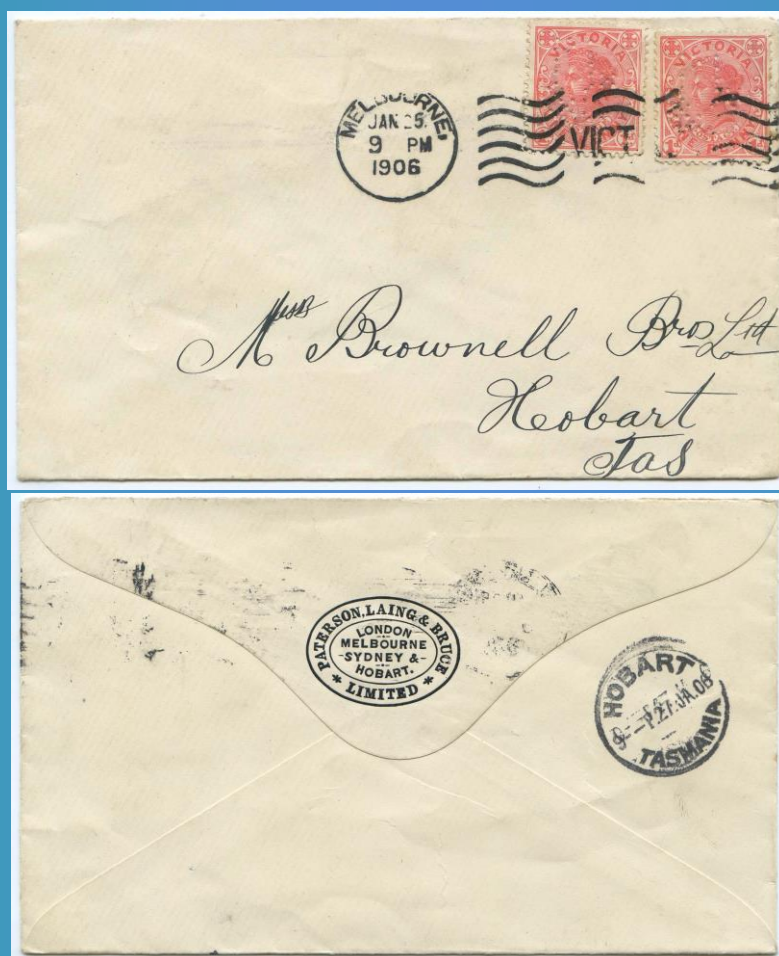


# SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN



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

No.124 JANUARY 2019



## FEATURE ARTICLES

- Vale Jim Dean
- Vale Dr Derek Pocock
- Perfin Tatts Cover by John Mullavey

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Rob Higgins – Clifton Springs (VIC)

Rob Brennan – Springvale (NSW)

Martin Edwards – Springwood (NSW)

## Editors Comment

*By David Coath*

Welcome to the SPPB #124. This Bulletin has some interesting articles and New Reports, but it is also tinged with sadness with the passing of two Perfin Pioneers and long time Members, in Dr Derek Pocock and Jim Dean.

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, who also included some US postage for our Sister Club, the "Society of Australasian Specialists Oceania". Bob Littlehales, Steve Sterre (UK), John Mullavey, Graham Bland, Peter Simpendorfer, Ron Maher and Arthur Taylor also donated postage.

Thanks also to our regular contributors in Greg Howard, Dave Elsmore, John Mullavey, John Amiet, David Warren (NZ), Stephen Jones (NZ), Michael Kino, Jason Rowe, Peter Simpendorfer, Jenny O'Donnell, Harold Waite (NZ), Andrew Murley (NZ) Jerry Austen, Malcolm Brown, and our tireless Treasurer, Les Vincent.

## 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.

Special thanks to Ray for his effort with managing our New Zealand postage reserves and his "horse trading" to swap the stamps that are donated so that he gets as many post 1998 issues that can be punctured PCNZA for the mailings from New Zealand.

## Front Cover –

*By Dave Elsmore and David Coath*



This superb cover of PL&CO.1 was found by Dave Elsmore and as you can see from the reverse of the cover it proves it to Paterson, Laing and Bruce the warehousemen and later Department Store in Melbourne and later (1910), Sydney.

This is an important find and we can now Provisionally

assign the patterns PL&C.1 (1915) and PL&CO.2 (1896) to Paterson, Laing and Bruce as well.

This is quite amazing as these are all Temporary patterns created by a Stamp Vendor in Melbourne and at this time the company had a series of overlapping customised devices in Melbourne including PL&B.11 (1895 – 1934), PL&B.2 (1898 – 1915), PL&B.5 (1915 – 1942), PL&B.15 (1928 – 1937) as well as PL&BM.1 (1900 – 1934).

It would appear that the volume of postage required by Paterson, Laing and Bruce was such that it exceeded what they could perfin for themselves, as they used well over 30 Temporary PL&B patterns as well as these 3 PL&C/PL&CO.

