

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

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FEATURE ARTICLES

- New Zealand Reports
- Perfin on Tatts Mail By John Mullavey
- GB Patterns and Griffith Brothers by Greg Howard, John Tracey and Dave Elsmore

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.

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New Members

Tony Cane - Warrnambool, Victoria (Incorrectly listed as Tony Crane in # 121)

John Lee - North Lakes, Queensland

Stephen Endicott - USA

Editors Comment

By David Coath

Welcome to the SPPB #122. It is another bumper edition made even bigger by the inclusion of the Auction Part 2 for 2018, see the article on this further into the Bulletin.

The Bulletin has been delayed due to the Auction Part 1 that closed on 31 July 2018 and the fact that we are moving at work that has meant that we are getting a new printer, I expect that the quality of the print will be better.

In 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 donor, Michael Long, Gordon Monk, who made a generous cash donation, Jason Rowe, John Tyson, Tony Cane, Linton Peterson, David Glynn Jones, Steve Sterre, Bill Hewson, John Mullavey, who sent a pile of stamps, Harold Waite, Terry Sitch, Malcolm Brown and Arthur Taylor.

Mission Accomplished

By Ray Bennett, Arthur Taylor, Les Vincent and David Coath

Thanks to the generosity of Members we now have a huge Bank of Postage, and in particular, the important New Zealand postage, which is used by Ray Bennett to mail out the New Zealand and Overseas Bulletins.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all Members who have generously donated postage. Your actions have allowed us to keep our Membership fees low, despite year on year increases in Postage charges. Well done to all.

Front Cover - GB on South Australian Revenue

By Dave Elsmore, Greg Howard and David Coath

The cover item is a new find by Dave Elsmore, it is GB.2, but this is the first report of it on a Revenue. It is now listed in the Revenue Perfins of South Australia as GB.a. Now that is worth reporting and it would usually find a place in the "New Reports" section of the Bulletin. But this GB has more to tell us.



When Dave shared his find with Greg Howard and me, Greg noticed a part manuscript/cachet on the base of it. See image at left.

It is not easy to read but it certainly says "Griffiths B..". Now that is interesting as the pattern is proved to Gibbs Bright & Co. For more of the story go to

the article "The GB Patterns and Griffiths Brothers" that starts on page 8.

PCNZA Accounts for 208/19

By Les Vincent

The Financial Accounts of the Club have been collected from the various arms of the Club, Forgery Detection, Australian Circuit, New Zealand accounts and combined with the Main account and submitted to Committee.

These have now been sent to the Auditors and they will be audited and the results published in the next SPPB.

Collecting the PCNZA pattern

By Peter Simpfendorfer

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 Simpfendorfer by email at: 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. See Members Wants on page 23.

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 Part 1- April 2018

By David Coath

The 2018 Auction Part 1 has now concluded, and winning Members have been sent out there lots. In a few instances your winning Lots could be included in this Bulletin.

It was a Bumper Auction and there were over 800 lots and of these almost 500 were sold. There were 37 Bidders and all but one was successful in securing a Lot to be part of the \$5313 in sales.

Well done to Vendors and Bidders alike, you have made it a great success, and make sure to look in Part 2 of the Auction as there are still bargains to be found.

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 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.

Club Auction Part 2- August 2018

By David Coath

The Club Auction - Part 2 is included in this Bulletin and there are over 300 lots still available and there are certainly some bargains to be had.

Remember in Part 2 of the Auction the lots are offered at the Reserve on a "first in is the winner" basis. So, have a look now and see what is available before it is gone.

STOP PRESS

Due to delays in the printing of the Bulletin the Auction Part 2 was emailed to Members as well as posted to non email Members who were bidders in Part1. If we do not have an email address for you then there will be a Hard copy of the Auction with this issue of the SPPB.

Auction Part 2 closes 30 September 2018 but allowances can be made for late interest from Members who received a hard copy, as much of the material will be held over for the next Auction and may still be available.

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 and Membership 2018/19

By Les Vincent

Please note my new email address Email: lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au and my new Telephone number is 03 4504 5866.

Thanks to all those Members who have paid their Subscriptions for PCNZA Membership for the 2018/19 financial year.

If you have not paid your Subscription yet, then I would encourage you to make that payment as soon as possible as you are now in arears. 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 4504 5866.

Current Membership is 136 made up of Australia (96), New Zealand (18), United Kingdom (5), USA (10), Canada (4) and Europe (5).

"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 continues to grow quickly and now has well over 80 Members, so come and join in the fun. All PCNZA Members are welcome.

New Report of Sydney Harbour Bridge 5/-By Michael Kino





Last Bulletin there was a report by Dave Elsmore of another perfin pattern on a Sydney Harbour Bridge 5/-.

Just as that was going to print yet another surfaced, this time in an Auction at PHILAS. Once again it was a Farmers pattern and these

are the most common found on this issue. This one is F.2, the right hand die of the 2 Die Horizontal F device. It carries the usual Sydney Parcel cancellation that are common on these high value Farmers usage. As previously advised when reporting these they were most likely used in the companies Mail Order Department.

Melbourne 1d Red Proof with OS

By Gordon Monk and John Graham



Gordon shared this copy of the KGV 1d Red printed in Melbourne on Pink tinted paper, hand punched with an OS. Gordon explains that this was sent to the die manufacturer as a sample for the OS die.

It was forwarded to John Graham at the Clubs Forgery Detection Unit for measurement and replied: "Thanks Gordon, that's a beauty! If that was the template for the OS puncture, then the manufacturer got it spot-on, because this stamp measures up almost perfectly with what we expect. Although it's a pity they couldn't have sent a nicely centred stamp, isn't it?"

