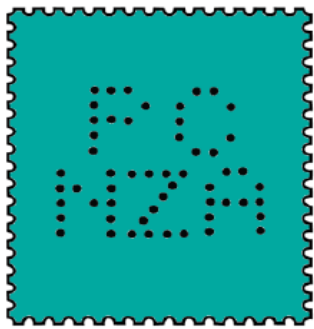




SOUTH **P**ACIFIC **P**ERFIN **B**ULLETIN



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

No.134 JULY 2021



FEATURE ARTICLES

- OSNSW Type A by Tom Weir
- GNSW Type C Reports by Ray Fleming
- VG 4th Head by Jason Rowe
- OS Forgeries by John Graham

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 or 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 hard copy, on CD or Thumb drive.

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Lyn Hayes (Latham – ACT)
Michael Drury (Myocum – NSW)

Editors Comment

By David Coath

Welcome to the SPPB #133 this is another big issue, full of information about the perfin of Australia and New Zealand.

Tom Weir has continued his informative articles on the OSNSW Type A pattern, found on the Kangaroos issues and this time he looks at some of the Forgeries on these issues. By the way Tom is already well advanced into his next project and soon we will feature articles on the GNSW Type B device, which was a modification of the OSNSW Type A device. More on that in the next Bulletin.

Likewise, Ray Fleming has followed up his articles from previous Bulletins on the GNSW Type C device. There is more to come on this pattern from Ray in future Bulletins.

Jason Rowe has produced another article on the VG pattern, this time dealing with the introduction of the 4th Head. Look out for an article in a future Bulletin when Jason is able to come down to Melbourne and take some internal photos of the VG Device, which he will be inspecting with Ken Scudder.

John Graham continues his important series on Detecting Forgeries in OS patterns.

We still have articles that cannot be included due to space considerations, but we are always on the hunt for more, so if you wish to contribute anything for inclusion in the SPPB or make comment or correction regarding anything that we have shared, then please feel free to do so and I will share it in a subsequent Bulletin.

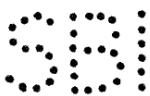
I would like to thank Members who have sent postage or made donations, to help defray our high mailing costs; they were John Amiet, a regular and generous donor, Greg Howard, Bob Szymanski, Dingle Smith, Ron Maher, Ken Scudder, New Member Ian Spencer, John Bonser, Tony Cane, Gordon Monk and William Waterson.

Despite these donations the Club's "bank" of donated postage, is insufficient to manage the entire distribution for this Bulletin, as it has for the last few Bulletins.

Thanks also to our regular contributors in Greg Howard, Tom Weir, Dave Elsmore, John Amiet, Stephen Jones (NZ), Jason Rowe, John Graham, Peter Simpfendorfer, Harold Waite (NZ), Jerry Austen, Ken Scudder, Les Vincent, Ray Fleming and our many new contributors.

Front Cover – The South British Insurance Company

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



This amazing report comes from John Amiet, who found it with a group of other NSW Numeral Revenues. It is an unreported customised pattern of SBI which was almost certainly used by "The South British Insurance Company".



The pattern has not been reported before and given that it is a customised device, it is amazing that there is only this single item found. A customised device is an expensive item, even for a company as large as South British Insurance, and once purchased, they tend to be used for considerable periods of time.



Sometimes a perfin using company will cease trading, or a given device will be replaced, but that is not the case with The South British Insurance Company, as they continued to trade under that name until 1981 and they already had an SBI device. (See images of SBI at left and right), and this existing SBI device continued to be used into the Decimal period.



The company cachet on the new SBI is interesting, as it for the "United Insurance Company Limited" who were a subsidiary of South British. Appropriately for the PCNZA, South British were a New Zealand company, who also traded in Australia and India, see the article in this Bulletin.

Puncture your Postage stamps – PCNZA

By David Coath

I have taken over responsibility for the Club's PCNZA Perforator.

Thanks to Members that have sent postage for perforation, but I am happy to do more, so please send me postage stamps that you want to be perforated.

The rules are easy, they must be issues of Australia or New Zealand from 1998 onwards. Australian Territories, (Cocos Island, Australian Antarctic Territory or Christmas Island), are fine too.

