dies of the GNSW Type A. This was a ground breaking study and demystified this complex set of dies. In this issue Tom continues to explore these dies and provides a 1:1 reference sheet so that you can sort out your dies.

Effective this January Postage costs in Australia have risen by over 40% and this has further validated the process of mailing the printed Bulletins for New Zealand and Overseas addresses from New Zealand. This is done by Ray Bennett and in the main this is achieved through a "bank" of donated and discount postage that Ray manages. Ray tries to use as much PCNZA punctured stamps as possible, but not all donated stamps are able to be perforated.

We appreciate that the shipment via New Zealand creates a delay, but this is worth it as mailing exclusively from Australia, even without taking into consideration the recent rate increases, would necessitate an increase in Membership rates for New Zealand and Overseas Members to \$25 and \$40 respectively.

Mailing in Australia is managed by Arthur Taylor who prepares the Australian envelopes with PCNZA stamps at a discount rate to the Club.

The key to keeping Membership costs down is access to discounted postage, as postage represents the major cost of Membership, so 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.

I would like to thank Members who have sent postage to help defray our high mailing costs, they were John Amiet, Les Vincent, Harold Waite, Bob Szymanski and David McNamee.

Front Cover

By Gordon Monk and David Coath

Gordon has shared this amazing multiple of the G.2 and G.8 of Goldsbrough Mort. These patterns were featured in SPPB #100 in an article about this User. The Article covered all the Goldsbrough Mort patterns of South Australia, but in respect to these G's, it suggested that the G.2 and G.8 were part of a 2 die vertical device that was an alteration to the GM.2 and GM.1 device. The purpose of the dropping of the M was that it would make the device more suited to the smaller format KGVI issues of the late 1930's.

Gordon's multiple is amazing as it shows that G.2 and G.8 are indeed part of the same vertical device.

Subscriptions Overdue

By David Coath

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). Payments to the Treasurer, see Page 2 for details.

Nominations for Committee Positions

By David Coath

In the October Bulletin, in accordance with Section 11 of the Rules and Section 4 of the By Laws, the Club called for Nominations for positions on Committee for the following roles: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Committee Member (Multiple positions).

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

John Mathews was nominated to the position of Comittee but has agreed to take over the vacant position of Treasurer.

Greg Howard was nominated to the position of Comittee and has taken over the role of Circuit Manager (Aust).

Dave Elsmore was nominated to the position of Committee but later resigned.

Geoff Dane has resigned as Treasurer and Mark Saxby has resigned as Circuit Manager (Aust). I take this opportunity to thank Geoff and Mark for their efforts on behalf of the Club.

The balance of the Committee Members were renominated to positions and the revised Committee is shown on Page 2.

Club Auction – July 2015/July 2016

By David Coath

The July 2015 Club Auction has now closed and was a great success with an almost 85% Clearance rate. As advised in the last Bulletin, there were 20 Vendors, almost 40 Bidders, for the nearly 300 Lots offered.

Remember all material is offered by Members and the Auction is only open to bids from Members. All payments are 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.

We are now seeking lots for inclusion in the Club Auction to be held with the July Bulletin in 2016.

So if you have any perfin material that you do not need or that is outside your collecting interest, why not consider making it available to your fellow Members.

All perfin material proves popular and the Auctioneer can help with lotting of what you submit. So send any material to: David Coath, 4 Fleming Crt, Research, VIC, 3095.

Canberra Stamp Show 2016

By David Coath

The Canberra Stamp Show will be held at the Hellenic Club of Canberra, Matilda Street, Woden, ACT on 18 – 20 March 2016.

The Opening Times are, Friday 18 and Saturday 19 March, 10am to 6pm and Sunday 20 March, 10am to 3:30pm. Entry is just \$5

The Club has a secured a Meeting Room for Saturday 19 March between 12 and 1.15 pm.

All Members and those interested in Perfins are invited to attend.

Perfin Corner to close

By Dave Elsmore

After 10 years I will no longer be writing my "Revenue Review" column in Stamp News and as a result the associated "Perfin Corner" section will come to an end.

Thanks to the readers, collectors and contributors over the years and if you want to read through any of these then they can all be found at the following link, here:

<http://www.ozrevenues.com/Stamp-News/stamp-news.html>

Vale – Bill Register

By Chris Register and David Coath

New Zealand Member, Bill Register passed away in early November aged 73. Bill had been diagnosed with Mesothelioma, but he had maintained a keen interest in his stamps and his Perfins. His wife Chris reported that he showed amazing courage and that he always held a positive outlook.

As reported in SPPB # 108 Bill had Exhibited his Perfin Exhibits at the BAYPEX National Exhibition in Napier (NZ) on 14 – 16 November 2014. His Japanese Perfins (8 Frames) received a Silver and his New Zealand Perfins (6 Frames) received a Vermeil.

The photo of Bill sharing his morning cuppa with his cat was the on the front cover of the Service to celebrate Bill's life, which was held on 12 November 2015.



We wish his family all the best for the future.

Capital Stamp Show – 2015

By Richard Smolnicki, Enid Honnis and David Coath

The Capital Stamp Show was held in Wellington (NZ) over the weekend of 23 – 25 October, 2015. The PCNZA supported the event by offering a \$75 Prize, this was awarded to Frank Jans for his exhibit "NZ Fund Raising Events 1903 – 1921". We received a letter of thanks from the Organising Committee.

Richard reports that the Club held an informal meeting of four members, himself, Darryl Keegan, Chris Clitherow, and Steve McLachlan. They discussed their various interests in perfins and showed items that they had obtained from the dealers at the Show. In addition Darryl showed his collection around.

Richard and the other Members felt that the Meeting was success and that having any kind of a meeting, whether formal or informal, should be encouraged at major stamp shows, as it provides an opportunity for Members to connect with each other and share their view on the hobby.

Enid Honnis was unable to attend but she had suggested that the Club submit the last years SPPB's as an exhibit in "14th National Philatelic Literature Exhibition". The SPPB was submitted under Class 2: Periodicals and Journals. There were 18 other entrants and the PCNZA was awarded a



Vermeil. The highest awards were the two Large Vermeils but the SPPB was one of only 4 Vermeils.

Meet a Member – Murray Lawson

By Murray Lawson

Background

I was born in Gayndah in Queensland's Central Burnett district in September, 1940, and schooled there till the end of 1956. I worked for the PMG Department on delivering telegrams and mail sorting one week, and night telephone exchange on alternate weeks, until mid 1959 when I was transferred to Taringa East in Brisbane to deliver mail in Taringa and St. Lucia. While there, I had a couple of months on night exchange in Toowoomba while that city's exchange was going to automatic, and then back to Taringa. I attended the Postal Clerks' school in 1962 from where I was transferred to Cairns district in a relieving capacity for clerks being on holidays, sick, and so on. That area then covered from Thursday Island to Tully and west to Normanton.

I left that early 1966 and sold life and general insurance for a couple of years, then commercial travelled for six months and then joined the RAAF in June, 1968 and after rookies in Edinburgh (S.A.) went to Laverton and eventually began training as a radio tech. That took me through to the end of June, 1970.

My daughter and son were both born in Altona hospital, and we were all sent to 10 SQN in Townsville at the end of June; we survived cyclone Althea (24DEC71) and I had the pleasure of doing several trips away on Neptunes and Hercules to Richmond (NSW), Darwin, Subic Bay in the Philippines, Nowra Naval Base, and so on.

From Townsville I was sent to 481 SQN in Williamstown and while there became a little more "specialised" in what I was working on, and that paved the way for a posting to 478 SQN in Butterworth, Malaysia. We spent two and half years there and that helped put us on our feet a little better, financially. We returned to 481 SQN at the end of 1976, and I alternated between there (Radar Maintenance) and 2 OCU in the Macchi hangar, and I was discharged after 12 years on 25th June, 1980.

We returned to Cairns and I almost immediately got a job at the new Big W which was about to open. That lasted 6 months and then I took on a plumbing apprenticeship just before my 41st birthday. Fully licensed by mid 1986 and went out on my own as self-employed, and retired in September 2008, made my final house payment about the same week, and put a deposit on the new Honda I had wanted for some time.

But how did I get into stamps?