John's observation is a portent of the future, as we know that frequently the worst centred stamps were sent for perforation.

"New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials" by Robert Samuel

By Stephen Jones and David Coath

I have had queries from Members about obtaining a copy of the 2010 2nd Edition of Robert Samuel's excellent work on New Zealand perfins entitled "New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials".

Stephen Jones from New Zealand has found a limited number at:

David Holmes, Auckland City Stamps PO Box 99988, Newmarket, Auckland, 1149, New Zealand. Phone: +64 9 522 0311 Email: david@aucklandcitystamps.co.nz

The cost is just \$25 NZ plus \$12 postage to Australia. That is about \$35 (A) and is great value for this excellent reference.

Perfin Articles in "Australian Stamp Professional" By David Coath

Recently the "Australian Stamp Professional" has featured the excellent series of articles by Tom Weir on the GNSW Type A.

But as this goes to print I am informed that they will be publishing more perfin related features, including a series of articles on the VG pattern by Jason Rowe and likewise a series of articles of the philately and history of the Sydney Harbour Bridge by Michael Kino.

I congratulate these PCNZA Members on sharing their knowledge and interests with the broader philatelic community. Well done.

And thanks to Robyn at Australian Stamp Professional for continuing on with this fine publication following the sudden death of John Leah late last year. This magazine has always pushed the boundaries with its colour, historical articles and detailed studies of core subjects like KGV Colours and Flaws, the Kangaroo issues, Papua and New Guinea and recently more esoteric subjects like Government perfins.

I subscribe and find it a most interesting read.

A Great Idea!

By Les Vincent, Michael Tonta and Edgar Bartrop

As Treasurer, I regularly receive emails asking what the Clubs Bank Details are. This is great as it means that Members are choosing to pay by Direct Deposit, which is very efficient.

Michael and Edgar both suggested that we publish these details in the Bulletin. We have done this and now some of the Bank Details for each Committee position are noted on Page 2 of the Bulletin. More to follow. Thanks Michael and Edgar for the Great Idea.

Perfin on Tattersalls mail

By John Mullavey and David Coath

Introduction by David Coath

A lot of things come across my desk and when I see a Tattersalls Alias cover, I put it aside for John Mullavey, as I know he is a keen collector of these. John did an article for us about these "Phantom Receivers" in SPPB #106 of July 2014. It is worth a re read and if you are keen to learn more then there are two excellent publications by PCNZA Member, and Tasmanian specialist David McNamee.

The first is, "Beating the Odds: the story of Tattersall's private mail network 1902 - 1930." by David McNamee (RPSV, 2002). This is an overview of the Tattersalls operation and the various ways that the company overcame Government actions to block their mail. The PCNZA has a copy in the Library if anyone is interested. It is a great read.

The second reference is, "A Handbook and Catalogue of Tattersall's Covers," also by David McNamee (Brusden-White Publishing, 2006). This gives a lot more detail on the "Phantom Receivers". It is available from Brusden White Publishing http://www.brusden-white.com.au/#books at \$82.50.



Now this is the cover that I sent to John, as you can see the perfin is hard to see. That is my excuse anyway, as I certainly did not see it. The pattern is a type of JC&C.2, it is quite an interesting type as it has a pin between the J and the C in the top

line. (See image at left).

I have over 50 variations of this JC&C.2 pattern and none have this extra pin in that particular location.

The closest I can find is this variation (see bottom left), that has an extra pin in the vertical between the two C's. But as we found from the study of Brian Fuller's perfin device in SPPB #119 of October

* (*) * (*)



2017, these Temporary patterns could be made up as required on a given day. This means that they could be of similar shape, style and scale, but still have small variations, such as the placement of an extra pin as well as the differences in the ampersands in the two pattern images here.

HAPP lists this as proved to the user John Connell & Co of Melbourne with usage between 1905 and 1908. This date range is spot on according to my 60 odd examples. But let us hear about the Alias.

The "King" Alias by John Mullavey

The Tattersall cover is addressed to Mrs King, 172 Bathurst Street, Hobart, Tasmania. Both Mr & Mrs King were part of the Tattersall's alias address scheme, as there are covers in my collection with either initials and both Mr or Mrs.

Richard John Louis King and Selina Elizabeth King's (nee Hicks) lived at 172 Bathurst Street, Hobart until 1909 when they relocated to 202 Bathurst Street, Hobart.

During a recent holiday in Hobart, I visited 172 Bathurst Street, but unfortunately there is no building on the site, being part of several vacant blocks of land used for car parking.

Two of their neighbours were also part of the alias scheme, they were:

William Burke at 176 Bathurst Street and Clara O'Connor at 203 Bathurst Street.

Richard King was born 2 February 1867 Selina King (nee Hicks) was born 28 May 1870, both in Tasmania. There were married on 16 February 1888 and they had 3 daughters and 1 son.

Richard King was an accountant for more than 30 years with the legal firm of Butler, McIntyre and Butler, who are the oldest firm in Tasmania and are still operating today.

Butler, McIntyre and Butler were located at 22 Murray Street, Hobart. Another participant of the address scheme was Mr David Black, editor of Tasmanian Mail a weekly newspaper in Hobart. His residence at one stage was Waterloo House situated at 20 Murray Street, next door to the legal firm of Butler, McIntyre and Butler.

Richard King was a member of the Rechab Masonic Lodge, The Loyal Rose of Tasmania (M.U/I.O.O.F.), and Hobart Sub-Branch R.S.S.I.L.A.