# 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](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.

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

A new updated listing of the Catalogue of PCNZA Patterns will be up on Perfins.com.au soon. To view the current Catalogue, see the Research Tab of Perfins.com.au here: <http://www.perfins.com.au/tabs/t1.html>

# Club Auction – August 2018

*By David Coath*

I am now putting together the Club Auction that will be included in the April Bulletin.

The Auction will be underpinned by some more quality material from the collection of long time PCNZA Member Colin Clark Hutchison of Scotland. It has been a pleasure to work with Colin as he describes his lots so well and his material, particularly his covers, are of the highest quality.

The Auction, like the Circuit Books, is an important income for the Club and, as Members, I would encourage you to participate by both submitting lots and bidding.

Now if you have any material that you would like to make available for the April Auction there is still time so please submit it to:

David Coath, 4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria, 3095, Australia.

Please email me first or give me a telephone call to let me that it 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 you need to be a financial Member of the PCNZA to participate in the Auction as either a Vendor or a Bidder, so make sure your Subscription is up to date.

# PCNZA Subscription Notice and Membership 2018/19

*By Les Vincent*

Please note my new email address Email: [lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au](mailto:lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au) and my new Telephone number is 0431 871 594.

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

The April Bulletin will include a Subscription notice for the 2019/2020 Financial Year and I would encourage you to pay that early. This will allow us to finalise Subscriptions payments so that they can form part of the Clubs Accounts for the current Financial Year.

Remember if you are not a Financial Member you will not receive the Perfin Bulletin and nor will you be able to participate in the Club Auction or the Circuit.



# “Australian Perfin Group” on Facebook passes 100

*By Dave Elsmore, Greg Howard and David Coath*

The “Australian Perfin Group” on Facebook has passed the 100 Members. It can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ozperfins/>

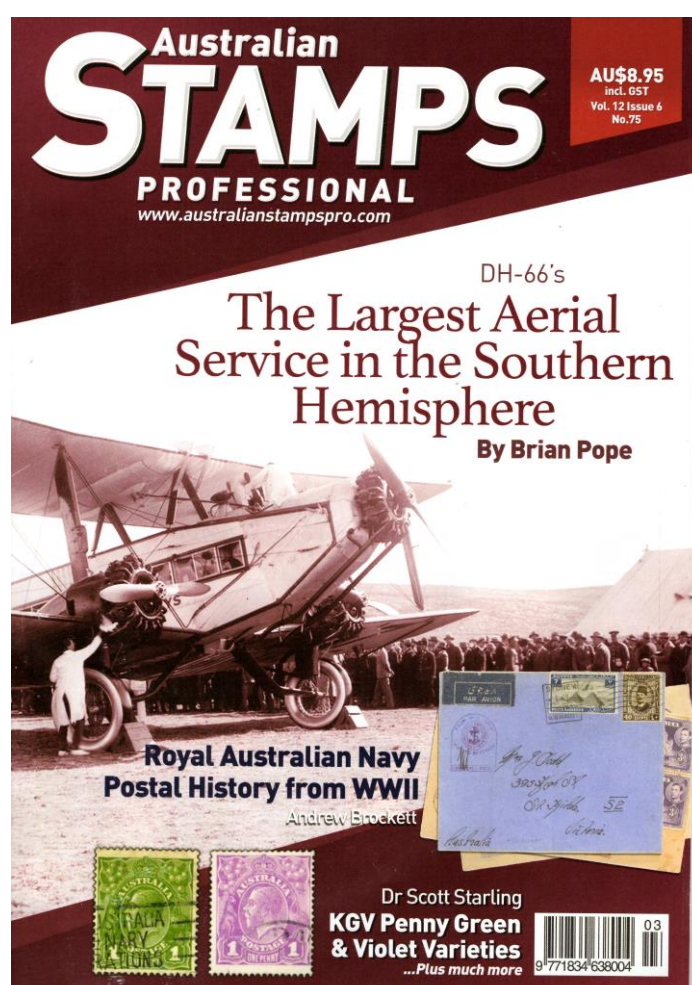
It is a friendly, welcoming group for sharing information, images and knowledge about Australian Perfins.

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, so come and join in the fun. PCNZA Members are welcome.

## 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.

In the last issue they featured an article by Michael Kino on the Private Perfins found on the Sydney Harbour Bridge issue of 1932, but this is only the start of Michael’s articles on this subject as he will expand it to cover other philatelic and non philatelic aspects of collectables associated with this Australian icon.

The latest issues features a great article by Jason Rowe on the study of VG perfins and in this he details the various studies and catalogues that have been produced from Owen in 1950 right up to Neale Scott and Brian Toop’s Edition 5 in 1993.

As Jason shows the knowledge has altered over time with the little known Owen study ignored by the early VG Pioneers such as Elford, Dean and Toop and later rediscovered by Scott and Toop.

Now Jason has written a number of articles on the VG’s for the South Pacific Perfin Bulletin but this article is worthy of re printing here as it covers new

ground and accordingly it will feature in the April Bulletin.

As we go to print I understand that the next issue of Australian Stamp Professional will include more in a series of articles on the VG pattern by Jason Rowe.