The device does not like the peel and stick stamps, so none of those please, as it tends to gum up the punch head.

Send them to: David Coath, 4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria, 3095, Australia, for a fast turnaround.

Club Auction – 2021 Parts 1, 2 and 3

By David Coath

Part 1 of the Auction was issued with the April Bulletin, and it has proved very popular with over 40 Members bidding and Part 1 saw sales of over \$5800.

Part 2, which sees the balance of the Lots sold at Reserve, was distributed via Email, in early July and has drawn another 13 bidders so far with another \$800 + in sales, bringing the total sales to over \$6,600.

Part 3, which includes Lots not sold in Parts 1 and 2, is included in this Bulletin. As with Part 2 it sees Lots offered at the Reserve. It closes at the end of August, so if you are interested in any Lots then please act quickly as the Lots will go to the first Member in.

If you need any scans of Lots or other information then please drop me an email, letter or telephone call.

The Auction was large with 587 Lots and I am confident that most of it will be cleared by the end of Part 3. This means that we will need more material for the next Auction, and I ask Members to look to add your spares and other items into the mix. All sorts of perfin items sell and you can be confident that whatever you submit will be cleared. Bidding is strong, % sales are high, and the Club only takes a Commission of 10% on sales.

So, if you have something to offer please send it to me and I will make it available to the Members. Send them to: David Coath, 4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria, 3095, Australia.

Subscription Notices

By Les Vincent

Enclosed in the April Bulletin was a Personalised Membership Subscription Renewal Form that listed all credits and amounts due for the 2021/22 Membership year.

Payment methods were detailed on the reverse of the form.

Thanks to the Members who have paid their Subscription promptly.

Remember, your Subscriptions rates are very low, in fact, they are below the basic costs of producing and distributing the Bulletin. Despite this the Committee achieves an annual surplus by astute management and the revenue from Advertising, Donations of postage, and Commissions from the Circuit and Auction.

If you have not paid your Subscription yet, please do so as soon as possible, as it is now passed due.

For any queries about Subscriptions, credit balances, or changes of personal or mailing details, please contact me on Email: lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au or by my Telephone number which is 0431 871 594.

The OS/NSW Type A Puncture on Kangaroo Issues – Part 4 – A look at some Forgeries

By Tom Weir

Forgeries of the OS/NSW Type A puncture on Kangaroo issues have been known for a long time, but it appears that almost nothing has been said about these in print. Unfortunately, these forgeries appear all too frequently either knowingly or unknowingly on various web sites such as eBay, auction houses and dealers' stock lists. This part of this series will attempt to address the existence of some of these forgeries and how to distinguish them from the 12 Dies of this puncture.

In order to achieve this, extensive reference will be made to the Illustrated Key to the 12 Dies as found in Part 2 of this series (Weir, 2021). Stamps with forged punctures will be run through the key to see which couplet they end up at and then various characters will be discussed that will allow differentiation from one or other of the Dies at that couplet.

The first case study we will look at what appears to be the most commonly encountered and can be found on almost all values and watermarks (including on C of A) and as inverted and double punctures. It is characterised by having a small round "O" (compared to the more oval shape of the "O" in Dies 1 to 12) which is lesser in height compared to the "S" of "OS", with O1 markedly lower than S2 or S3 in horizontal alignment, as illustrated in Figs 1 and 2. This forged puncture can be keyed in two ways.



Figure 1: Small round "O" forgery on 9d Violet C of A wmk compared with real Die 11 on 6d Blue.

If you say that in the forgery, O6 and O7 are the same distance apart as O5 and O6, then it will come out at couplet 1 in the Key, which is Die 11. But in the forgery S3 is higher in horizontal alignment than S2 (of NSW) where as in Die 11 they are in approximately the same horizontal alignment. Also in the forgery, S4 is about the same distance from S3 and S5 (of NSW), whereas in Die 11 S4 is closer to S3 than to S5. (Figure 1).



Figure 2: Small round "O" forgery on 9d Violet C of A wmk compared with real Die 12 on 1d Red.