One day in 1948, my father, not long home from service in the "Middle East" and "The Islands" said it was time I learned to collect stamps. Neither of us had any idea of the significance of that simple statement or the effect it was to have on my entire life right through to retirement. I remember he bought four packets of used Br. C'wealth stamps. Almost all of the kids in town collected stamps, and it was always "on" to be the first to get that new issue from the family's mail and brag about it. My father had one of those old Globe albums, you know the red ones with a tan shoelace as a "binder". (They must have printed trillions of them). He'd put together what I now call a Kid's collection (no disrespect), which was mostly Austria which I sure paved the streets in those days, and a few others.

To Dad, a collectable stamp had to be POSTAGE (no Dues, Tax, Duty, cinderellas, etc.), and it had to be USED. If they had holes punched through them, had not been used or were cancelled with a pen or pencil, they were "no good". How times have changed.

Just after I left school I met the wife of a local bank manager who introduced me to Stanley Gibbons. Here was this incredible book I could never have imagined and in it were pictures of all these stamps from all over the world. The door began to open!

In those days I could proudly boast to have some 257 stamps! There was nothing like a stamp club within 250 miles of home, so I was on my own, and over time began to pass my father's lever of "expertise". I joined a NZ penfriend club called the "Kiwi Exchange Club" which had members all over the world and was run by a retired W/O out of the NZ Navy. Members interests and other details were all encoded and one could select to whom one may wish to write. I corresponded with many of them over the following years and my collection took off. Not only stamps but curios, post cards, books, ornaments and souvenirs, etc, all from places I know I probably would never visit, and I never met any of them either. One day I received an invitation from a similar club in Finland, so sent off the form and left for three weeks holiday. When I came home, 38 letters from Finland, all stuffed with up to 300 used stamps. I suddenly had more Finland duplicates than Australian! So I dutifully replied to them with gratitude, and had to return the stamps because I had virtually no spares to send them, all except about four of the writers. Their English was perfect and they wrote very lovely, newsy letters and we corresponded for years. One of them said he was a professional tutor in seven languages and was fluent in about 9 more. My Finland collection now has very few gaps in it.

When I arrived in Cairns in October, 1962, I was very fortunate to find a boarding house with about 14 other lads near my age. We all got along quite well, came from different backgrounds and had different occupations. One day, one of them saw an ad in the local paper with a stamp collection for sale, in Babinda. So they all piled into their cars and set off – they for a swim at The Boulders, and me to check out this collection. The lady offering was the widow of a Dutchman and of course, "knew nothing about stamps". I bought that collection, being mostly Netherlands, and it also included my first 5/- Harbour Bridge (CTO of course). My Netherlands collection is now only missing about 5 of the early perf varieties and the bulk of the first set of Dues, right up to the end of 2012.

What do I collect now?

A very difficult question. In the early days I grabbed everything I could. With collecting interests coming under various outside influences they have changed, and continue to change. Basically, what I have settled on for now include Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Hungary, anything Germany and Pre-Cancels of USA, Canada and Belgium, Australian private perfins, SG1's from the whole world. I also have "accumulations" of USA, India, all things Malay, GB, British Africa, South African "states", Indian States, Australian Colonies, Morocco Agencies, Space and Astronomy, Nauru, Singapore, and of course, Australia. And my daughter has an accumulation of "cat" stamps. I have recently sold a couple of countries and thematics, not because of dis-interest, but realizing I am not going to live long enough to do them justice.

What am I doing now and where do I live ?

When I was discharged from the RAAF we had a house built in Edmonton, south of Cairns, but which is now a suburb of this exploding city of Cairns. Eight months after we moved in, my wife moved out and left me with two teenagers and two mortgages, and me on apprentices' wages, so stamps took a back seat for a while. After the dust settled, I had a house built in Mooroolbool which is a western suburb of Cairns, by the builder for whom my plumbing boss was the principal contractor. We were turning out about 80 houses every 12 weeks in those days. The children and I moved in just before Christmas 1983 and here I sit. Michelle is still single and Michael is married with two daughters who I don't get to see often enough, although they are only about 15 minutes away. I grow some produce in the back yard and give most of it away to neighbours and friends, and past customers, and the favours are returned. It is an exceptionally good neighbourhood and we all look after each other.

Perfins

Over the years I had acquired several accumulations from various sources. I became aware that I was getting quite a few of these stamps with initials in them, so why not? I saw an ad somewhere, I think it might have been a SG catalogue, for the PCNZA, and duly joined out of curiosity. What a smack in the face that was. I was confronted by a level

knowledge, expertise, and research, etc., beyond belief. I have learned a lot, and don't feel I have made any suitable contributions in return. I almost feel like an imposter and certainly out of my depth.

When I was in the Newcastle area I had the pleasure of meeting the late Donald George Cox, who was then writing a catalogue of Australian Private Perfins (which didn't particularly interest me at the time). Don and I had several discussions on stamp matters and I never learned what happened to him or his immense collection on his passing. A truly incredible man who I feel could have written volumes of memoirs for us to enjoy and marvel at. I reckon he was to philately what David Attenborough is to the world's wildlife.

Other Clubs

One day, about early 1975 I was on the Penang (Malaysia) ferry to Butterworth when I was approached by a lad who said "I believe you collect stamps?" (How DO these rumours start?) Anyway, he said they had a club called the "Hillside Stamp Club" and would I like to join. Hillside is an area of Penang that was, then anyway, occupied by the bulk of the RAAF families on the island. I had had some adverse experiences with other (non-philatelic) clubs in the past and tried to decline the offer. But he insisted as time went on, so off I went one night, kicking and screaming to their meeting. After a couple of meetings I could see some room for improvement, particularly regarding communication with other members, so suggested "I think we should publish a newsletter". Stunned looks! "If I publish it?" OH YEAH, great idea. So off we went. That club consisted of 3 local dealers, mostly members of the RAAF and spouses and children, and a couple of civilian spouses of foreign workers on the island who had nothing to do with stamps or the RAAF. When I left they presented me with a stockbook on the inside cover of which all the members put their autographs. I never know what I did to deserve that.

About four months after arriving back in Williamstown (1977) I was having withdrawal symptoms, so made enquiries around the likely places. No, no club here. So after consulting with the Principal of the Francis Greenway High School in Beresfield, I placed an ad in a couple of local papers for expressions of interest. 23 people turned up at the school on the advertised date, and the Beresfield and Districts Stamp Club was born. I kept aiming for 50% RAAF membership and 50% civilian, and managed to more or less maintain that. That way each could see that the other didn't have two heads, a tail or two horns, etc.. It turned into one beautiful club full of very enthusiastic members, some of whom travelled over 50 kilometers to attend meetings. We had all the club attractions and activities and in our third year were placed fourth in Seven Seas "Most Active Society Competition". We signed up our 100th CURRENT member on the night of the third annual dinner. A lot of RAAF-types had been posted away but they always seemed to be replaced by others being posted in. So when I left the "districts" two days later, I left them with a club of 100, which included Juniors. At that dinner they awarded me with Life Membership, backed up by a medallion and certificate. Some years later the club moved to Maitland and re-named themselves the Maitland Stamp Club, and a more recently the Committee decided to honour my Life Membership in the re-named club. A couple of the very early Beresfield members are still with Maitland.

The Cairns Stamp Club had been reformed a couple of years earlier by the late Harry Spira, who with wife Kay and son Eric operated a stamp shop in the T & G Building in Cairns. Harry advertised with a double-page ad in Stamp News with whole world at give-away prices. Bill Hornage who published Stamp News had been very generous to Beresfield and gave that club much publicity. This was picked up by Harry and Kay, and when I walked into their shop at the end of 1979 and introduced myself, three jaws collectively hit the counter. When I advised I was returning to Cairns to live in 6 months' time, out came the red carpet. Harry's health was deteriorating rapidly to the point where he could not venture out at night, and so after joining Cairns Club on my return, I never saw him at a meeting. Kay continued on as a very valuable member for several years until her passing.

Commercial Break

Cairns club meets on the third Tuesday of each month except December at 7.30pm. Any

readers who are planning on visiting Cairns are invited to come along for a very informal evening, and do please bring something interesting to show us. We'd love to meet you all. For confirmation of meeting details please call me on 07 40332211.

More other clubs

Some years ago I joined Brighton Philatelic Society and Enoggera Stamp Club Inc., (Brisbane), as well as the PCNZA of course. And socially, the Cairns, German, Austrian and Swiss Club, but I have yet to find a stamp collector despite their few hundred members. There's an opening there for a bright young lad, eh?