I congratulate these PCNZA Members on sharing their knowledge and interests with the broader philatelic community. Well done. Special thanks to Robyn at Australian Stamp Professional for continuing on with this fine publication following the sudden death of her husband John Leah late in 2017.

I subscribe and find it a most interesting read and I would recommend it to Members.

Check out their website: <https://australianstampspromag.com/>

# Vale Dr Derek Pocock

*By David Coath*

Dr Derek Pocock passed away on 17 November 2018 at the age of 87. Derek was a pioneer of the study of Perfins in Australia and was a correspondent with, and significant contributor to, the Joe Purcell Study of Australian perfins that was the seminal work on Australian Private Perfins. When Joe died his family passed the Study to Derek who worked on it before handing it on to John Grant who later with John Mathews, produced "Commercial Perfins of Australia" (CPA) in 1992.



The following is an extract from the article "Meet a Member" that Derek did for the SPPB # 103 of October 2013.

"Moving to Western Australia in 1973 from England, I brought with me, one wife (Carol), three children, my mother, then aged 72, and my stamp collection consisting of some half dozen albums of just general collections. But, first some background.

I was born in London in 1931 and was educated at the Royal Masonic schools for 10 years following the early death of my father. Here, I developed the ambition to be a Forensic Pathologist. We had several interesting murders

after WWII and I noticed that they were the only doctors whose name got in the newspapers, and it seemed to combine Sherlock Holmes and medicine.

After leaving school, I first worked in a hospital pathology department before going into the Army (Medical Corps) as a National serviceman. Two years later on demobilization and still a private, though with A1 trade certificates (the sergeant major was a C3), I entered Medical School in London and qualified 5 years later. After intern jobs I got back to a Pathology specialty, where forensics were seen as the black sheep of medicine – the "patients were all dead" and you had to go to give evidence in court. However, a chance opportunity to enter the field came along, and, with some trepidation, I accepted. I found that, not only could I do the work, I was seemingly suited to it. (Notably Derek conducted the autopsy on Judy Garland who died suddenly in London in 1969 aged just 49. It was said that she died of alcoholism and drugs, but Derek's autopsy showed that it was due to a long over use of sleeping tablets – Ed)

Meanwhile, I married a fellow doctor whom I met at the hospital, actually across the bridge table, where a quick game was a relaxation between operations and emergency admissions. After 45 years we still play bridge together, much to the surprise of our fellow bridge players!

Three children followed in the next 6 years. During this period, I did a sabbatical year attending the Institute of Criminology in Cambridge so I could give a "criminal" opinion in the witness box beyond the strictly medical evidence.

With circumstances in London affecting my workload, when a chance advertisement arose for a Forensic Pathologist in Australia, I accepted. Double my current salary and half the workload, it was an important opportunity not to be rejected, though the decision came much to the surprise of colleagues, and also my wife! So, we embarked for "Down Under" and we have never regretted our move for one moment.

Now, to stamps. The new country had a thriving philatelic community which quickly became an integral part of my lifestyle. Amidst children's school and games, dutiful gardening, and night calls to suspicious deaths, I joined in the "stamp world of Australia". I had a specialist collection of North Borneo which I started to exhibit. Other areas were added for some variety like Nepal, Nicaragua, and Western Australian, mainly forgeries and their Railway Parcel issues.

It was by chance too that lead to perfins and I began amassing what I could of what was then a neglected area locally. This developed into a cooperation with other students of Australian perfins and resulted in the production of the book Commercial Perfins in Australia by my friends John Grant and John Mathews.

Other philatelic commitments resulted in the formation of the Western Australian Study Group and later as representatives to the newly created Australian Philatelic Federation, where I later served as President in the 1980's. This led to philatelic judging at State, National, and then International levels, all of which have been very rewarding ways to serve the hobby.

Judging goes with exhibiting. I have shown North Borneo and Nepal Postmarks, Nicaraguan Airmails and Postal Stationery, and the Railway Parcel Stamps of Western Australia – also similar for Rhodesia – at International exhibitions, as well as building fun collections like “Alice in Wonderland” and the forgeries of Burma and Western Australia.

I still collect perfins, but I have reduced my areas of interest to Western Australia and Ceylon. Even these are somewhat due both to lack of material and my latest interest in Picture Postcards. This is a burgeoning field with fine collections being built up and now exhibited at philatelic exhibitions in Australia, New Zealand, US, and South Africa. My own interests are quite varied being Western Australia, Missionary Societies, Ceylon, the paintings of Sir Edwin Landseer, and recently the issues of my old school!

The children are all grown, married, working, and have produced 8 grandchildren for my wife to dote over and baby sit. I myself retired about 8 years ago on the premise that 40 years of corpses was enough and other things like travel, bridge, collecting (capital C), and music are more interesting. I am a musical ignoramus! My philatelic library runs to over 3,000 titles, (Recently donated to the Royal Society in London – Ed) and, like my CD's, all are catalogued in my computer, which is virtually the limit of my computer skills.

Retirement is fun, should be anticipated with pleasure, and long may it continue!”

