

SOUTH **P**ACIFIC **P**ERFIN **B**ULLETIN



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FEATURE ARTICLES

- W&M Identity
- Meet a Member
- GNSW Type A

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New Members

No new Members joined us this Quarter

Editors Comment

By David Coath

Welcome to the SPPB #115.

This issue features more information from Tom Weir on the GNSW Type A, this time it is the rarer use of the pattern on the 1932 Zoological Series as well as 1930's Commonwealth Commemoratives and the later Kangaroo issues.

There is no new instalment of "Reviewing Questionable Listings in HAPP" in this issue due to space restrictions. This issue includes another "Meet a Member" this time it is Peter Simpfendorfer, I hope you enjoy it, and remember if you want to be featured in a future "Meet a Member" 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, John Mullavey, John Tyson, Ken Scudder, Gordon Monk, Bob Szymanski, Peter Hausknecht and David McNamee. Donations are made to me, Arthur Taylor and John Mathews so I do not always see them all. If I have missed name then I am sorry and thanks for your donation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our regular contributors, Dave Elsmore, Greg Howard, John Amiet, Tom Weir, Peter Simpfendorfer, Jason Rowe, David Andersen Murray Lawson, Colin Clark Hutchison and Neale Scott.

Next issue will include an article by Jason Rowe and Neale Scott on new reports of VG's.

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

Front Cover – Bradbury Wilkinson Archive Specimen

By Dave Elsmore

The front cover features another amazing new report, this time on the Customs Duty stamps of Australia. It is the Rhombus pattern used by the stamp printer, Bradbury Wilkinson, to denote Specimens in their archive.

For nearly 100 years the rhombus security specimen was applied by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co, London, in this instance to the Customs Duty Commonwealth revenues on 23 October 1923 but it has laid in hiding awaiting discovery till now!

Nine proof pulls were done by Bradbury Wilkinson and placed on card in their work books of the following values, ½d, 1c on ½d, 2c on 1d, 3c on 2d, 5c on 4d, 6c on 5d, 8c on 6d, 10c on 7d, and 14c on 9d. These nine values correspond with the 23 October 1923 printing records as a first order for this company of these issues. Previous printings had been done by Waterlow & Sons Limited.

The example shown is the high value 14c on 9d in close to issued colour. For more on this pattern see the Other Section of the Private Revenue Perfins of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Club Auction – July 2016

By David Coath

The 2016 Auction closed on 30 September and all sales have been sent to the winning bidders. In fact some of you may receive your lots with this Bulletin. This step was taken so as to reduce the cost of mailing lots. Vendors statements have not been sent out yet

as the Auction has now entered Phase 2 in which all remaining Lots are offered at the Reserve. The winning bidder will be the first Member to contact me and the Catalogue is included in this Bulletin.

The Auction was a bumper one with over 330 Lots provided by 21 Vendors. What is more there was a 75% clearance rate with about 35 Members bidding.

I thank Members for making the effort to share their spare material with other Members, well done, and to those successful bidders I trust that you enjoy your purchases.

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 Phase 2 Catalogue and see if there are any items that you want.

The next Auction will be in July 2017 so please take the time to look at your collections and spares and see if you have anything that you wish to offer. Just send it to me and I will put it aside and lot it up for the July 2017 Auction.

Catalogue of Australian stamps with the PCNZA Perfin expanded.

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 has now been expanded to include issues from the Australian Antarctic Territory, Christmas Island and the Cocos Keeling Islands and it is all available on Dave Elsmore'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 him at simpy19@bigpond.com

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

Peter has also volunteered to help Members build their collections of PCNZA stamps by offering to send around his collection of spares and those donated by Members. If you are interested in building your collection by accessing these spares, 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

2016 has been a bumper year for the Circuit with sales already doubling the total sales over the previous 2 years. However there have been some complications caused by the loss of a packet of books in transit and as a result it has been decided to close down the existing Circuit and re establish it with a new set of processes and procedures.

All risk for lost Books is covered by the Club and this can represent large sums of money when fresh Books are lost.

The changes will focus on building more control and faster circulation within the Circuit and will include the following:

- . All Members on the Circuit being provided with a set of Circuit Procedures and the need to agree to these before being included on the Circuit
- . Requirement to forward completed purchase slips immediately and details of Registration to the Circuit Manager
- . Shorter Circuits with fewer Members on each Circuit
- . Customised Circuits of material that is of interest to specific Members
- . Less books in some Circuit packets
- . Emailing notice to Circuit Manager and Circuit recipient when Books are forwarded.

Other changes are also being considered.

The Circuit is an important part of our Club and it represents a way that Members can build their collections and it also allows Members to dispose of spares. It needs to continue but it cannot continue in a manner which sees the Club having to absorb losses.

I will be drafting the new Procedures and circulating them to Members of the Circuit.

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.

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

PCNZA – Treasurers Report Post Audit 2015/16

By David Coath

The Club accounts for the 2015/16 financial year as presented in the Bulletin of July 2016 have been successfully reviewed by “Blue Cube Accounting” of Murray St, Hobart.

Due to the small turnover of the PCNZA the Incorporation Legislation does not require the Club to undertake a formal audit.

The Accountant did add that “Due to the unavailability of any relevant documentation for financial years prior to the financial year ending 30 June 2016, I am in no way able to draw any conclusions whatsoever of the accuracy of any prior year financial statements”.

This is due in part to the resignation of the previous Treasurer and the fact that his Accountant had not completed a review of the accounts for the 2014/15 financial year.

John Mathews has done a superb job to put the Clubs accounts into the best shape possible.

PCNZA – Treasurers Report Post Audit 2015/16

By John Mathews

Following successful verification of the financial statements for FY 2015/16, I resigned from the position of Treasurer. During my brief time as Treasurer, I also established an audit trail of members' credit accounts to the end of FY 2015/16, starting at the last record of these which I had kept up to the end of 2011. Now it is time to hand over to some "new blood" – please consider.

PCNZA – Vacant Committee Positions

By David Coath

The Committee positions of Treasurer and Auctioneer are vacant and any Member wishing to undertake these important roles on Committee could be co opted onto the Committee and start immediately.

If you are interested then please contact me.

Meet a Member – Peter Simpfendorfer

By Peter "Simpy" Simpfendorfer

I was born at Cootamundra, NSW, on 1 November 1944 (All Saints Day no less) and as I went to mainly Catholic schools I always got a holiday on my birthday.

