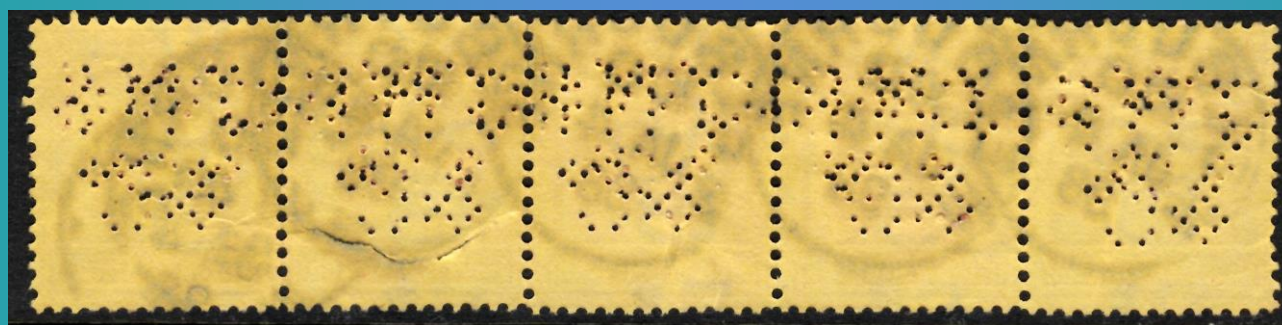


# **S**OUTH **P**ACIFIC **P**ERFIN **B**ULLETIN



THE BULLETIN OF THE PERFIN CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND  
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No.121 APRIL 2018



## FEATURE ARTICLES

- The Holey Club by Gordon Monk
- Club Auction
- South Australian Large OS by Jerry Austen

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) Telephone: 03 94370 366

**Vice President:** Vacant

**Secretary & Editor:** David Coath,  
4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria, 3095, Australia  
Email: [davidcoath@onthe.net.au](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.au) Telephone: 03 94370 366

**Treasurer:** Les Vincent,  
PO Box 900, Warrnambool, Victoria, 3280, Australia  
Email: [leslievincent@yahoo.com.au](mailto:leslievincent@yahoo.com.au) Telephone: 03 5561 7171

**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) Telephone: 0418 135 351

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

**Committee Member:** John Mathews,  
164 Dumas Street, McKellar, ACT, 2617, Australia  
Email: [John.Mathews@canberra.edu.au](mailto:John.Mathews@canberra.edu.au)

## 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  
Telephone: 02 4441 2355

## New Members

Wendy O'Connell – The Gap, Queensland  
Tony Crane – Warrnambool, Victoria

## Editors Comment

*By David Coath*

Welcome to the SPPB #121. It is another bumper edition made even bigger by the inclusion of the Auction for 2018, see the article on this further into the Bulletin.

The Bulletin has been delayed in part due to Ray Bennet's world travels. Ray is a tireless servant of the Club and he distributes the Bulletin in New Zealand and to Overseas locations so that we can take advantage of the NZ Post Office's cheap rates. What is more Ray maintains the bank of donated New Zealand postage to cover this distribution and this is an important part of keeping your subscription rates so low.

This Issue we have once again received some great input from Members sharing their knowledge and new finds. Feel free to share whatever you like with me and I will include it in subsequent Bulletins.

I would like to thank Members who have sent postage to help defray our high mailing costs; they were John Amiet, a regular and generous donator, Bob Littlehales, who gave a huge amount of NZ, David McNamee, Greg Howard, Les Vincent, Michael Kino, Harold Waite and Arthur Taylor.

Donations are made to me, Arthur Taylor, Les Vincent (the Treasurer), as well as Ray Bennett in New Zealand, so I do not always see them all. If I have missed your name, then I am sorry and thanks for your support. In particular, we are looking for New Zealand postage, to top up our stocks, so see what you can find and please send it to me.

## Front Cover – Double Strike

*By Dave Elsmore and David Coath*

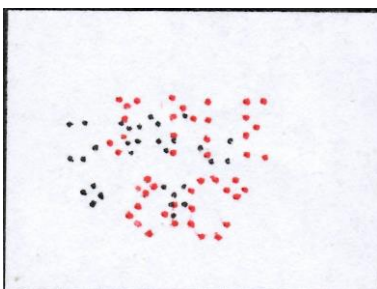
The front cover item is something found by Dave Elsmore. It was part of a lot of about 30 stamps of this Victorian 2½ d issue that was listed on eBay. They were mainly in horizontal multiples, but the lot was not described as being a perfin one and evidence of any strikes was hard to see as they were all on paper. So, Dave took a punt.

When they arrived, it was clear that they were all perforated and were mainly types of CWG&CO.10. This was a win as this is a rare pattern and additionally any pattern on this 2½ d issue is hard to find.

But the real win came when the stamps were soaked off and the amazing series of double strikes on these 5 stamps were discovered.

Now these double strikes are rare, but they have been reported before. John Amiet shared an example of one AWF.1 and B&N.2 in SPPB # 117 on page 20 and this is included in the current Auction Lot 447. These were also discussed in SPPB # 111 on pages 20 – 22 and at that time reference was made to the matter being detailed in Commercial Perfins of Australia (Grant/Mathews 1992) Page 28.

These Double strikes almost always feature strikes of Temporary dies (Victorian Service Punctures) with the exception of the AWF and LS&SLTD pattern, stock of the AWF which may have become available at the time of the collapse of the company. Now stamps struck with perfins cannot be sold back to the Post Office but it would seem that the Stamp Vendor was not so constrained. No risk really as he would have known the source of the stock.



Now in the past it has been hard to be certain which strike was applied first. But in this case, we can be almost certain that the CWG&CO.10 was applied over the top of the JME&CO.4 (see image on left) as the 30 stamps came from a single source and were almost all singularly struck with CWG&CO.10.

An amazing Find by Dave and proof that sometimes you have to take a punt.

# Collecting the PCNZA pattern

*By Peter Simpfordorfer*

Thanks to donations from Members, Arthur Taylor, David Coath, Jason Rowe, Greg Howard and Noel Seymour, we now have a huge bank of used Australian and Territories stamps carrying the clubs PCNZA pattern.

So, if you have a desire to collect these patterns then all you need to do is contact me: Peter Simpfordorfer by email at: [simpy19@bigpond.com](mailto:simpy19@bigpond.com) or write to me at PO Box 2099, WAGGA, NSW, 2650, and I will send you an envelope full for you to start with.

To help with building everyone's collections, you can send back to me what you do not need and any others that you have spare.

Gordon Monk has been building his collection and has used it to make a successful Exhibit entitled "The Holey Club" which is detailed in another article.

Arthur Taylor who holds the Club Perforator and produces the stamped envelopes for the Bulletin mailouts, makes sure that there is a rich variation in stamp issues used, so all of our collections will have some interesting items.

So, join in and build your collection and share with your fellow Members.

## Club Auction – April 2018

*By David Coath*

The 2018 Auction is included in this Bulletin and once again it is a Bumper Sale. As with the 2017 sale it is based around the breaking up of a very important collection from Scotland, but this time there are a huge array of Commercial Perfins on cover, with almost 100 individual lots on offer. These represent one of the greatest accumulations of these hard to find items and what is more they are almost all in the coveted small Commercial size, making them ideal for Exhibiting and much easier to store within a collection.

In fact, there are so many great items in the Auction that I have not made an Images section as it would need to be so huge and this would increase the cost of printing and distribution. I have included a few special images at the end of this Bulletin in the New Reports section.

Greg Howard has suggested that we should consider moving to an on line Auction format for listings and Dave Elsmore has offered that this is the method that he uses for the very successful Cinderella Club circuit books. These are things to be considered for the future.

The Auction will follow the format of previous years with bidding being in two stages.

Stage 1: Bids are made as per the Bid Sheet and these are collated and Lots are sold to the highest bidder. Prices Realised are distributed in the July Bulletin, which will be issued in August owing to the Auction closing on 31 July.

Stage 2: The balance of lots are offered in the July Bulletin (August) at reserve on a first bidder being the winner basis.

Remember all material is offered by Members and the Auction is only open to bids from Members. So, you must be a current Financial Member to participate. 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.

Now thinking ahead, if you have any material that you would like to make available for future Auctions planned for 2019 then please send them to:

David Coath, 4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria, 3095, Australia. Please email me first or give me a telephone call to let me know what is coming. Email: [davidcoath@onthe.net.au](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.au) Telephone: 03 94370 366. If there are items of any real value, then I would recommend that you Register them. I am happy to help with lotting and suggesting reserves, but if you wish to do this then that is fine.

Remember to look at the end of the Bulletin for some special items from the Auction noted in the New Reports.