Editors note

I apologise for the length of this piece but Murray did warn me, he says that his friends have a rule, "Never give Murray the microphone". But having said that, Murray's story is an amazing one. It tells of a love of a hobby that is carried over decades, sometimes put aside, but never lost. If you want to share your story then please drop me a note and let the Members get to know you.

Reviewing Questionable Listings in HAPP (Part 3)

By David Coath, Greg Howard and Dave Elsmore

Further to the articles in SPPB #110 and #111 here are some more listings from the Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (HAPP) – 2003 that we consider questionable. But as with the earlier articles we make a case for each with the evidence that is available.

As we stated in the introduction to the previous articles, 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 our 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 separate 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.

- Reports based on Applications to use Perfins that were not followed up by the purchase or use of a Perfin

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. We consider that the mixture of an "unsighted pattern" and a "confirmed user" is a recipe for error. This fact will be borne out in this and other articles on this subject.

Correction

Firstly an apology and a correction. In a recent email circulated by John Mathews, he pointed out that we had made a "factual error" in referring to B&CO.1 as being a misreport based on the Security Overprint "Received by BI&QACOLD". (see paragraph 2, Page 8 of SPPB #110).

This was indeed an error as we were actually referring to BA&CO.1.

John Mathews email

Firstly none of the contributors to these Articles about these HAPP listings are on John's email list and therefore we do not necessarily see them. Also John has chosen not to submit his thoughts for inclusion in the Bulletin.

Furthermore we then thought that we would ignore John's comments but on reflection felt that it was best to address this criticism and then proceed with the process that we had started.

The crux of John's email was as follows and we have offered a contra view in italics:

"David's rationale is based on one or other of the following:

1. Items "Reported but not seen". So far, these have been the vast majority of items cited. David is guessing that they are from early reports from North American collectors and that they are unreliable. As editor, I accept all reports as being sent in good faith, and unless I have "concrete" evidence that they are not genuine, I include them in HAPP, albeit that I sometimes note some doubt if applicable.

Since "Commercial Perfins of Australia" was published in 1992, examples of three of the items so annotated have been found. One of the reasons for such a report originally was that the perfin was on cover and did not show up in a photocopy."

This is disingenuous and an over simplification of our rationale, which we have explained and repeated with each article. We have not made a blanket dismissal of Items "Reported but not seen". We are not merely "guessing", in fact we have been at pains to present an evidence based case for each misreport and further we have found the most likely source of the misreport.

John's stated position that he accepts "all reports.....unless he has "concrete" evidence that they are not genuine" is a problematic approach for a Catalogue Editor and perhaps explains why HAPP contains so many misreports.

Finding just three "real" patterns to ascribe to the many "Reported but not seen" reports is a poor return, and given that we are now 24 years since CPA, the likelihood of more "real" patterns surfacing is more remote. Hence the timing of our Review.

"2. Poor research. As well as for two of the items cited in the previous paragraph, David has also failed to find the report of B&K.1 which was also recorded in SPPB. I have the stamp. My doubt about it arises from the fact that the pattern is listed in the perfin catalogue of another country.

Also, DOYLE.1 was reported in a list of known perfins in a well-known stamp magazine."

We thank John for his assistance in respect to B&K.1. John is referring to his(?) article in SPPB #88 (page 9) which is reproduced here in part:

The perfin looks to be GB Perfin B3325.03. This would not be the first example of a perfin of one country being seen on a stamp of another country. Examples are the GB perfin "A&E/TCL", and the Malayan perfin "B&K", both being seen on Australian KGV stamps. Interestingly, all three of these patterns look to be the style of dies made by Joseph Sloper and Co. of London. When that company was sold, a huge number of dies were disposed of (to scrap metal dealers, dumps, etc ??), and it is possible that some may have been found by people who knew little about perfins and who wanted to experiment with these dies to see what they did.

Perfin collecting has been openly popular now for many years. Therefore, a completely new letter pattern for a perfin on any country's stamps must surely be regarded with much caution.

We welcome John's (?) cautious tone in this article with respect to the authenticity of B&K.1. So our "poor research" was that we could not find an article by John (?) that supported our view that this B&K pattern was a misreport. Everything the author has said in SPPB #88 supports our stated view that B&K.1 is a poor candidate for inclusion into the Catalogue of Australian Private Perfins. That is short of being included in a Section of Bogus and Questionable reports as we have suggested with A&E/TCL and others.

On the matter of DOYLE.1, this is a prime example of what we have been talking about. John states that the Report is based on a "list". It is irrelevant that it is a "list" found in "a well known stamp magazine". As we have shown in examples such as ACB.1, A&SLTD.1, AUSN.1 and CP&CO.1, to mention just a few, what some collectors list as "perfins" can, and does, include other security methods used on postage and revenue stamps, such as Security Overprints and Customised Railway stamps.

"3. Faulty logic. David suggests some patterns should be deleted because he has not seen an example of them. I recall that David recently had to print an apology (in SPPB and on the Elsmore/Coath web site) for such a statement about NZL.7 when three copies became known, including one he had had for 12 months!"

Again this is disingenuous. In none of the misreports that we have written about is there any recommendation based solely on the fact that we have "not seen an example" of the pattern. All the recommendations are based on the available evidence, the substance of which John has chosen to ignore.

Furthermore, to be fair, in the detailed Study of these NZL patterns by David Coath, which is still on perfins.com.au, (not an Elsmore/Coath web site) see the Research Tab, but was also printed in SPPB # 102 (page 27), the final words regarding NZL.7 were "Usage NZL.7 doubtful". This is very similar to a term that John uses in HAPP in the form of "Status dubious" or similar, which he notably applies to true patterns such as VF.1.

In respect to David's study of the NZL's, John chooses to make this small point about NZL.7, but blithely ignores the fact that David's study introduced two previously unreported NZL's, as well as correcting many errors in HAPP in terms of device location, pattern image and usage periods.

John, in this respect, is using a "straw man" argument, much as he is doing with these 4 points from his email. Such "straw man" arguments seek to miss represent the opponents case and then defeat the miss represented argument and claim to have defeated the opponents case. This technique is common in polemic rants, debating and politics but has no place in an evidence based study.

"4. Factual errors. David states that B&CO.1 is listed in HAPP with no image. All the unsold copies of HAPP that I have include this image, so I can swap if your copy does not have it."

As noted at the start of this Article we thank John for his information and have clarified that the pattern in question was BA&CO.1.

Overall Summary of John Mathews email

John Mathews and indeed any Member are fully entitled to their opinions about these articles and furthermore they can share those views in any way that they see fit.

Can we suggest though, that the best way to progress an informed debate about these issues is to communicate either with the named authors or through the Editor. We would be pleased to stand corrected if there was evidence that we had missed or were not aware of.

Further we would ask the readers to note the tone and evidence based nature of our Articles. We have avoided emotive and accusational terms and tried to build a case based on the evidence.

As stated above we consider our study of perfin to be a scientific one based on the scientific method which is defined as:

“The scientific method is a body of techniques for investigating phenomena, acquiring new knowledge, or correcting and integrating previous knowledge. To be termed **scientific**, a **method** of inquiry is commonly based on empirical or measurable evidence subject to specific principles of reasoning.”

In following this process we reject criticism that presents opinion in the absence of a thorough offering of contrary evidence. In this sense we follow the principle covered in the motto of the Royal Society, *Nullius in verba*, which is Latin for "on the word of no one" or "Take nobody's word for it". The motto was a guiding principle for Members to not look at the authority of a fellow Member, but rather to look at the facts and the evidence.

ET.6 and ET.7

What do you know about these “patterns”, they are both attributed to the office of Eliza Tinsley in Melbourne and this is supported by the postmark evidence we have seen which shows exclusively Melbourne strikes. Also their usage periods overlap.

They are very similar except that ET.7 has a longer cross bar at the top of the T.



Checking the ET.6 and ET.7 against the HAPP image is a little confusing as the image for ET.6 is a little shorter than the true pattern by about 1mm. The CPA image is better, but the CPA image for ET.7 is distorted. To provide the best comparison lay your ET.6 and .7 over each other and hold them up to the light. You will find that they match, with the exception of the wider pins on the T of the .7, which curves upwards and helps to trick the eye into thinking they are different patterns.