My early claim to fame was that the family dog was run over by a car and killed the day I came home from hospital after being born. As children we never had another pet! I have an older brother and a younger sister.

I should explain the surname – "dorf" is a village so "dorfer" is a villager – so Simpfendorfer "simple villager", also known as the "village idiot". Nothing complicated there. I have literally had to spell it thousands of times and these days prefer to answer to "Simpy".

Dad was a railway man for over 40 years, the last 27 as Assistant Station Master at Cootamundra West. He never had a car and we went everywhere by train.

I attended Sacred Heart Primary School, De La Salle College and Cootamundra High School.

Having no idea what I wanted to do work wise (except no shift work on the railway) I ended up as a junior clerk with the Public Works Department in Cootamundra. This was the start of a 43 year career in the NSW Public Service including the Health Commission/Dept. of Health, Housing Commission/Dept. of Housing, Dept of Ageing & Disability which eventually had Home Care added to its title.

I left Cootamundra in June 1964 and from late 1968 until March 1981 lived in Dubbo, followed by two years back at Cootamundra. I have been in Wagga Wagga since April 1983 and am now happily retired in the suburb of Lake Albert.

I commenced collecting stamps on three occasions and have been collecting continuously since 1963. The biggest influence on my early collecting was Grandma Powell who would purchase Embassy albums and packets of stamps at Coles. My brother also collected and I recall he had a blue ETA album with a sailing ship on the cover.

Not being one to throw things out, I collected everything that came my way including perfins. I guess I became more serious about Cinderella items in the 1970's when Bill Hornadge was pushing them. Remember we were living in Dubbo at the time and I new Bill personally and had been to his home several times.

Several years back I decided to downsize my world collection and I sold 33,000 stamps to a fellow club member including collections of Belgium, Greece, Italy, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and the like.

My current collections include Australia & Territories, NZ, PNG, Aland, Austria, Canada, China & Taiwan, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Malaysia, Singapore, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, USA plus all Cinderella's (Aust & World), including revenues. I also have a thematic collection of fire and fire engines. Yes I do need to downsize once more.

I also have separate collections of free form, circular, diamond and triangular shaped stamps.

I originally mounted my collections on loose pages in spring back folders but have gradually been rehousing them in stock books.

Whilst I collect mint or used (or in the case of Australia both), I collect on a simplified basis and do not go into watermarks, perforations etc... Whilst I do have some covers, I do not have cover collections.

I recall attending Sydney Stamp Auctions in Elizabeth Street, Sydney and purchasing a cto 5/- Harbour Bridge for £6.10.0 (\$13). On another occasion I purchased from them a shoe box of world stamps, sorted what I wanted in Hyde Park (couldn't have been windy) and exchanged the surplus at Hyde Park Stamps (a small shop in the end of a bus shelter) for a £2 Roo and a Canadian FDC.

One of the joys over the years has been trading with overseas collectors. Currently I trade with collectors in USA, Canada, New Zealand, Germany, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Austria and Denmark.

Wherever we have lived I have been a member of a stamps club - Macquarie Valley at Dubbo, Cootamundra Stamp Club and the Wagga Stamp Club which I joined in 1985. I have been on the Committee of the Wagga Stamp Club for 26 years in the positions of President, Vice-President and my current position of Secretary. The Club awarded me Life Membership in 1999 which I really appreciate.

The Wagga Stamp Club hosts two x 2 day Stamps & Coin Fairs each year (May & November) with seven dealers attending and in recent years has commenced ½ day stamp markets for local Stamp traders as well. I am the main organiser for these events.

I am also a member of the Cinderella Stamp Club of Australasia, I was Editor of their bulletin for three years, and of course the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia and I look forward to their regular bulletins.

Yes, I do collect other items - I have been a member of the Australian Beer Can Collectors Association since 1979 and have a collection of several thousand beer cans and associated breweriana.

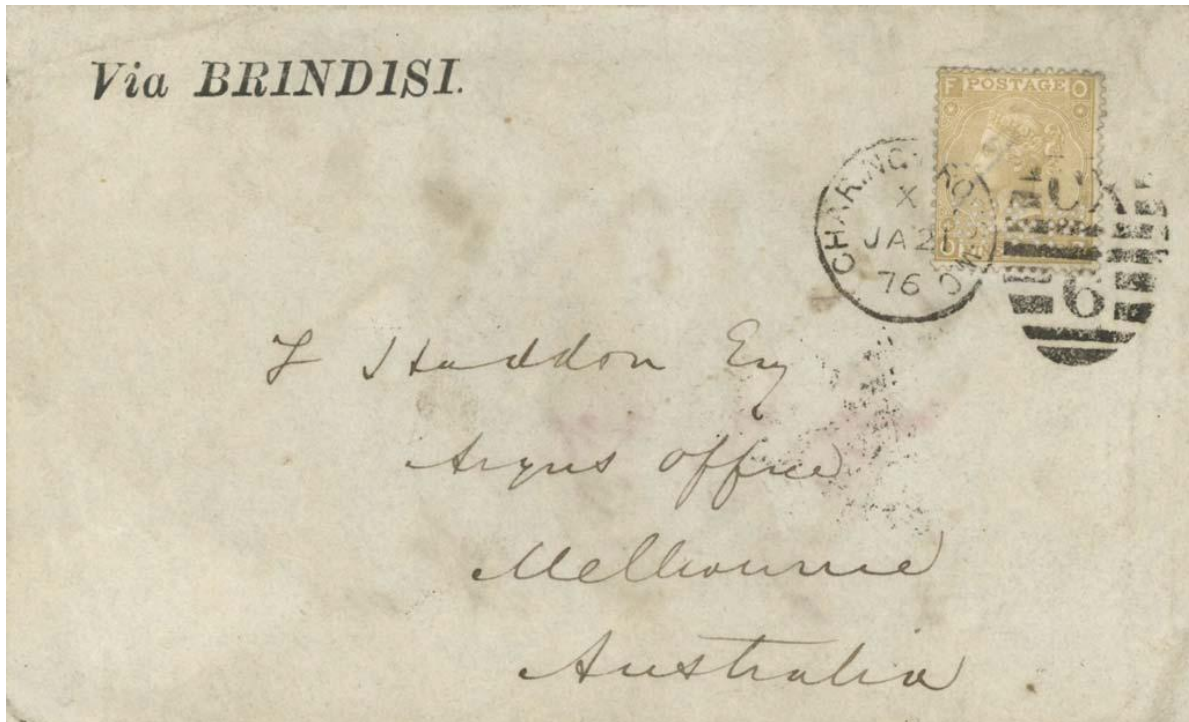
If you are coming through Wagga Wagga give me a ring (02 6922 3393) so we can catch up.

