

# **S**OUTH **P**ACIFIC **P**ERFIN **B**ULLETIN



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

No.114 JULY 2016



## FEATURE ARTICLES

- Reviewing HAPP Part 5
- VG 4<sup>th</sup> Head
- GNSW Type A

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)

**Vice President:** Vacant

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

**Treasurer:** John Mathews,  
21 McConnel Crescent, Kambah, ACT, 2902, Australia  
Email: [John.Mathews@canberra.edu.au](mailto:John.Mathews@canberra.edu.au)

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

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

**Auctioneer:** Vacant

**Circuit Manager (Aust):** Greg Howard,  
PO Box 31, Blackmans Bay, Tasmania, 7052, Australia  
Email: [dhow3371@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dhow3371@bigpond.net.au)

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

## Other Roles

**Public Officer:** Dan Ryan,  
4 Plantation Avenue, Flagstaff Hill, SA, 5159, Australia  
Email: [danryan@ozemail.com.au](mailto:danryan@ozemail.com.au)

**Perforator:** Arthur Taylor,  
19 Sundowner Avenue, Berrara, NSW, 2540, Australia

## New Members

No new Members joined us this Quarter

## Editors Comment

*By David Coath*

Welcome to the SPPB #114. Firstly an apology, an “eagle eyed” reader reports that in the Front Cover section of the last SPPB I referred to the amazing item supplied by Malcolm Brown as WS&CO.1 in the introduction, but then went on to talk about the HS&Co patterns and show images of these. It was of course a HS&Co. Thanks, I always appreciate correction and comments.

This Issue includes another article on the VG’s by Jason Rowe and Neale Scott, this covers the 4<sup>th</sup> Head and includes input from John Mathews who owns the 4<sup>th</sup> Head device and has written about the History of this device in previous SPPB’s.

This edition also features more information from Tom Weir on the GNSW Type A, and look out for more on this pattern as Tom will be investigating the use of the pattern on the 1932 Zoological Series as well as 1930’s Commemoratives and Kangaroos.

There is also another instalment of “Reviewing Questionable Listings in HAPP” although it is short due to space restrictions. This issue does not carry a “Meet a Member” but there is one ready for the next Bulletin. If you want to tell your story then just let me know and we can write it together.

As stated before, one of the keys 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 (in the US) 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, Richard Peck, Mike Long, Don Wormald, Bob Szymanski and David McNamee.

As always if you have any thoughts or feedback please, do not hesitate to share them.

## Front Cover – P D on South Australia

*By Greg Howard and David Coath*

The front cover features an amazing new report from South Australia. It is a previously unreported customised pattern with the letters “P D”. Greg found just three examples in a bulk lot of some 10,000 States stamps mainly in bundles.

The postmarks tell us little, but the existence on the ½ d narrows the usage to between 1900 and 1911.

The spacing between the P and the D and the shape of the letters is consistent on all three examples.



The spacing between the letters is also rather wide and if you had a single example you may consider the possibility of it being two part strikes and that it could possibly be D P, but this is clearly not the case.

An amazing find and it goes to show that there are still things out there to be found.

## Subscriptions Due

*By John Mathews*

Thanks to all those members who have replied promptly to the subscription invoices which went out with the April Bulletin. If you have not responded by mid July, you will see a coloured patch on the address label of the envelope bringing the July Bulletin to you. If you have mislaid your invoice, you can check your “dues” by contacting the Treasurer.

Please note that the Subscription rates are set below the actual cost of producing and mailing the Bulletin, prompt payment would be appreciated and if no payment is received

before the October Bulletin, then your Membership will lapse and you will no longer receive Bulletins.

## Committee News

*By David Coath*

The new Committee is in place and the handovers of the positions of Treasurer and Circuit Manager have been completed.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the new incumbents John Mathews (Treasurer) and Greg Howard (Circuit Manager – Australia). They have both been working hard and successfully to put their portfolios in order.

In this issue John has included a note about Subscriptions as well as the 2015/6 Financial Report, and Greg has written an article about the Circuit.

The move to an Incorporated Club has meant more work for all Committee Members who handle financial transactions and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Committee Members for their efforts in helping to bring together the Financial information for the Clubs Financial Reports.

By the way there are still vacant positions on Committee and if anyone is interested then please contact me and we can co opt you into the Committee. The positions of Vice President, Auctioneer and Committee person are all vacant.

## Club Auction –July 2016

*By David Coath*

The current Auction is enclosed and it is a bumper one with over 330 Lots provided by 21 Vendors.

This is a great credit to Members who are making the effort to share their spare material with other Members, well done.

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.

So I encourage you to look through the Auction and see if you can find something that you want, remember bidding closes on 30 September 2016, and if you want a scan of any lot then please just let me know and I will send it.

## Catalogue of Australian stamps with the PCNZA Perfin

*By Peter Simpfendorfer and David Coath*

As advised in the April Bulletin Peter Simpfendorfer has built a Catalogue of Australian Stamps with the PCNZA perfin. This catalogue is extremely detailed and is set up as a Word document with Australian Stamp Catalogue (ASC) numbers as reference, where available. The catalogue includes both sheet and self adhesive stamps, mini sheets and International stamps. There are even a couple of Cinderellas included.

The catalogue comprises 23 typed pages and it is now available on Dave Elmore's perfins.com.au site. Thanks Dave for facilitating this.

To find it click on the "Perfin Research" tab on the perfins.com.au home page and you will find the Catalogue on the top of the list of Perfin Research articles.

We hope that members will check their personal collections of PCNZA perfins and advise details of any stamps not listed. However, to include them in the catalogue Peter will need to sight an image of the stamps.

This can be either by snail mail (PO Box 2029, Wagga Wagga, NSW 2650) or email ([simpy19@bigpond.com](mailto:simpy19@bigpond.com))

Peter can email a copy of the catalogue to individual members or mail it free to Australian members.

Future projects in respect to PCNZA perfins will include a similar catalogue for Australian Territories stamps and New Zealand stamps with the PCNZA pattern.

Peter has also volunteered to help Members build their collections of PCNZA stamps by offering to send around his collection of spares. Peter has secured extra spares from Arthur Taylor and David Coath. If you are interested in building your collection by accessing these then please get in contact with Peter, and further if you have spares that you wish to offer then please send them to Peter so he can include them into the "bank" of spares.

## A note from the Circuit Manager (Australia)

*By Greg Howard*

All on the Circuit will have had a chance to get some new books which are now making the rounds. We now have three circuits comprising around ten Members in each.