If you say that O6 is closer to O7 than to O5 in the forgery, then it will run through couplets 2 and 3 and then to 5 where W1 is slightly higher than W7 and W13 in horizontal alignment, which is Die 12. But in the forgery, once again, S3 is higher in horizontal alignment than S2 (of NSW) whereas in Die 12 they are in approximately the same horizontal alignment. Also in the forgery, W6 is markedly higher than W8, whereas in Die 12 they are in approximately the same horizontal alignment. (Figure 2).

Examples of this forgery as inverted and double punctures can be seen in Figures 3 and 4.



Figure 3: Small round "O" forgery inverted on 1d Red and doubled on 1/2d Green.



Figure 4: Small round "O" forgery doubled on block of 4 of 3d Olive and doubled on 1/- Green.



It should be mentioned here that any OS/NSW Type A puncture found on any C of A watermark stamp can reliably be regarded as a forgery as there are no records of this puncture ever being applied to stamps with C of A watermark (see Andersen, 2007).

The second case study we will look at has been found so far on 5 stamps – 1/2d Green, 1d Red, 2 x 2d Grey in 1st watermark and 2d Grey in 3rd watermark. At first sight it can be characterised by having O1 markedly lower than S2 or S3 (of OS) in horizontal alignment, as in the small round "O" type (but here more oval), and W7 being higher than W1 in horizontal alignment. In the key it will run to couplet 5, but here we have W7 higher than W1 (a state not found in any real die), and S4 higher than S1 (of NSW) (a Die 7 state – see Fig. 5 below). Thus we cannot proceed further in the key and thus a forgery! Here also we have W5 aligned vertically markedly to the left of W6 and W9 higher than W5 in horizontal alignment (approaching the states in only Die 7, which it is clearly not). Also, O5 is vertically aligned slightly to the left of O1, a state found only in Die 10, which it is clearly not. Figure 5 shows some of these differences.



Figure 5: Forgery on 2d Grey and real Die 7 on 4d Orange and real Die 10 on 2d Grey for character state comparisons.

Next, we can look at two examples of a disparate group of forgeries that all have in common O6 and O7 being the same distance apart as O5 and O6 and will thus come out at couplet 1 in the key which is Die 11.

Thus in the third case study, a 6d Blue 2nd watermark, although it keys to Die 11, this stamp can be distinguished by having W7 higher than W1 in horizontal alignment, W5 very close to W9, S2 in the same horizontal alignment as S3 (of OS), S8 closer to S7 than to S9, and W12 aligned to the left of W10, W11 and W13. These differences are shown in Figure 6 with a real Die 11 for comparison.



Figure 6: Forgery on 6d Blue and real Die 11 on 2/- Brown for character state comparisons.

Now in the fourth case study, a 2/- Brown 3rd watermark, although it keys to Die 11, this stamp can be distinguished by having W7 lower than W1 in horizontal alignment, S4 markedly lower than S1 (of NSW), S4 same distance from S3 as from S5, W3 in full alignment with W1, W2 and W4, and N1 and N8 aligned to the left of N2, N3, N4 and N9, N10, N11 respectively. It also has W5 missing, a state that has been found so far only transiently in Die 5 1st watermark stamps. These differences are shown in Figure 7 with real Die 11 for comparison.



Figure 7: Forgery on 2/- Brown and real Die 11 on 6d Blue for character state comparisons.

The fifth case study has been seen on a 1/2d Green 1st watermark stamp. It will run through to couplet 6 in the key, but then here we have N11 much higher than N4 in horizontal alignment, a state not found in any real Die. Stamps at this couplet have either N4 higher than N11 or N4 and N11 in approximately the same horizontal alignment. Thus we cannot proceed further in the key and thus a forgery! In other ways, such as the horizontal alignment of S2 and S3 (of OS) and S2 and S3 (of NSW), it approaches Die 9. But S7 (of NSW) is markedly higher than W3, a condition not found in any real Die. These differences are in Figure 8 with a real Die 9 for comparison.



Figure 8: Forgery on 1/2d Green and real Die 9 on 1d Red for character state comparisons.