Wishing you good collecting whatever your interest.

Simpy

Wilson and Mackinnon and “The Argus”

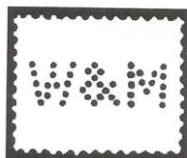
By Maurice Harp



Note: This article is reproduced from an article that appeared in the August and October issues of the Great Britain Perfin Society Bulletin.

The cover shown above was recently sold by Cavendish Auctions (Derby and London in the United Kingdom). The cover, sent 21 January 1876 via Brindisi (Southern Italy) to Melbourne, bears a 9d olive plate 4 with the rare GB perfin die W&M - W5170.01.

1872 - 1876



W5170.01

Most interestingly the addressee is a “Mr Haddon” at the “Argus Office”, Melbourne. I thought this might give the opportunity for a provisional identity of the die. Sure enough consultation of an 1877 London directory revealed Wilson & Mackinnon, 26 Cornhill, London, EC.

They are shown as the proprietors of “The Argus” & “Australasian” newspapers. This appears to have just been the London office of the Australian company.

A little more research revealed the history of the company. Edward Wilson was born in London in 1813 and decided in 1841 to try his hand at sheep farming in Australia. He soon moved to Melbourne where he leased a cattle run but it did not prosper and he sold out in 1846. In 1848 he bought the Argus Newspaper, with borrowed money for £300.

The paper flourished and absorbed a number of its rivals, but grew too fast with uncontrolled costs, which meant that by 1852 Lauchlan Mckinnon bought into the partnership in order to help save the paper.



Argus Offices, 76 Collins St, Melbourne 1867

McKinnon had been born in Scotland in 1817 and had migrated to Van Diemens Land (Tasmania), in 1838 where he became a politician and businessman. On becoming a partner on the Argus he took over the business operation and immediately doubled the price of the newspaper. The partnership was a rocky one as Wilson always resented having lost control of the company. Wilson died in 1878.

When telegraphic links were established with London in 1872 the London office was established to provide news to The Argus, Sydney Morning Herald and South Australian Register. We can thus set a date range for the die of 1872 - 1876.

I then contacted John Mathews to see if Wilson & Mckinnon used perfins in Australia. He replied:

“The Argus” newspaper did not use a perfin that relates specifically to the newspaper itself (as far as is known), but in the “Handbook of Australian Private Perfins”, there is a pattern “W&M” (W&M.1) used on the stamps of the State of Victoria. It does not have an identified user, but based on a Directory search for matching initials, Appendix 1 of the Handbook lists “Wilson & Mackinnon, publishers, 197 Collins Street, Melbourne” as one of three “possible” users. It now seems rather certain that this firm is the user of GB perfin “W&M” (W5170.01) and the Australian perfin W&M.1.”“On a personal level my paternal grandfather’s two older siblings were born in a country town in Victoria. On their birth registrations in 1876, it says that their father’s occupation was “printer”. By 1882, the family were living in South Melbourne. My great-grandfather worked as compositor for “The Argus” newspaper! He died in 1896.

He may have even seen the W&M.1 perforator?”



This is a scan of the Australian pattern of W&M.1 which is rarely found on the postage stamps of Victoria. This example is on a Victoria 2d Brown. This stamp is SG31 which dates from 1880 - 84. This is very early use for a perfin in Victoria.

Editors comment

The W&M above is the only example of this pattern that I have in my collection. Can other Members please look in their collections for these rare patterns so that we can share them with Maurice and get a closer date range for the Australian pattern.

The Australian Stamp Journal from 1933

By David Andersen

COMMONWEALTH NOTES.

We have received an official communication from the Postmaster-General's Department, Melbourne, which, under date of the 17th May, 1933, gives the following list of stamps as having been issued overprinted "O.S."—" $\frac{1}{2}$ d. ordinary; 1d. ordinary; 2d. ordinary; 3d. ordinary; 4d. ordinary; 5d. ordinary; 6d. Kangaroo; 6d. Air Mail; 1/- Lyre Bird." To these must be added, of course, though the department does not mention them, the 2d. and 3d. "Kingsford Smith" and the 2d. and 3d. "Bridge" stamps. If any other values have been overprinted they had, therefore, not been issued before the date quoted above, and, in view of the fact that the overprinted official stamps are not in use at present, it is hardly likely that they will make their appearance at this late date. However, the question of over-printing stamps for official uses was one of the subjects on the agenda of the Premiers' Conference which began in Melbourne on June 6th.

A story has been going the rounds of the press, the inner significance of which was hidden, we believe, from all but stamp collectors. We take the following version, which appeared in "Smith's Weekly" under the heading "Buying Drinks with Stamps":—"Canberra's joke of the year was played recently on a notoriously mean member who has never been known to buy a drink for a friend, though always ready to take one. Having previously arranged matters with the bar-steward, another member invited the victim and two or three others to have a drink, and tendered as

payment O.S. postage stamps, which are supplied to members free. The bartender accepted them without a word, and placed the stamps in the till. The mean man's eyes opened. 'Do they take O.S. stamps for drinks?' he asked. 'Of course,' said the host. 'Didn't you know?' As soon as the party broke up the joker returned to the bar and paid for the drinks in cash, retrieving his stamps. Later in the day, he was invited, with three others, by his former guest to have a drink—the first invitation on record. 'How much?' asked the new host, and, on being told, tore off the value from his sheet of O.S. stamps. It was not till the steward refused, curtly, to accept them that he realised he had been hoaxed." That bartender can't be the gentleman located at Canberra who always has unused official stamps for sale!

Mr. J. Howard Johnson, of Adelaide, has shown us a specimen of the current 1d. denomination, CofA watermark of course, punctured "O.S.," which evidently replaces the overprinted variety for Federal purposes. The interesting point about the stamp is that the letters "O.S." are evidently being punctured by a new machine. The letters are now taller and broader, measuring 9 mm. in height as against 8 mm. in the former issue. Whereas the "O" was, in the old style, distinctly oval in shape, it is now much rounder, and both letters consist of 12 holes each, as against the former 12 holes for the "O" and 11 holes for the "S."

David Andersen shared this page from the consolidated copy of the Australian Stamp Journal that he was reading. This is a page from June 1933. Three sub articles under the heading "Commonwealth Notes" are of interest to our study.