Initially I started Circuits in both directions of each Circuit, however this led to doubling up of Books when they reached the middle. I apologise for this but I was concerned that Members had not had enough access to Circuit Books of late. I have now reset the Circuit with books only travelling in one direction.

Subsequently there have also been some delays in some circuits but on a positive note sales are very high and it is clear that despite some teething problems, the Circuit is, overall, doing well for both buyers and sellers.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind Circuit Members that we now have a new bank account for the Circuit. The Account allows direct deposit payment for those who wish to use that option, alternatively cheque payments are still accepted, please make cheques payable to the PCNZA, or Perfin Club of New Zealand & Australia. NO CHEQUES IN MY NAME PLEASE. Cash is also unsafe in mail.

Purchase slips can be scanned and emailed to me, or Posted. We do not carry a credit system with the Circuit as small amounts can easily be paid via bank transfer (direct deposit).

Please forward books promptly and prioritise this over finalising your payment slips and forwarding payment to me for your purchases.

Any vendors wanting to make up new books available can contact me on the details provided at the end of this article and empty books will be sent to you.

Any Members who are interested in joining the Circuit please just get in contact with me and we can get you included on the list. It is helpful if you tell me about your collecting interests as this allows me to tailor books to the Circuit you are on.

A last point, we are all philatelists so when forwarding the books on please consider using postage stamps and preferably ones that are perforated PCNZA.

My details are: Greg Howard Email: [dhow3371@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dhow3371@bigpond.net.au) PO BOX 31, Blackmans Bay, TAS, 7052, Telephone: 0418 135 351 (anytime)

## PCNZA – Treasurers Report 2015/16

*By John Mathews*

I took over as Treasurer in February 2016. My first task was to convert the Club's existing main account records from MYOB (with which I was not familiar, and which seemed to me unsuitable for the nature of our business) to a ledger in an Excel



spreadsheet. In this process, I established an “audited” starting position for the FY 2015/16 account, and for the date of handover.

The outstanding liability has been considerably reduced during this financial year by the use of members’ credits to pay for subscription renewals and by refunds of the bulk of excessive credit balances.

The Club is in a sound financial position as the following consolidated financial statement shows. Following the consolidated statement are the individual statements for the 4 accounts the Club has – the main account (managed by the Treasurer), the NZ account (managed by the Assistant Treasurer), the Exchange Branch account (managed by the Circuit manager), and the Forgery Detection Sub-Committee account (managed by John Graham). Thanks go to Richard, Greg, and John for their good work with those latter 3 accounts respectively.

### Consolidated Financial Statement for FY 2015/16

Account	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Liabilities
Main trading account (A\$)	14,661.31	17,449.11	5,561.13	2,329.35
Term Deposit (A\$)	151.24	0.00	10,236.25	0.00
NZ account (NZ\$)	2,153.25	2,532.07	898.71	0.00
Exchange Branch account (A\$)	8,121.13	245.80	7,875.33	7,290.45
FDSC account (A\$)	4,240.02	4,254.50	55.55	0.00
<b>Total (approx. – for A\$1 = NZ\$1)</b>	<b>29,326.95</b>	<b>24,481.48</b>	<b>24,626.97</b>	<b>9,619.80</b>

### Financial Statement for Main trading account, FY 2015/16

Income (A\$)		Expenditure (A\$)	
Subscriptions	2,937.78	Printing	1,867.47
PayPal fees	(24.73)	Postage	250.08
Subscriptions ex credit	590.00	Auction	3,224.16
Auctions	3,156.45	Exchange Branch	11,703.50 [2]
Exchange branch [1]	4,276.60	To member credit	
By members’ credit	(635.75)	(exch. Br.)	(101.00)
Publication sales		Refund of member	
AOP	135.00	credit	400.70
VG catalogue	75.00	Donation	100.00
Bulletin, inc. CD	25.00		
FDSC	1,730.00		
For members’ credit	251.76		
Miscellaneous			
Donations	44.20	Bank fees	4.20
Advertising (SPPB)	100.00		
Transfer from NZ a/c	2,000.00		
	-----		-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,661.31</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>17,449.11</b>

Trading loss \$2,787.80

Notes: [1] Prior to opening of separate exchange branch account.

[2] Includes final payments from old exchange branch account.

#### Bank reconciliation

At bank 1 July 2015	7,351.73	At bank 30 June 2016	8,952.07
PayPal balance 1 July 2015	<u>997.20</u>	PayPal balance 30 June 2016	1,940.46
	8,348.93		
Income FY 2015/16	14,661.31	less unrepresented cheques	(5,331.40)
Expenditure FY 2015/16	<u>(17,449.11)</u>		
	-----		-----

5,561.13

5,561.13

Liabilities – members' credits (30 June 2016) \$2,329.35 [at 1 July 2015: \$3,014.92]

The **term deposit** increased by interest from \$10,085.01 to \$10,236.25 during FY 2015/16.

### **Financial Statement for NZ account, FY 2015/16**

Income (NZ\$)		Expenditure (NZ\$)	
Bank July 1 2015	1,277.53	Postage newsletter	0.0
Circuits	454.45	Stamps	42.40
Subscriptions	580.00	Donation (Prize)	75.00
Auction	1,094.50	Auction	192.05
Catalogue sales	0.00	To PCNZA main a/c	2,192.62
Donation	15.00	Bank charges	30.00
Interest	9.30	Cash on hand 30 June 2016	15.00
		Bank 30 June 2016	883.71
	-----		-----
Total	3,430.78		3,430.78

### **Financial Statement for Exchange Branch account, FY 2015/16**

Income (A\$)		Expenditure (A\$)	
Bank (new a/c Feb 2016)	0.00		
Subscription	15.00	To PCNZA main a/c (Subscription)	15.00
Members' purchases	7,991.05	Postage	226.30
Purchases from credit	15.05	Bank fee	4.50
To members' credit	100.00	At bank 30 June 2016	7,875.33
Bank interest	0.03		
	-----		-----
Total	8,121.13		8,121.13

Liabilities – members' credit \$ 84.95  
– vendors' credit \$ 7,205.50

### **Financial Statement for PCNZA-FDSC account, FY 2015/16**

Income (A\$)		Expenditure (A\$)	
At bank 1/7/2015	70.03	to Sub-committee members	2,467.50
Fees	4,240.00	to Royalty holder (software)	270.00
Interest	0.02	to PCNZA	1,465.00 [3]
		web site hosting to 10/4/2017	52.00
		At bank 30/6/2016	55.55
	-----		-----
	4,310.05		4,310.05
	=====		=====

Note: [3] This amount does not include \$265.00 which was debited to this account in FY2014/15, but which did not appear in the Club's main account until 1 July 2015.