## Upcoming Article

*By David Coath*

In the last Bulletin I foreshadowed an important article on the OSNSW pattern group. The article is being prepared by John Graham and the PCNZA Forgery Detection Sub Committee, along with, Bob Littlehales, David Andersen, Tom Weir and especially Andrew Johnston.

The article will centre on the pattern group of the OSNSW Type C, OS Type I and the elusive OSNSW Type D.

The entire project is made possible by Andrew Johnston's generosity in sharing images and information about some of his rare OSNSW Type D patterns.

However, the article has been delayed and is now slated for a later Bulletin. Trust me it will be worth the wait.

## PCNZA – Subscription Notice 2018/19

*By Les Vincent*

Please note my new email address Email: [lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au](mailto:lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au)

Subscriptions for your PCNZA Membership for the 2018/19 financial year are included in this Bulletin.

Where possible Members Credits have been used to effect payments, so please check your personal notice to make sure that you have not already paid in this way.

Please note that the Club is very marginal on revenue verses costs and the Subscriptions do not even cover the cost of the production and distribution of the Bulletin. These are cross subsidised by the activities of the Circuit, the Auction and the generosity of some Members donating postage.

Accordingly, I would ask that you be prompt with your payment. Payment options are detailed on the Subscription notice.

If you have any issues, please send me an email, a letter or call me on 03 5561 7171 .

Thanks for your support.

## New Site “Commercial Security Overprints of Australia”

*By Dave Elsmore, Greg Howard and David Coath*

The Commercial Security Overprints, of the various States and the Commonwealth of Australia, had been re located on a dedicated site entitled, the “Commercial Security Overprints of Australia” and it can be found here:

<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/oz-precancels-index.html>

Alternately you can search for it or access it via either Dave's Revenue and Railway site: [ozrevenues.com](http://ozrevenues.com) or [perfins.com.au](http://perfins.com.au)

More items are being listed each week, so many that they cannot be all be reported in the Bulletin. It is a growing and interesting part of our hobby.

I recommend that you check out the site and if you have any new reports then please forward them to Dave Elsmore [dave@ozrevenues.com](mailto:dave@ozrevenues.com) or Greg Howard [dhow3371@bigpond.net.au](mailto:dhow3371@bigpond.net.au) .

# "The Holey Club" Perfin Exhibit

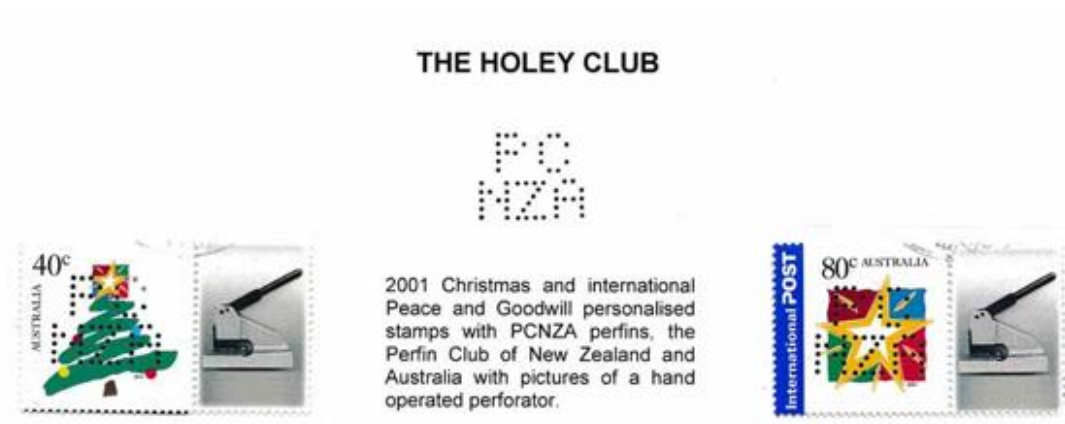
*By Gordon Monk and David Coath*

In March 2018 Gordon Monk submitted an Exhibit entitled "The Holey Club" to the Eastern Districts Competition conducted by the South Australian Philatelic Council. The exhibit received many positive comments from the Judges and was awarded a Large Vermeil with a score of 77.

The full Exhibit can be viewed on [Perfins.com.au](http://www.perfins.com.au) and I would encourage Members to view it via the link as follows: <http://www.perfins.com.au/tabs/t5.html> or by logging onto [Perfins.com.au](http://www.perfins.com.au) and viewing the Exhibitions Tab. The leader page is included below.

One of the great treats of Gordon's Exhibit is that it starts with a brief history of the PCNZA and names the key people involved in its conception and early days (and later) including David Dell (NZ), David Andersen and Jill and John Grant, and further it deals with the important decision to purchase a perforator.

Well done Gordon.



David Dell from New Zealand put a small item in the Australian Stamp Monthly, now defunct, in December 1986 seeking expressions of interest from fellow collectors to form a club. The second issue of the Club Bulletin lists 17 New Zealand members, 11 Australian members and 1 Canadian. Today the membership is 101 Australians, 20 New Zealanders, 2 U. K., 14 USA, and 9 European members. Our European members reside in Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands and Sweden.

The first club Bulletin issued in January 1987 titled "The 'South Pacific Perfin Bulletin'" the Editor was David Dell the founding member and also the Club's first President, Secretary and Treasurer. He directed David Andersen to be Australian Section Editor. There was a questionnaire for outlining the running of club and for a choice of name. By vote the choice was Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia. Other suggestions were Australasian Perfin club, PERFANZ Club and the South Pacific Perfin Club. Today the committee is President, Secretary, Auctioneer and Editor David Coath Victoria, Treasurer Les Vincent Victoria, Assistant Treasurer Richard Smolnicki New Zealand, Forgery Detection John Graham Queensland, Circuit Manager Aust. Greg Howard Tasmania, Circuit manager NZ. Ray Bennett Timaru NZ, Committee Member John Mathews, Canberra, Public Officer Dan Ryan South Australia (assisted with Incorporation of Club), Perforator Arthur Taylor Berrara NSW.

The membership fee was fixed all in New Zealand \$'s:- New Zealand \$14 + \$3 joining fee, rest of world \$17 + \$3 joining fee. Now there is no joining fee and it is A\$10 for all members receiving email copy of the Bulletin, and \$25 for those who have a hard copy of South Pacific Perfin Bulletin.

In September 1988 it was proposed the club start a circuit book scheme that would be run by Jill and John Grant from Weston Creek, ACT. The circuit book is now run by Greg Howard, Tasmania in Australia and Ray Bennett Timaru in New Zealand.

1988 at Sydplex the suggestion was made that we should obtain our own perforator. Some companies in the United States were contacted to find out the cost of having a machine made. Two of these companies have replied. The club's perforator arrived from England in December 1997. John Mathews then sent a sample to Australia Post to get approval for its use, and approval was received in time to perforate the top of the first page of the January 1998 Bulletin which was then posted out on 11 February 1998. It is currently used on **all club correspondence** unlike the West Australian Stamp Promotion Council's Swan perforator that can only be used on **promotional items** and not on general correspondence. 1989 also marked the movement of the PCNZA from New Zealand to Australia when Geoff Wise became Secretary/Treasurer.

Items of interest all with club perfins, sheets 2 and 3 N.Z. stamp issues, sheets 4 and 5 Australian Territories stamp issues, sheets 6 to 11 Australian stamp issues 1996 (definitives) to 2006, sheet 12 Australian issues 2015 to 2016, sheets 13-15 Stamp Expo covers (only 1 for each member) prepared 1998-2012 by John Mathews during his tenure as Secretary, Circuit Book manager and Auctioneer, sheet 16 varieties of circular date cancellers used on Australian stamp issues at University of Canberra LPO.

References South Pacific Perfin Bulletin; Renniks Stamps of Australia; David Holmes of Auckland City Stamps and their Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps 2018; Google/WNSStamps/en; David Coath [davidcoath@onthe.net.au](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.au)

## “Australian Perfin Group” on Facebook

*By Dave Elsmore, Greg Howard and David Coath*

The “Australian Perfin Group” on Facebook is growing in Membership and it can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ozperfins/>

It is a friendly, welcoming group for sharing information, images and knowledge about Australian Perfins.

All you need to do to join is to go onto the page, read the opening message from Dave Elsmore and agree to the purpose of the Group.

The group has only been operating since late November 2016 and it is growing fast and now has over 75 Members, so come and join in the fun. All PCNZA Members are welcome.