The first deals with the issuing of stamps overprinted OS, this is important as it shows the decision of the Government to reintroduce Official postage having discontinued the use of OS Perfins in about 1930.

The second is a humorous and indeed slightly scandalous story of a Member of Federal Parliament that was tricked into thinking that you could purchase drinks, presumably at the bar at Parliament, with OS stamps.

The third item refers to a "new" OS which the writer assumes "replaces the overprinted variety of for Federal purposes". The pattern being referred to is the OS Type I which was formed from the OSNSW Type C but with the NSW part removed. (See AOP Page 104). It was in fact issued by the NSW Government for their own use and it was short lived being replaced by the GNSW Type A (See AOP Page 106). Which was another modification of the OSNSW Type C device and has been the subject of the excellent series of article in recent SPPB's by Tom Weir.

The G/NSW Type A Punctures – Part 4

Stamps other than KGV Definitives

By Tom Weir

Apart from the KGV definitive stamps as detailed in the three previous parts of this series (Weir, Taylor & Coath 2015, Weir 2016a, 2016b) several other stamps of this period had the G/NSW Type A puncture applied. Andersen (2007) gives the most up to date listing of these stamps and utilises the earlier information contained in Owen (1950), Watkins (1963) and Laidler and Teunis (1985). There are a few discrepancies between each of these authors and these will be discussed briefly here.

Both Owen (1950) and Watkins (1963) mention that the 1 1/2d Canberra stamp, issued in 1927, had this puncture applied, but this was not mentioned in Laidler and Teunis (1985) or Andersen (2007). The two earlier references would seem to have been in error and most probably they meant the OS/NSW puncture as a date of 1927 well predates the use of the G/NSW Type A puncture. Watkins (1963) also mentions the 6d Kingsford Smith Airmail, issued in 1931, had this puncture applied, but this was not followed by either Laidler and Teunis (1985) or Andersen (2007). As Watkins did not mention the 6d Kookaburra in his list, one can assume that this was an error in the SG numbering that he used and the 1931 date also predates the use of the G/NSW Type A puncture. Watkins (1963) appears to be the first to mention the use of the G/NSW Type A puncture on the 1/6 Hermes, issued in 1934 and this is followed by Laidler and Teunis (1985) and Andersen (2007). Finally, Andersen (2007) was the first to mention the 5/- Kangaroo definitive with C of A watermark, issued in 1932, as having the G/NSW Type A puncture applied.

I will deal with each of the stamps in the order listed by Andersen (2007). Images are drawn from the collections of the author, David Coath and Jamie Davidson and various other sources. The request, in SPPB No 114 of July 2016, for more material to study has resulted in no responses!

KANGAROO SERIES C OF A WATERMARK:

The G/NSW Type A puncture was almost as big as the Kangaroo series stamps and Owen (1950), Watkins (1963) and Laidler and Teunis (1985) have suggested that they were punctured either in error or as a stop gap measure while the G/NSW Type B puncturing head was out of action. The 9d and 2/- stamps were found to be punctured by these authors, while Andersen (2007) added the 5/- value. Stamps can be found with partial or overlapping punctures as well as the more centralised ones, only in the upright position, as shown in Fig. 1. Forgeries are known.



Figure 1: 9d and 2/- Roos showing overlapping and centralised upright punctures.

1932 ZOOLOGICAL SERIES:

The 6d Kookaburra and the 1/- Lyrebird stamps were the same size as the KGV definitives, although in the case of the 1/- value, the sheet layout was different. Andersen (2007) records the puncture as being applied in the upright, inverted and reversed positions and double punctures are recorded by Laidler and Teunis (1985). The 6d value is much more common than the 1/- value and missing pins are often found. Examples of these are shown in Figs 2 and 3.



Figure 2: 6d Kookaburra and 1/- Lyrebird showing normal upright, inverted and double punctures and missing pins.



Figure 3: 6d Kookaburra gutter pair showing Dies 6 and 7 punctures.

1/6 HERMES AIRMAIL C OF A WATERMARK:

This stamp was first recorded with the G/NSW Type A puncture by Laidler and Teunis (1985) and Andersen (2007) indicates that it was used on both thick and thin papers in both upright and sideways reading down positions. These stamps must be rare as the author has been unable to source either stamps or images of genuine punctures! The existence on thin paper must be questioned as the thin paper stamp was not issued until 1948, well outside the timeframe used for the G/NSW Type A puncture. Forgeries are known.

20th ANNIVERSARY OF ANZAC LANDING:

There are two values in this issue, 2d red and 1/- black, being the same size as the KGV definitive and having similar sheet layouts. The puncture was applied in the normal upright position for both 2d and 1/- stamps, while the 1/- is also found with the puncture in the sideways reading upwards position (quite rare). The 2d value is more common than the 1/- value. Examples are shown in Fig. 4.



Figure 4: 2d and 1/- ANZAC Anniversary showing punctures in upright position.

SILVER JUBILEE OF KGV:

There are three values in this issue, 2d red, 3d blue and 2/- purple, all of which had the G/NSW Type A puncture applied, although that on the 2/- value was said to have been per favour and no postally used copies are known to exist. Because of the size of the stamps, the sheets were normally turned sideways to be punctured, this resulting in punctures either sideways reading upwards or sideways reading downwards. These stamps commonly show parts of more than one puncture on each stamp. The sheets were in the format of 4 horizontal rows of 10, so that when turned sideways, the 4 stamps were exactly the same length as 6 of the KGV definitives. This meant that they received either Dies 1 to 6 or dies 7 to 12 across the four stamps. The 2d, 3d and 2/- values are also found with the puncture in the upright position and Andersen speculates that the 2d and 3d values were done at the same time as the per favour ones on the 2/- value. The 3d value is much more common than either the 2d or the 2/- values and for the 3d, the puncture sideways reading upwards is much more common than the one sideways reading down. Examples of the various positions are shown in Figs 5, 6, 7 and 8. Forgeries are known.



Figure 5: 3d Silver Jubilee KGV showing punctures sideways reading upwards and downwards.



Figure 6: 3d Silver Jubilee KGV showing Dies 1, 2 and 3 from the left of the sideways sheet and Dies 5 and 6 from the right of the sideways sheet in position sideways reading upright.



Figure 7: 3d and 2/- Silver Jubilee KGV showing punctures in upright position. ^



Figure 8: 2/- Silver Jubilee KGV showing Dies 7 and 8 punctures in upright position. →

This brings us to the end of this article on the stamps other than the KGV definitives with the G/NSW Type A puncture and hopefully has given the reader and insight into the range of punctures found on these stamps. The next article will focus on the known forgeries of this puncture.