# The G/NSW Type A Punctures

By Tom Weir

## PART 3: MISSING PINS, MISALIGNMENTS, DOUBLE PUNCTURES AND INVERTED PUNCTURES

### MISSING PINS

In his 1954 article on the plating of the 12 dies of the G/NSW Type A punctures, H. A. Hammond also makes what is probably the first mention of missing pins. He states pins W5 from Die 1, W9 from Die 6 and W9 from Die 9 were missing and says this appears to have been constant for the period July 1933 to March 1934. He goes on to state that other missing pins appeared during the life of this puncture, but does not elaborate further. Andersen (2007) supports this by saying that damage to the G/NSW dies in the form of missing pins appeared quickly, but also gives no further details.

Over the course of my study into the G/NSW Type A punctures I have come across many stamps affected by missing pins, covering all Dies and can therefore now shed more light on this aspect. According to Andersen (2007), the first recorded usage of this puncture was 19 May 1933, and Hammond noted missing pins from July 1933. My earliest dates align with those of Hammond (1954) with July 1933 dates for W5 in Die 1, W9 in Die 6 and W9 in Die 9.

In the following discussion, the numbering of the holes in the letters G, N, S & W is as in Part 1 and 2 of this series (Weir, Taylor and Coath 2015; Weir 2016) and Figures 1 and 2 show this for front and back.



Figure 1: Numbering of holes from the front the back

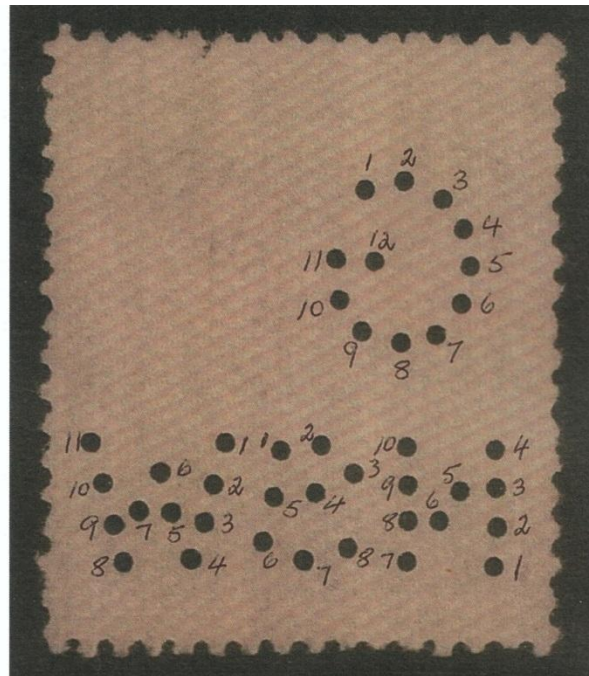


Figure 2: Numbering of holes from the back



The letters of G/NSW seem to have been affected by missing pins in different ways, some more than others. Below we can see the holes per letter caused by missing pins that have so far been found:

Letter G: G2, G11

Letter N: N1, N6, N8

Letter S: S8

Letter W: W4, W5, W7, W8, W9, W11

The following table shows the distribution of the various missing pins per Die so far been found. Note that no missing pins have been found on Dies 7 or 8:

G/NSW TYPE A PUNCTURE - MISSING PINS												
	DIES											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
HOLES IN EACH LETTER PER DIE												
<b>G</b>	2					11						
<b>N</b>					1					6		1,6,8
<b>S</b>												8
<b>W</b>	5	9	4,5	5,9	4,9	9			9	9	4,5,7,8,9	11

Table 1: GNSW Type A Punctures – missing pins per Die

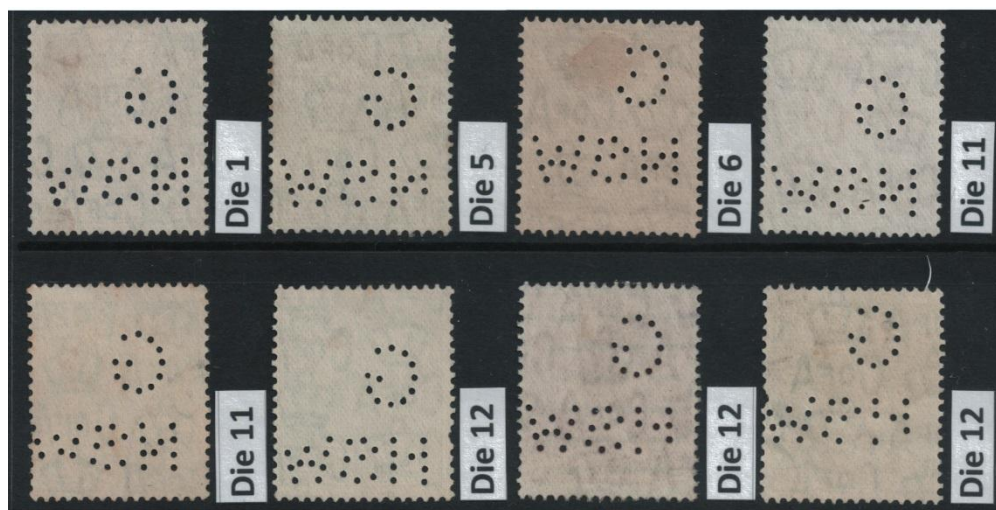
As can be seen, letter N in Die 12 and letter W in Die 11 are the two most affected by missing pins, but not all missing pins are present at any one time on any die. Single missing pins are more common than combinations on the majority of the Dies. Combinations of missing pins have been found so far only on Dies 1, 11 and 12 and these are detailed in the following table.

G/NSW TYPE A PUNCTURE				
MISSING PIN COMBINATIONS				
	LETTERS			
	G	N	S	W
DIES				
1	2			5
11				4,7,8
11				5,7,9
12		6		11
12		1,6		
12		1,8		
12		1,6,8		
12		1,6,8	8	

Table 2: GNSW Type A Punctures – missing pin combinations per Die

All of the missing pins listed above are from KGV heads, either from the author's collection, the collection of David Coath or have been sighted from other sources.