The sixth case study that we will consider has been seen on a 6d Chestnut 3rd watermark stamp and a 1/- Green small multi watermark stamp. They will run to couplet 4 in the key, but here the horizontal line through S4 passes through lower edge of S1 (of NSW), whereas the real Dies 7 and 4 at this couplet have this line in different positions (through top edge of S1 for Die 7 and middle of S1 for Die 4). Thus a forgery closest to Die 4!. Other obvious differences between this forgery and Die 4 include: W9 markedly lower than W5 in horizontal alignment, W6 lower than W2 in horizontal alignment, S3 markedly higher than S2 in horizontal alignment (of OS), and N11 in the same alignment as N8, N9 and N10. These differences are shown in Figure 9 with a real Die 4 for comparison.



Figure 9: Forgery on 6d Chestnut and real Die 4 on One Pound Brown and Blue for character state comparisons.

The seventh and final case study involves a 1/- Green 3rd watermark stamp with watermark sideways. Considering the scarcity of these stamps with watermark sideways, it would appear unlikely that any of these ever reached the NSW Government Printing Office for puncturing. This stamp will run to couplet 5 in the key with W1 being higher than W7, but then we have S4 higher than S1 (of NSW) (a Die 4 or Die 7 state – see Figures 5 and 9 above) and missing pins S2 (of OS) and S3 (of NSW) and so cannot proceed further in the key. Thus a forgery close to Die 12! Further comparison will show W10 aligned horizontally far below W4 and W5 and W9 in a different alignment than in the real Die 12. The only missing pin found in 3rd watermark stamps for Die 12 is S3 (of OS). These differences are shown in Figure 10 with a real Die 12 for comparison.



Figure 10: Forgery on 1/- Green and a real Die 12 on 1/- Green for character state comparisons.

The author has seen many more forgeries on various kangaroo issues, all being a little different from those described in this article and also from each other. No doubt there are more out there to surface on closer examination. Hopefully the methods described above will allow such forgeries to be detected with some degree of confidence, but beware, some forgeries are better than others!

This brings us to the end of this part and also this series on the OS/NSW Type A puncture on Kangaroo Issues. The author would appreciate any feedback on these articles and can be contacted at: tomweir@bigpond.com.

REFERENCES:

Andersen, D. (2007). *Australian Official Perfins 2nd Edition*. Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia. 216 pp.

Weir, T.A. (2021). The OS/NSW Type A puncture on Kangaroo issues – Identifying the 12 Dies. Part 2: An Illustrated Key to the 12 Dies. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No. 132 January 2021: 11–15.

Weir, T.A. (2021). The OS/NSW Type A puncture on Kangaroo issues – Identifying the 12 Dies. Part 2: An Illustrated Key to the 12 Dies. *Australian Stamps Professional* Volume 15, Issue 2, No. 88: 36–42.

Toowoomba Stamp Show – 2021

By Bob Littlehales and David Coath



TOOWOOMBA 2021

NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

Saturday 9th October : 10 am – 5 pm

Sunday 10th October : 9 am – 4 pm

National One Frame Exhibition. In addition, the Organising Committee issue progress Bulletins to promote the event to Clubs, attendees and exhibitors.

It looks to be an amazing event. Check out the website and make your arrangements to attend.

Toowoomba Stamp Club, home of many PCNZA Members including Bob Littlehales and John Graham, is conducting a National Exhibition in October 2021.

I encourage all Members to visit the events web site which is:

<https://toowoomba2021.com.au/>

The site is amazing, with so much information and colour and details every aspect of the event.

The Event will also feature a



New Zealand Banking Changes

By Richard Smolnicki and Ray Bennett

New Zealand Members please note, that Kiwibank, ANZ bank (New Zealand) and the Bank of New Zealand have all taken steps to terminate the use of cheques.

Club members using cheques, are encouraged to contact their bank to arrange online payment facilities for ongoing payments to the PCNZ. Cash will still be accepted for payments, but the Direct transfer process offered with online Banking is best.

Paypal is also still available via pcnzatreasurer@gmail.com, and all Banking details for the Club are included on Page 2 of this Bulletin.

Detecting Forged OS Punctures on Australian Commonwealth Issues – Part 3

By John Graham

“Salting” a Lot

One of the most common ways of passing off a forgery via Ebay, is to “salt” it into a bulk lot of genuine stamps. The idea behind this is to let potential purchasers think they have found a “bargain”, and if the stamp is a reasonably good forgery, the fact that other stamps in the lot are genuine tends to disguise the one that isn't.