## New Report of Sydney Harbour Bridge 5/-

*By Dave Elsmore*



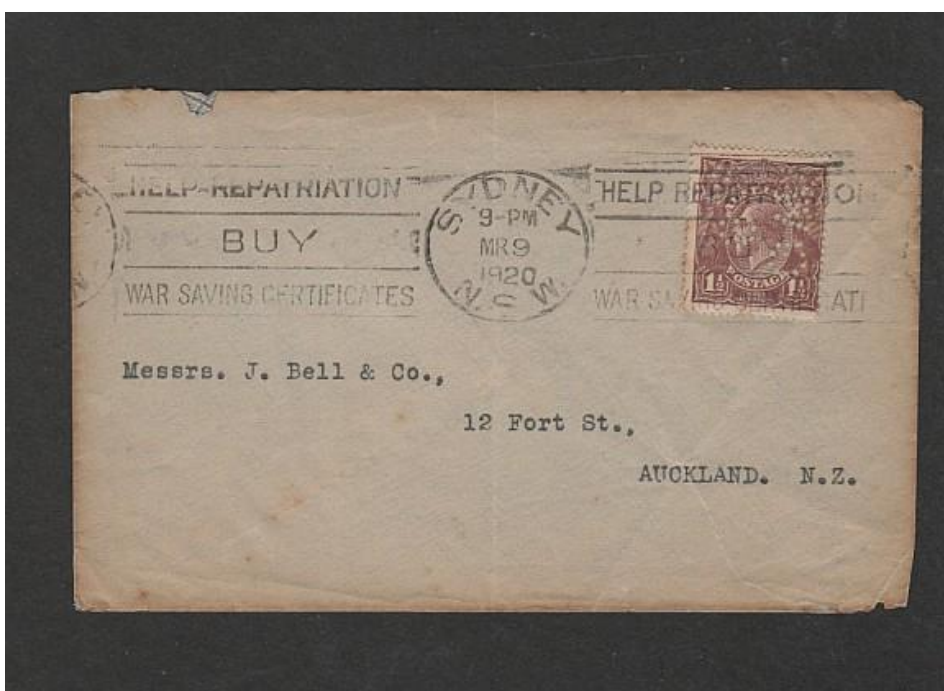
Commercial patterns found on the Sydney Harbour Bridge 5/- are rare and these have been the subject of articles in previous issues of the SPPB as well as the GB Perfin Society Bulletin as well as “The Informer”, the Journal of the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania.

But this is a new example that has been reported to Dave Elsmore. It is interesting as it shows 2 strikes of the F pattern, which was a 2 die device in a horizontal array. In the reverse you see F.1 and then to the left a partial of F.2. As reported in previous SPPB's these are easy to tell apart as the “arm” of the F in F.1 extends directly from a pin in the upright of the F. In F.2 the “arm” comes from a point between 2 pins of the upright. Note that this is not clearly shown in the image of F.1 in HAPP.

This cements the F's as the most common pattern found on this elusive issue, however it is a great report and one of the few that show strikes of the 2 dies of the device.

## GWS.1 Proving Cover

*By Greg Howard and David Coath*



This proving cover was found by Greg Howard and it carries a GWS.1 pattern.

Now this pattern is proved to George Wells & Smith, Auctioneers and Stock and Produce Agents of 173 Sussex St, Sydney.

This user information dates from Commercial Perfins of Australia (1992) and what is more it was a confirmed user with usage stated to be 1930.

In the Handbook of Australian Private





Perfins (2003) this was restated and the usage period extended to 1929 - 30 with a note saying (also 1919 use?)

Now this is a scarce perfin and Greg's proving cover is the first one that I have seen, but the interesting thing is that it confirms the user as George Wills & Co - Sydney.

Now this makes an enormous amount of

sense as almost all of the other GW, GW(letter) as well as GRW patterns are proved to the various State offices of George Wills.

Now John Mathews did an article on this pattern group including an excellent company history of George Wills and G & R Wills in SPPB # 80 of January 2008 (pages 8 - 11). Furthermore, John married in the patterns of the company Buying Office in London, that are found on the stamps of Great Britain.

If you do not have that issue of the SPPB then a serviceable company history can be found on Revenue Perfins of Western Australia at: <http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/WA-Revenue-G-Perfins.html>

Greg Howard and I have cross checked our collections and can offer the following listing of these patterns and their dates of usage as follows:

GRW.1 Adelaide - 1897 - 1942

GRW.2 Perth - 1918 - 29

GW.1 Melbourne - 1919 - 1934

GWA.1 Adelaide - 1881 - 1937

GWB.1 Brisbane - 1920(?) - 1923

GWF.1 Fremantle and later Perth from 1912(?) - 1905 - 1919

GWP.1 Perth - 1920 - 1934 (This was an amendment to the GWF.1 device)

GWP.2 Perth - 1916 - 1921

GWS.1 Sydney - 1920 - 1927

Note some usage dates may vary from HAPP and John's 2008 article but they are generally close. The GRW.1 date in 1942 is different but supported by sighting patterns on 1942 KGV Defins. We could not find any evidence of GRW.2 past 1929. The GWB example we have is postmarked 1923 but it is a KGV Brown Large Multi wmk that dates from 1919, so a start date of 1920 is possible. We could not find any evidence of GWP.2 usage past 1921 so the 1936 usage stated in CPA and restated in HAPP could be related to miss reports of the very similar GWP.1 which is certainly in use until 1934.

In any case if anyone has some evidence to correct our usage dates then I would be happy to see it as we may not have the full coverage.

As we have said some of these patterns are scarce and indeed rare, so the confirmation of exact usage periods will be hard. For instance, Greg's cover with a clear 1920 postmark is a full 10 years from the original report of 1930, later corrected to 1929 - 30. Can you help? Check your collection and let me know and we will share it in a later Bulletin.



## South Australian OS blocks

*By Jerry Austen, Richard Breckon and David Coath*

Jerry Austen has been working diligently to build a database of States Official Perfins of Australia. To build this he has been working with the State Study groups in Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania as well as many noted specialists in this area such as PCNZA Member Ken Moore, Geoff Kellow and John Pearson among others.



Recently he contacted Richard Breckon the Team Leader at Australia Post's Philatelic Archives to secure scans of multiples of OS and other Official patterns, so as to gain a better understanding of the structure of these devices.

Now Jerry's contact with Richard was initially chasing an issue regarding the Melbourne OS used in Western Australia, more on that in a later Bulletin, but Richard was able to source a number of other multiples including these two of the OS Type E on the Long Toms of South Australia.

These were the largest Multiples that I had seen of this pattern and it gives us some insight into the possible structure of the OS Type E device.

The last word on this device was written by David Andersen in Australian Official Perfins Edition 2 of 2007, and is as follows:

"A larger OS puncture, OS type E, was introduced to puncture the larger format stamps in late 1906, the earliest date recorded by Bill Harley being Oct 3, 06."





Now David is always keen to describe the structure of the Official devices as fully as he can, so it would appear that little was known about the Type E device at that time. Let us see what we can learn from the multiple that Richard has supplied.

But first we need to look at how the sheets were structured and the best reference is "The Melbourne Printings of the South Australian Postage Stamps, 1909 – 1912 by Geoff Kellow which is an updated look at The Melbourne printings of the South Australian 'Long' stamps which were detailed as part of "South Australia: The 'Long' Stamp 1902–1912" by J.R.W. Purves (Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, 1978).

In respect to the 3d value "The Melbourne Printings of the South Australian Postage Stamps, 1909 – 1912 states:

**"Punctured OS.** The stock record shows three entries relating to the manufacture of 'OS' punctures. On 11 August 1909 and 5 September 1911 100 sheets were delivered into stock having been received from Adelaide for the purpose of being punctured 'OS'. A further 20 sheets were delivered into stock on 16 December 1912 for the same purpose. Thus, if the entries are to be taken as accurate, no 'OS' punctures were made in Melbourne other than on these three batches specifically sent from Adelaide for the purpose.

The 100 sheets received on 11 August 1909 precede the first Melbourne printing and must therefore be from an Adelaide printing. Don Pearce advises that he has 'OS' punctures on two different printings – those listed by Brusden-White as S35A (Pale Grey-olive on Detmold paper) and S35D (Olive-green on Parsons paper). This would infer that the 100 sheets supplied were from a mixture of at least two printings.