Richard had enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in 1915. He did his training at el-el-Kebir, Egypt then joined with troops returning from Gallipoli in the 53rd Battalion as ultimately as part of the 5th Division serving in France for the duration of the war. He returned to Melbourne and was discharged in 1919.

Richard died 25November 1939 in Tasmania and Selina died 4 August 1941 in Victoria.

References:

Trove.nla.gov.au

"Catalogue and Handbook of Tattersall's Covers" by David McNamee.

Wise - Tasmania Post Office Directory 1901-1910.

The GB patterns and Griffiths Brothers

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

This is all quite a complex story, but it has many elements that make our hobby the pleasure it is. Certainly, for me. Elements like generosity, swapping, shared knowledge, friendship and great "detective work".

It started with John Tracey making a visit to my home in Research. John collects Private Perfins with strikes of the Numbered Sydney Postmark devices and had borrowed a box of perfins to search for these. John's visits are a delight, as he always has a story about any place in Australia, owing to his years as a Stock and Station agent and other vocations. On this day Jason Rowe was also visiting and although he now lives in Queensland, he hails from Cobden the Western District of Victoria, and a place that John was very familiar with.

By way of exchange John gave me, amongst other things, a cover with the pattern GB.2 see below.



Now whenever I see one of these I look for it to be a proving cover, as to date I have never seen a cover proving GB.2 to its confirmed user Gibbs Bright & Co. or anyone else for that matter. Unfortunately, it was blank.



A few days later Dave Elsmore shared this (see left) with Greg Howard and me, it was a beautiful GB.2 on a South Australian revenue, the first one reported.

Then Greg's "eagle eyes" spotted a manuscript/cachet that appeared to have been applied by a rubber stamp. What was most interesting is that it read "Griffiths B.." See below for exploded view.

Now this suggests that the GB.2 pattern was actually used by Griffith Brothers, the Tea Merchants, initially from Melbourne. Our friend Jenny O'Donnell is preparing a full company history and this will be in the next Bulletin. What we do know already is that the company of Griffiths

Brothers was established in Melbourne 1898 and later had offices in NSW, Queensland,





But let us take a closer look at the GB patterns in general and see what they tell us.

The patterns were all listed in Commercial Perfins of Australia (1992) and restated in HAPP (2003) as follows:

	CPA	HAPP	Our examples
GB.1 Gibbs Bright & Co Melbourne Usage	e: 1901 - 03	1901 - 03	1901 – 02
GB.2 Gibbs Bright & Co Adelaide Usage	e: 1907 - 38	1905 - 42*	1905 - 41
GB.3 Griffith Brothers Melbourne Usage	: 1902 - 38	1902 - 46	1902 - 45
*Updated from 1938 to 1940 in Update :	#1 and 1942	in Update #2	

There are a couple of likely "red herrings" to deal with first as follows:

GB.1 is a Temporary pattern and CPA and HAPP state 2 types, we have found 4.

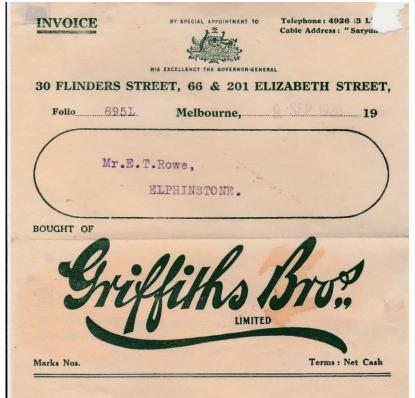
GD.1 is very similar to the GB's but it is found used in 1895 which predates Griffiths Brothers (see images on next page)

GD.1 images, these are both late 1800's, the 4d has a postmark of 1885 which predates the establishment of Griffith Brothers. It is a Temporary pattern and the similarities are likely due to it being set up on a machine with the same grid as GB.1

This is GB&CO.1which is proved to Gibbs Bright by strikes of company cachets. But it is only reported on revenue stamps and then only in the early to the mid 1960's with usage limited to the Sydney office. Background to the company here: http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/nsw-Revenue-G-Perfins.html, (scroll down page to find GB/&Co.a) confirms that they were in Australia in the late 1800's, so they could be the user of GB.1, and other GB's, but we have not seen any proving covers to

support this. Therefore on the basis of our findings we would consider the Gibbs Bright & Co to be, at best, possible provisional users of GB.1 but perhaps not.





This is a cover of GB.3 used in Melbourne, but like the South Australian cover it carries no Company identification. But the cover carried this Invoice (see left).

The image has been reduced but it was affixed into position in the envelope by a black glue, which may have been to hold the Address details in front of the window face.

Note that the date of the Invoice and the postmark are the same at "9 September 1926". Now this does not categorically prove Griffith Brothers to GB.3, but the alternate theory that someone glued a precisely contemporary Invoice into the envelope is a most unlikely option.

There was another GB.3 Cover in the latest Auction (Lot 534) and similarly it was a Window faced

cover with a GB.3 but no proving identification and no contents.

Conclusion on The GB Group.

GB.1. In the absence of any Proving covers it is difficult to attribute it to Gibbs Bright & Co. Given that GB.1 is a Temporary pattern used in 1901 – 02 and that Griffiths Brothers almost certainly purchased the GB.3 device and started using it in 1902 it is reasonable to argue that this is a logical chronology for a single user. That is Griffith Brothers.

We would suggest that they started using Temporary patterns, GB.1, and given the various types it indicates that they made multiple purchases of batches of stamps perforated GB.1. What is more those batches would have been reasonably large as despite only being found in the 1901 – 02 period, the pattern is only rated Uncommon.

Given this high usage of postage they chose to purchase their own perforating machine, GB.3.