Looking at the examples above you can see that the ET.6/.7 comes in a range of varieties including a partial hybrid. The full story is told in the scan below which shows various changes to the pattern overtime as a result of missing pins at about the time shown.



There are some key times, but it is notable that the dropping of the pin(s) in the T starts around the reported start for ET.6 in HAPP (1926). It is also notable that the pattern appears to be full again when found on the 1940 AIF issues, which suggests a repair late in the life of the device.

The bottom line is that ET.6/.7, like ACO.1/.2 and HS.3/.4, is another example of a missing pin variety of the same pattern made by a single device. Such variations do not deserve to be listed as separate patterns. Therefore we recommend that you delete ET.6.

While on the subject of Eliza Tinsley it is worth learning about the Company History as it is an interesting story of a Women making her way in a Man's Business. This is an extract from the Revenue Perfins of Victoria, which can be accessed via Perfins.com.au

History of Eliza Tinsley



The company that would become Eliza Tinsley started in 1851 at Cradley Heath in 'Black Country' area of the Western Midlands in England. During the Industrial Revolution this area was one of the most industrialised parts of Britain with coalmines, coking, iron foundries and steel mills dotting the area.

It was in the centre of this thriving, industrialised area that Eliza Tinsley started her chain making business in the mid 19th Century. Eliza was married to Thomas, a self-employed nail maker. They had six children and following the death of their eldest daughter and Thomas in 1851, Eliza continued to run the business under her own name and it soon became very successful.

Eliza was know locally as "The Widow" and for over 20 years built her reputation as a fair and knowledgeable business woman visiting customers in the United Kingdom and even sending a representative out to Melbourne, to establish a company in her name their.

By 1871 Eliza Tinsley in England was employing about 4000 people and production included wrought iron nails, rivets, chains, chain cables and anchors. Many of these employees were "outworkers", who lived locally and visited the company's site once a week to collect materials and then returned the next with finished products. Chain making was incredibly labour intensive and the heat, dirt and strength involved resulted in a very male dominated industry - making Eliza's success even more of an achievement.

Eliza retired in 1872 at 58 and died in 1882 at home. The business was taken over by four partners including G Harry Green, a former sales representative of the Company. He eventually bought out the other partners but the Tinsley family continued to work in the company and in 2014 a 5th generation of the Tinsley family still remained closely linked with the business.

In the later part of the 1800's and early 1900's increased automation in manufacturing meant that the company moved away from nail production and expanded chain manufacturing in support of the booming industries of ship building and mining.

The company expanded through the 20th Century with acquisitions of the Swindell Tool Company (1928) J T Parkes - door and gate products (1966), Wiggin Chains - welded chain manufacturer (1984) and J H Carter - unwelded chain manufacturer (1994). By 1994 the companies' chain and accessory range dominated the UK market. In 2006 Eliza Tinsley was acquired by an Indian based Manufacturing Group. The details of Eliza Tinsley's operations in Melbourne are somewhat unclear. Eliza's sons Charles Theophylus Tinsley, (Born 1844) and his brother Thomas Tinsley (Born 1846) are both known to have immigrated to Australia. The



approximate dates are 1861 for Charles and 1871 for Thomas.

Given the family nature of the company at this early stage it is most likely that Charles and/or Thomas, or indeed both, were involved in the establishment of the branch of the company in Melbourne.

Newspaper records show that on 1 May 1891 Eliza Tinsley announced that the company in Melbourne described as "Iron, steel, and hardware merchants, at 46 King-street, Melbourne, under the style of "Eliza Tinsley,"" which had been conducted by Charles Theophilus Tinsley, and Frank Evers, would be transferred to Charles Theophilus Tinsley, and Leonard Richard Lloyd. Further it was agreed that the business will be continued, "at the premises above mentioned under the same style of "Eliza Tinsley".

Charles Theophilus Tinsley, died in Melbourne in 1900 but the company moved into new premises at 640-652 Bourke St in 1901 (pictured) with the occupants being the firms of Eliza Tinsley, (hardware importers), and Lloyd Bros, and James Maginnis, (leather merchants).

The Bourke St building was extended to its current form in 1925 and the company continued to operate from these premises until the 1970s, after this time it was used for hardware storage (warehousing) and later sold to Australia Post who also used it as storage purposes.

Location of Eliza Tinsley

HAPP lists 9 ET patterns for Eliza Tinsley. ET.1 - 9, but there are some other ET patterns, ET.11 - .22. There are others still that are yet to be listed. These are mostly Temporary patterns, in the style common in Victoria, and they are found mainly on the stamps of Victoria with Melbourne postmarks.

Given that there are no other proven users for ET patterns in Victoria it is reasonable to assign these ET.11 - .22 patterns, and others provisionally to Eliza Tinsley.

HAPP lists the address for all proven Eliza Tinsley patterns at 30 King St. This address is not consistent with our research which placed the Company at 46 King St, but this could be a large property covering 30 - 46 King St or an inconsistency caused by renumbering of allotments. What we can be certain of is that the Company moved to 640-652 Bourke St in 1901, and all patterns after this date should be said to have been at that address.

FA.1 and FA.2

The story of FA.2 is not straightforward and indeed it is more than a little confusing, but please bear with us.

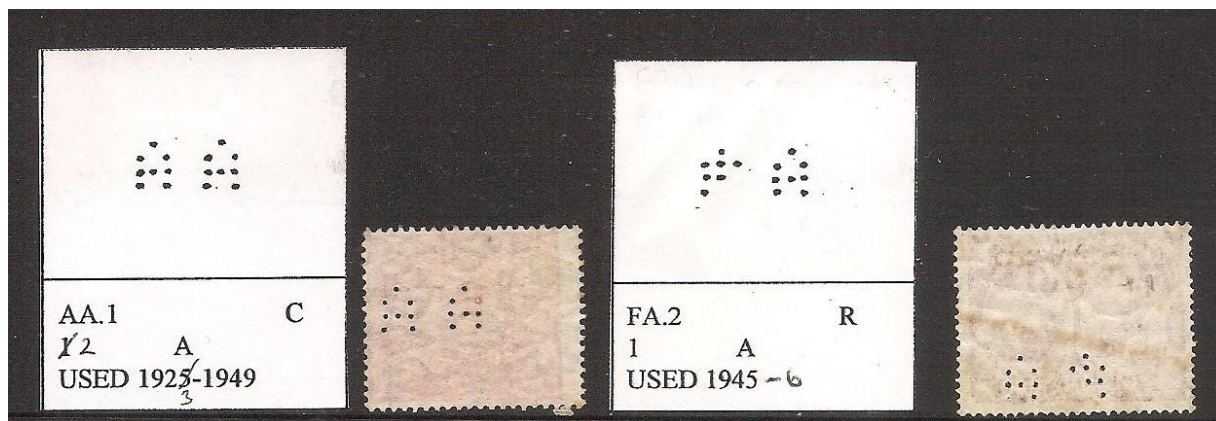
Now FA.2 does not stand alone as there is an FA.1, which was listed in CPA, but in HAPP John Mathews makes a small note "(May be RA)" next to the image of FA.1. We suspect that John is right as there is a dizzying array of RA's. They are listed as RA.1 - .18 in HAPP but I have one that John has assigned the number RA.24, so there are more reports.

RA.10, RA.16 and RA.17 all appear somewhat like an "FA". All of the RA's are Temporary patterns so different and incomplete settings can lead to variation which can make odd and indistinct letter combinations.

So it is reasonable to assume that FA.1 is most likely an example of the variation with the RA group (circa 1903 - 1929) and that FA.2 (circa 1945) is not related to FA.1.

We believe that FA.2 has a different heritage based on a different device.

FA.2 is a very good match for AA.1 and there is a good reason for that. Now AA.1 is an interesting pattern in itself. It appears to be in the style of a Temporary pattern, they are called "Victorian Service Punctures" (VSPs) in CPA and HAPP, because such Temporary patterns were most commonly produced in Melbourne, Victoria. In fact AA.1 is listed as a VSP in CPA Appendix 1 Victorian Service Punctures (page 272).



These Temporary patterns (VSP's) were created by Stamp Vendors and are believed to have been made on a device(s) that could be set up to produce a variety of letter combinations, in different scales and separation of component letters. They are thought to have been generally made by individual "settings" on a given day, and as a result even patterns with the same letter styles and scale can, and do, differ in other ways such as misplaced pins and variation in spacing between component letters. Such variation is denoted as "types" in CPA and HAPP.