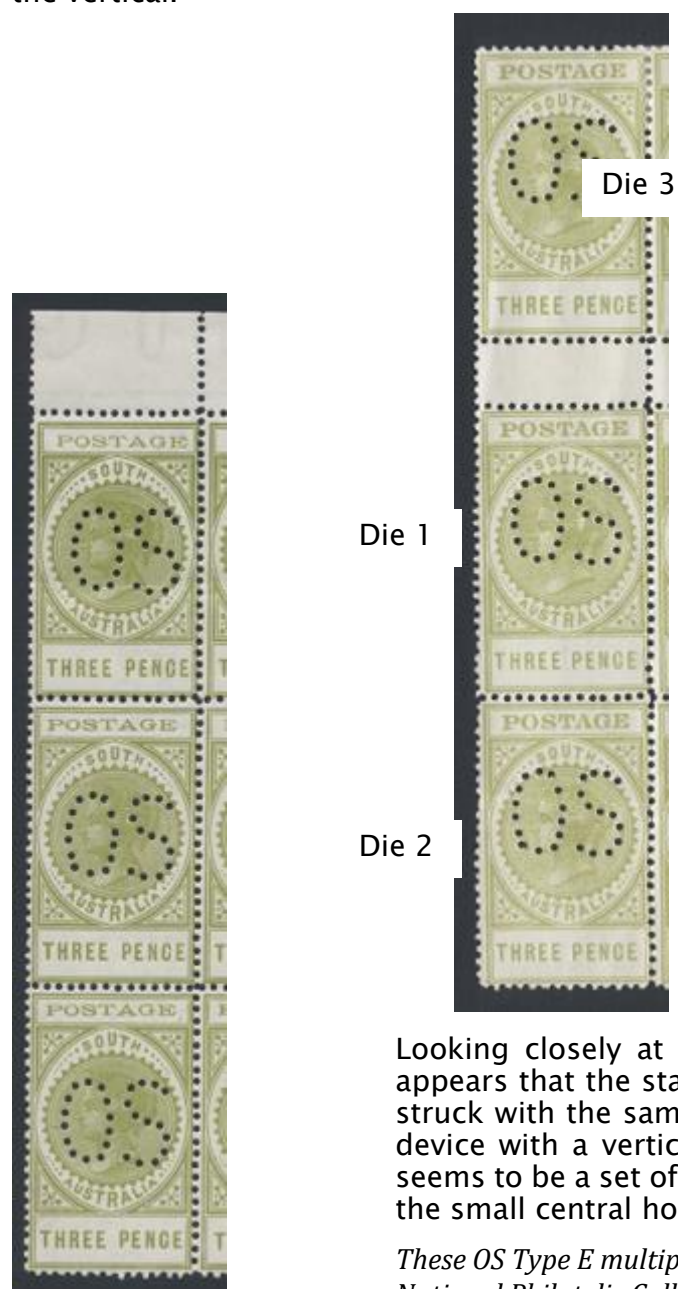
The 100 sheets supplied on 5 September 1911 all seem to be from Printing 3 of July 1911 in Deep Green-olive.

'OS' punctures have not been recorded from any other Melbourne printing, although the small final batch of 20 sheets from December 1912 is presumably from one of the

printings on this pre-gummed paper. With only 1,200 stamps supplied, it is likely to prove a very scarce stamp."

There is some vital information here. Firstly, the OS device used on these South Australian Stamps seems to have resided in Melbourne. The device would have originated in South Australia but moved with John Cooke from South Australia to Melbourne when he was appointed as the Commonwealth Stamp Printer in 1909. Secondly the records for OS punctures only deal with the Melbourne printings so they do not improve upon the early dates recorded by Bill Harley and detailed by David Andersen in AOP. Clearly these were South Australian and punctured with the OS Type E in Adelaide.

The next important piece of information is the layout of the sheets of these Long Stamps. "The Melbourne Printings of the South Australian Postage Stamps, 1909 – 1912 states that they were in sheets of 60 and from the multiples that we have it seems that they were in a format of 10 stamps wide and 6 stamps high, with a horizontal gutter between 3 and 4 in the vertical.



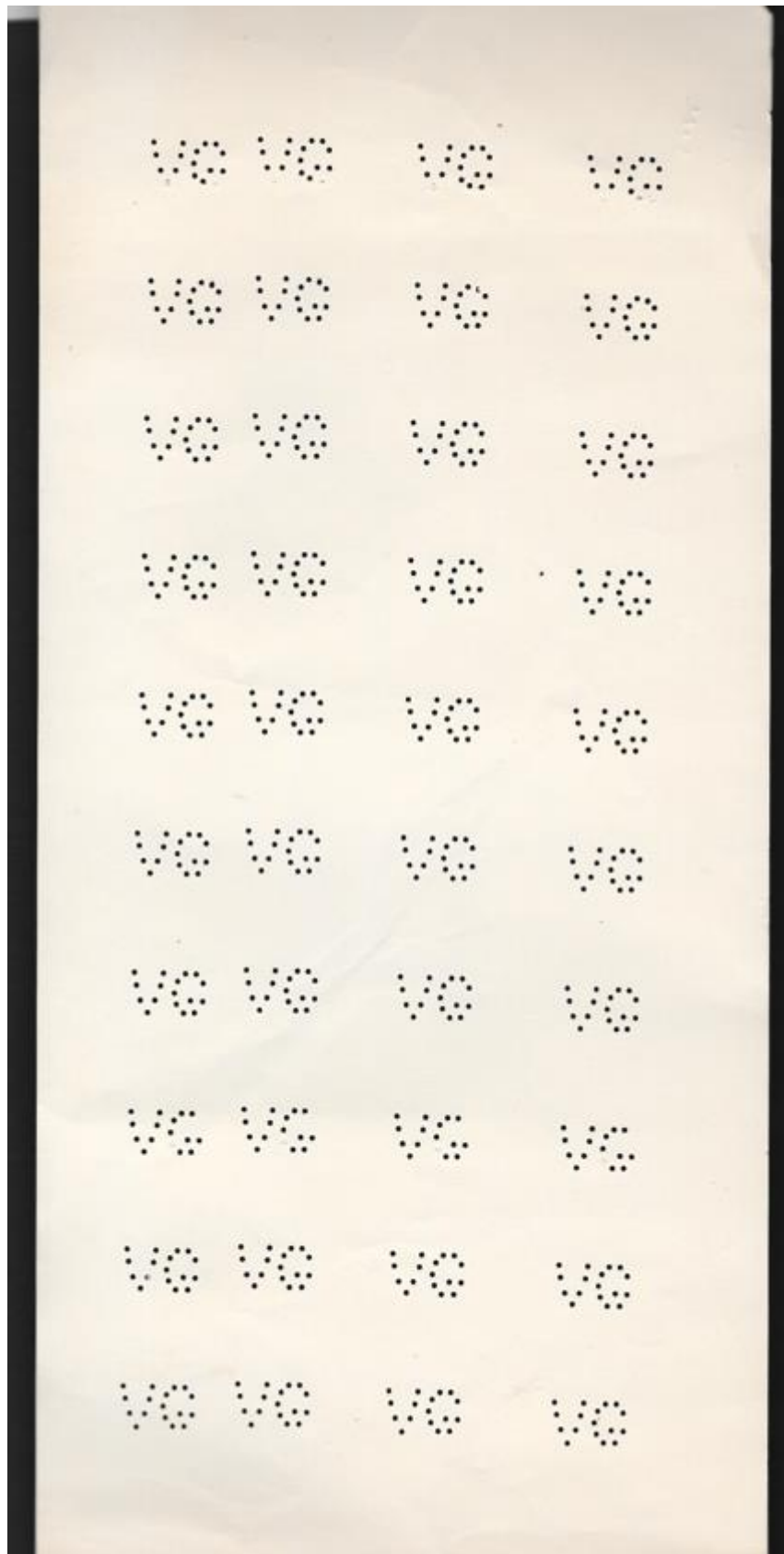
Looking closely at the individual patterns in the multiples it appears that the stamps in horizontal rows seem to have been struck with the same die. That means that we are looking at a device with a vertical array of dies. Looking at the dies there seems to be a set of 3 dies and they are struck above and below the small central horizontal gutter.

*These OS Type E multiples have been Reproduced with permission, National Philatelic Collection, Australia Post.*



## VG Strikes on Plain Paper

*By Lex Neville, Jason Rowe and David Coath*



An interesting item submitted by new member Lex Neville, he says "It looks like a collector at some stage has some blank sheets run through the perfin machine and distributed copies to fellow collectors."

They are strikes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Head machine which was a 10 die head in a vertical array.

This is confirmed by these strikes which show consistent separation between vertical dies and no consistent relationships between strikes in the horizontal. Note also that the strikes 3<sup>rd</sup> from the bottom all have the same missing pins which also supports the fact that they are struck by the same die.

Jason Rowe has been doing some research into this head of late and in particular is building a template to map the separation of the vertical dies over the life of the head.

Look in the Members Wants section of the Bulletin as Jason is seeking scans of multiples that Members have of the dies of this head.

Oddly, large multiples of these 3<sup>rd</sup> Head strikes are not as common as those of the 2nd and 4th heads.

I recall seeing a similar item at a Mossgreen Auction that was a vellum with various strikes of the Papuan OS Type J, so perhaps the strikes are tests of the device.

## BECO.1 is a Multi Die device

By John Amiet and David Coath



John Amiet sent me this nice vertical pair of the BECO.1 pattern of Bagots Executer & Trustee Co Ltd of 170 North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia.