GB.2 Again there are no proving covers for Griffith Brothers using GB.2 in Adelaide. But likewise, we have not sighted any proving covers for Gibbs Bright & Co and this pattern. The manuscript/cachet on the South Australian revenue is strong evidence to support the case that GB.2 was used by Griffiths Brothers.

This is supported by the fact that the South Australian covers with GB.2 that we have seen are strikingly similar to the ones used by Griffith Brothers in Melbourne. They are all small format window faced envelopes with no company identification.

GB.3 This is already attributed to Griffiths Brothers and all of the evidence we have found supports this.

This would give us the GB Group as follows:

GB.1 Griffith Brothers (Provisional) Melbourne Usage: 1901 - 02

GB.2 Griffith Brothers (Confirmed) Adelaide Usage: 1905 - 41

GB.3 Griffith Brothers (Confirmed) Melbourne Usage: 1902 - 45

If anyone has evidence that supports or contradicts this theory, then we would be happy to see it and share it in future Bulletins.

Postscript GB.2 Griffiths Brothers - Adelaide

By David Coath



Now the GB.2 from Adelaide can throw up some rather poor strikes. These at left are barley recognisable as GB's at all. You may have some like this in your "mysteries" draw or envelope. Do not be embarrassed, everyone has a pile of perfin patterns that they just cannot work out. I

find a fresh set of eyes is good for identifying such patterns, so if you like, send me a scan of the backs and fronts of your "mysteries" and I will have a go or put them in the Bulletin for Members to try their hand at.



Now these poor strikes and partials seem to be mainly seen around 1923-25. In about 1926 they reset the die and this can be seen in the examples at left. The lefthand stamp is the die from 1905-25 and the righthand one is the die from 1926-1941.

Note that the pins are thicker in the later setting and this is something that is often done when pins are replaced.





But the device did not last all that long despite the new set of pins and it was starting to break up again by 1938 and by late 1941 it was starting to look like the mid 1920's again. These Surcharges came out in December 1941, so the usage most likely lasted into 1942.

New Reports

By David Coath, Greg Howard, Jenny O'Donnell, Peter Keeda, John Amiet and Dave Elsmore



This is an interesting new Security Overprint for "D G Cullen, Broker, Melbourne" reported by Greg Howard. Cullen was involved in many business ventures in Melbourne, mainly in the period 1870 – 1900. He occupied various offices in the bottom end of Queen Street, but you can read more as there is a listing for this report in the Commercial Security Overprints of Australia here: http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/oz-precancels-index.html and listed under the C page for Victoria.



Another interesting report of a Security overprint by Greg Howard. It is L'Wici, but it is most likely a shortened form of "Ludowici" which is a company started by Johann Carl Ludowici. Carl was born in 1836 in Altona, Holstein, Prussia and went to London as a youth and later came to Australia under contract to Sir Peter Russell, who conducted a tannery and leather belt works in Balmain. In 1858, Ludowici took over the business moving the tannery to the banks of the Lane Cove River. Read more at Commercial Security Overprints of Australia here: http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/n-Revenue-ZL-Perfins.html this is the L page of New South Wales.





This interesting new report comes from Peter Keeda. The small top of the T is very similar to T&CPL.1 which John Mathews noted in HAPP Page T-2 "(may be Y&CPL)". This is a reasonable suggestion as Y&CPL is one of the letter combinations used by the long time Temporary perfin pattern users, Younghusband & Co. (see the bottom of HAPP page Y-6 for more variations). But Peter's example is clearly TCL/&Co

or (YCL/&Co) which is not a known variation for Younghusband. The stamp is used post 1901 and in 1902 Row joined the firm and patterns after that time carry an R in the pattern. It is a shame we cannot see the date of the postmark. We can never be sure, but I think it is most likely to be an error in the set up for a Younghusband Temporary pattern, but it could be a "T" and therefore a completely new letter combination with an unknown user.







Another report from Greg Howard. This is T&CO.1 (see HAPP page T-2) but this is clearly Revenue use as the manuscript is "Paid". It is a bit hard to tell at first glance as it is inverted. This is the first report of Revenue use and it will be included in the Revenue Perfins of NSW as T&CO.a. My example on the right shows a

faint postmark for 1892, so that places it well into a period of use as a postage/revenue.





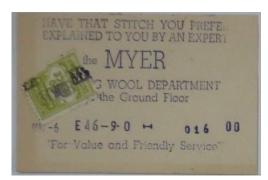
This is another report from Greg Howard. It is an RA&Co but the style with "RA&" on the first line is very different to all that I have seen to date. RA&CO's have always been in a square layout with "RA" on the first line and "&Co" on the second line.

The size and scale of the pattern is similar to RA&CO.4 but the change in layout goes to show the huge variation it these Temporary patterns.



Greg Howard and Dave Elsmore dug this out of the Status Auction listing of the John Grant collection and Exhibits. (see separate article on this sale) This is A.8 that was listed in both "Commercial Perfins of Australia" and "Handbook of Australian Private Perfins" as being found on Tasmanian revenues, however when we collected information for the Private Revenue Perfins of Australia, we could find no record and no examples of this pattern