Editor's note: Derek is a modest man who understates his contribution to the formation of the base of knowledge that became the first catalogue of Australian Private Perfins as well as his contributions to the study of Official perfins. This is shown in the Bibliography of “Australian Official Perfins” Edition 2 by David Andersen (2007) and most recently an article in SPPB # 112 of January 2016 on the WA patterns. In addition, Derek was a past President of the PCNZA.

In 1997 Derek was awarded the highest honour that Australian Organised Philately can give with an APF “Fellow of the Australian Philatelic Order” (FAP). He had recently been made an Emeritus Judge by the Australian Philatelic Federation (APF). He will be sadly missed.

There was an excellent article on Derek in the November issue of “APF News” which is the Bulletin of the Australian Philatelic Federation. Access this here: <https://apf.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/APF-NEWS-November-2018-Digital-Version.pdf> (page 5) or navigate via the APF site here: <https://apf.org.au/> and select the Publications and Events tab.

## Vale Jim Dean

*By Neale Scott*



It is with great sadness that I notify fellow members of the passing of Queensland PCNZA member and gentleman, Jim Dean.

Jim was born in 1939 and grew up in the Brisbane bay-side suburb of Cleveland.

After school Jim successfully obtained a degree in Agriculture and was employed as an Agronomist by Queensland Department of Primary Industries (DPI) at Bundaberg. He stayed in Bundaberg for over 10 years and during this time he assisted the Italian community to grow tobacco in that region.

After resigning from DPI, he returned Brisbane to work in the Wynnum area, in real estate.

Jim was a stylish dresser and always wore matching ties, socks and handkerchief in his suit coat pocket to attend daily work at his real estate office in Tingalpa.

He matched that style with a pleasant, cheerful nature with whoever he encountered whether it was at work, stamp shows or community clubs

Jim commenced collecting stamps with his father at an early age and continued throughout his life, extending his collecting appetite by collecting art prints, books, coins, crockery, cutlery and other miscellaneous artefacts.

Jim acquired the vast majority of his perfins from a charity group in Victoria with most supplied to him on cover or piece which guaranteed genuineness.

Jim would spend considerable time at home on weekends filling the bath with water to soak stamps.

I spent many hours with Jim comparing VG's in his bulk accumulation to suspected VG forgeries that had surfaced at various locations and following lengthy interviews with Queensland police detectives, forced the cessation of the Queensland forgery operation.

Jim possessed possibly the largest bulk accumulation of VG and GNSW perfins along with thousands of official covers and tens of thousands of envelopes.

A few years ago, when Jim had to go into care, I assisted Jim's wife, Joan with sorting and preparing his vast hoard for sale through Craig Chappell Auctions and on one occasion filled a double horse trailer with cartons of covers packed tightly to the roof.

Jim's prized VG collection was not found during sorting and its whereabouts remains a mystery.

Jim was a great human being and the world would be a better place with more Jim Dean's.

## 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](mailto:toadmandee@gmail.com) David Warren, Flat 1, 1031 Tomoana Rd, Hastings, 4120, NZ, or David Coath at: [davidcoath@onthe.net.au](mailto:davidcoath@onthe.net.au) . Join in and learn and share.

## "An Introduction to Perfins" in APF News

*By David Coath*

Congratulations to Peter Simpfendorfer for his article in the November issue of The Australian Philatelic Federation bulletin, "APF News".

Access this here: <https://apf.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/APF-NEWS-November-2018-Digital-Version.pdf> (pages 10 – 12) or navigate via the APF site here: <https://apf.org.au/> and select the Publications and Events tab.

The article is also on perfins.com.au here: <http://www.perfins.com.au/articles/aitp.pdf> or access it through the "Perfin Research" tab.

Peter has produced a clear and concise article that lays out the basic story of Perfins and covers Australian and World patterns, as well as the PCNZA.

Well done Peter.



# “Official Aussie Perfins – A Basic Guide”

By Dave Elsmore and David Coath

Dave Elsmore has produced a simple guide to collecting Australian Official Perfins.