But, this idea falls down when the forgery is a poor one – putting it in a batch of genuine punctures can make it stand out like a sore thumb. Consider this lot in figure 13:

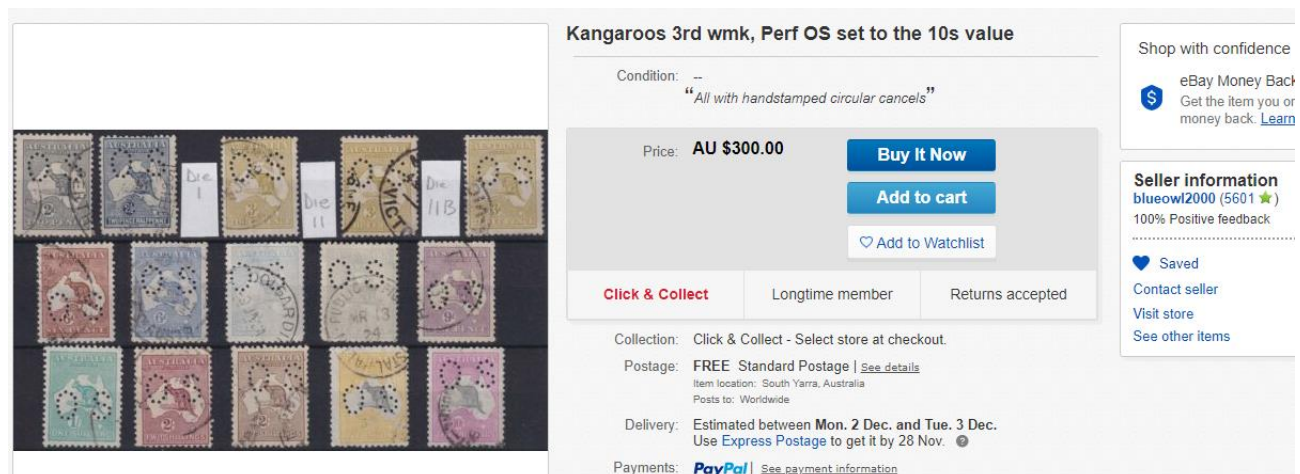


Figure 13

Does anyone think the O punctures on both the 9d and the 5/- look just a little odd?



Not only odd, but identical? Hmmmm!

Figure 14 at left

A Sophisticated Forgery.



Many collectors would consider an OS puncture "on piece" or "on cover" to be genuine without questioning it, particularly if it appears correctly tied, and just as many collectors would be wrong.

Consider the lot shown in Figure 15 – note that not one of the stamps has an OS puncture.

Figure 15 at left

Figure 16 below



The bulk lot (Figure 15) was purchased from an Ebay seller.

Subsequently, this individual item (Figure 16 above right) was offered on Ebay by seller bonjoh7, without any attempt to even change the shape of the backing paper. There can be no doubt this lot is the item at top right in Figure 15, but now with an OS puncture.

But a careful examination of the perforations between the two stamps is illuminating. See Figure 17 below.



Figure 17

It is quite obvious, that the two stamps have been separated during the application of the OS puncture, and then very carefully (but not carefully enough!) are fixed back into place so that a quick glance suggests nothing is amiss. Aside from the misalignment of the holes, the second vertical bar from the right on the postmark is also out of alignment, proving the stamps have been re-joined.

This is just a representative sample of bonjoh7's treatment of the original lot – other stamps from the lot were similarly treated, by being removed from the backing paper, having an OS puncture applied, and then being re-attached so that the postmark elements lined up enough to deceive.

And the moral is? – even though a stamp looks "impossible" to forge, it isn't. Being on piece (or on cover) is no guarantee that the puncture is genuine.

If you search Stampboards (www.stampboards.com) for bonjoh7, you will see that this ebay id is just another of many ids associated with The Sydney Forger.

And another, this time not quite as sophisticated



The two stamps in Figure 18 were offered for sale by Velvet Collectables (a now-defunct Australian dealership) in their Auction number 30, held in 2014. It was Lot 1354, and the image shown is taken from the catalogue, hence the rather bright shades.

Figure 18 at left.

I cannot understand how a supposedly-reputable dealer would even think of offering the 1d green stamp in such condition – the only place it belongs is in the round filing cabinet. When the two punctures

are compared, the absurdity of the 1d green puncture is clear.