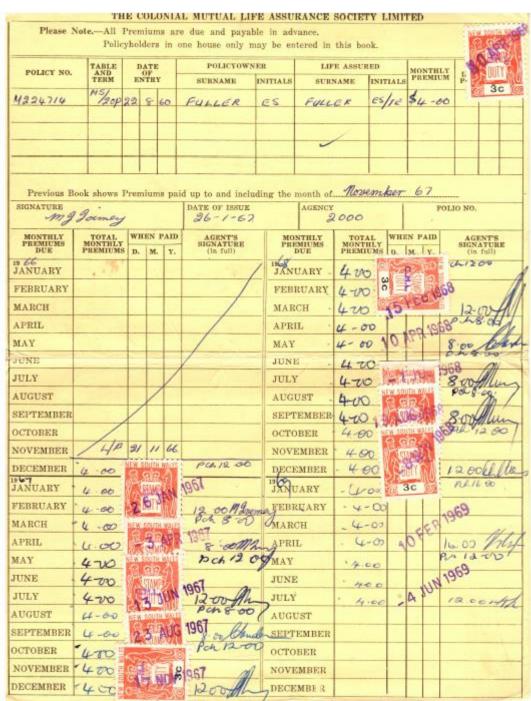
used on a revenue. Clearly the revenue usage was extremely rare and perhaps limited to this single example that John Grant had. Tattersalls A's are very rare on revenues and to date the only other report is A.a (HAPP A.2)



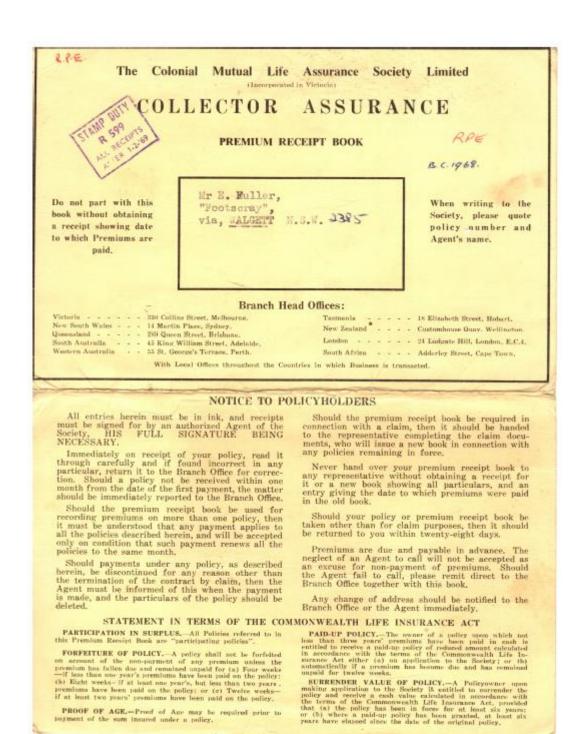
An interesting MYER Security Overprint on a South Australian revenue. This is a new one and is now listed as MYER.c in the South Australian section of the Commercial Overprints of Australia here:

http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/S-Revenue-ZM-Perfins.html

Note that the rubber stamp has been applied multiple times to the stamp prior to it being affixed to the receipt.



This amazing piece was reported by John Amiet who seems to be able to find and share some spectacular items. This item is instructive for a number of reasons. Firstly, the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance, CML, is unreported on a decimal issue and it is now listed in the "Commercial Security Overprints of Australia in the NSW Chapter: http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/n-Revenue-ZC-Perfins.html What is also amazing is that this is the first of these complete Receipt Books that I have seen, and the first one that comes along has a new report in it.



Also, the Agent collecting his payments seems to have been rather haphazard at applying the revenue stamps. I can appreciate this, as the amount of duty being collected is tiny, at just 36c, compared to the base Premium of \$48 a year. Now the CML Overprints are certainly Security Overprints as they are small and all clearly limited to the stamp. What is more the date stamp is applied after the revenue stamp has been affixed and ties it to the Receipt book. Note also that the Overprint and the date stamp are unrelated.

An amazing find and given that the Receipt book is made for use in any Colonial Mutual Life Assurance office in Australia, there must have been thousands of these.





Another report from Greg Howard. This is ER&COLD. 1 of E (Edward) Rich & Co Ltd. They were a Sydney company, and this is usage in Sydney, but on a Queensland stamp.

Although the postmark date is unclear it is most likely from the period in about 1911 –12 when the Post Office were attempting to use up stock of States stamps prior to the issuing of the first Commonwealth issues in 1913.

New Zealand Reports

By David Warren, Andrew Murley, Doug Brookson and Stephen Jones







These FTC Security Overprints (See Samuel Page 80) where reported by David Warren and they are interesting as they have some nice clear manuscript dates. The left example appears to be 1938 and the middle example could be 1957 but I suspect that it is 1951. I have included the righthand example as

it shows that the Overprint was applied to the stamp prior to it being affixed to the receipt. If the FTC had been applied as a Company cancelling cachet at the time of use, then part of the righthand C would be on the receipt and the lefthand C would not be on the stamp at all. This confirms Samuel's view that the FTC was a Security Overprint.



FOUR SHILLIGS

This amazing report from Andrew Murley. It is a financial instrument that proves J/NATHAN/&Co. The pattern is hard to read and it is only on the 4/- on the bottom lefthand corner of the document. But still a wonderful proving piece. The pattern is covered in Samuel Pages 24 - 25.

Andrew provided some clearer examples of use on both revenue and postage stamps. The Nathan story is quite interesting and John Mathews did an excellent history of the man and his achievements in SPPB #81 of April 2008 (pages 7-9)



This is an amazing report from David Warren, it is a pair of VO/CO's Pf 41 which are listed in Samuel Pages 45 - 46. Samuel noted that both the Wellington 2 line VO/CO patterns (PF 40 and 41) ".. seem to have had a short life and both are 'difficult'."

Usage was stated to be limited to 1921 -22, but David reports that he had a later example postmarked in Wellington in 1923.

But this new report is amazing as it extends the usage all the way until 1926. The postmark is incomplete, but it is most likely Wanganui. Samuel had noted usage in Napier and Gisborne and suggested that the device was ".. probably located in Wellington, stamps being supplied from there to other branches."