See HAPP Page B-7

Let us be honest these stamps have seen better days, but John Amiet had noted slight differences in the strikes.

I had to agree with him, the top of the E is more bowed in the bottom strike.

When I checked my examples, I noted a reference to John Mathews Update #2 of February 2012, so this was something that he had already noted and shared. I also noted that I had started to sort them by the Types and that

I had a nice multiple with three strikes.



John Mathews had noted in Update #2 : "types 2 (probably 2 head device in vertical arrangement, with book image being lower head)"

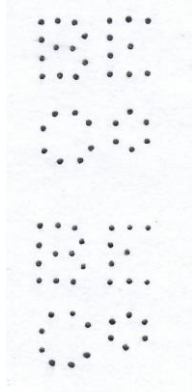
Just a note on John's terminology. "Heads" and "Dies" are terms which are often interchanged. I know I do this, but David Andersen explained it to me best when Editing one of my articles for an earlier Bulletin. He said, "you have a punch head that can have one or more dies".

This is why in HAPP page 37 John has "Appendix 4 – Multi Die Perforators".

So BECO.1 is a multi die perforator.

Now with my example with 3 strikes note that the top 2 strikes are related and that the bottom one is on a slightly different angle. It is subtle, but we are helped by the consistent missing pin

in the top of the E. Unfortunately, the missing pin is the important one that shows the slightly bowed top to the E, but you should be able to use the image at left which shows both dies with correct separation. I have tried to get this exactly the right size but if it does not work for you I will send you a photocopy in the mail, just send me an email.



Now this is an Adelaide device and multi die devices in both horizontal and vertical arrays are not that uncommon in South Australia. So common to suggest that they may have been of local manufacture rather than imported.

There are many and to name just a few, Arthur Taylor reported AICO.1 as a 2 die horizontal, D&JF.1 is a 2 die vertical (known to be a Sloper die) as are G.2 and G.8 (based on GM.1 and GM.2), GMCOLTD.1 is a 2 die horizontal and GMCOLTD.2 is a 2 die vertical.

In John Mathews update he described these as "types 2", that is another complexity to deal with when you are looking at multi die devices. At what point does the strike of the different die in the same punch head become a separate pattern.

G.2 and G.8 are significantly different and are considered to be 2 separate patterns. The same is true for F.1 and F.2 although they are much more similar patterns. It is a judgement call, but the key thing to learn is whether a pattern is a strike from a mutli – die device and this is about seeing multiple strikes across stamps and seeing consistent relationships with such strikes as well as seeing differences in the structure of individual strikes. It is a complex part of the study.

# New Zealand Specimen perfin

By Andrew Murley, Stephen Jones and David Coath



This was an item from a recent Auction in New Zealand that in part contained Jim Shaw's Postage Due collection.

The images have been enlarged as this is quite a small stamp.

It was obtained by Andrew Murley and he sent a copy to me for comment. I had not seen anything like this, so I sent Andrew's image to fellow New Zealand collector, Stephen Jones.

Andrew's position is that he is uncertain about it and suggested that it may be a fake. I had to agree that Specimen forgeries are known and that the item was most suspect.

Stephen had a firmer view and his comments were so well put together that they deserve to be shared in full:

"It is very unusual as it is the only New Zealand stamp with a Specimen perfin that I have come across. All my examples of New Zealand Specimens are overprinted, primarily on pre 1900 issues. From what I have seen, any overprinted New Zealand Specimens after around 1900 had their overprints applied overseas i.e. they were sent unoverprinted from New Zealand to different postal authorities around the world for inclusion in their respective reference books. It was the recipients that applied the overprints and not the New Zealand post office. I have seen examples of Specimen perfins on early British Empire stamps but I believe they were primarily Crown Agents issues although the specific purpose for these Specimens is outside my philatelic knowledge. There is a very small chance this perfin could have been applied by an overseas postal authority.

I checked through catalogues for both the Midas sale or the Gwaine Baillie sale and neither had examples of New Zealand Specimen perfins for any New Zealand stamp issue. Both these collections were owned by collectors with unlimited resources so money wasn't an issue with the acquisition of material. I can't recall if Robert Samuel had anything similar in his Postage Due collection when that came up for sale. His collection would probably have rivalled Jim's for depth. The Mowbray sale also included a set of 1899 Postage Dues with the Ultramar overprints from Portugal. (ex Ballie strips possibly I think). This overprinted set has managed stay together over many decades whereas this perfined example is apparently an orphan. If it is genuine, you would think there would be a few others accompanying it or having appeared in auctions over the last few decades.

Even in the event the whole set was done and some/all were separated away, you would think some of the other values would appear on the market periodically. Jim was well known among Australasian stamp dealers (and probably a number of overseas dealers as well) and wasn't afraid to spend money on his collection. He was only able to acquire this one solitary example of this perfin over the years he was forming the collection.

I checked the listings in Vol I of the Postage Stamps of NZ (1938) and it listed one stamp with a Specimen perfin (page 571). It was on a London Print copy of the 9d 1898 value. There was no illustration of it. As it was on the London Print issue it is almost certainly done in the UK by Waterlows for some purpose known only to them. There was no listing for 1899 Postage Dues with Specimen perfins.

Unfortunately on the balance of probability, I would say that it is a fabricated item."

Now that is a hard argument to top. Thanks Andrew for sharing the stamp and thanks Stephen for the encyclopaedic answer, yes it would seem most likely to be a fabrication.



## New Reports

By David Coath, Greg Howard, Dave Elsmore, Colin Clark-Hutchison, Ross Ewington, Malcolm Brown, David Warren and John Amiet



These Shell overprints were reported by John Amiet and they have been included in the current Auction under "Australian Private Perfins and Security Overprints on Revenues". They have also been noted in the "Commercial Security Overprints of Australia" in the Queensland Chapter at: <http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/oz-precancels-index.html>



Another item that is included in the current Auction. This was in the collection of long time Member Colin Clark-Hutchison. Now the bottom strike is known and this is an example from Sydney. A Perth version is also reported. It is clearly a mix of a cancelling punch for the revenue as well as a date punch. These are almost always seen as partials in revenue stamps soaked off, or a piece torn off a document.

The document is an Insurance form, hence the requirement for the stamp duty revenue, but there is another pattern at the top which says, "Cooks Tours". It is unrelated to the revenue cancelling/date punch strike. It may have been applied earlier and actually been a security perfin for this company stationary. An amazing and rare find. Previously reported in SPPB # 45 of April 1999. Good reason to have a full set of old Bulletins.



This report is from Greg Howard. It is CD&CO.a (HAPP CD&CO.1). This pattern is quite scarce on postage stamps and mainly found on the One Penny Maroon Swan. This is the first that I have seen postally used on this high value issue.

It is rare on Revenue stamps and only a few have been sighted. Amazingly one is this 2/6 issue shown at right. The user was Courthope, Drummond & Co and the company history is an interesting one and I have included it on the next page. It is an extract from the Revenue Perfins of Western Australia.



User: **Courthope, Drummond & Co**

Auctioneers & Agency Company

Address: Metropolitan Auction Mart, Shop 6, Central Building, Hay St, Perth, WA.

Revenue Use: 1897-1903 issue 1d, 2/6d.

Rarity Scale: 1897-1903 issue 1d R4, 2/6d R4.

Background: Edward Kay Courthope was born in London in May 1849. He moved to Perth where he established an Auction business selling commercial stock, live stock, estates, produce and property. The business was initially in his own name until 1878 and then as he expanded into agencies it became, Courthope and Co (1886) and finally in partnership with John Drummond the company became Courthope, Drummond and Co from 1887.

The company had premises in the Central Building in Hay St, Perth, known as the "Metropolitan Auction Mart". In addition, the company held agencies for Phoenix Fire Insurance, The Chinese Traders' Insurance Company, NZ Loan and Mercantile Agency, the distillers, J&R Harvey and Co (Glasgow) as well as Cement and Galvanised Iron companies. They listed various regional sub agencies including their own office in Fremantle.

The company held regular auctions and their advertisements for the Auctions and the agencies of the Company are often found in newspaper advertisements and Directories of the 1880's and 1890's.

In August 1897 the partnership was officially dissolved and the business passed to John Drummond, although it appears to have been wound up.

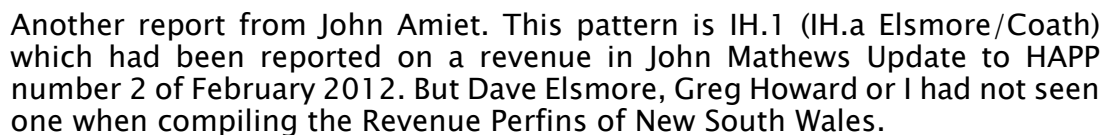
Tragically Edward Courthope took his own life in May 1899 at the age of just 50 after what seemed to be a period of depression brought on by financial issues and health concerns.