Figure 3 below shows all of the holes caused by missing pins, either singly or in combination, using Dies 1, 5, 6, 11 and 12 as examples.



**Figure 3: GNSW Type A Punctures on KGV head stamps showing all missing holes from the back**

Using these missing holes either singly or in combination may aid as a secondary confirmation of the various Dies. For example, if you have G2 and W5 on the one stamp it is most probably Die 1; if you have N6 and W11 on the one stamp it is most probably Die 12; if you have W4, W6 and W8 on the one stamp it is almost certainly Die11 and if you have N1, N6, N8 and 8S then you can be sure it is Die12. For Die 1, a missing G2 will confirm it as will a missing G11 for Die 6.

That some of the combinations occur together can be seen from the example of the multiple of Dies 10, 11 and 12 in Figure 4 below.



**Figure 4: GNSW Type A Punctures on KGV head stamps from the back of a multiple of Dies 12, 11 and 10 showing missing holes N6 & W11 in Die 12, W4 in Die 11 and W9 in Die 10**

Numerous examples exist of all of the missing holes mentioned above but to show images of all of them would take up a large amount of space. Suffice to say that the examples shown cover most of the relevant situations so far detected. I think I have captured all of the missing holes, but any new discoveries would be most welcome!

## MISALIGNMENTS

It would seem that there was little control over the way the sheets of stamps were inserted into the puncturing head as there is great variation in the positioning of the G/NSW Type A Puncture on each stamp, both vertically and horizontally. The sheets were punctured one row at a time, so the alignment of each stamp in that row is similar, but these alignments vary from row to row. This variation can be shown in the double vertical columns of the KGV 3d Blue stamps Dies 5 & 6 in Figure 5 below.



Figure 5: GNSW Type A Punctures on KGV head 3d Blue Dies 5 & 6 showing variations in vertical and horizontal positioning of the punctures

Further more extreme examples can be found and a few of these are illustrated in Figures 6 and 7 below.



Figure 6: Further examples of GNSW Type A Punctures on KGV head stamps showing vertical (stamps 1 & 2) and horizontal (stamps 3 & 4) misalignment from the back





Figure 7: An ebay lot from 2013 showing more extreme examples of misaligned GNSW Type A Punctures on KGV head stamps

## DOUBLE PUNCTURES

Owen (1950), was probably the first to mention double punctures of the G/NSW Type A Puncture (his Type 5) in print, but did not identify any particular stamps. In referring in general to the various NSW State Punctures, he summed up the production of double (and inverted) punctures thus: "such freaks are purely fortuitous and due to lack of attention on the part of the operator or to some slight temporary defect in the mechanism". The first listing of double punctures of the G/NSW Type A Puncture that I can find is that of Watkins (1963). He lists the following KGV head stamps as existing with double punctures: small multi 13½ x 13½: ½d Orange; C of A: ½d Orange, 1d Green, 2d Red, 3d Blue and 4d Olive.

Laidler and Teunis (1985) confirmed these stamps as having double punctures. The few double punctures that have been seen show variations in the way these double punctures have occurred and this can be seen in Figure 8 below. The 4d Olive stamp has had the double puncture of Die 12 applied by moving the sheet in a slight vertical direction, the 1d Green stamp has had the double puncture of Die 7 applied by moving the sheet slightly in both vertical and horizontal directions, while the 2d Red (Die not distinguishable) has had the sheet moved ever so slightly. The 1d Green is interesting as



Type A Punctures on KGV head stamps



the second puncture has 5W, 7W and 9W missing, an indication of Die 11!

Figure 8: Examples of double punctures of GNSW

## INVERTED PUNCTURES

Owen (1950) mentioned inverted punctures of the G/NSW Type A Puncture as well as double punctures, but did not identify any particular stamps. Watkins (1963) lists the following KGV head stamps as having inverted punctures: C of A: 1d Green, 2d Red, 3d Blue, 4d Olive and 5d Brown and these were confirmed by Laidler and Teunis (1985). Andersen (2007) added the C of A 1½d Brown to the list.

Inverted punctures arise when the sheet of stamps is turned through 180 degrees before being inserted into the puncturing machine. These stamps can be considered rare as I have only one in my possession despite many years of collecting. Two 1d Green KGV heads with inverted punctures are shown in Figure 9 below.



Figure 9: KGV 1d Green heads with GNSW Type A Punctures inverted – left stamp is Die 11 and right stamp is Die 3

The left stamp has a Die 11 puncture but is from position 5/50 in the sheet. Normally this stamp would have had a Die 2 puncture applied, but when the sheet is turned 180 degrees, it is in the position of 6/11 and so had the Die 11 puncture applied. The right stamp has a Die 3 puncture but is from position 6/40 in the sheet. Normally this stamp would have had a Die 10 puncture applied, but when the sheet is turned 180 degrees, it is in position 5/21 and so had the Die 3 puncture applied.

## CONCLUSION

This concludes this part of The G/NSW Type A Punctures – Unravelling the Dies. Further parts in this series will shed some light on the stamps other than the KGV heads that had this puncture applied and the known forgeries.

## 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*. pp 166–167.
- Laidler, G. and Teunis, H. 1985. New South Wales Government punctures on Kangaroo and King George V stamps. *Australian Commonwealth Collectors Club of New South Wales Bulletin* Vol 24 No. 3 June 1985: pp 142–153.
- Owen, G. E. 1950. *Stamps of the Commonwealth of Australia punctured for use in State Government Departments*. Fremantle 1950 9pp + Appendices A & B + Checklist
- Watkins, A. F. 1963. Punctured Officials (NSW punctured officials 1913–1963). *Australian Commonwealth Collectors Club Of New South Wales* Vol 2: pp 24–26, 43–49, 56–61, 72–75, 85–90, 96–99, 103–105.
- Weir, T., Taylor, A. and Coath, D. 1915. The GNSW Type A Punctures – Unravelling the Dies. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No. 111 October 2015: pp 14–20.
- Weir, T. 2016. The GNSW Type A Punctures – Part 2: A 1:1 Ratio Assessment and Die Separation. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No. 112 January 2016: pp 20–22.

## EDITORS NOTE

Tom is looking to expand his study of this pattern to other issues that were struck with this device including the 1932 Kookaburra and Lyrebird, 1935 Anzac, KGV Silver Jubilee, the 1/6 Airmail as well as the Kangaroos with CofA watermarks in values 9d, 2/- and 5/-.