While some auction houses will protest that they cannot check the content of every lot – often a legitimate argument in the case of bulk lots – in this case how many pairs of eyes would have seen an illustrated lot during preparation of the printed catalogue? Certainly, more than one, I'd venture. So, this example points to another important rule when purchasing OS perfin's – believe your eyes. If it doesn't "look right", then it probably isn't.

As an example of what doesn't "look right", the lot in Figure 19 (at left) was recently offered for sale (Jan 2021) by an English auction house and was withdrawn after representations from PCNZA.

Fig 19 at left.

A Source of Information – PCNZA Expertisation Service

The PCNZA is the only organisation or individual in Australia which will specifically certify an OS perfin.

Particularly if you are purchasing an expensive OS stamp, it is well worthwhile contacting us, preferably BEFORE you buy.

To have an OS puncture certified, you can contact the PCNZA via our expertisation service at www.pcnza.org or direct at johngrah@ozemail.com.au.

Other Useful Sources of Information

Serious collectors of OS perfin's should have the following books in their library:

The Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue – both *Kangaroos* (2021 edition) and *King George V* (2018 edition) volumes, published by Brusden White and available from most dealers

Australian Official Perfin's by David Andersen (2007 edition) published by the PCNZA and available from them directly.

And Finally, To Sum Up.

If you are purchasing an OS puncture from a source whose trustworthiness is unknown to you, there are some simple rules to follow.

Know the details of the stamp you're after, i.e. what should a good OS puncture look like.

If it doesn't "look right", then it probably isn't.

Google the seller. Look for any comments, for or against.

Search for the seller on Stampboards (www.stampboards.com)

If on Ebay, learn how to carry out a thorough search of completed listings, and current listings for the same seller. Check the seller's feedback for negative comments.

Seek help, if necessary, from the PCNZA.

Ask your fellow club members, particularly those experienced in collecting OS perfin's.

The United Insurance Company

By David Coath, Greg Howard and Dave Elsmore



SBI

The new SBI pattern that is featured on our Front Cover, carries a cancelling cachet from the United Insurance Company Limited.

The United Insurance Company Limited was formed, as 'The United Fire and Life Insurance Company of Sydney', in Sydney in 1862, by a group of 35 businessmen who provided back up capital to the value of £500,000 pounds to underpin the company. There was an initial share issue of 25,000 shares at £1 to provide the company with a £25,000 pound starting capital.

The businessman included Thomas Mort, (later of Goldsbrough Mort) and John Fairfax, owner of the Sydney Morning Herald.

The company's first office was at 325 George St, and in 1867 they occupied premises at 275 George St (see image at left) before moving to 280–288 George St on the corner of Hunter St

in 1886.

Despite the fact that the initial company name included the term 'Life Insurance', the company does not seem to have offered this product, but they did quickly expand into Marine Insurance. In 1865 they established a London office to provide cover for ships and cargo coming to Australia and New Zealand, but this was closed by 1870, only to be reopened shortly afterwards.

The company was centred in NSW but conducted business in other States through agencies. In 1889 it established a branch in Brisbane, and this was soon followed by branches in Townsville, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Wellington (NZ). In 1902 they established a branch in Perth, and in 1906 Tasmania, as well as expanding their New Zealand branches to four.

In 1908 the company expanded into Accident Insurance and their branch offices grew into a huge network of capital city and regional offices, supporting a web of district and suburban offices, that covered the major population centres of Australia and New Zealand. In addition, the company maintained its London branch and established branches in Fiji and Papua and New Guinea.

In 1960 the company merged with South British Insurance Company Limited and as with other similar mergers, which had characterised the Insurance industry for much of the 20th Century and beyond, they continued to trade under their existing name. The South British, including the United Insurance Co, merged with the New Zealand Insurance Co in 1981.

You can read about the perfins of the United Insurance Company Limited and South British Insurance Company Limited in the Private Revenue Perfins of New South Wales here:

<https://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/nsw-Revenue-U-Perfins.html>

<https://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/nsw-Revenue-S-Perfins.html>

Correction regarding C&R New Zealand Perfin Report

By Harold Waite, Andrew Murley and David Coath



In the January Bulletin we featured considerable discussion regarding a possible new report for New Zealand, a pattern C&R (see left).