Device: The CD/CO.a device was manufactured by Joseph Sloper in England and it was the subject of a successful application to the Post Office in May 1894. The pattern is found on postage stamps with predominately Perth postmarks over the period 1895-98 and this is consistent with the history of the Company.

Given the relatively short usage period the pattern is scarce on postage stamps. Cross use of postage stamps as revenues (and vice versa) during this period is known and given the company's involvement with Insurance, commercial sales and property transactions it is possible that the reported use on revenues is of this nature.

Related patterns: Nil





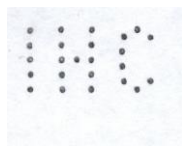
A very rare revenue usage and it is featured in the current Auction.

Another report from John Amiet, who seems to turn up all sorts of things. Thanks for sharing these John. Now this has been slightly reduced. It is IHC.1 (IHC.a Elsmore/Coath revenue listing) which is an International Harvester pattern used in Western Australia. Perth and Fremantle postmarks are in about even numbers, so it is likely that there were 2 offices with the device located in one office and perfinned stamps sent to the other office..

Now this IHC pattern has not been reported on a revenue. John Mathews in his Update of October 2005 reported Victorian revenue use, but this was not the Perth device but rather an unlisted Melbourne device, see SPPB 95 of October 2011 page 8 –9.

I have included some images on the next page, so you can identify these. The Melbourne device is slightly larger with broader spacing and it is much harder to find. The usage period of the Melbourne IHC is very short and only between 1938 and 1942 (approximately).





IHC.1 Perth

IHC unlisted Melbourne and strike on 5/- Robes Thick paper.

So, this block of 6 IHC.1 is the first revenue use reported with this pattern and what a bonus that it is on a proving document, an absolute gem.



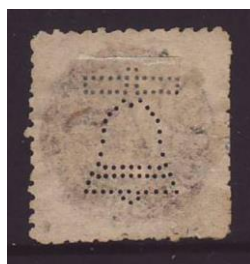
Speaking of gems have a look at this beautiful proving parcel tag shared by Gordon Monk.

We have featured a few of these in recent issues of the Bulletin.

In April 2016 the front cover featured another Harris Scarfe but with use in Western Australia and carrying a WA Railway stamp, reported by Malcolm Brown.

Again, in January 2017 the front cover carried a report from Greg Howard and Ross Ewington of another of these rare survivors, that time one of McPhersons in Melbourne.

This parcel tag of Gordon's will be certain to be an addition to his Exhibit of South Australian perfin. Well done Gordon.



Greg Howard reported this beautiful Bell pattern, Symbol 1. Now these are really a rarity and they are hard to find on any issue, but this is the first that I had seen on a 5/- Coin issue of NSW.

Greg was not the only one to notice it and it finally sold on eBay for over \$250, after some very spirited bidding. Now that is a keen group of potential buyers and it may have not been sold to perfin collector as

the Bell may have been the source of the interest.

My immediate thought was that I would never see another Bell on a 5/-. But to my surprise when visiting the first sale of Abacus Auctions on 19 May this year, I spied another one in a Perfin accumulation on offer. It was one of a number of well described Perfin lots on offer by this new Auction House with some old and familiar names.

I wish Gary Watson, Torsten Weller and Nick Anning all the best with their venture. It was a huge auction, and very well attended by about 100 bidders. This is a great start and augers well for the future.



Greg Howard found this new report of a Security Overprint of the Bank of New South Wales.

Now when an Overprint is this large it can often be a miss report of

a Company cachet. Now Greg's report is still on a piece, note that the Overprint does not carry off the stamp as it would if it had been applied at the time that the stamp being affixed to the document. It is however possible that the stamp was removed from the original document and then reapplied to this piece. But the reverse looks like it is part of a document from the company, evidenced by this logo of the company.

It is not easy to confirm these Security Overprints but this one is a fair bet, so it has been included in the Commercial Security Overprints of Australia in the Victorian chapter see:

<http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/oz-precancels-index.html>

FORM SV213V 750 Books (50 Quad) 12-46

VACUUM OIL COMPANY PTY. LTD. (INCORPORATED IN AUSTRALIA)

Nº 1983

CASH SALE RECEIPT DOCKET

ACCOUNT: *E. J. Wilson* LOCATION: *Christchurch*  
 BUSINESS: *Victoria Service Station* DATE: *9.7.47*  
 ADDRESS: *Victoria St* DELIVER TO: *Wilson*

CUSTOMER'S TANK DIPS (IN GALLONS)				SALESMAN'S No.	PACKAGES		GOODS SUPPLIED	TOTAL UNITS	PRICE	AMOUNT
GRADE	BEFORE DELIVERY	AFTER DELIVERY	DIFFERENCE IN DIPS		No.	KIND				
AFTER DELIVERY		440			450	Gal	Phone Motor Spirit	450	2/4	52 10 -
BEFORE DELIVERY		20								
DIFFERENCE IN DIPS		450								
SOLD DURING DELIVERY										
ADD OR DEDUCT DIFFERENCE IN BOWL										
TOTAL DELIVERY BY DIP		450								
GALLONS IN BOWL				TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS SUPPLIED £ 52 10 -						
BEFORE DELIVERY				CHARGES ON INVOICE						
AFTER DELIVERY				GOODS RETURNED						
METER READINGS				TOTAL UNITS						
BEFORE DELIVERY				PRICE						
AFTER DELIVERY				AMOUNT						
TANK TRUCK DIPS				TOTAL VALUE OF GOODS RETURNED £						
COMPARTMENT				NET AMOUNT PAYABLE £ 52 10 -						
START				ALL ORDERS WILL BE EXECUTED AT THE PRICES RULING AT THE TIME OF DELIVERY. WHEN WE DELIVER GOODS TO TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES IN WOOD ORDER AND TAKE THERE-UPON RECEIPT OUR RESPONSIBILITY CEASES. NO RECEIPT FOR PAYMENT WILL BE RECOGNISED UNLESS GIVEN HEREON OR ON THIS COMPANY'S OFFICIAL RECEIPT FORM.						
FINISH				RECEIVED PAYMENT BY CHEQUE/CASH IN THE SUM OF £ 52 : 10 : -						
OUT				EXCHANGE ON CHEQUE : : -						
No. 1				TOTAL £ 52 : 10 : -						
No. 2				Yen Yefy Lwo POUNDS						
No. 3				SHILLINGS - - - - - PENCE						
No. 4				VACUUM OIL COMPANY PTY. LTD.						
TOTALS				PER <i>Shedbrook</i>						
DELIVERED BY EQUIPMENT No. 2020				RECEIVED THE ABOVE GOODS IN GOOD ORDER						
DRIVER STOREMAN <i>Shedbrook</i>										

This report is from New Zealand Member David Warren. It is a receipt with the VOCO pattern Pf 43. Visible on left hand side of stamp reading up. He found a similar item listed it on the Trademe website but with a usage date of April 1947. So, he contacted the vendor and asked about receipts with later dates. To his surprise he came up with two receipts dated 08.07.1947 and this one 09.07.1947. These are the two latest dates known now for this die. Samuels puts the latest date known fiscally used at 27.06.1947.

Closing the story from the other end David has also obtained a later receipt from the same driver at the Christchurch Depot dated 28.08.1947 but it has no perfin.





This is another report from John Amiet and it is included in the current Auction.

There are four DS&CO's listed in HAPP. The first is a Customised pattern and is very hard to find. The later three are all Temporary punctures made by a stamp vendor. DS&CO.1 is provisionally attributed to D Slater & Co, Customs and Shipping Agents in Strachan, Tasmania. The only issue

with this possible user is that all the readable postmarks I have seen are Launceston ones. John Mathews has recognised this and in the Update of February 2012 he changed the Provisional user to Dodgshun, Sons & Co., who had premises in Launceston from 1897 – 1907 which covers the usage of the Customised device and the Temporary patterns. The company also had premises in Melbourne and all of the Temporary patterns carry Melbourne postmarks, just as John Amiet's new report does.