For a complete list see *Australian Official Perfins* by David Andersen, pages 106 – 107. If you can help with scans and images then please contact Tom at [tomweir@bigpond.com](mailto:tomweir@bigpond.com) or Tom Weir, 17 Langridge Street, Wanniasa, ACT, 2903



## A Closer Look at the 4<sup>th</sup> Head of the VG Perfin

*By Jason Rowe and Neale Scott*

Welcome to another installment of “A closer look at VG Perfins“, in this article we will present the last of the VG puncturing Machines (The 4<sup>th</sup> Head)

I would like to gratefully thank John Mathews with his assistance in preparing this article.

After a 23 year service by the 3<sup>rd</sup> head, numerous broken pins and the introduction of larger type stamp issues, it was decided to replace this head with the 4<sup>th</sup> and final puncturing machine.

Like all of the other heads there has been no information of a manufacture or documented process in implementing the new 4<sup>th</sup> head.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Head was introduced in 1976 and comprised a 9 hole “V” and a 10 hole “G” similar to the die 12 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> head.



Die 12 2<sup>nd</sup> head and 4<sup>th</sup> head

The pins used for this head were more solid than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Head and created a larger hole pattern with the operator feeding up to 4 sheets and a cardboard backing ensuring all sheets were thoroughly perforated.

Like the previous heads the operation was done by a manual foot treadle perforating one row of stamps at a time but at some stage an electric motor was attached allowing the operator to activate the puncturing mechanism with a simple touch of the treadle. The motor was made in the second half of 1964 [Mathews, 1995]

Due to the current stamp issues at the time of the change over the first 29 stamps perforated with the 4<sup>th</sup> head can also be found perforated with the 3<sup>rd</sup> head.

ASC		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
419	4c Red Queen Helecon Paper	X	X	X					
423	6c Orange Queen	X	X						
534	35c Aboriginal Art White Paper					X			
551	12c Rehabilitation Cream Paper					X			
551	12c Rehabilitation White Paper					X		X	
553	24c Rehabilitation Cream Paper					X			
560	5c Pioneer Life White Paper					X		X	
562	15c Pioneer Life White Paper	X	X						
564	50c Pioneer Life White Paper	X	X						
565	60c Pioneer Life White Paper					X			
566	80c pioneer Life White Paper	X	X						
582	1c Marine	X				X		X	
583	2c Marine		X			X	X	X	
584	3c Marine	X				X	X	X	
585	4c Marine	X				X		X	

586	6c Gemstone	X	X	X					
587	7c Gemstone	X	X						
588	8c Gemstone	X	X			X		X	
589	9c Gemstone	X	X						
589a	9c on 8c Gemstone	X	X	X					
590	10c Gemstone	X	X	X		X		X	
599	20c Wombat	X				X	X		
601	30c Possum	X				X	X	X	
602	75c Glider					X		X	
603	\$1 Painting	X	X			X			
604	\$2 Painting					X		X	
634	11c Science	X							
646	18c Flower	X	X	X	X	X			
647	45c Flower	X	X			X		X	

The head comprised 10 dies placed sideways, with the “V” on top facing to the Left Position “E”

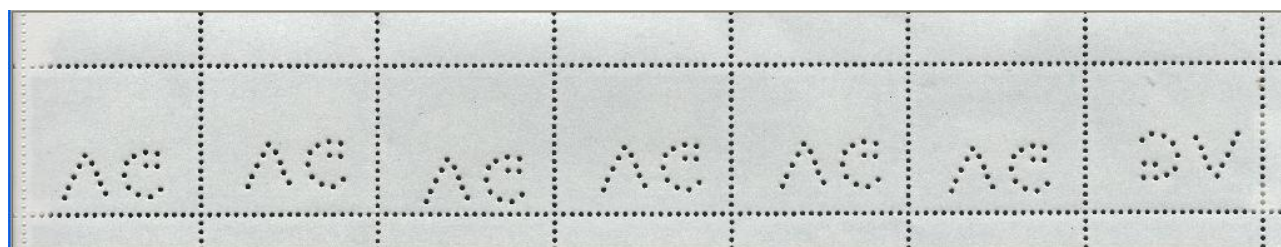
VG

This head design allowed for easier perforating, as unlike the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> head the 4<sup>th</sup> head did not require the Operator to undertake any folding or special insertion of the smaller type stamp issues.

The sheet layout for most of the larger decimal stamp types assisted the operator as to the direction the stamps were placed under the head.

These sheets comprised 100 stamps with upper and lower or left and right panes of 50 (10 by 5) separated by a gutter. This allowed the operator to perforate 9 rows before once again removing the sheets, and reinserting to perforate the remaining row.

Majority of the 4<sup>th</sup> head issues can only be found in 2 positions. Once again it was up to the operator’s discretion on how the sheets were feed into the perforator.



A partial scan of a mint full sheet of 100 (10 by 10) 80c Marine Lifeshowing positions, A and B

Like the 3<sup>rd</sup> head, various multi punctures have been found with the 4<sup>th</sup> head and after seeing some of them you would have to ask if the operator was having a bad day!!!!



Examples of multi punctures of the 4<sup>th</sup> head

This head was in use up until May 1988 when the Victorian government decided it no longer needed to perforate stamps used in their various Departments, ending a 55-year procedure that was originally implemented as an accounting and anti theft measure.



The last stamp punctured 'VG' was the 1988 37c Parliament House.

Unlike the 3 previous puncturing heads the whereabouts of this device is known.

In March 1992 Conway Printing and Engineering, Melbourne, purchased from the Government Printing office by a tender sale, the complete VG 4<sup>th</sup> head perforator.

The 1993 publication of Neale Scott and Brian Toop's "Victorian Government Punctures" contained a picture of the complete 4<sup>th</sup> head and its location. After seeing and reading this our then Secretary and current PCNZA Treasurer, John Mathews, contacted Neale. After this conversation John then rang Conway Printing who confirmed they still had possession of the machine and that it was for sale.

In 1994 John traveled to Melbourne and purchased the complete machine and he still has it today. [Mathews 1994, 1995].

### Conclusion

I hope that these articles that we have presented have shed some light on a collecting field that has been treated rather unfairly over the years and encourage existing collectors to dust off their holdings and revisit VG perfin and to give new collectors the confidence to look at this challenging and complex field.

There are still many options regarding studies as all of the machine heads' procurement, implementation and disposal information is to a large extent still unknown.

Many new varieties are yet to be discovered and in my next article we will look at some of the new finds.