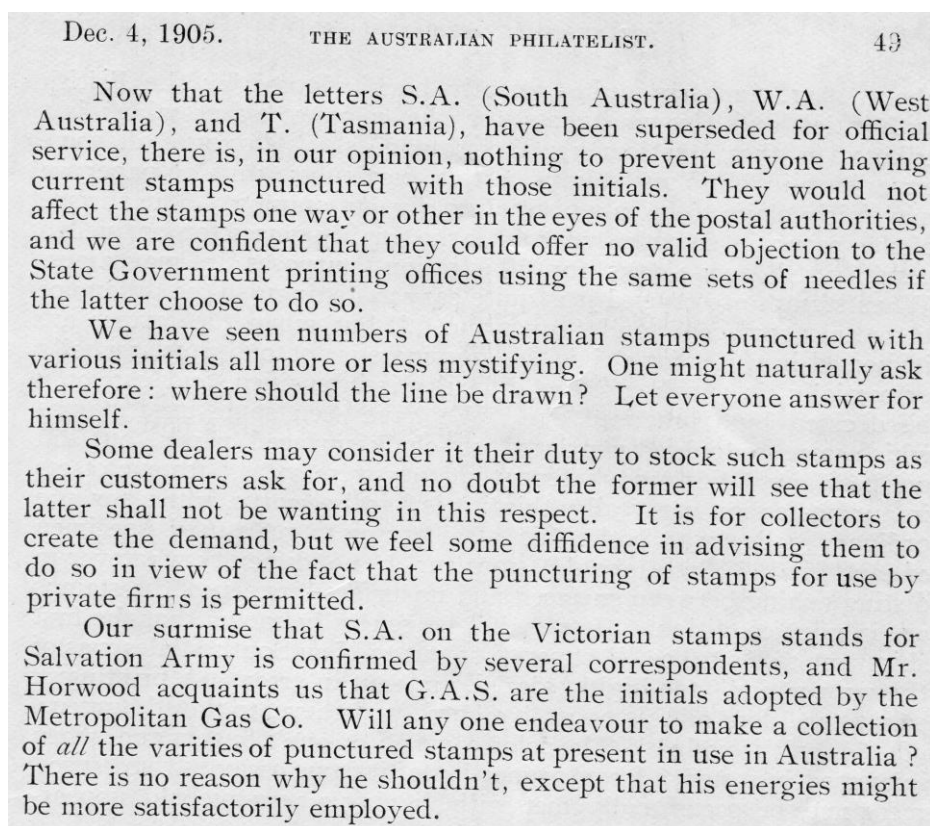
It can be found here at perfins.com.au <http://www.perfins.com.au/Official-Aussie-Perfins-Dave-Elsmore.pdf>

Dave developed this for Members of the “Australian Perfin Group” on Facebook as few Members had the resources to do a basic sort of what they had in their Official patterns. Dave has referenced David Andersen’s “Australian Official Perfins” AOP (2007) for further study.

Well done Dave, it is a useful tool and thanks to those Members that assisted you in finalising it, including, Tom Weir, Greg Howard and Jason Rowe.

## Perfin Snobbery?

By Brian Fuller, Arthur Taylor and David Coath



At left is a piece from “The Australian Philatelist” from 1905 and a follow up piece that is most likely from 1906. Both have been provided by Brian Fuller.

The tone of the first piece is clear as demonstrated by statements such as “We have all seen numbers of Australian stamps punctured with various initials, all more or less mystifying.”

And the writer correctly identifies the complexity of such patterns such as SA for Salvation Army, which has, understandably, been mistaken for a South Australian

Official. But to be fair to the writer there must have been much confusion as the various Commercial/Private Perfins were issued.

**Punctured Stamps.** Our reference to punctured stamps in last month’s issue has called forth several letters from correspondents, some of whom ask our opinion as to whether they are collectible or not? Anything is collectible. A hard and fast rule cannot be laid down in this respect, but everyone should draw the line according to his fancy. Formerly, official stamps were overprinted, and this practice was restricted to stamps only to be used for official purposes. It is different with punctured stamps, as we have already shewn, and, supposing that the departmental system were adopted—as was the case in South Australia thirty years ago, when many combinations of letters were used officially—how would collectors distinguish between official and private punctures? We are not aware of any ruling which would prevent Oliver Simpkins, for instance, having his stamps punctured O.S. if he requested it, nor do we think he could be punished if he had them so punctured by a private firm.

This follow up piece in the next issue is delightful, as it indicates the level of understandable confusion amongst collectors.

I wonder how long the imagined Oliver Simkins would have been able to puncture his stamps “OS” before the Government pounced?

# WM. ACKLAND,



Dealer in AUSTRALIAN  
and FOREIGN STAMPS,  
267 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE  
(NEXT TO COOK'S TOURIST OFFICE.)



## List of Cash Prices Paid for Used Australian Stamps.

Prices for most of the Australasian Stamps will be found herein.

Any not mentioned will be quoted for on inspection.

Cash by Return in every case.

Extra Prices paid for Stamps issued prior to 1865 when in Strips, Blocks, on original envelopes, or unused.

### PRICES QUOTED ARE FOR PERFECT STAMPS.

**Damaged, torn, punctured with initials, or heavily postmarked Stamps are worthless, and cannot be accepted.**

Halfpenny, 1d., and 2d. Stamps and present and recent issues, must have the paper removed from the backs and sorted into kinds.

Stamps should be soaked off, in COLD water only.

On Stamps sent in for Exchange we allow Extra Price, according to the rarity of Stamps forwarded.

Penmarked and bankmarked Stamps are accepted at a third of the price of Postmarked Stamps.

**Highest Cash Prices** paid for Old or Large Collections of Stamps.

All stamps should be sent on approval.

Packets of value should be registered, as we cannot be held responsible for loss in transit.

Packets of Stamps may be sent by Packet Post unsealed, without letter enclosed; or by Parcel Post, sealed. Small Lots may come by Letter Post.

The piece above was supplied by Arthur Taylor and I add it as it is nearly contemporary with Brian Fuller's pieces and is similar in its view of perfins in general. Note the comment under "PRICES QUOTED FOR PERFECT STAMPS" a bold statement in and of itself.

But it goes on to categorically state that "...punctured with initials... stamps are worthless..." How the times have changed, certainly from our perspective.