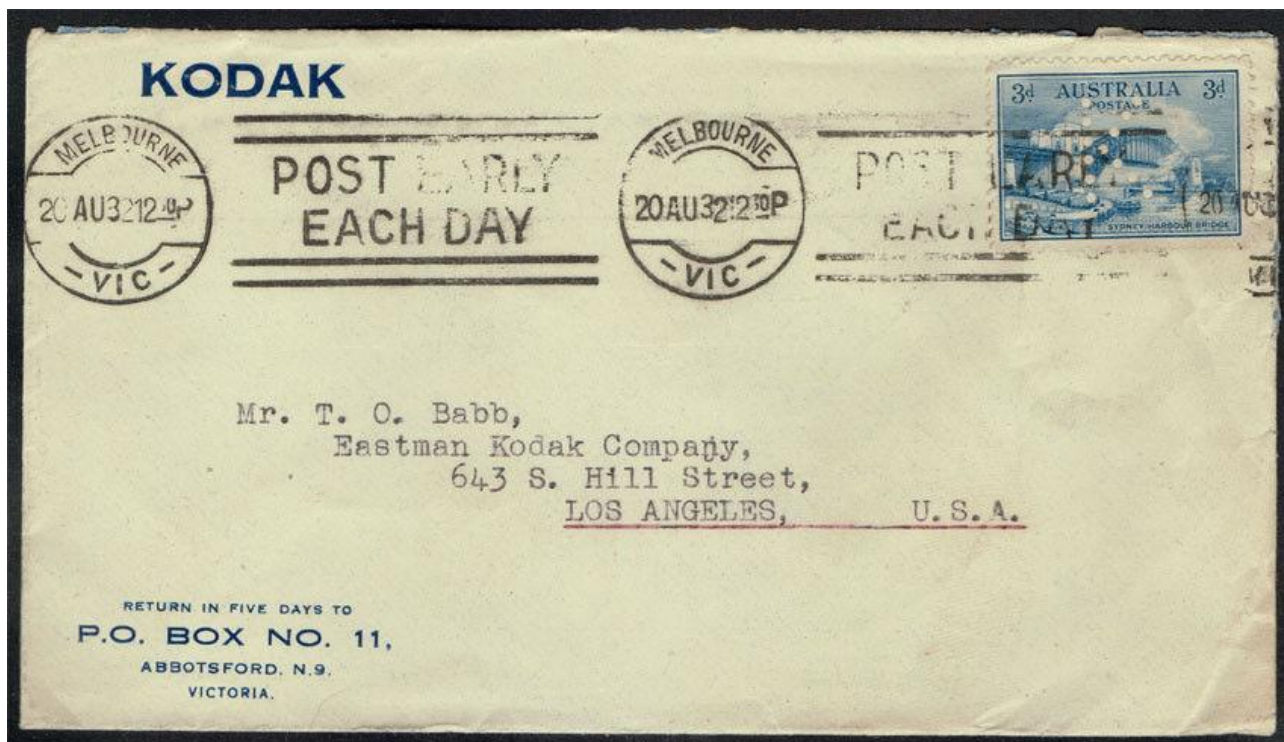
## Auction Watch

*By David Coath, Greg Howard, Michael Kino, Andrew Baylis and Dave Elsmore*



Michael Kino sent a link to this nice clean LL.1 with a Buy it now of \$130 that he found on eBay.

Patterns on this delightful issue are hard to find and one was sold at the last Club Auction for over \$80.



Another report from Greg Howard, this is a very attractive proving cover that was seen on eBay. It proves K.8 to Kodak's Melbourne office in 1932. In addition, it is the first sighting of a 3d Blue Sydney Harbour Bridge with K.8 and adds to Michael Kino's listing of patterns on this issue that formed part of SPPB no. 117 of April 2017 with later Updates in Issue No. 118.

It sold for just \$80 and this is good value for a rare proving cover with this issue.

The K's are a bit confusing as many are quite similar and this has lead to miss reports of patterns in locations that the device was not located in. See HAPP listings for K.4. This has been made more confusing by the possibility that stamps punctured with this K.8 may have been sent to the rather small Perth office at some time over the life of the device.



The Chronology of the Customised K devices and patterns is as follows:

- K.5 Sydney 1912 – 1950
- K.8 Melbourne and Perth 1925 – 1951
- K.4 Adelaide 1927 – 1946
- K.3 Brisbane 1929 – 1953
- K.2 Melbourne 1932 – 1951

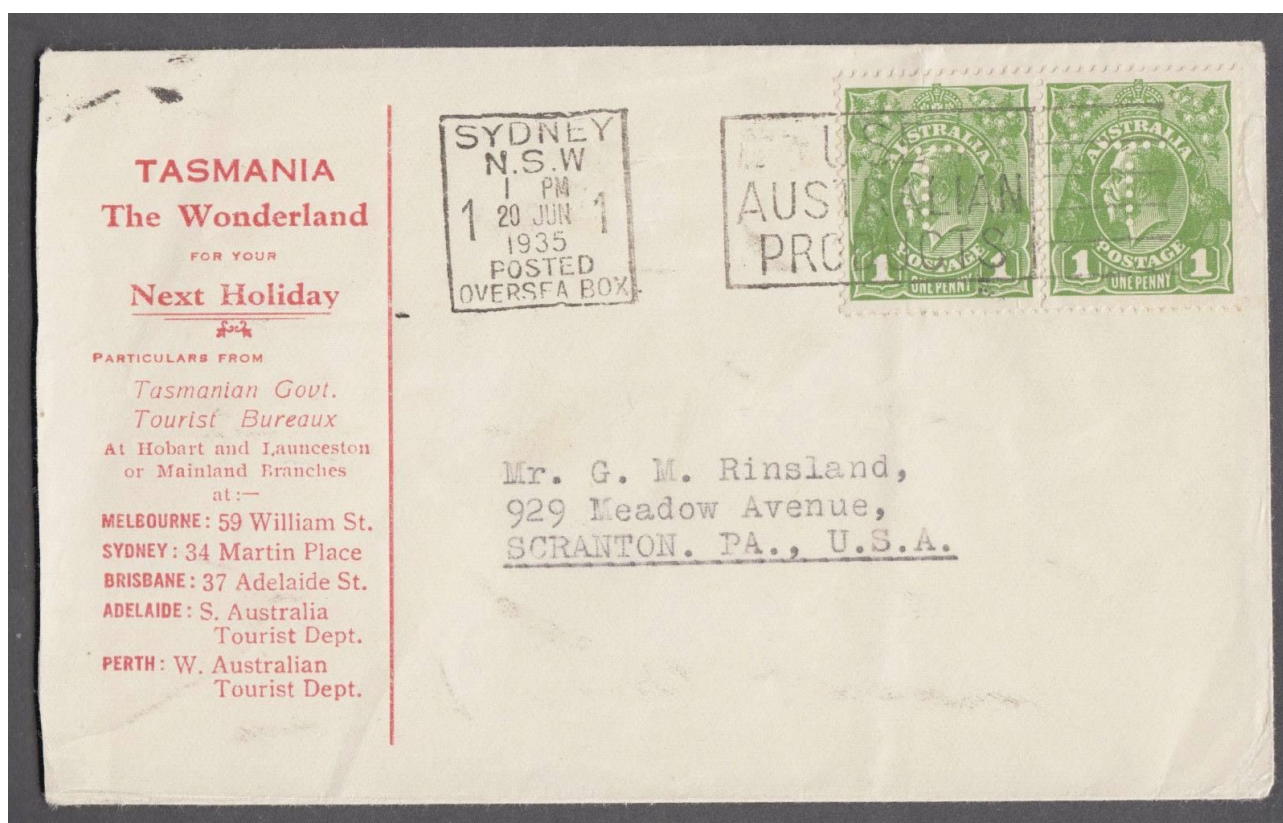
Remember K.1 is most likely a partial of OK.4.



Another Greg Howard report this nice Queensland Railway was listed on eBay and sold for just \$7. That is amazingly cheap given that it has evidence of all 4 dies of the TBS.2 device of Thomas Brown & Sons of Brisbane. It was a 2x2 device with very similar dies, but with close inspection and clear strikes they can be sorted into the different dies.



This GM&S was one of two patterns on the 1927 Canberra issue that were listed by the same seller. This sold for \$33 and the other for \$29 which shows strong demand for private patterns on this issue. Someone must have read Colin Clark Hutchison's great articles on these in an earlier SPPB.



This is something of a rarity as it is a T pattern on a cover in Sydney, but the story is revealed in the band of Text on the left of the envelope, that confirms the user as the "Tasmanian Government Tourist Bureau". What is more it lists the mainland offices of the Bureau which includes one at 34 Martin Place in Sydney, no doubt the office that this cover derives from.

This was missed by bidders on eBay who let it go for just \$27. I can recall seeing one from the Melbourne office, but does any Member have one from the Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth offices?. If so please share it and I will include it in a future Bulletin.