ERRATUM: In part 3 of this series, the date of the reference to Weir, Taylor and Coath appeared as 1915. Of course it should have read 2015, as below.

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Weir, T. 2016b. The GNSW Type A Punctures – Part 3: Missing Pins, Misalignments, Double Punctures and Inverted Punctures. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No. 114 July 2016: pp 8–13.

EDITORS NOTE

Tom will be continuing his Series of articles on the GNSW Type A with a look at the forgeries of this pattern and the issues on which they have been found.

If you can help with scans and images then please contact Tom at tomweir@bigpond.com or Tom Weir, 17 Langridge Street, Wanniasa, ACT, 2903

New US Catalogue Postmark Database

By David Andersen

Members may be interested in taking a look at the new US Catalogue Postmark database that can be found at: <http://www.perfins.org/us-perfin-postmark-database/>.

It takes you to a 68 page PDF that is a list of earliest known and latest known usages of United States perfins - as recorded by postmarks.

It includes a few abbreviations that will be familiar to most collectors as follows:

EKP = Earliest known postmark

LKP = Latest known postmark

OKP = Only known postmark

US Members have been encouraged to submit new information to the U.S. Catalog Chair and submit scans to support their reports.

This is important work as Postmark evidence is key to the proving of perfin users, usage dates and device locations.

New Reports

By David Coath, Greg Howard, Dave Elsmore, and John Amiet



Size reduced

This report is by **Greg Howard** is a new Security Overprint for GOLDS/MORT which is proved to Goldsbrough Mort & Co Ltd from the document, see above.

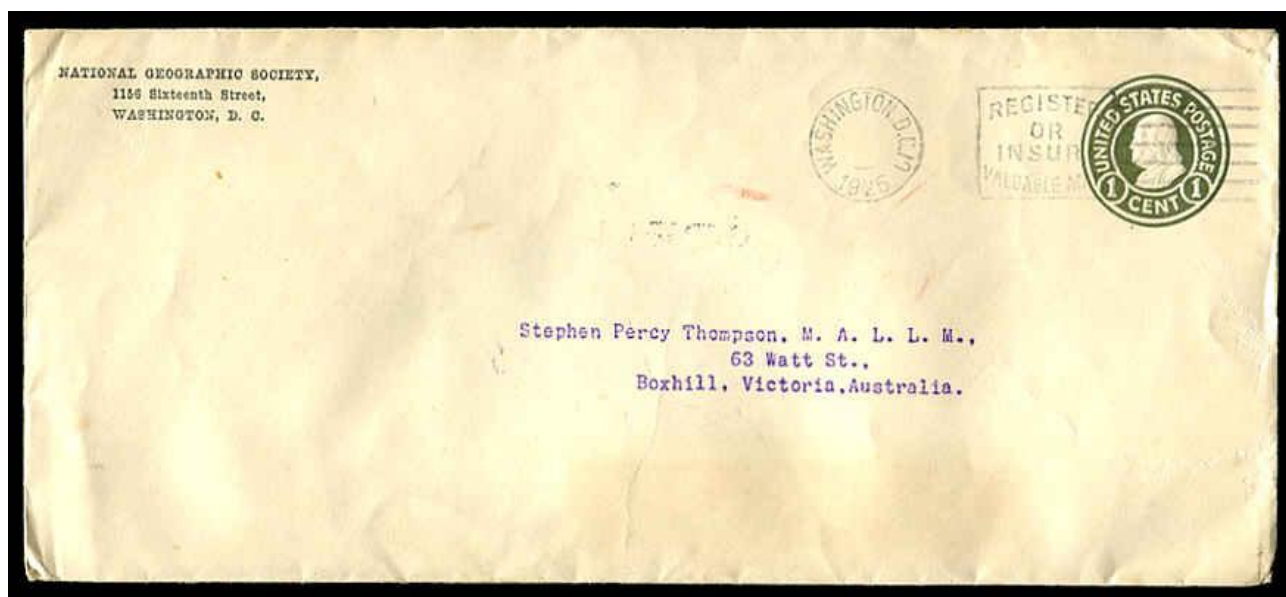
New reports in the area of Security Overprints or Security Pre cancels are frequent of late and this reflects this less researched area of our study. Following on the excellent work of Brian Magee these Security Overprints can be found in an alphabetic listing in the "Other" section of each State chapter of the Revenue Perfins of Australia.

This however is a complex area of study as the proving of a Security Overprint is not always straight forward and many Company cachets and cancelling strikes can appear to be Security Overprints. The best way to confirm these is to see them on document or piece and a true Security Overprint will be limited to the stamp and not have any part of it on the document that the stamp is affixed to. This is evidence that the Overprint was applied to the stamp prior to its use. Dave Elsmore and Greg Howard have agreed to do an article on this complex area in a future Bulletin.



With usage proved by manuscript to be 1872, this JF & Sons reported by **Greg Howard** and **Dave Elsmore** represents the earliest known use of a Security Overprint in Australia.

It has been included in the "Other" Section of the Revenue Perfins of NSW under the letter J. Scroll down in the "Other" Section to the bottom to find the Alphabetic listing. The user of JF & Sons is unknown.



This cover came from my archives, I had intended it as an item for the Front Cover but other amazing items keep turning up. It was reported by **Greg Howard** in April 2015. It was feature in Premier Postal Auctions Sale # 131 and was described as follows:

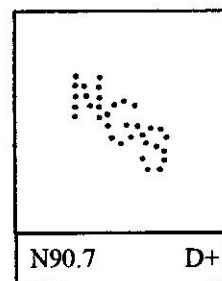
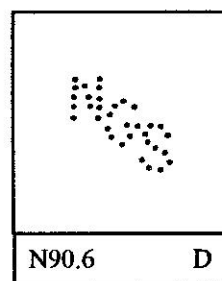
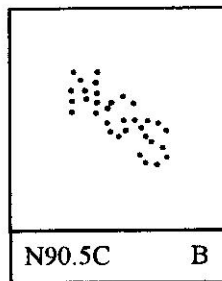
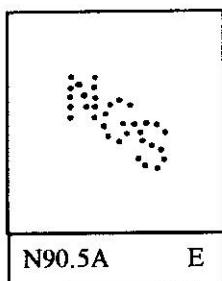
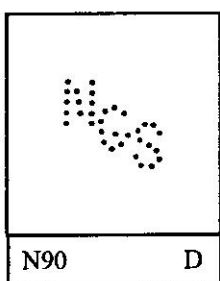
661 ✉ A **1918 4th Series Perf 14 US Surcharge:** 2c on 1d perf 'NGS' on 60.00 1,000.00
back of 1925 National Geographic Society cover to Melbourne.
Rare.