Now AA.1 existed between 1923 and 1948, which is a long usage period for a Temporary device and furthermore it is very late, as such patterns are rarely reported after the early 1930's. But what is most striking about these AA.1 patterns is that they remained consistent over their entire usage period. This is inconsistent with them being produced on a Temporary device. How is this so?

In SPPB #95 of October 2011, David Coath wrote an article entitled "When is a Service Puncture Not a Service Puncture" (pages 6, 7 and 8). In this article he discusses the IHC (logo) patterns of International Harvester. This company used both Customised and Temporary perfin devices. At their Melbourne office the Company were frequent users of the Temporary patterns provided by Stamp Vendors. In fact there are almost 40 different IHC (logo) patterns created in the period 1912 - 1920, with most being found on issues prior to 1915.

Notably 1915 is when the dominant and most common pattern became IHC.3, which looked like a Temporary pattern and it is also listed as a VSP in CPA Appendix 1 Victorian Service Punctures (page 272), just as AA.1 is.

The similarities continue with both AA.1 and IHC.3 being used well outside the normal use of these Temporary patterns. AA.1 until 1948 and IHC.3 until 1946. In the #95 SPPB Article David makes a compelling case that the IHC.3 device was a Temporary device capable of making different patterns, but that it was sold to International Harvester with an IHC (logo) perfin setting for their use.

Now this seems to have also been the case with AA.1 as they share the same features:

- 1 Late usage outside Temporary perfin period
- 2 Consistent pattern over an extended period
- 3 Regular Stamp Vendor customers
- 4 Pattern listed as a Temporary one (VSP) in CPA

John Mathews makes a similar point in relation to the TB.1 device which almost certainly became TB.2. See bottom paragraph of HAPP page 2.

Now AA.1 and FA.2 share many pin locations (13 out of 15) but they also have an interesting usage chronology. The existence of FA.2 fits within the usage period of the AA.1 but it is interesting that we can find little use of AA.1 on the issues that were current in the usage period of FA.2.

AA.1 was used 1923 - 1949 and FA.2 was used 1943 - 1946, these are FA.2's and the dates refer to issue dates of the stamps:



1942(late) 1942 1945 1946

Now the last piece of the puzzle is the reappearance, albeit indistinctly, of AA.1 which is found on later issues as follows up until 1948:



Now the “FA.2 is a variation of AA.1” argument is not complete. We have viewed over 300 examples of patterns over the life of the AA.1 and FA.2 and in our opinion FA.2 is almost certainly a variation of AA.1 in the period 1943 – 1946 and therefore it is not a separate pattern. It is best described as being a “state” of AA.1

If any Member has an example of an AA.1 on an issue in 1943 – 46 or indeed an example of an FA.2 in any period that was not 1943 – 46, then this may cause us to reconsider our view. We would welcome any such input.

FBCOLD.1

FBCOLD.1 is another interesting pattern that dates from CPA where it was listed without an image as “Reported but not seen” with a Provisional user of the Foster Brewing Co Pty Ltd. It is stated as being found on Victorian postage stamps. This is possibly intended to be Fosters Brewing Company which was formed in 1887 by American/Irish brothers William M. Foster and Ralph R. Foster. They established premises in Rokeby Street, Collingwood and the first “Fosters” was brewed in 1888. They were amalgamated into Carlton and United Brewery’s in 1907. We would doubt that the Company had ever achieved the status of a Pty Ltd company and that this would cast doubt on them being the user of a pattern FBCOLD.

Interestingly in Update 2 to HAPP (February 2012) John Mathews states in respect to this pattern that, “The Victoria cited in the original reference may not be the State after all – a copy of a GB Queen Victoria issue has been reported with a perfin with these letters.”

Now there are almost 25,000 GB patterns so there are a huge range of reported letter combinations, but John is likely correct and the pattern is a misreport. The fact that it was listed without an image suggests that, as with previous similar listings, it was based on a “list”. Reports without sighted images from such “lists” are proving very unreliable. Now some do surface over time, notably CA.1 and recently L&W.1 (provisionally) but as time moves on and they continue to be unsighted the likelihood that they are a true pattern diminishes.

Accordingly we would recommend that you delete FBCOLD.1.

HB&S.1

H&BS.1 is another example of a pattern that is “Reported but not seen” and yet has a confirmed user. It was reported in CPA and re reported in HAPP. As we have shown before, such reports tend to be unreliable. The report stems from the Victorian Archival

Records (see CPA pages 15 - 18). E T Moulden made an Application on 7 July 1895 to perforate stamps HB&S on behalf of Henry Box and Son.

Now Applications suggest that a perfin device may be purchased in the future, or indeed already be purchased or ordered, or in the instance of the Stamp Vendor E T Moulden, created as a Temporary die. However such Applications do not always result in a pattern being made or indeed one being found.

As we stated with respect to FBCOLD.1 such "Reported but not seen" patterns are more likely to be found with the passage of time. However this has not been the case with H&BS.1.

There is also evidence in favour of this pattern. The potential user Henry Box & Son, Merchants, are a likely perfin user and furthermore if they had applied through E T Moulden the resulting perfin would have been a Temporary pattern and could have been restricted to a single instance of use.

Given this we are not prepared to say that HB&S.1 should be deleted at this stage, but we ask that Members look hard at their H's to see if they can find one. The absence of a report and the passage of time weigh heavily against the likelihood that this pattern exists.

HUB.1

HUB.1 is another example of a pattern that is "Reported but not seen" and yet it has a confirmed user. Such reports have often been found to be misreports of other security devices such as Security Overprints or Customised Railway stamps, but there is a deal of circumstantial evidence to support HUB.1 with the user Hordern, Utz & Bode.

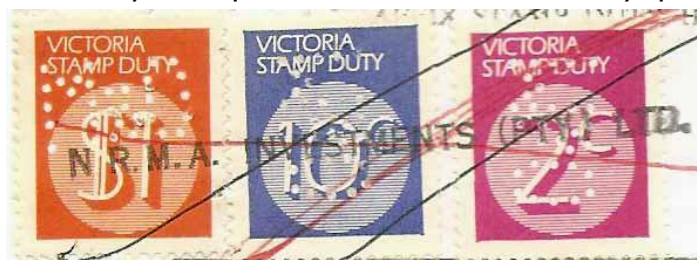
Hordern, Utz & Bode were a stock broking firm that was formed in 1938 by Samuel Hordern (1909-1960), the only son of Sir Samuel Hordern (of perfin user Anthony Hordern & Sons Ltd (AH&S.1 and .2)), and his wife Charlotte Isabella Annie, daughter of another perfin user, Sir John See (JS.1). Hordern, Utz & Bode became one of the largest Broking firms in Sydney and other major Broking firms were perfin users, such as Meares & Bishop, Ord & Minnett and Constable & Co.

HAPP reports (Notes for H Section page H - 12) that the "pattern" was seen "affixed to several Share Transfer documents." Now we are familiar with these documents having recently finished a study on the Revenue Perfins of NSW and they can at times be confusing. The Transfer Forms are a progressive document, in that they are completed over time by various parties completing different sections for Company, Sellers, Buyers, Brokers, Trustee Companies (sometimes) and they may even include sections requiring Company Seals to be applied for both Seller and Buyer. Add to this the Revenue stamps with manuscripts and rubber stamp cancellations and Company cachets and you have a busy Form with a lot of confusing multi Company information. In addition any perfin patterns, if present, are hard to read as the revenue stamps are affixed to white forms that provide no contrast to clearly see the perfin pattern.

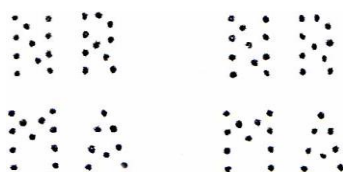
It is possible, even likely, that a complex Form could include the details of a broker such as Hordern, Utz & Bode, and yet carry a perfin of another Broker.

Having said that, this report is better than one that has come from a "list of perfins" as these may include reports of other Security measures, but this report could be based on a Security Overprint or more likely a Company cachet applied to the Revenue stamps on the Form.