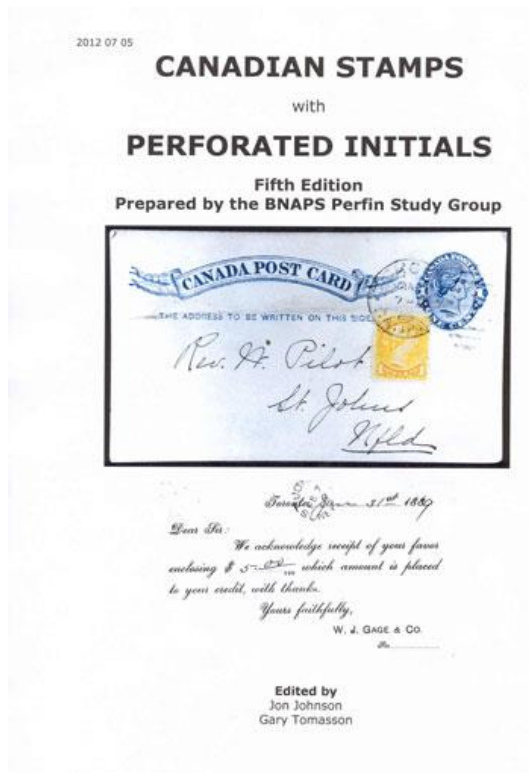
# New Edition of Canadian Catalogue

By David Coath

A new 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Canadian perfin catalogue "Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials" has been released. See cover below, reduced from A4.

It is located at: <http://www.bnaps.org/PerfinHandbook/PerfinHandbook.htm>

This can also be accessed via the excellent BNAPS website at: <http://www.bnaps.org/>



The first thing to point out is that access to the Perfin Catalogue is free, what is more the BNAPS have allowed it to be reproduced in part or full for personal use.

The catalogue is edited by long time PCNZA Member, Jon Johnson and Gary Tomasson.

They have done a great job in creating an easy to use listing with a basic Alphabetic listing which covers user, location, and issues that the pattern is found on. As shown in the example (reduced in size for this article) it also features images of proving covers if available.

After the Alphabetic listing there are a series of 10 Addendums including a very useful one on telling the difference between similar perfin patterns.


The BNAPS contributors and editors are to be congratulated for producing an online and printable catalogue of such a high standard and for the generosity shown to collectors by making it free.

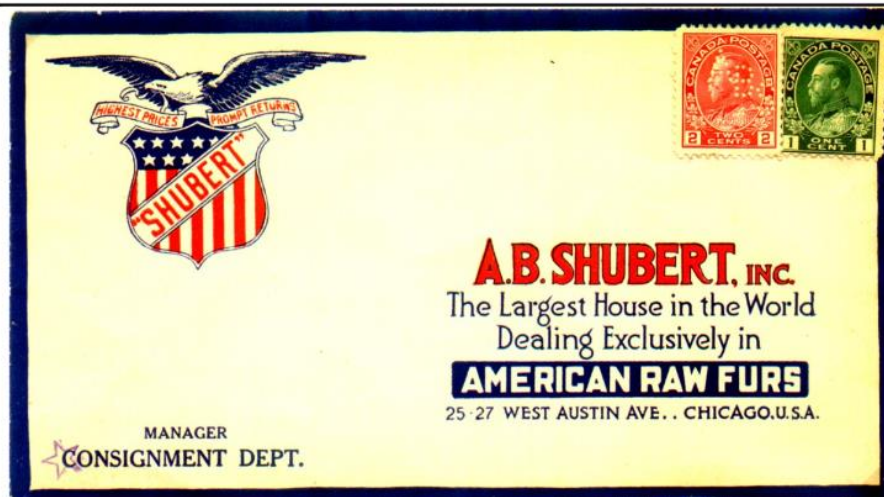
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## Chapter 5

## CANADIAN PERFORATED INSIGNIA

A1		A. B. SHUBERT, INC.
A		CHICAGO IL ABS - CA US
104, 106		



# Tell us your email address

By Les Vincent

As Treasurer, I am trying to build a list of Members emails. A comprehensive list of Members emails would allow quicker correspondence with Members and allow scanned receipts and emailed follow up on Subscriptions.

So, drop me an email on: [lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au](mailto:lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au) (note this is a new email address) or note down your email address when you are sending in your Subscription payment later this year.

Thanks , Les.

## Members Wants

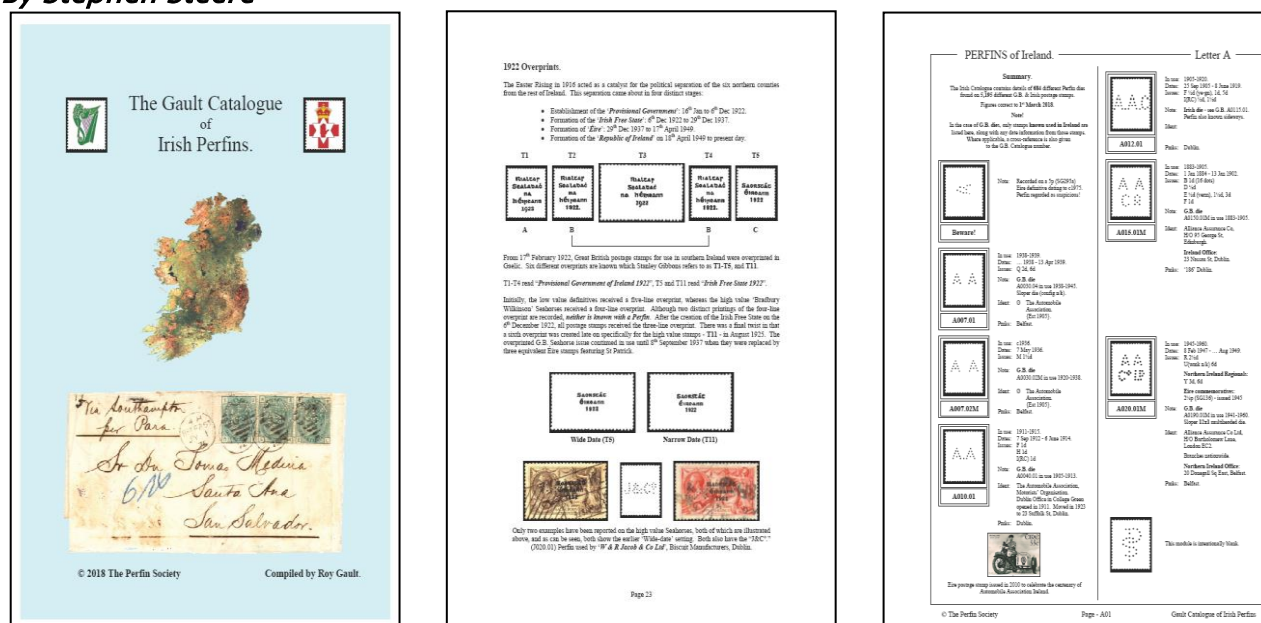
By Jason Rowe, Robert Dedecker and David Coath

Jason Rowe is looking for large multiples of the VG 3<sup>rd</sup> Head, preferably vertical. These are most likely to be found mint. Jason is looking for variation in the vertical spacing. He can be contacted at: [buddahboy10@live.com](mailto:buddahboy10@live.com) or by phone at: 0478 023 223 or mail: 53 Norton Sands Drive, Redbank Plain, QLD, 4301.

Robert Dedecker a PCNZA Member in France (our only one), and Author of the French Perfin Catalogue, is looking for a French Perfin cover sent to Australia. If you have one that you wish to sell then please contact Robert via email: [dedeckerr@yahoo.fr](mailto:dedeckerr@yahoo.fr) or mail: 4 Les Gerioles, 60520, Pontarme, France.

## New Irish Perfins Catalogue

By Stephen Steere



If so, this latest publication from the Perfin Society (of Great Britain) may be just what you've been waiting for – '*The Gault Catalogue of Irish Perfins*'. This 162 page, all colour loose leaf publication covers the 125 year period 1870–1995. The 52 page introduction delves into the earliest use of Perfins in Ireland, Irish Braham Dies, POKO's, Sloper Wartime Provisionals, Railways, Irish 1922 Overprints, early Eire commemoratives, Airmails, Postal Stationery, Trade Mark Perfins, and a lot, lot more. This is followed by details of all **684** known dies, listing all known stamps (**5,201 DDF**), postmarks, identities, etc. In essence, the culmination of twenty-five years of research.

Prices are **£25** (plus postage) for Perfin Society Members, and **£30** (plus postage) for non-Members. To order your copy, please contact Stephen Steere by e-mail: [perfin.society@virginmedia.com](mailto:perfin.society@virginmedia.com) or write to Stephen Steere, 1 Nicolson Road, Orpington, Kent, BR5 4BH, UK.



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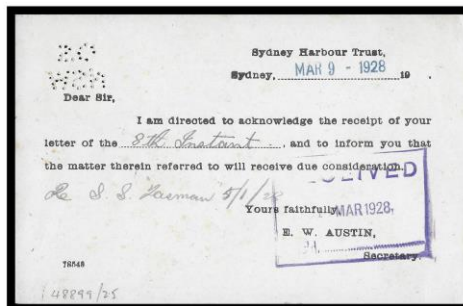
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