## Donation of South Australian Private Perfin Survey to the PCNZA

*By David Coath and Gordon Monk*

Recently I received a parcel from Gordon Monk. It is always a treat to get correspondence from Gordon as he has the habit of putting in a short joke or piece of interesting news.

The parcel contained a manila folder of papers and drafts associated with the South Australian Private Perfin Survey that was conducted by Tony Presgrave and appeared in the August 1986 edition of "The South Australian Philatelist" which is the Bulletin of "The Philatelic Society of South Australia" parent body of the "South Australian Study Group".

The Survey created considerable interest and the folder contains correspondence between significant Perfin collectors of the time, such as John Grant, Ed Williams, Michael Blake, John Boykett, Ken Scudder, and Derek Pocock.

This was an important study as it predates the establishment of the PCNZA in New Zealand in 1986. The State based approach to the listing of Private Perfins was mirrored in Walton Tinsley's excellent study of the "Stamps and Postal History of Tasmania", that was published in 1986.

This same State based method was adopted by David Andersen in the PCNZA Surveys that appeared from SPPB #5 in September 1987. Like the South Australian survey, these early PCNZA surveys by David attempted to not only list the patterns and the users, but also cover the issues that the patterns were found on, including both revenue and postal issues. This was a bold undertaking and the quality and the accuracy of the pattern images was excellent.

Thanks to Gordon and the South Australian Study Group, these papers will be filed in the PCNZA Library.



## Another Perfin on a Tattersall's Cover

*By John Mullavey and David Coath*



This amazing cover was provided by John Mullavey who is a perfin collector but also a collector of Tattersall's covers and the "phantom" addresses that the company used to receive mail, despite Government bans on gambling.

This is a relatively common "phantom" address, and John reports that the Athenaeum Club was located at 5 Davey St, Hobart and was a Men's Club that many Tattersall's employees and Business associates were Members of.

Mr Elliot Grant was an Assistant Manager in Operations at Tattersall's.

The right hand exploded image has been enhanced from a photocopy of the cover and the locations of the pins have been highlighted in black. It shows that this is indeed a perfin cover and what is more it is KLTD.4. This is a very rare pattern and I have seen only a few and all have the smaller top cross bar to the "T", and all are used in September 1904. Most are Melbourne postmarks, this is a receiving Hobart cancel.

On the subject of KLTD's, KLTD.4 appears to be the same as KLTD.5, they both date from Commercial Perfins of Australia (1992) and the confusion between the patterns may be due to distortion of photographed images.

It is amazing to see such a rare perfin on cover. Unfortunately, the reverse carries no user information, so it may be illegal use as well. The patterns KLTD.4 and .5 are both proved to Kodak and as noted above, this dates from CPA. Indeed, CPA shows all the K (singular) (K.1 – 9) patterns, including the K.1, which has been shown to be a partial of OK.4 (SPPB # 113 of April 2016, pages 9 and 10 and SPPB # 14 of July 2016, page 17) as well as the KL.1, KLD.1 – .3 and the KLTD.1 – .5, to be all confirmed to Kodak. This is most likely the case, but it seems unlikely that Proving covers for all of these had been found as early as 1992. They certainly were not in the Grant Collection or its Covers exhibit.

Notably, John Mathews takes a more conservative approach when adding new K etc. reports in HAPP. When listing K (singular) 8 – 18, although similar to K.7 and .9 in CPA, they are not even given a Provisional user. They are most likely Kodak and should be given that as a Provisional user. John does the same with KLD.4 (again this is reasonably to assign Kodak as a Provisional user) but assigns Kodak as the Provisional user for the new reports of KLTD.7 and .8.

Thanks to John Mullavey for sharing such an amazing piece.

References:

"Catalogue of Tattersall's Covers – David McNamee

"Beating the Odds" – David McNamee

"Commercial Perfins of Australia" – John Grant and John Mathews

"Handbook of Australian Private Perfins" – John Mathews

# The Structure of the OS Type F Device on the Issues of Tasmania

*By Jerry Austen, and David Coath,*

This article was prepared as the centre piece of this issue of the Bulletin. However, when it was sent away for assessment by experts in Tasmanian issues including, David McNamee, Jerry Weirich and Ross Ewington, they found problems with the structure and one of the concluding theories, amongst other things.

Unfortunately, these issues could not be addressed in time for the article to be included in this Bulletin, which was already running late.

The article will be slated for the April issue. Accordingly, this issue is a little thinner than normal.

## The US Perfin Club

*By David Coath*



Do you collect US or foreign perfins? If so you should seriously consider joining the US Perfin Club.

I have been a Member for years and am now a Life Member.

They have an excellent website:

<https://www.perfins.org/>

Have a look at all the Links, Publications, Catalogues and Special Study Groups, they even have a facebook page that you can join to get a feel of it.

<<<<<< Details are here.