We discuss this in the Other Section, letter N, in the Revenue Perfins of NSW where we identify misreports of Security Overprints which are in reality partials of Company cachets, see below:



If you found the \$1 stamp (pictured) on its own, you could be forgiven for listing it as a Security Overprint, particularly as the Company did use both these and perfin on NSW revenues:



NRMA Security Overprint and perfins

NRMA.a and .b (NRMA.1 in HAPP)

Such is the confusion of these “busy” Share Transfer Forms that it would be easy to create a misreport and this is supported by the fact that no HUB pattern has otherwise been reported.

At best this pattern is Status Doubtful.

IAF.1

Like the reports of CL.1 (part strike of LL.3) and MCALD.1 (part strike of W&AMCALD.2), IAF.1 is a part strike of another pattern, that is LAF&CO.1.

Now this is noted for IAF.1 in HAPP on page 1 – 7 and it is stated that “this perfin may be an incomplete strike of LAF&CO.1”. In fact similar statements are made in respect to CL.1 (page C-12) although it does not state the LL.3 pattern, and for MCALD.1 (page M-24).

But all of these reports date from CPA and the questions as to the true patterns were made in similar terms in CPA. By the time of the issuing of HAPP it was clear what the true status of these partial patterns was.

All of these patterns map exactly over each other as partials and the possibility that they are still separate patterns and yet share the exact pin locations, is something so remote that it does not deserve a place in our study.

As a final point in respect to IAF.1 it is worth mentioning that the reported use on NSW revenue stamps from CPA and HAPP is erroneous. Certainly the pattern is found on the revenue stamps of Victoria with the proven user of L A Fairbairn & Co, Wool & Stock Auctioneers at 94-96 King St, Melbourne, VIC.

We suggest that IAF.1 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: IH.7, IH.8, K.1, LAMBS.1, M.8 and MCALD.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

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

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

Arny Vocala is an Australian Specialist who has comprehensive collection of Australian Official Perfins but he is looking for any images or examples of the G/NSW Type B pattern used on the 1932 Zoological Series. Can any Member help, if so please contact the Editor who will pass the information onto Arny.

Arny is also seeking any images or examples of the OS/NSW Type D pattern shown on page 102 of Australian Official Perfins.

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.

“WA” Perfin of Western Australia – Redefined

By David Coath, Derek Pocock, Malcolm Brown and Jerry Austen

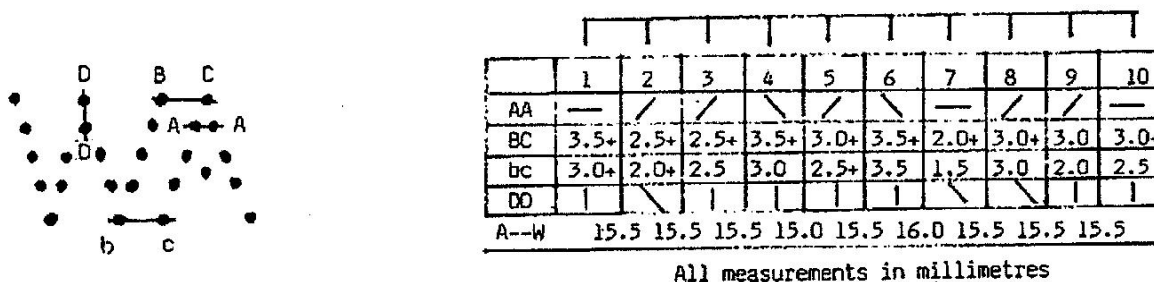
In 1984 Derek Pocock produced the seminal study of these WA patterns and it was published in the “Black Swan”, (volume 4, No.9 of March 1984 page 105). The “Black Swan” is the journal of the Western Australian Study Group. In this study Derek outlined the key facts about the device as follows:

It had 10 horizontal dies, and he lists and compares the features of each die.

Usage 1903 – 1905, but rarely after October 1904 as OS punctured stamps were made available from Victoria.

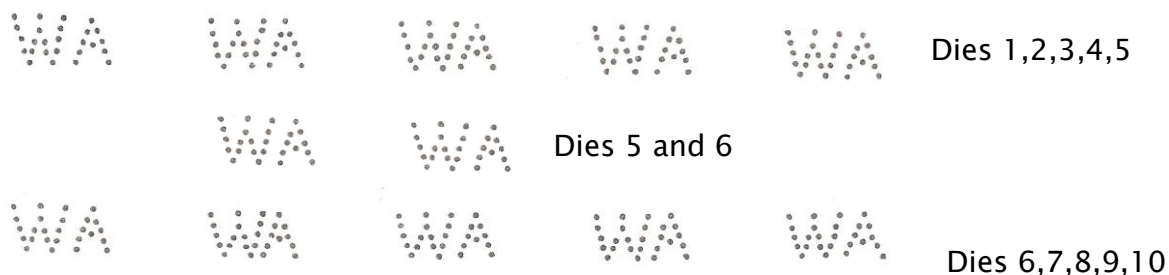
David Andersen in his “Australian Official Perfins” (Edition 2 – 2007) lists these WA patterns, but oddly, in his Introduction to these (see page 202), he opts to quote Mogens Juhl “Postage Stamps and Postal History of Western Australia” (1983) which states that the WA device was a 5 – 10 die device. Although David was aware of Derek’s “Black Swan” article as he lists it in the Bibliography of AOP (see page 234).

It is possible that this oversight was due, in part, to the necessarily complex way that Derek had used to describe the variations in the WA dies. See image below.



Derek had used a mixture of multiples and singles to prove his findings but we felt that collectors would need a visual tool to help them sort their dies. Therefore we collected all

our multiples, both horizontal and vertical, a total of about 100 stamps and sent them to David who used them to produce the following diagram of the 10 dies.



We invite and encourage Members to sort their WA's and provide us with feedback about the images of the dies. The image is 1:1 but distortions can occur so please share how you go.

The GNSW Type A Punctures – PART 2: A 1:1 Ratio Assessment and Die Separation

By Tom Weir

In the first article by Weir, Taylor and Coath (SPPB Vol 111: 14–20), we discussed the means by which each of the 12 Dies of the G/NSW Type A Puncturing head could be distinguished from each other. Unfortunately in that article, the images were not of a 1:1 ratio, meaning that you could not place your stamps on the images to see if the punctures lined up correctly. In this article I will correct that anomaly and provide the necessary 1:1 ratio images to allow the punctures to be assigned correctly.

Figures 1 and 2 show the Dies 1 to 12 from the back of KGV head stamps. Each of these stamps has been checked against known plated varieties as confirmation of their positions. Every effort has been made to select stamps with clean cut punctures to make comparisons easier.



Figure 1: Images of the backs of KGV head stamps to show Dies 1 to 6 of GNSW punctures in a 1:1 ratio.

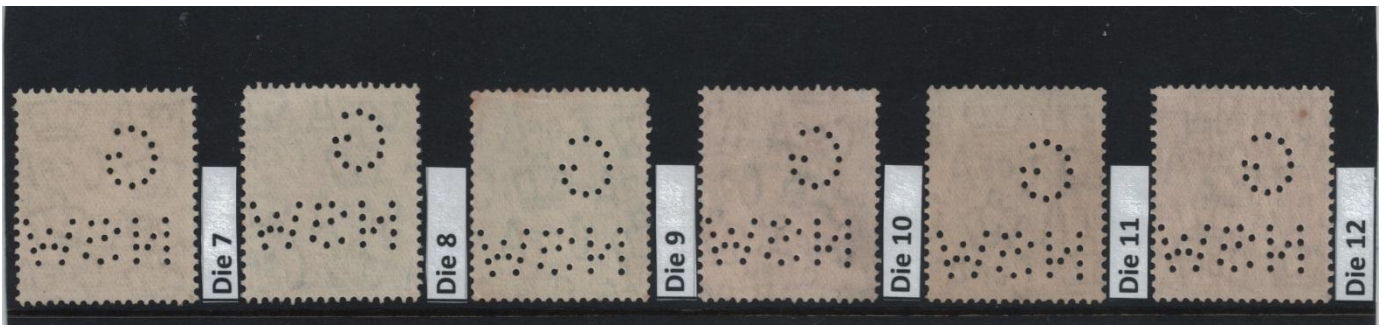


Figure 2: Images of the backs of KGV head stamps to show Dies 7 to 12 of GNSW punctures in a 1:1 ratio.