Rare indeed, and more than a few bidders pushed it from its starting price of just \$60 to a final price of \$1000. The front cover is unsurprising, except that it is proved to the "National Geographic Society".

What is surprising is the back and this is featured below:



It is hard to see the pattern but it is an NGS, and there are a number of NGS reported in the US catalogue. "Catalog of United States Perfins" Edited by John Randall 1998.



This is the User information from the Catalogue.

N90	NGS	D 5½;	13-10-11	1914-22	R	*	National Geographic Society Washington, DC
N90.5A	NGS	D 5½-5½-6;	13-10-11	1923-54	PC	*	National Geographic Society Washington, DC
N90.5C	NGS	D 5½-5½-6;	13-10-11	1926-30			
N90.6	NGS	D 5½-6-6;	13-10-11	1923-38	PC	* x	National Geographic Society Washington, DC
N90.7	NGS	D 5½-6-5½;	13-10-11	1926-54	PC	*	National Geographic Society Washington, DC

This NGS looks to have been made by a multi die device, one like the Cummins device featured in the Auction Watch section below. It is difficult to make out but the strike of the left hand die has an S that is very similar to N90.5c.



The enlarged image does not give us much help either except to confirm that the pattern is an NGS. Perhaps our US Members will be able to help.

Given that the NGS Device seems to be a multi die device and that such devices can have variation between the individual dies, it is possible that the N90 group (above) are patterns drawn from some of the dies of a single NGS device. This is supported by the fact that the usage dates seem to overlap.

In any case a major new find and great rarity, that is now listed in the "Private Revenue Perfins of the Commonwealth of Australia".



John Amiet reports this new font for a “Shell” pre cancel/security overprint; it is now listed as Shell.h in the “Private Revenue Perfins of the Queensland”.



Another new report, TW/Co that is very much in the style of the TW&CO.1 and .2 listed in HAPP. It is a Temporary pattern like TW&CO.1 and .2 and the manuscript date of 1899 is consistent with the stated usage of these other Temporary patterns. The user is unknown. It is now listed in under T in the “Private Revenue Perfins of Victoria”.



These ODV's were reported by **Greg Howard** and are interesting as they are on the postal issues of Queensland. They appear to have been struck with the ODV.1 device which was located in Sydney. Now in the year leading up to the issuing of the first Commonwealth postage stamps the Postmaster Generals Department

attempted to use up stock of existing State stamps and this caused some odd usage that appeared to be “interstate usage”. This was the subject of an article in SPPB #107 of October 2014.

However these are genuine use in Queensland, most likely Brisbane.

Now the history of the ODV devices is a complex one. Furthermore it is related to other devices ODC.1, ODC.2 and OVR.1. These devices are collectively proved to or provisionally attributed to various structures of the one company as follows:

ODC.1 Ostermeyer, Dewez & Co – Adelaide used 1893 – 1895

ODC.2 Ostermeyer, Dewez & Co – Sydney used 1894 – 1904

ODV.1 Ostermeyer, Dewez & van Rompaey – Melbourne used 1899 – 1914

ODV.2 Ostermeyer, Dewez & van Rompaey – Sydney used 1905 – 1910

OVR.1 Ostermeyer, & van Rompaey – Sydney used 1911 – 1914

Dave Elsmore reports the following in the “Private Revenue Perfins of Victoria”.

“Background: Initially the company traded as Ostermeyer, Dewez and Co (some sources Ltd) from at least as early as 1884. They had offices in Currie St, Adelaide, 17 Macquarie Place, Sydney, Melbourne and London. At this stage they seemed to have been involved in the importation of Iron and fencing products.

The activities of the company in Adelaide and Sydney are supported by the use of perforating devices in the format of OD/C, at these locations. Adelaide (C 1895) and Sydney (1894–1904) however patterns from these devices are not found on revenue stamps, but they are found on postage stamps.

The London Gazette reports in August 1896 that the company of Ostermeyer, Dewez and Co was wound up effective March 1896 in a matter signed by the owners who were Gustav Ostermeyer, Toussaint Dewez, Alfred Van Rompaey and W Leslie Whyte.

From this point the company is known as Ostermeyer, Dewez and Van Rompaey & Co. Furthermore the company seems to change its focus from importing to exporting and from Iron products to wool.

In 1899 the Sydney office moved to 52–54 Phillips St, Sydney, NSW.

The format of the companies perforating devices support to change in company name as they become OD/V and come into service in Melbourne in 1899 and Sydney in 1905. Notably the Sydney OD/C device is phased out at the time of the arrival of the Sydney OD/V device, which supports the transition of Ostermeyer, Dewez and Co to Ostermeyer, Dewez and Van Rompaey & Co.

The activities of the company in the first decade of the 20th century show that they are riding the trend to export wool directly to European ports in lieu of the previous practise of channelling all of it to England. Loading records support this by showing the company favouring ports such as Antwerp (Belgium) and Bremen (Germany).

This may account for the fact that the company seems to cease operations in 1914-15, but they may also have been effected by the re direction of shipping due to WW1."

Now the story continues and the company again changed names in about 1911 with the name Dewez dropped and the company simply being Ostermeyer, & van Rompaey. This appears to have lead to the purchase of a new perforating device OVR.1 and this may have allowed the ODV.2 device to be moved to the Brisbane office.

The company certainly had an office in Brisbane from as early as 1901 and this is confirmed by shipping notices.

The other issue is the sudden end to the company in 1915. This was common in the case of German companies due to World War 1, notably perfin users Justus Scharff and Lohmann & Co, but the owners of Ostermeyer & van Rompaey and its previous partnerships were all from Belgium although the companies seemed to have been based in England. Furthermore Alfred Van Rompaey's son Leslie remained in the Industry as a Wool buyer after the War.



Another report from **Greg Howard**. It is hard to see but these are all strikes of a very rare pattern SAG.a (HAPP SAG.1) which has been provisionally attributed to the Sun Alliance Assurance Co Ltd based in Sydney. See clearer

examples below.

Now this is the first of these that I have seen on Decimal revenues and this supports there use in 1966 and possibly later.