Doug Brookson noted some interesting New Zealand Revenue perfins in the Ashford Stamps July Postal Auction, in particular Lots #2029,2033,2035,2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2044, and 2049.

Like most New Zealand collectors I have some of these "DUTY PAID with Date"

patterns and what is more I had noticed that some carried certain overprints such as "COUNTERPART", "FINE/PAID", "DENOTING", "Mortgagee's/Indemnity/Fee" and "NOT/LIABLE".

Now it is important to point out that these are not strictly speaking perfins, although they are referred to in Samuel. He lists them on page 60 – 61 under the heading "Oddities" along with other non true perfin items, such as the Kodak punctures.

The patterns are made by a Cancelling and dating device that ties the Duty Stamps to the document that they are paying duty on. They them get cancelled with the a circular date stamp which carries the Department "Stamp Duties Department", as well as the date and the location of the office, such as Canterbury, Auckland Otago etc..



Now I know little about these but from looking through the Ashford catalogue I noted that they were all estimated at over \$100 (NZ) each.

So, I dropped Stephen Jones an email to see what he could tell me about them. As always, Stephen had a detailed and informative answer which I will quote in full here:

"I had seen the catalogue, and yes, these overprinted revenues are quite popular. Some are quite common but on the whole, the overprinting figures for them, according to the available information is very low, often in the low 1000's.

The demand would probably mirror the demand for very scarce perfins, i.e. a few collectors would pay whatever it takes to get a copy and once their needs had been met the price would fall away somewhat.

I am unsure how accurate the printing figures are but some values are undoubtedly very scarce and it is virtually impossible to obtain them. As an example, high values such as the 30pds and 40pds, unpunched and overprinted Fine Paid have sold for over \$6000 each. I have a document with a 9pds value on and a single 10pds value. Currently the printing numbers for the 10pds are 1 sheet of sixty and for the 9pds, 5 examples only overprinted. I have attached the front page of the latest issue of the "Captain Coqk" featuring a new discovery, a 300pds Fine Paid value, one of 2 overprinted. I would expect the estimate to be over \$5000. The person compiling the printing figures believed the high value stamps were individually overprinted depending on the need. I am not sure that this is the case, but it doesn't make them any easier to find."



This is the extract from the "Captain Coqk". This is not a typo by the way "Captain Coqk" is the name of the Christchurch Philatelic Society Newsletter that Stephen edits.

Stephen tells me that the name is derived from a flaw in the 2/-1935 Pictorial. I have enlarged it at left so that you can see the flaw. Look below the ".LAND" of New Zealand.

£300 Fine Paid, Extraordinary New Find

David Holmes from Auckland City Stamps has provided an image of an extraordinary new revenue find; a £300 Long Type revenue overprinted "Fine Paid". Up until this example was discovered, its existence was only known from printing figures for all revenues collated by A Dibley. In the list, the printing figure given for the £300 Fine Paid value was given as "2". This is not a lot.

The printing figures given for all Fine Paid values indicate that in relative terms, not many of any of the values were overprinted. Most were in the low 1000's with a number printed in quantities of less than 1000, and some cases in single or double figures. Compare this to 75,000 Red Boy and 112,000 Blue Boy Health stamps sold in 1931/32.



Interestingly, the combined face value of the three Fine Paid values is the same as that of the unoverprinted values indicating that the fine levied was 100% of the duty paid. This is contrary to the current understanding and documentary evidence that the fine levied equates to 25% of the duty paid.

Somewhat overshadowed by the £300 value, is an example of the £40 Fine Paid value. These are also extremely rare with this being only the second example to be recorded. The printing figure for this value is "1" so it looks like more research in this area is needed. Prior to this example surfacing, Mowbray's auction in October 2016 was the last time one came on the market. It was unpunched and sold for \$6566 (see page 93)

For those who wish to own the above document, you will get the opportunity when it comes up for sale in the Auckland City Stamps public auction to be held in August.

Stephen Jones

Auction Watch

By Doug Brookson, David Coath, Greg Howard, and Dave Elsmore





Doug Brookson, Greg Howard, Les Vincent and Dave Elsmore all spotted this odd eBay listing that the seller described as a "proof with per favour perfin". It is a strike of C.2. Now proofs do exist, but they are almost always closely cropped. Dave also noted that the reverse scan showed that the paper was watermarked, another feature unknown to proofs. Greg suggested that it may be part of some Postal Stationary but again these are printed on unwatermarked card or paper.

Most likely it is a common stamp that has been trimmed to make it more interesting and this was suggested by the starting price of \$28.88. But to our collective surprise it received 7 bids and sold for \$79.

Within a week of being sold it was relisted by a popular ebay seller with a starting price of just 99c. It received 12 bids but sold for only \$52. Now that is not a very successful business model.

Greg Howard sent a link over to KGV expert and PCNZA Member, Gordon Monk and received this succinct reply as follows:

- 1 KGV 1d printed on card HAS NO WATERMARK.
- 2 KGV 1d printed on card is a PLATE PROOF.
- 3 KGV 1d Plate Proofs had NO GUM THEREFORE COULD NOT BE USED FOR POSTAGE, SO NO PRIVATE PERFIN.

Fair enough.





Another rather bizarre listing on eBay found by Greg Howard. It was some documents in, of all things, a frame. Greg shared the link with Dave Elsmore and me and a discussion ensued as to why anyone would frame such a thing. But Greg's "eagle eyes" had spotted two perfins on them, VO/CO.c (VOCO.10). Now this is a common pattern on postage stamps but not on revenues and even harder to find on document. (See image at left).