The next figure shows the relationship between Dies 6 and 7 which are on either side of the gutter in a sheet of KGV head stamps, using two different pairs of stamps. Here the gutter is 12 mm wide. The distance between hole 11 in the W of the Die 6 stamp and hole 4 in the N of the Die 7 stamp is 19 mm. Similarly, the distance between hole 11 in the G of the Die 6 stamp and hole 5 of the G of the Die 7 stamp is 31 mm. It should also be noted that the punctures here are not centred on each stamp. This is a common feature of these punctures and this will be discussed in greater detail in a later article.



Figure 3: Images of two different gutter pairs of KGV stamps showing Dies 6 and 7 of GNSW punctures in a 1:1 ratio.

It has not been possible, with the material available, to produce images of Dies 1 to 6 and Dies 7 to 12 as intact strips. Thus Figures 4 and 5 will show these layouts as reconstructions using strips of 3 for both front and back of the KGV head stamps. These are essentially Figures 2 and 3 from the first article but in a 1:1 ratio.



Figure 4: Reconstructed Die layout 1 to 6 and 7 to 12 of GNSW punctures using correlated strips of 3 of the 2d Red KGV in a 1:1 ratio.

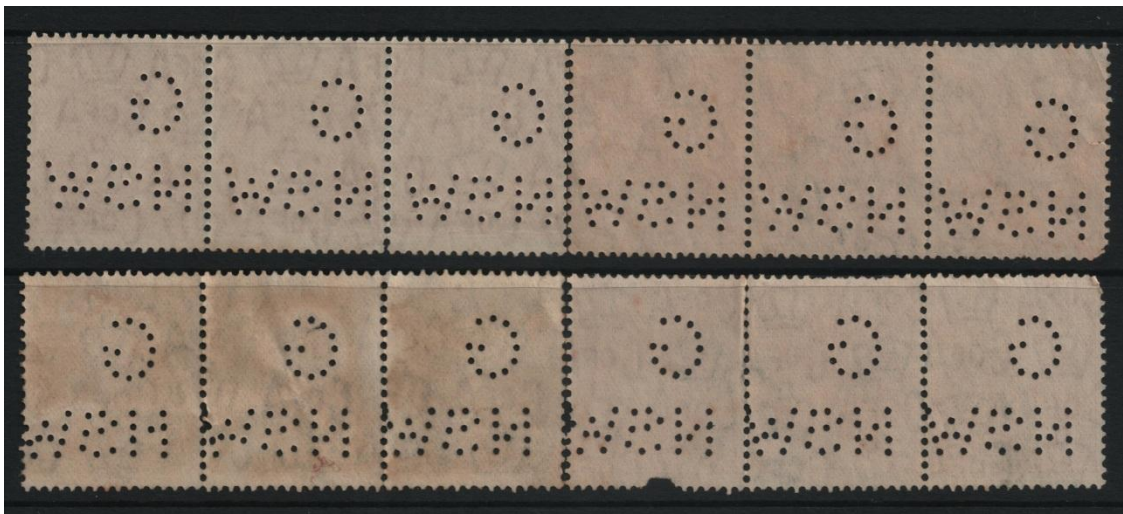


Figure 5: Reconstructed reverse Die layout 6 to 1 and 12 to 7 of GNSW punctures using correlated strips of 3 of the 4d Olive KGV in a 1:1 ratio.

The width of the GNSW puncture is approximately 18.5 mm measured from hole 4 of the N to hole 11 of the W, this being the widest measurement. Compared to the distance between Dies 6 and 7 across the gutter, the distance between each of the other stamps is 5 mm measured between hole 11 of the W and hole 4 of the N in the next stamp. Similarly, the distance between hole 11 in the G and hole 5 in the G in the next stamp is 17.5 mm.

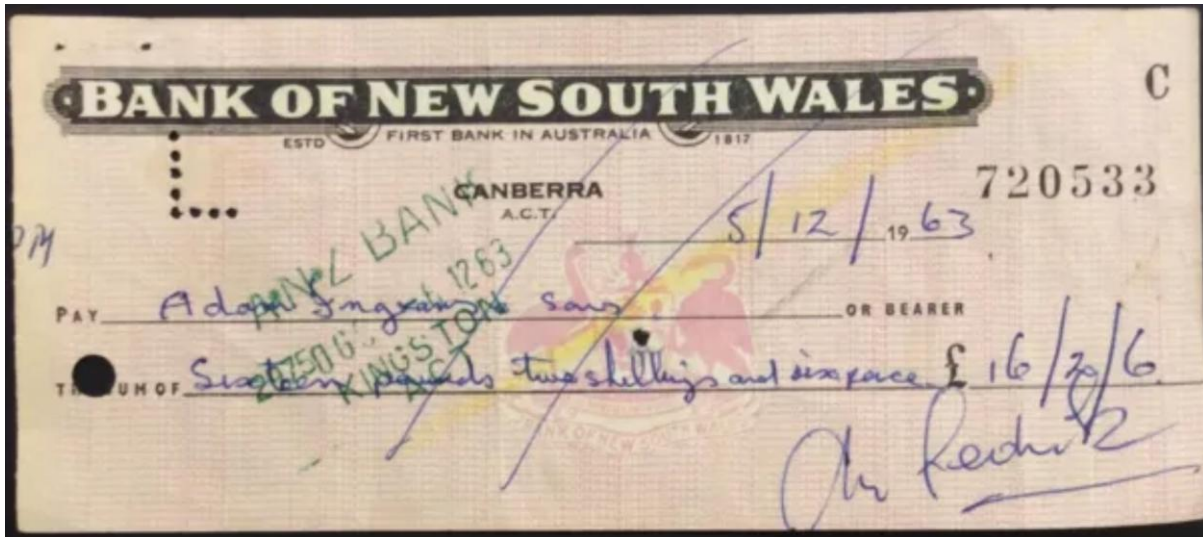
Hopefully all of the above will make the somewhat difficult identification of the 12 Dies of the GNSW puncturing head a little easier. In the next article we will have a look at stamps other than the KGV heads that have had the GNSW Type A puncture applied and some of the things that can go wrong with the puncturing process.

Alphabet Letter Perfins in Australian Cheques

By Murray Lawson, Lance Bates and David Coath

In SPPB # 110 of July 2015 we showed this Bank of New South Wales cheque with an L pattern in it. In the study of the Revenue Perfins of Australia, these Alphabet Letter perfins have been reported on cheques of all the Mainland States of Australia.

We asked if anyone had any idea why they would be struck with a perfin in this way.



Murray Lawson and his friend Lance Bates, a retired ANZ employee, took up the challenge and these are their thoughts:

Lance although unfamiliar with the perforations thought that it could have been something applied to cancel the cheque after it was processed. In respect to the "yellow" line he thought that this was something the ledger-keeper applied after examining the cheque. In his time at the bank he recalled that they just scribbled a wiggly line through the signature if a cheque and signature were deemed "ok". If a cheque was cashed, they scrawled a large "C" across the cheque and cancelled the signature.

Lance could identify that this cheque was banked into the payee's account at an ANZ branch, as is evidenced by the batch stamp (in green) applied to it. He advised that when a deposit was made to a customer's account, a slip was raised for any cash deposited, and this was then placed with the cheques and the deposit slip. The deposit slip and accompanying cheques were stamped with an identifying batch number, so that if a cheque subsequently bounced it could be traced back to the relevant deposit slip, using the batch number. He felt that because the Canberra branch was so large, they would have had a huge number of these batches to deal with each day, and that the perforations may have been an internal cancellation coding.

Murray and Lance were able to find images and examples of more complex perfin patterns, such as PAID and date references but nothing like these single Alphabetic perfins.

If anyone has some thoughts then please share them.

Websites of Cuban Perfins

By David Coath and Dave Elsmore

Cuba is a relatively small perfin country but it is seriously collected and there is much information available free and online about these patterns.

In the past we have shared the site presented by long time US Collector, Rudy Roy entitled "Perfins on the Stamps of Cuba"

<http://www.cubafil.org/MemberPages/RRoy/Perfins.html>

Fellow US Collector Robert Littrell has an excellent Exhibition for all to see at:

<http://www.perfins.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Cuban-Perfins-16-page-Exhibit-R2.pdf>

Now a new site has been established on the subject and is worth a visit.