### References

Mathews, 1994. "The 'VG' Perforating Machine", South Pacific Perfin Bulletin (SPPB), October 1994, page 2.

Mathews, 1995. "Postscript on the 'VG' Perforating Machine", South Pacific Perfin Bulletin (SPPB), January 1995, page 10

Scott & Toop 1993. "Victorian Government Punctures"

# Reviewing Questionable Listings in HAPP (Part 5)

By David Coath, Greg Howard and Dave Elsmore

Further to the earlier articles here are some more listings from the Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (HAPP) – 2003, which we consider questionable. But as with the earlier articles we make a case for each with the evidence that is available. This article has been abridged due to space restrictions but it will be continued in later Bulletins.

## K.1 Postscript

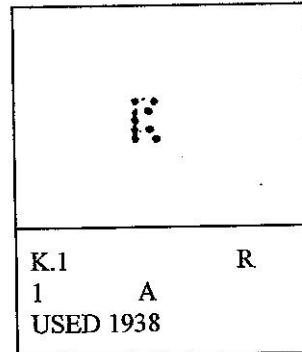
In Part 4 of these articles (see SPPB #113 pages 9 – 10) we cast doubt on the existence of the pattern K.1 which is confirmed in both CPA and HAPP to Kodak (Australasia) in Adelaide, see image at right.

We presented the case that although Kodak were frequent users of perfins in their offices in Australia this pattern had a number of aspects to it that suggested that it was a partial of a poor strike of the OK pattern.

The main reasons were:

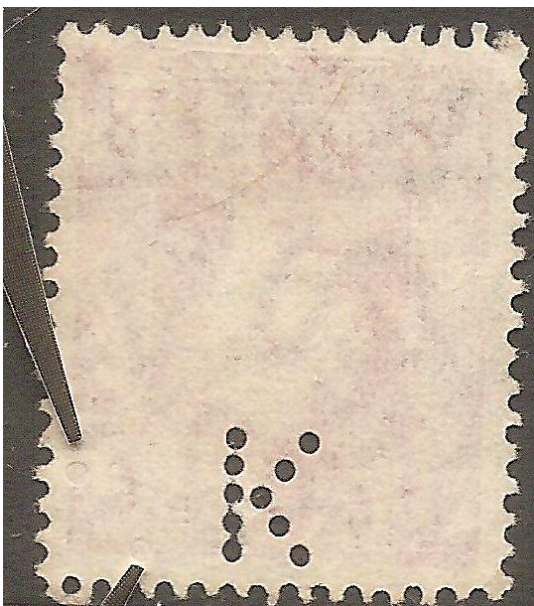
- . The usage is confined to a single year which is odd for a Customised device
- . The usage in Adelaide is peculiar as there is already a K device in Adelaide proved to Kodak, during this period, refer K.4.
- . The Kodak office in Adelaide was small, and most likely just a retail outlet.
- . The small K is an exact fit for the K of the OK pattern OK.2, .3 and .4 which were most likely all made by the same device.
- . In and around 1938, which is the time of the stated use of K.1, the middle pin in the K of OK.4, is often found missing. This is a feature of K.1
- . Also there are contemporary strikes of OK.2, .3 and .4 in which the O is almost invisible.
- . The user of the OK device is Colton, Palmer and Preston of 53–59 Currie St, Adelaide, SA, which is consistent with the K.1 being reported in Adelaide.

This was a compelling but not a comprehensive case that K.1 was a partial of OK and we still harboured some doubts. Then the following stamp appeared in a lot of Unknown and Partial patterns in a recent Auction by Bob Szymanski.



Kodak (Australasia)  
Pty Ltd.,  
Adelaide SA

Photographic  
supplies & services



It looked exactly like a full K.1 and we were ready to start eating “humble pie” but then closer examination again showed (see enlarged image at left), that there are the vestiges of an O and indeed the dot between the O and the K of OK.

This is additional evidence that supports the case that K.1 is a partial. But all that is needed to prove us wrong is a Kodak proving cover used in Adelaide with K. If anyone has such a cover then please share it.

We are happy to be wrong if this advances our collective knowledge but in the absence of such a cover we believe that on the balance of probabilities K.1 is a partial of OK.4 and that you can put a line through it in your copy of HAPP.



## PERKINS.1

Perkins.1 follows the pattern of some earlier miss reports in that it is listed without a pattern image and yet it has been given a proven user. It was listed in CPA with a provisional user of Perkins & Co Ltd but with no details about what stamps (postage or revenue) it was found on and no usage date. The pattern was re stated in HAPP and still with no details about issues and usage. This is evidence that the “pattern” was never sighted.

With these miss reports we have speculated that they had been included on lists of “perfin” that had actually included other security measures such as security overprints or less commonly, customised Queensland railway stamps.

Perkins & Co Ltd are a possible perfin, security overprint and indeed customised Queensland railway stamps users and the company was in existence from at least 1884 until it was absorbed by The Castlemaine Brewery in the late 1920’s. We can confirm from contemporary newspapers that the Company was located at 101 Mary St, Brisbane, from 1884 until at least 1901 and possibly later.

As a possible perfin pattern the PERKINS.1 report is very similar to the report for DOYLE.1 which we discussed in SPPB # 111 (see pages 8 - 9) on which we stated that given the passage of time with no further reported information and 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.

## The Proving Cover that isn’t?

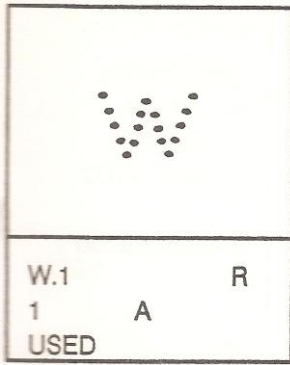
*By Greg Howard, John Amiet and David Coath*

In May, John Amiet showed us a cover with the perfin Pattern VV.1 but showing a user “Ford, Rhodes & Harris, 84 William St, Melbourne”. See Image #1 below. This is odd as the pattern is proved to “Victoria Varnish Company” in HAPP, but as we looked into it we found that the full story is a little bit more complex.



Image #1 V V.1 showing user “Ford, Rhodes & Harris, 84 William St, Melbourne”.





Now VV.1 was not always VV.1, in CPA (see Image #2 on left) it was W.1. It did not have a user at this stage but you can appreciate the position of John Grant and John Mathews in calling it a W. It looks like a W and frankly it does not look like two V's joined together as the centre top has the "shared pins of the V's" lower than the left and right top pins. This is a characteristic of W's and not something that you would achieve by having two V's

Image #2 W.1 from Commercial Perfins of Australia.