They are only found on the revenue stamps of NSW and some company cachets suggested a link to Parramatta. Now Greg has debunked this and makes a very good case that the cachets actually say the "Patriotic Assurance Co Limited".



Now Sun Alliance Group was a term associated with the Sun and Alliance Group of Insurance companies which included the Patriotic Assurance Co Ltd, and this dates from 1965 as **Dave Elsmore** reports in the Revenue Perfins of NSW - S Chapter as follows:

"In 1959 Sun Insurance and Alliance Assurance merge to form Sun Alliance Insurance and in 1965 Sun Alliance merged with London Assurance to form the Sun Alliance and London Insurance. Later in the early to mid 1960's they acquired the Insurance Company of North America. Then in 1984 they acquired Phoenix Assurance and later the company was renamed **Sun Alliance Group**. The in 1996 Sun Alliance and Royal Insurance Holdings merged to create Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Group which became the RSA Group in 2008 which remained headquartered in London. As part of these changes the company's activities in Australia and New Zealand are restructured under the Promina Brand and the General Insurance arm is renamed Vero."

More research is needed on this group and its perfins but the picture is getting clearer.

Auction Watch

By *Jamie Davidson, David Coath and Dave Elsmore*

Jamie Davidson reports an interesting lot of better value State Government perfins in the recent Mossgreen Auction of "Stamps and Postal History" on 29 - 30 June 2016.

Lot 106 was described as : *"Useful array of Kangaroos to 10/- plus 'G/NSW' punctures including 5/- x3, 10/- x2 & £1, KGV with better values & 'OS/NSW' values including 1d Die III & some 'G/NSW', Postage Dues including Third Wmk 4d blocks of 30 x2 and CofA Wmk 5/- blocks of 6 & 8, etc, condition rather mixed but we expect they are unchecked for varieties etc. (many 100s)"*



Jamie reports that it had some real gems including over 200+ Perfins, KGV & Roos mostly, with a range covering OS, OS/NSW & G/NSW (types A & B) perforations in all shades & denominations. It sold for the modest sum of just \$850

Dave Elsmore spotted this perforation device (see next page) on ebay with a "Buy It Now" of just \$350 (US). It was described as:

"Fresh from a local estate comes this Fantastic find, this is a Vintage Cummins No. 53 Postage Stamp Perforator from the Gulf Mobile & Ohio Railroad. Back in the early days companies would perforate their initials or insignia on the postage stamps that they purchased for business use as a way of cutting down on employee theft therefore making it harder to sell the postage stamps for cash.

I believe this machine was purchased by G.M. & O. sometime between 1938 & 1940, that is when the merger between Gulf Mobile & Northern RR and the Mobile & Ohio Railroads took place. This Cummins Perforator came from the G M & O main offices here in Mobile, Alabama. If you have a Stamp with the GM&O Perfin on it then this machine made it.

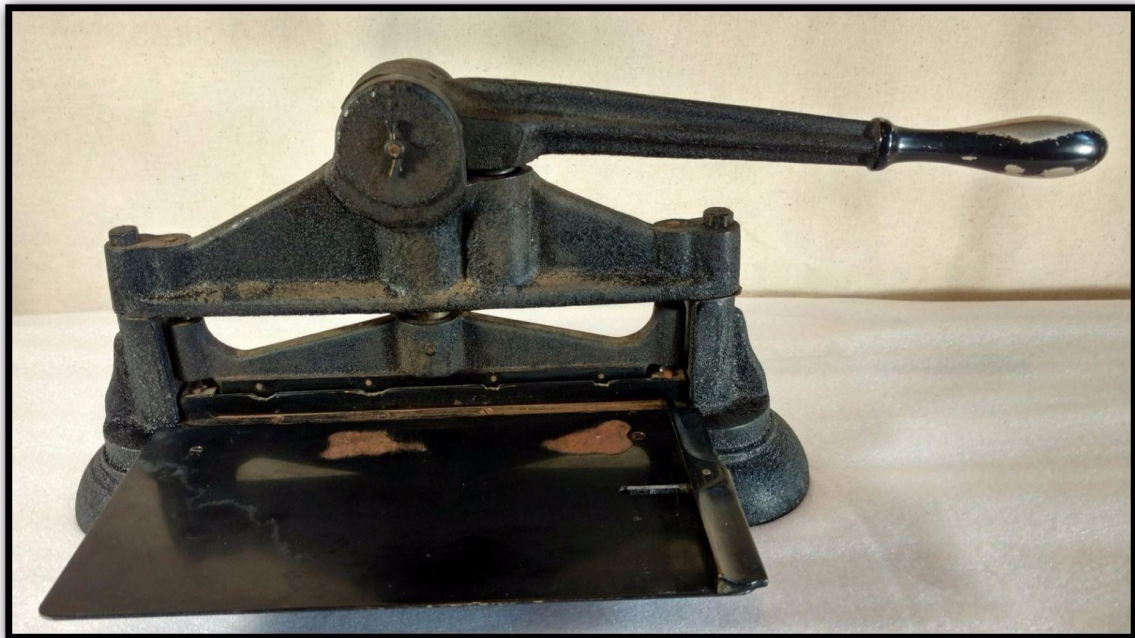
Measurements are, Length including handle approx 23 inches, without handle about 17 & 1/4 inches. width is 5 inches at base and height is about 9 & 1/4 inches, Weight is 33.6 pounds.

Condition, Original used on the Railroad, shows signs of use and age, perforator works great but is a little worn and missing a couple pins, return spring is worn so you have to lift the handle instead of it returning on its own, this Great old Perforator looks like it has not been touched since it was decommissioned from the railroad, I bet this machine has perforated thousands and thousands of stamps and is still going strong, it still displays nicely and will make an Awesome addition to your Collection!"

The device strikes the GM&O pattern listed in my old "Catalog of United States Perfins" Edited by John Randall 1998" as G129 which is stated to have usage between 1938 and 1968.

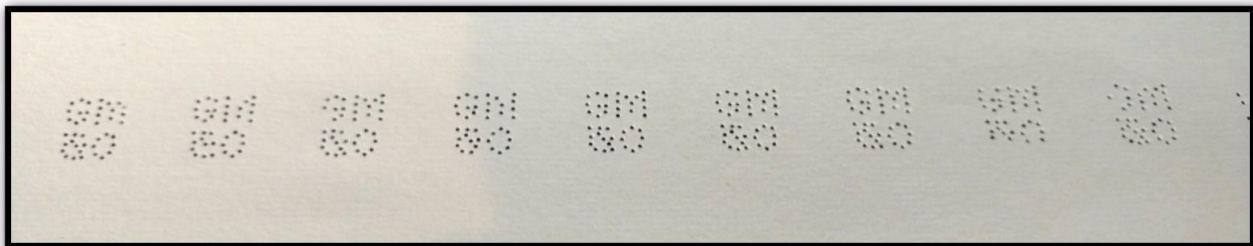


View from front



View from back, note tray for holding stamp stock.