There was speculation that there may be more perfins obscured in the frame but although the price of about \$35 seemed fair, to resulting lot was a mess.



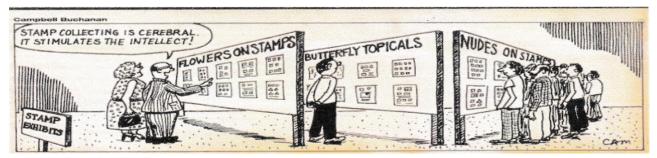
Now we know why they had been made up into a frame. "Not happy Jan".



Dave Elsmore found this in the latest Phoenix Auction. It is an attractive parcel label but as Greg Howard pointed out it does not prove the user as some of the recent items we have featured on our front cover. It is HB.1 but there is a bit more to that story. There are actually 3 devices like this HB located in Sydney (this one), Brisbane and Melbourne.

They are all very similar but when compared to accurate reference pattern images they can be sorted into the different devices. The usage dates are interesting as they

are quite different, suggesting that the devices arrived in the various offices at different times. They are HB Sydney 1907 - 1928. The device has a consistent missing pin in the spine of the B 2nd from the bottom from about 1913. HB Brisbane 1905 - 1954 and HB Melbourne 1922 - 1942. Happy sorting.



Greg Howard could not resist forwarding this recent Cartoon from the Launceston Philatelic Society. https://launcestonstampclub.org.au/ Jokes and Perfin collecting are not that distant. To anyone who has corresponded with Gordon Monk, you will know that each of his precisely typed letters contains a joke. Sometimes the joke is the biggest part. And if you are fortunate enough to get emails from Murray Lawson in Cairns, every second one is a joke.

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This was actually a lot in our own recent Auction. (Image reduced). It is a proving document for RK/Y.a (HAPP RKY.1) which had been provisionally attributed to Ralph W King & Yuill, Stock Brokers.

Note the proving company cachet at the base. This is a rare pattern and only found on Revenue stamps, but the company are listed in the very useful reference on Stock Brokers, "'Sydney Stockbrokers' by Salsbury and Sweeny (1992) "see the listing here: http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-

Perfins/nsw-Revenue-R-Perfins.html

On the following page is an attachment that came pinned to the Share Transfer Form and it carries the Letterhead of Ralph W King & Yuill, which emphatically confirms the user.

Another great find shared by John Amiet.

RALPH W. KING & YUILL

'RALPHKING'' SYDNEY

Members of the Sydney Stock Exchange Limited

KINDERSLEY HOUSE

TELEX SYDNEY 20671

33 BLIGH STREET - 20 O'CONNELL STREET SYDNEY

TELEPHONE: Box 5320 G.P.O. SYDNEY

The Secretary,

Kolotex Holdings Limited, c/- Charles J. Berg and Associates, 9th Floor, 62 Margaret Street, SYDNEY. N.S.W.

Dear Sir,

We enclose transfers for

shares as detailed below for

13th January, 1966.

registration.

Kindly forward new scrip direct to the new shareholders.

600

No. OF

CERT.

SELLER

BUYER

SHARES

600

No.

MT

A.J. Withers

R.W.F. Richards.

Yours faithfully,

RALPH W. KING & YUILL

Encl.

Collecting New Zealand Perfins

By David Warren and David Coath

David Warren is a regular contributor to the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin and submits items about New Zealand perfins. David is looking to build up a group of PCNZA Members who are keen to swap information about New Zealand perfins.

The Group would be linked by email, but members may also look to share what they have by mailing it to David, who will then share it via email.

Discussions could be about earliest and latest dates of usage, missing pin types, rare postmarks, or any other aspects that improves the collective knowledge of New Zealand patterns and their users.

If you want to join a group that shares information and NZ perfins then contact David Warren at: toadmandee@gmail.com David Warren, Flat 1, 1031 Tomoana Rd, Hastings, 4120, NZ, or David Coath at: davidcoath@onthe.net.au

Join in and learn and share.

The John Grant Collection at Status Auctions

By David Coath, Greg Howard, and Dave Elsmore

The recent Status Auction conducted on 16 August 2018 had a rare treat for Perfin collectors, as it contained three lots that constituted the John Grant collection. They were as follows, but I have abridged the descriptions:

Lot 237 "Commercial Perfins of Australia: The John Grant International Vermeil Award (Bangkok) collection on over 85 pages, maximum impact with 120 covers....... Most of the covers illustrated in 'Commercial Perfins of Australia' (Grant & Mathews) are present in this truly magnificent high standard collection. See website for 50 pages of highlights! (250 items). (P)" Reserve \$5000

This is a massive collection of covers and other rarities, including Railway stamps and rare "Cattle" revenues. I re ordered the Exhibit, as there were additional pages that had been made up that were not in the Bangkok Exhibit, which would have only been 80 pages. There were 94 pages in all and Greg has spent hours scanning these and he has sent them to Dave who has loaded them up on perfins.com.au, go to the Exhibits tab and you can see it here: http://www.ozrevenues.com/exhibits/gg/f1.html

It is the finest Exhibit of Australian Private Perfins that I have seen and I would encourage Members to take the time to look through it. It has been expanded from the 80 page Exhibit and is now a full 94 pages. Something that you will notice is that none of the Perfin patterns carry a Catalogue number, this is because this exhibit predates the issuing of John Grant and John Mathews "Commercial Perfins of Australia" (CPA 1992) by three years.