<http://www.rutgersperfins.com/>

The Rutgersperfins.com site is available as a link from Perfins.com.au

New Reports

By David Coath, Greg Howard, Dave Elsmore, John Amiet, Richard Smolnicki and Andrew Murley

New NB found on a Revenue



This is NB.2 which is a rare pattern indeed. But the example on the left is the first reported on Revenue stamps. It is now listed in the Revenue Perfins of Victoria as NB.a

The manuscript date is interesting as it dates the usage as 1896, also the postally used example is dated in 1898. HAPP states usage at 1911 and although this would fit neatly if the user was the same as the user for NB.1 it does not seem to be supported by this evidence. If anyone has an example of NB.2 with a postmark then please share it.

New pattern SL found on Cover, but is it?





Enlarged



1:1 but highlighted in Red

This item was found by John Amiet and it shows a previously unreported pattern, SL, on a “proving” cover for the user Sun Loong, Fruit Merchant at 46 Wholesale Fruit Market, Melbourne.

46 is most likely a stall or site number in the Queen Victoria Market in the north of the CBD of Melbourne. The main Vegetable section of this Market moved to Footscary Rd, West Melbourne in 1969 and later to Epping in 2015.

The user Sun Loong is listed in the 1949 Victorian Gazette, but interestingly the name Sun Loong is also that of a Ceremonial Dragon located in Bendigo, that is claimed to be the longest Ceremonial Dragon in the world at approximately 100 metres. However it has only existed since the 1970's. I stand to be corrected but from what I can find the word Loong translates as Dragon, and Sun is fair. So it would make a good name for a Chinese Fruit Merchant.

But is this Chinese Fruit Merchant a likely perfin user? The short answer is no. Perfin devices are expensive and by this time (circa 1949) they were almost exclusively used by larger companies with high mail/parcel volumes that required large amounts of postage to be purchased. The strike is a little indistinct but it is certainly from a Customised perforator, Temporary perfins are not available in 1949. Customised perfin patterns tend to be common so the “New” pattern on a proving cover as the only example rings some alarm bells.

This mixture of a “New” pattern on a “proving” cover is consistent with the Forged “proving” covers produced by Viv Daddow. John Mathews wrote an excellent article on these in SPPB #55 of October 2001, see pages 8 and 9.

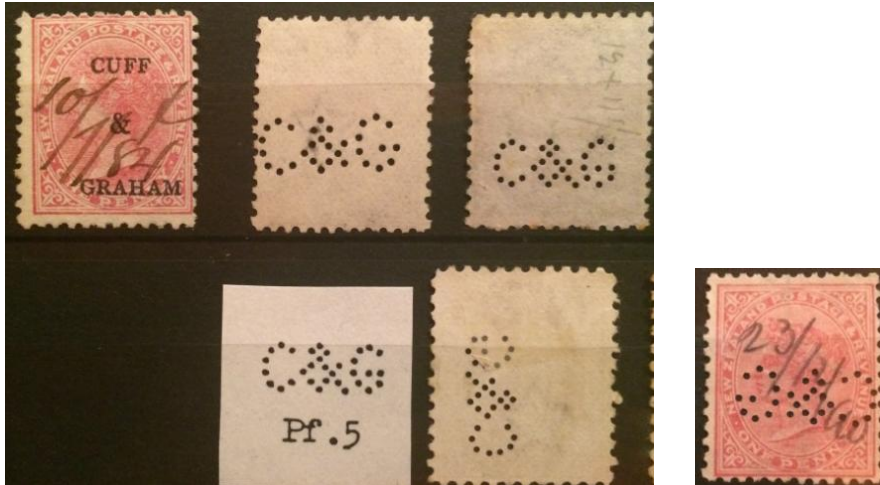
Viv was more than a “bit of a rogue” and he delighted in creating forgeries of various items, both perfined and non perfined and getting Certificates for them from prestigious bodies such as the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, and others.

Before you start imaging Viv as a Philatelic “Robin Hood”, his dies were most likely the ones used to create the forged VG patterns that proliferated in the 1980's and may still be in use today for other patterns such as the OSNSW (Type C) and Commonwealth OS's.

As outlined in John Mathews article in 2001, Viv liked to see himself as a “restorer” and the SL cover showed signs of being repaired, the front had a tear (see image) that had been repaired and the back showed many repairs to what had been a roughly opened cover. In addition the envelope had been resealed and on carefully opening the cover I found that it only contained a plain buff piece of card with trimmed edges that appeared to have been cut to fit the envelope.

This is not a new pattern but another pattern to add to the list of bogus patterns.

New C&B found on New Zealand

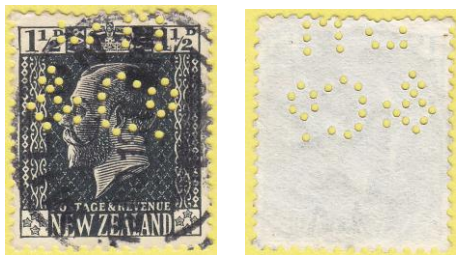


A new variation of the C&G perfin has come to light. Andrew Murley reports as follows:

“This new C&G punch is 1mm taller and 2mm wider than the known type. The shape of the C and G are different, one less hole in the & tail. It is used fiscally, dated 23/12/90, on die three one penny second s/f perf 12x11.5. He has fiscal dated copies of the more usual C&G that precede (7/2/90) and post date this copy (30-5/10). No British or Australian similar punch exists.”

Richard Smolnicki considers that it may be an opportune time to modify the numbering system for NZ perfin from the sequential system devised by Robert Samuel to a system used in the Handbook of Australian Private Perfin (HAPP). In this case the original C&G PF5 will become C&G.1, with the new pattern becoming C&G.2.

Update on New BH&Co found on New Zealand



Murray Lawson has been enjoying reading through back issues of the SPPB and noted this report from SPPB #88 which was of a previously unreported pattern on a New Zealand stamp.

In the article the postmark was identified as “Milton” and John Mathews rightly identified that this was a relatively small town of about 2000 people in the South Island and was therefore an unlikely location for a perfin device. Murray wondered if the postmark might have been “Hamilton”, so we contacted Danish Member Birger Mortensen who had made the report and asked for some colour scans. (see above) These scans and Birgers close inspection supported the view that the postmark was Milton with a date of 15.10.18.

The BH&Co strike is most likely bogus and further evidence that our study has some “weeds” that need to be noted.

Auction Watch

By David Coath, Greg Howard, and Dave Elsmore

B&W/PTYLTD

This B&W/PTYLTD is an unusual pattern as it is only reported on the Railway stamps of Victoria. The company did not use this customised device to puncture postage or other revenue stamps, but perhaps the size of the pattern made this impractical.

This B.&W./PTYLTD.a (HAPP B&WPTYLTD.1) pattern was made from a single die customised device that was only used in the period 1902 until 1917. See Private Revenue Perfins of Victoria for details.

Perfins on any Railway stamp are hard to find but these 2 were listed on eBay in the UK in July 2015. The 10d is a rare stamp on its own and as expected bidding was strong. They eventually sold for about \$150(A) each.

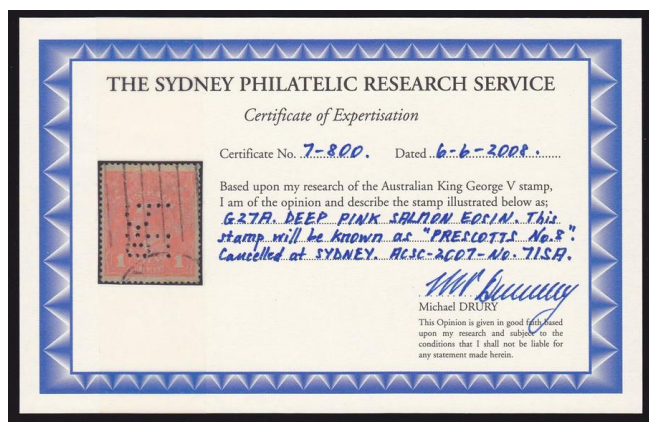


PLD.1

The following item was listed on eBay.

It did not receive a bid and was Passed in at \$1,649.99 (US), the Australian Specialists Catalogue (ASC) catalogues this shade at \$2,250 (A) and the OS in this shade at \$4000 (A). The listing came with a Michael Drury Certificate.

The pattern is PLD.1 and it is found on New South Wales and later Commonwealth postage (common) and NSW revenue stamps (rarely) from 1913 until 1949. Strikes after about 1928 are characterised by missing pins in the top of the P which gives the pattern an odd appearance, almost like a YLD.



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