Greg Howard dug into his extensive cover collection to find some more relevant covers and found these Proving covers for Victoria Varnish Company carrying VV.1 and WH&C.12 patterns. (See Image #3 and #4) The images have been reduced slightly.



Image #3 VV.1 showing user "Victoria Varnish Company, Melbourne".



Image #4 WH&C.12 showing user "Victoria Varnish Company, Melbourne".

## Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited

Now it gets confusing, why is the WH&C.12 pattern on a Victoria Varnish cover?

The most likely answer lies in the user of WH&C.12 and indeed the WH&C and WHC groups. These are mainly Proved to, or Provisionally assigned, to Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited, who are noted in HAPP as Oil and Colour Merchants.

They seem to be the Australian branch of the English company also named Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, who were manufacturers and suppliers of specialist paints and varnishes, based at 7 Caledonian Road, King's Cross, London. By 1924 they had been absorbed by, Pinchin, Johnson Co, but it would appear that the Australian Branch continued to trade as Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited, at least until the late 1930's.

In Melbourne Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited were initially located at 304 Flinders St in 1897, then in a 1925 Victorian Gazette it states that they are at 161 Flinders Lane which is actually 161-163 Flinders Lane. We have also sighted a cover on Stampboards addressed to the company in 1938 at 10 - 16 Lonsdale St. See Image #4 below)

The WH&C and WHC groups of patterns, of which there are now a total of more than 20, (WH&C x 19) and (WHC x 4), shows a continuous line of Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark patterns from 1908 (WH&C.8) until 1930 (WH&C.12) leading up to the arrival of VV.1 in 1931. It is notable that all the WHC and WH&C patterns were Service (Temporary) punctures and the VV.1 seems to be from a Customised device.

So maybe CPA was correct and that what we have in HAPP as VV.1 was indeed a W, as an abbreviation of the WHC and WH&C of the user Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited. But what is the link to Victoria Varnish Co.

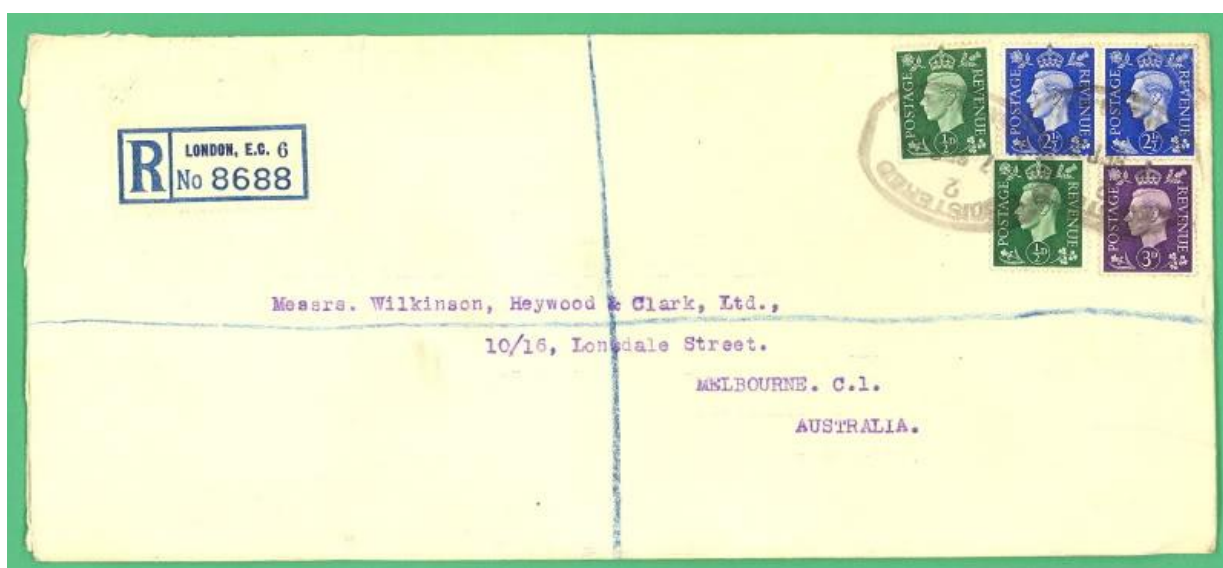


Image #4 Cover addressed to Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited circa 1938

## Victoria Varnish Co

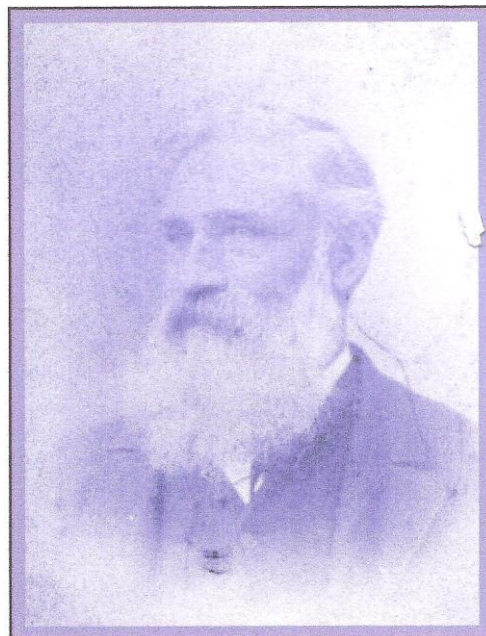
Alexander Borthwick (1826/7-1903) (pictured on next page) of Borthwick and Co. was born and educated in Scotland. He first worked as a ship painter, painting the bottoms of ships, in Glasgow, Scotland, but then later worked in England and the United States.

In 1853 he moved to Melbourne and initially set up business in Collins Street East and Emerald Hill as a painter and decorator.

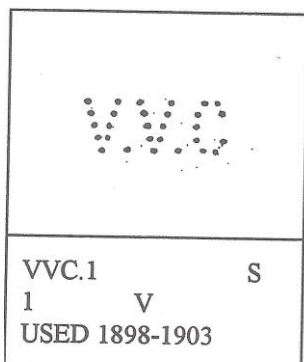
Later in 1865 he established the Victorian Varnish Company in what is now Southbank in Moray St, but they later moved to South Melbourne where they undertook the manufacture of paints, varnishes and decorative materials for shops and houses. He also opened a factory in Sydney which employed over at least 30 people.