The next lot was described as follows, again the description has been abridged:

Lot 333 "Private perfins: Stamp Show 89 Large Silver collection (some items removed) in 60 Exhibition pages with covers (22)..." Reserve \$650

Again, this is a great Exhibit, but although the framework is in place, many of the better items have been removed and they may have formed the extra pages that have been added to the International Exhibit. This exhibit was entered as J & J Grant, which is John and Jill Grant, showing that they shared the passion for perfins. What a wonderful thing, and certainly would have helped to make available both the time and funds for the hobby. A contrast from my wife Cathy who has been heard to say, "they are just pieces of paper with holes in them". John and Jill ran the first PCNZA Circuit and John later served as President from 1992 until 1997.

Part of this Lot is the Certificate from Stamp Show 89 (Melbourne October 1989) and the associated "Judging Critique and Evaluation Form". There is not enough room for it in this Bulletin, but I will share it in the next one, as it has some interesting feedback about Exhibiting perfins. Notably the Exhibit was put in the "Cinderella" section.

The final lot was John's collection and the abridge description was:

Lot 358 Commercial/Private perfins The John Grant reference collection (author of the book 'Commercial Perfins of Australia') 1890s–1950s with 740 diff types from around 300 diff users.Truly a magnificent study both in depth & in scope, being a research/study group (unchecked for rarities) would benefit immensely from re-organisation & rehousing! (2600). Reserve \$2200

This is as described, but interestingly the comment, (unchecked for rarities), makes sense as the Reference Collection is laid out with images and numbers similar to CPA, but without rarity ratings and with incomplete Usage periods. It looks like they were part of a draft version of CPA. This is indeed John's Reference collection and one of the seminal collections that built the first Catalogue of Australian Private Perfins.

Now to my surprise, all of the lots sold at reserve with no room or online bidding. This is hard to explain, perhaps Status are not known for there Perfin lots and it was overlooked, perhaps the starting prices were too large and the potential buyers wanted the collection in more "bite sized" lots. It is very hard to say, but what I can say is that Status went to great detail with the descriptions and the images and I would recommend that you have a look for yourselves here: https://www.statusint.com/subcategory.php. For Lot 237 alone there were over 60 pages of images.

More on this important collection and Australian Perfin Pioneer, John Grant, in the next issue.

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 (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, Peter Keeda, Gordon Monk and Mike Hert

Jason Rowe is looking for large multiples of the VG 3rd 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 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 or mail: 4 Les Gerioles, 60520, Pontarme, France.

Mike Hert is keen to build his collection of Lebanese perfins and is prepared to purchase spares that Members may have. Mike can be contacted by mail at PO Box 864, Bankstown, NSW, 2200 or by email at mikehert@hotmail.com or phone 0450 011172.

Peter Keeda is interested in buying covers of Jewish Perfin users as follows:

Benjamin Bros-BB/LD, David Cohen & Co-DC/&Co, F Aronson & Co-FA, FA/&Co Feldheim Gotthelf Ltd-FG/&Co., J&B Sniders-J&B/S, Levy Bros-LB/&Co., Lazarus, Aronson-L&C, LC, Lazarus, Rosenfeld-LR, Michaelis, Hallenstrin-MH/&Co Mayer, Meltzer & Jaden-MM/&J,(Rosenthal, Aronson & Co.-RA/&Co), S Cohen & Sons-SC/&S.

Also, <u>non-Australian</u> (preferably covers) of Palestine – APC, קקל (KKL) and Portugal – A1, ZAGLO

Peter can be contacted by email: Peter Keeda <u>keedad@gmail.com</u> or by mail at: 56/22 Gadigal Ave, Zetland, NSW, 2017.

Gordon Monk is keen to get more PCNZA patterns on New Zealand stamps to fill out his Exhibit on the Club's pattern. You can contact him via his son on: Andrew Monk achariot.net.au or by mail to Gordon Monk, 4 Kinnear Cres, Rostrevor, SA, 5073. Gordon is happy to buy or swap as exchange.

Note: If you have any specific Wants then drop me an email or letter, or just call, David.

New Edition of Belgium Catalogue

By Mike Behm and David Coath

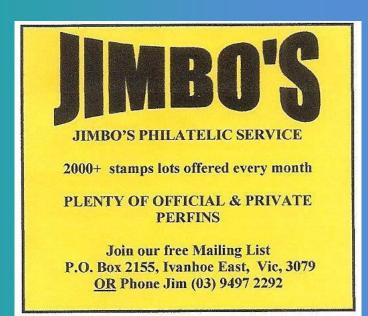
Mike Behm a PCNZA Member from Canada is an avid collector of World Perfins. This is a huge challenge that has defeated many collectors, including myself.

But Mike is undaunted and due to his broad collecting interests he is a Member of many Perfin Clubs and what is more he is always on the lookout for new reference material.

Mike has advised that there is a new Belgium Catalogue that is available through the Perfin Club Netherland (PCN)

https://www.perfinclub.nl/site/en/home

The site is quite good and very colourful and informative. The new Catalogue is free to Members of the Perfin Club Netherland but a printed copy is also available for just 15 Euro plus postage.



PERFINS.COM.AU

The place to visit for:

PCNZA Home Page.

Award Winning Exhibits

In Depth Research Papers

Perfin Book, Now 4000 Pages

Regular NEW Finds Recorded.

Hosted by ozrevenues.com



POSTAL AUCTIONS

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

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

This service is available on the website or in print.

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

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

Visit our Website www.premierpostal.com
Or contact us at:

Email: david@premierpostal.com Phone: (03) 9038 8136,Fax: (03) 8677 2858 GPO Box 4346, Melbourne Vic 3001 Level 2, 170 Queen St, Melbourne Vic 3001



STEVEN ZIRINSKY

Perfins, Postal History and more...





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