## Members Wants

*By Robert Dedecker, Peter Keeda, Gordon Monk, Michael Behm and Mike Hert*

**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.

**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](mailto: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, non-Australian (preferably covers) of Palestine - APC, קקל (KKL) and Portugal - A1, ZAGLO

Peter can be contacted by email: Peter Keeda [keedad@gmail.com](mailto:keedad@gmail.com) 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. Gordon is also looking for AMP Security Overprints on South Australian Revenues. You can contact him via his son on: Andrew Monk [acharman@sa.chariot.net.au](mailto:acharman@sa.chariot.net.au) or by mail to Gordon Monk, 4 Kinnear Cres, Rostrevor, SA, 5073. Gordon is happy to buy or swap as exchange.

**Michael Behm** is seeking "perfins from south-east Asia". His contact information is:  
Michael Behm, 39 Roslin Ave S, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 2G7, Canada email: [behmmj@gmail.com](mailto:behmmj@gmail.com)



## New Reports

By Greg Howard, Bob Szymanski, John Mathews, David Coath, Reuban Breniger, Arthur Taylor, John Amietand Dave Elsmore



The first is a very special report of what appears to be a new Australian Customised pattern on a NSW issue. It was sent to John Mathews by Bob Szymanski a PCNZA Member from the USA.

As Members would know Bob is a past President of the US Perfin Club and he conducts a Monthly Auction of Perfins and I would recommend you consider participating. Bob can be contacted at: [perfinman@comcast.net](mailto:perfinman@comcast.net) In his role as an Auctioneer Bob sees a great deal of perfin material from all around the world. So when he sees something new it is worth reporting. In fact this is worthy of a Front Cover but unfortunately the next few are booked out and this deserved to be shared. Here is what Bob said in his email to John Mathews:

*"During my 76 years, I have collected many things - worldwide coins, baseball cards and even comic books, but most of all stamps. I have collected perfins since 1990. Ever since starting worldwide perfins auctions in 2002, I have experienced 16+ years of learning, of making friends across the world, helping collectors find items for their collections and of having the satisfaction of helping collectors who because of age, illness, financial need or death have found it necessary to stop collecting.*

*From time to time, I have been able to help catalog editors by supplying perfin information. I am fortunate to have very knowledgeable collector friends around the world who advise me from time to time when I am befuddled. But even having all the current world perfin catalogs - a necessity to become a knowledgeable collector, I have come to understand what a great value various catalog editors have been for all collectors.*

*I would like to share an early perfined Australian stamp. This perfin has been shared with John Mathews and we would be exceedingly grateful if some collector reading this will help lead us to an answer. What is it? The stamp shown is a Scott #77 perforated 11x12 with a partial large crown & NSW watermark - a one penny issued in 1888 and an issue that was not replaced until 1897.*

*Checking the Handbook of Australian Private Perfins, there seems to be no match to what looks like a "RAS" punch. I searched other country catalogs, but to no avail. I found only one Austrian perfin that has an "R" that looks anything close to the first letter in this stamp but certainly not a match. There seems to be no Australian perfin or any from any of the Australian States that have a similar "R". This begs the question, is this an "R"? There have been various styles of letters and as the catalog reads on page 7 - "Other perforators which have survived...are of various styles, suggesting that it could be of local manufacture." This could be a unique "R".*

*Notice the top of the "A", it is flat, without a top hole. Odd, yes. Unknown, no. Check "AS.1". This pattern is attributed to the "Australian Star" or "Sun" newspaper and in Sydney, NSW! But the dates of use are listed as 1910 to 1919 and hardly a match for a stamp from the 1880's and 1890's! Nor is it a match for the Australian Star which ceased publishing under this name in 1909. The Australian Sun began publishing under this name in 1910.*

*But who doesn't like a good mystery? Neither the "A" nor the "S" match closely enough to be the same perforator with possibly the "R" removed. Check Appendix 2 on page 29 in HAPP. Look at the tenth entry. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1888 the Australia Star newspaper submitted for approval to perforate stamps! If they received permission in 1888, why would they wait until 1910, 22 years later, before using a perforator? I would like to think that just maybe, they used this perfin as the dates given might lead me to believe! Why the "R"? What would the "R" stand for? Can anyone help add any further information to solve this conundrum?*

*The holes are all very clearly punched, the holes are all the same size and it does not look to be a faked item. Although there is no readable cancel, I am stymied."*

What an amazing story for what is an amazing pattern. I like Bob's logic and the fact that he used all of the resources on HAPP and other Catalogues to narrow down the possibilities.

The Australian Star presents as a credible user and information about that paper and I can confirm Bob's dates by a simple search: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Australian\\_Star](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Australian_Star)

but of more interest is the founding Editor, William Henry Traill see: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_Henry\\_Traill](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Henry_Traill) . He was a “jack of all trades” but did well in the Newspaper business and was an early Editor of the famous “Bulletin” and recruited two illustrators that were key to the Bulletin’s success.

We know that papers in this era used the Post to distribute their product and this is clear from users such as Samuel Bennet (SB.5), The Daily Telegraph (T – Symbol.4), and (Adelaide) Advertiser (A.9).

But as logical as the “AS” is for this user, the “R” in RAS is the conundrum. Bob reports that it came in a consignment from a World perfin collector and it was placed at the back of his patterns. Please help out with this project if you have any thoughts.