His mother and younger brother came to Melbourne in 1857 to join Alexander, settling in a house that Alexander had bought for them next door to his own in Dorcas Street, South Melbourne.

In 1871 he was engaged to decorate the Old Treasury Building, and later the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council Chambers at Parliament House, Melbourne.



Now the Victoria Varnish Co were perfin users and they had used a Customised device for a short period in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. HAPP states 1898 - 1903 (see image below) but we can only find examples used between 1903 - 1905. The date 1903 is interesting as it is about the time of Alexander's death. Whatever the usage range, Victoria Varnish stopped using perfins in 1905. It is interesting that Victoria Varnish were always located in various addresses in Southbank and South Melbourne and yet all these covers we have seen with VV.1 list the address as "Melbourne".



Victoria Varnish Co.,  
York Street,  
Emerald Hill VIC

Paint & varnish

The story of Victoria Varnish Co as part of Borthwick's Pty. Ltd is a successful one and by the 1920's the company, under the management of Alexander Borthwick (junior) was well established in both Melbourne and Sydney and in addition to varnish they made a range of paints.

However in January 1929 the company was acquired by Pinchin, Johnson, & Co Ltd., the same company that had earlier acquired Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited. This was part of an international expansion of Pinchin, Johnson & Co

Ltd that also saw them take an interest in the Taubmans Paints (Sydney) as part of their objective of building both manufacturing and sales facilities in India, Australia, the US as well as England and Europe.

#### Ford, Rhodes & Harris

The explanation for the use of a VV.1 pattern by Ford, Rhodes & Harris takes us from the realms of supposition to speculation. Ford, Rhodes & Harris were a firm of Auditors located at 84 William St, Melbourne. We can find them operating in Melbourne in the 1920's until the late 1940's. Notably they were the Auditors for General Motors Holden Ltd who had been established in Melbourne in 1926.

There use of the VV.1 pattern on their envelopes is difficult to explain. Perhaps they were Auditors to Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited or indeed Pinchin, Johnson & Co Ltd, but how they got access to punctured stamps or indeed the perforator may never be known.

More covers with the various patterns and users will help but as it stands Ford, Rhodes & Harris are the latest users of the perfin/device. If anyone has more information then please share it.

#### Conclusion on the User and Pattern

Given that Victoria Varnish Co and Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark were both absorbed by Pinchin, Johnson, & Co Ltd it makes the matter of assigning a User rather complex. The best way to describe the true user of both the VV.1 and the WH&C.12 covers is Pinchin, Johnson, & Co Ltd, trading as Victoria Varnish Co and Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark Limited. With a side note "VV.1 also found on stationary of Ford, Rhodes & Harris, 84 William St, Melbourne."

As to the pattern, the evidence of the sub user, pattern appearance and trading period supports it being catalogued as a "W".



## References:

Commercial Perfins of Australia (CPA) Grant and Mathews 1992  
Handbook of Australian Private Perfins (HAPP) John Mathews 2003  
TROVE, ancestry.com, Old Treasury Building Gazette (on line)

## Members Wants

*By Stellen Swenson, Bob Littlehales, Jamie Davidson and Robert Dedecker*

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

Bob Littlehales would like a proving covers of the OS of Queensland, 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)

Jamie Davidson from Bathurst (NSW) is a new Member and he is interested in acquiring a large lot of duplicate/surplus examples of state perfins on the Roos which they wish to dispose of. And specifically he is also seeking these high value Roos:

G NSW Type A (12 hole) – 5/- Grey/Yellow (CofA wmk)

G NSW Type B (8 hole) – 6d Brown (Sm. Mult. wmk) – £1 Grey (CofA wmk)

VG perfin – 10/-, £1 & £2 varieties (CofA wmk)

Contact Jamie at [ttangles2@yahoo.com.au](mailto:ttangles2@yahoo.com.au) or at PO Box 2000, Bathurst, NSW,2795

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.

## New Reports

*By David Coath, Greg Howard, Dave Elsmore, Bob Littlehales and John Amiet*



This report was in the April SPPB. It came from John Amiet and is a newly reported TREB security overprint. John noted that visible parts of the document say "...city Board" and "Date of Meter Reading" so an Electricity distributor looks like the best guess. John has suggested the "Townsville Regional Electricity Board"

Bob Littlehales reports: "I can confirm that John is correct in his assumption that it is the Townsville Regional Electricity Board. I finished my schooling in Townsville in 1961. I was also the bank teller that used to accept the deposits for the TREB from 1962 to 1965. I saw thousands of the invoices/bills which were stamped with receipt duty stamps, as per the examples, when payment was made. The stamped invoices/bills were then collated to balance off with the day's bank deposit slip. The TREB also operated under similar systems at my next two branches Ingham and Winton."



The report of the Security Overprint on the 1d stamp shown on the left comes from Dave Elsmore. It is "G.P.F.&CO" and it has not previously been reported. It is now listed in the "Other" Section of the Revenue Perfins of Tasmania.

Greg Howard reported that the user is most likely to be G P Fitzgerald Co Ltd who were also know as Fitzgerald 7 Stores and they are already reported as users of

Security Overprints on the Revenue stamps of Tasmania.

For more details on this Company see Revenue Perfins of Tasmania which can be accessed from [Perfins.com.au](http://Perfins.com.au)

## Auction Watch, including the Current PCNZA Auction

By Dan Ryan, Donald Adams, Ross Ewington, Dave Elsmore and Gordon Monk



Dave Elsmore spotted this on the Tasmanian Stamp Auction in February. Ross's description was spot on in saying "(MB1011) TASMANIA - 1900: postally used 3d Platypus bearing 'A' private perfin (George Adams - Tattersall) - rarely seen on postal/fiscals."

It sold for over \$300 a rare find indeed.



This is a Proving cover of RR.19 proving the user Robert Reid who were only Provisionally the user for this pattern. It features in the Club Auction as Lot 87. Image reduced.



This superb OSNSW Type A on a £1Roos, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wmk was recently listed on Ebay along with some other nice OSNSW Roos. They were listed by DanMagpire and the listings were of a very high quality with excellent images. The sellers effort was rewarded as this single stamp sold for \$1725

### Auction Watch

If you see anything interesting listed in Philatelic Auctions, Club Circuits or even Ebay take a scan or a copy and send it in for inclusion in the Bulletin.



# 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



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

## 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)*



WORLD'S NUMBER ONE STAMP DISCUSSION BOARD.

*If you can two-finger type ... you can join in the fun!*