This is a scan of the strike of the device showing that it has 10 (one on right partially obscured) dies in a horizontal array in the punch head. Note that there are subtle



differences in the pin locations within each of the GM&O dies. This is consistent with the variation seen in the NGS patterns reported used in the US earlier in this Bulletin. See Greg Howard's report on pages 16 and 17.

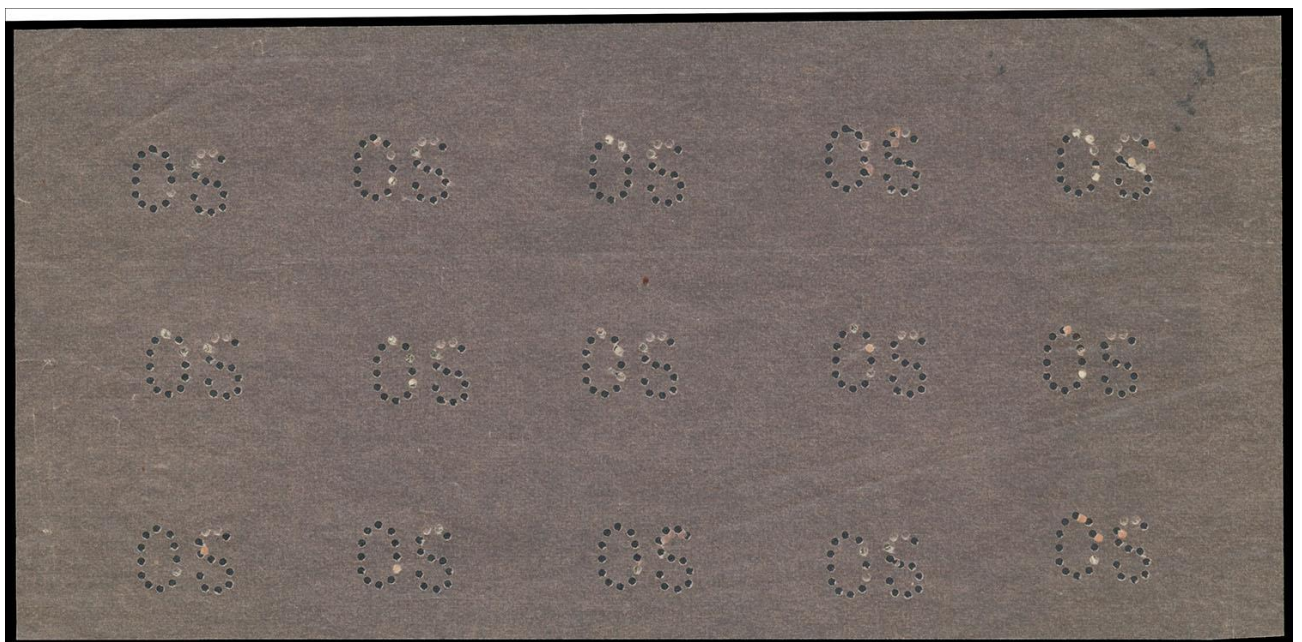
These multi die devices were popular in the US but there is a linkage to Australia as it was most likely a similar device that was used to strike the CTCO pattern of Caterpillar Tractor Company on the Customs Duty stamps of Australia.

We discuss the characteristics of this and the related CTCO device used in England in the C Section of the Revenue Perfins of the Commonwealth of Australia.

<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/Commonwealth-Revenue-Perfins-A-Z.html> This can be accessed via Perfins.com.au or Dave Elsmore's <http://ozrevenues.com/>



This rare multiple of strikes of the US CTCO device shows evidence that it was struck with a multi die device in a vertical array. Note the consistent spacing between the strikes in the horizontal and the generally inconsistent spacing between strikes in the vertical. This indicates horizontal spacing fixed by dies located in a punch head as opposed to vertical spacing which is more random and due to the amount of "feed on" by the operator after each horizontal strike.



See next page for related text.

The above impression was part of Lot 306 at the Mossgreen Auction "The Arthur Gray KGV Collection - Part Two" which was held on 23 May 2016.

I viewed the lot and can report that the various OS impressions were struck into a very thin paper, somewhat like grease proof paper you would use in cooking.

The strikes are all individual strikes and they appear to all be the OS Type J, which was the first OS device used on the issues of Papua. (Circa 1908) The issues of Papua were later struck with the OS Type F or Melbourne OS. This is all covered in David Andersen's Australia Official Perfins, Edition 2 of 2007. See pages 48 - 52.

David states that this OS Type J was a single die device and this is supported by the strikes in the Mossgreen lot, which all appear to be identical and also do not show any consistent relationship to each other.

Now the strikes in the Mossgreen lot also suggest something else about the OS Type J device. The strikes seem to have been done without folding the paper stock and this is consistent with the use of the Type J device onto the 1907 Lakatoi which, as David states, came in sheets of 30 (5 wide and 6 high). This suggests that the device had a log arm allowing it to make single and central strikes on stamps still in sheet or at least half sheet form. (3 high)



This was recently listed on ebay and was reported by both **Dave Elsmore** and **Greg Howard**.

It is a GS/H.a (GSH.1 in HAPP) which is attributed to the Accountant George S Hutton.

It is the first report that I had seen of this pattern on a revenue stamp and it is now listed on the Revenue Perfins of Queensland in the G Chapter.

The listing includes an interesting back story on Hutton as well as the following details on the device:

"Device: The GSH.a device is not proved to the user George S Hutton, and Accountants are not often users of perfins devices, however the letter combination, known use in Brisbane and match to the company name are compelling evidence to support George S Hutton as a provisional user. It is possible that George became aware of the use and value of perfin devices when working at S Hoffnung & Co, as this company was a long term user of perfins, from 1887 until the 1960's, see the S chapter.

The GSH.a device was a single die device and this has been proved by sighting multiple strikes that show no consistent relationship to each other. The device was only in use for a short time from 1899 until 1905 and the company has no other known devices."

Auction Watch and New Reports

If you find anything new in your collection or 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.

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