Contacted Bob at [perfinman@comcast.net](mailto:perfinman@comcast.net) and John at [john.mathews@canberra.edu.au](mailto:john.mathews@canberra.edu.au)



This report from Greg Howard, it is a new Security Overprint for what appears to be “Direct Acceptance”. Note that the Overprint does not carry over onto the Receipt proving that it was applied prior to the Revenue being applied and is not a company cachet. It has been included in the NSW Section of the Commercial and Security Overprints of Australia <http://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/oz-precancels-index.html>



Another report from Greg Howard, this time the user is Alstergren Pty Ltd which was found to be a Timber processing Company in Heyfield in Victoria who also operated in Tasmania. The company was certainly in operation between the 1930’s and 1960’s which is contemporary to this issue. Note that the Overprint and the date cancel are on different angles indicating that they were applied in different actions and most likely at different times making this very likely to be a Security Overprint.



Arthur Taylor provided this example of a full strike of GBLTD.1. The pattern is provisionally assigned to Gowlings Brothers in Sydney. By the way at the time of this device that company was located at the corner of Market and George Streets in Sydney, this is not mentioned in HAPP and it is worth adding to your catalogues. Also this pattern is rated as S for Scarce, it is in my view a Rare pattern and although it is a customised device it was only used for a very short time and seemed to have broken down very soon after it was introduced. This is the first full strike that I have seen.



This is an amazing report by John Amiet. The GIO overprints are common, less so on Decimals. John wondered what the large red “S” on the \$1 value was for. It appears to have a red dot before and after the “S”, suggesting that it is part of a larger series of letters. John suggested that it might be OS. Hard to say.

It is on a piece of what appears to be a document but oddly it does not have the usual Cancelling cachet. Most odd, has anyone got any ideas?



The 2d Mauve Victorian stamp on the top left was provided by Reuben Breniger who is a Member of the Australian Perfin Group on Facebook. It is an unlisted LS&CO and is similar to the report that Greg Howard made in the last Bulletin, but it is a slightly different scale.

The 3 examples on the right above are all other reports of unlisted LS&CO’s

Greg’s report dated from 1893 and Rueben’s dates from 1899. The other examples are from contemporary issues of this period 1893–99. As stated in the last Bulletin these patterns are most likely an early use by the Seed seller, “Law, Sommer & Co” of 139 – 141



Swanston St, Melbourne. They used a customised device LS&CO.1 from about 1911 – 1915, however the company was of long standing having been established in Melbourne in 1850. The usage of LS&CO.1 dating from 1911 is proved by an amazing Advertising cover that was featured on page 12 of SPPB # 107 of October 2014, also one of Greg's reports.

These LS&CO's could be Provisionally assigned to "Law, Sommer & Co", but given that they did not purchase their own perforator until about 1911, there may well be more LS&CO's in the post Federation era. If you have any then please share with us all.

## Auction Watch

*By John Amiet, Ross Ewington, David Coath, Greg Howard, and Dave Elsmore*



This amazing multiple was sent to me by John Amiet for inclusion in the Club Auction. It was my view that the item was worthy of a more specialist Auction listing and I sent it down to Ross Ewington of Tasmanian Stamp Auctions. It will be featured in one of his future Auctions so keep an eye out for it. Tasmanian Stamp Auctions can be found at: <http://tsauctions.com/>



This GNSW Type B on a 10/- CofA Watermark Kangaroo was listed on eBay in January and sold for \$107+. See Australian Official Perfins AOP, pages 108 – 109.

This pattern is one created from the OSNSW Type A device used on Kangaroos from 1913, see AOP, pages 90 – 92.

These patterns have not been completely mapped as yet, so purchasing rarities could be risky. Next issue of the Bulletin will feature an article on the OSNSW Type A which I hope will lead to more understanding of these important devices and patterns.

## Virtual International Philatelic Exhibition – EXPONET

*By David Coath*

I was communicating with Steve Steere, the Secretary of the GB Perfin, the other day and he recommended that I tell Members about a site called EXPONET.

<http://www.exponet.info>

It is a huge database of Philatelic Exhibits and it can be searched to show Perfin Exhibits.

Start with choosing your language and click "Enter here". Then on the next page on the left hand bar, choose to "Selection of Exhibits by Subject" and it will take you to a more detailed search facility. Type in Perfins and you will be shown about 25 Perfin Exhibits.

They are mainly European but it is a great resource if you specialise in European patterns or are just looking for a guide on how to best Exhibit Perfins.

Look out for PCNZA Member, Robert Dedecker's Gold winning exhibit on French Perfins.

**PERFINS.COM.AU**

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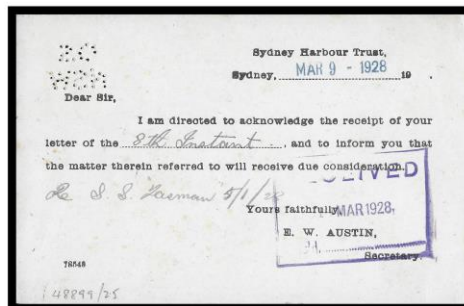
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