In this discussion we summarised the views of many Members, New Zealand collectors, Overseas collectors and others. In general, the view was that the pattern was genuine and further that it was not produced by a “foreign” device.

In the follow up article in the April Bulletin, I featured corrections and qualifications from Harold Waite, however I referred to him as Howard. I did not notice this error in my many read throughs of the Bulletin, but after the Bulletin was issued, I was contacted by John Mathews, who alerted me to my error.

Sorry Harold, you are a regular contributor to the Bulletin, and someone I correspond with, and I cannot image why I thought it was time that you were renamed.

The C&R pattern was sold at the recent PCNZA Auction for just over \$300 and the high bidder was New Zealand collector Andrew Murley.

Andrew has examined the stamp and advises that he thinks that it is a genuine pattern, but that more study is needed.

Again apologies to Harold.

Collecting Australian Government Perfins

By Jason Rowe, Ray Fleming and Tom Weir

Collecting Australian Government perfins is a fun and rewarding part of the Australian Perfin landscape.

There is an excellent general reference in David Andersen’s “Australian Official Perfins” (2007 Edition 2) that is just \$25 plus \$10 postage and if you are keen on VG’s then we can include “Victorian Government Punctures” (1993 Edition 5) for just a further \$10.

Contact David Coath for quick delivery.

There is also “Official Aussie Perfins” by Dave Elsmore which is free at <https://www.perfins.com.au/>

In addition, we can assist you with your collecting, layout and new reports and even help you to build your collection with spares that we have.

All you have to do is choose your interest, contact us and get started:

VG’s: contact Jason Rowe via email at buddahboy10@live.com .

OSNSW Type A, GNSW Type A & B: contact Tom Weir at tomweir@bigpond.com

GNSW Type C and Type D: contact Ray Fleming ray.fleming@bigpond.com

And if these do not spark your interest, there are CofA’s, T’s, WA’s and OS’s a plenty, most are cheap and easily available and well covered in Australian Official Perfins.

Have a go and with study and time you may become our Club expert in one of these.

Editors Comment

As a Club we are very fortunate to have Members who have invested such time and effort into researching these Government patterns. David Andersen has done the “heavy lifting” with 2 editions of “Australian Official Perfins” in 1987 and 2007. Yes, 1987 which makes David a genuine pioneer of our hobby. At about the same time there were the VG Catalogues by John Elford (1979), John Elford/Jim Dean and Bryan Toop (1982), later Bryan Toop (1984 and 88) and finally Neale Scott/Bryan Toop (1995).

This great work is now being carried on by Tom Weir, Jason Rowe, John Graham and Ray Fleming, as they explore each Government Perfin pattern, proving the structure of the devices, showing the dies and highlighting forgeries.

The Introduction of the 4th Head VG Perfins

By Jason Rowe

After a 23-year service the life of the 3rd head VG device had come to an end. With numerous broken pins and the introduction of larger type stamp issues, it was decided to replace the head with the 4th and final VG perforator.

As with all of the other heads, no official information has been found regarding the manufacture or documented process for implementing the new 4th head.

Until “Victorian Government Punctures” 2nd edition” (Elford, Dean and Toop), was issued in 1982, no published philatelic literature has been found acknowledging the demise and the introduction of the new replacement head. “Victorian Government Punctures” (1st edition) by J E Elford 1979, lists some 83 stamp issues with Type 4 VG Perfins, but no other information was given.



There was some confusion in the 1982, 2nd edition, with it stating that the 4th head was introduced in 1972, however this was most likely a typographical error, as it was altered in the next issue “Victorian Government Punctures” (3rd Edition) by Toop in 1984, with the introduction corrected to be in 1976. The exact date in 1976 is unknown, but the earliest usage date sighted is July 1976, see Figure 1 at left.

Figure 1 – 1974 Australian Native Animals – 20c Wombat with 16 July 1976 postmark

The authors of “Victorian Government Punctures” (2nd edition), had access to the perforating device at that time of its introduction and the heads design, layout and puncturing methods are described in great detail. Photos were also published of the perforator in operation see Figure 2 below.

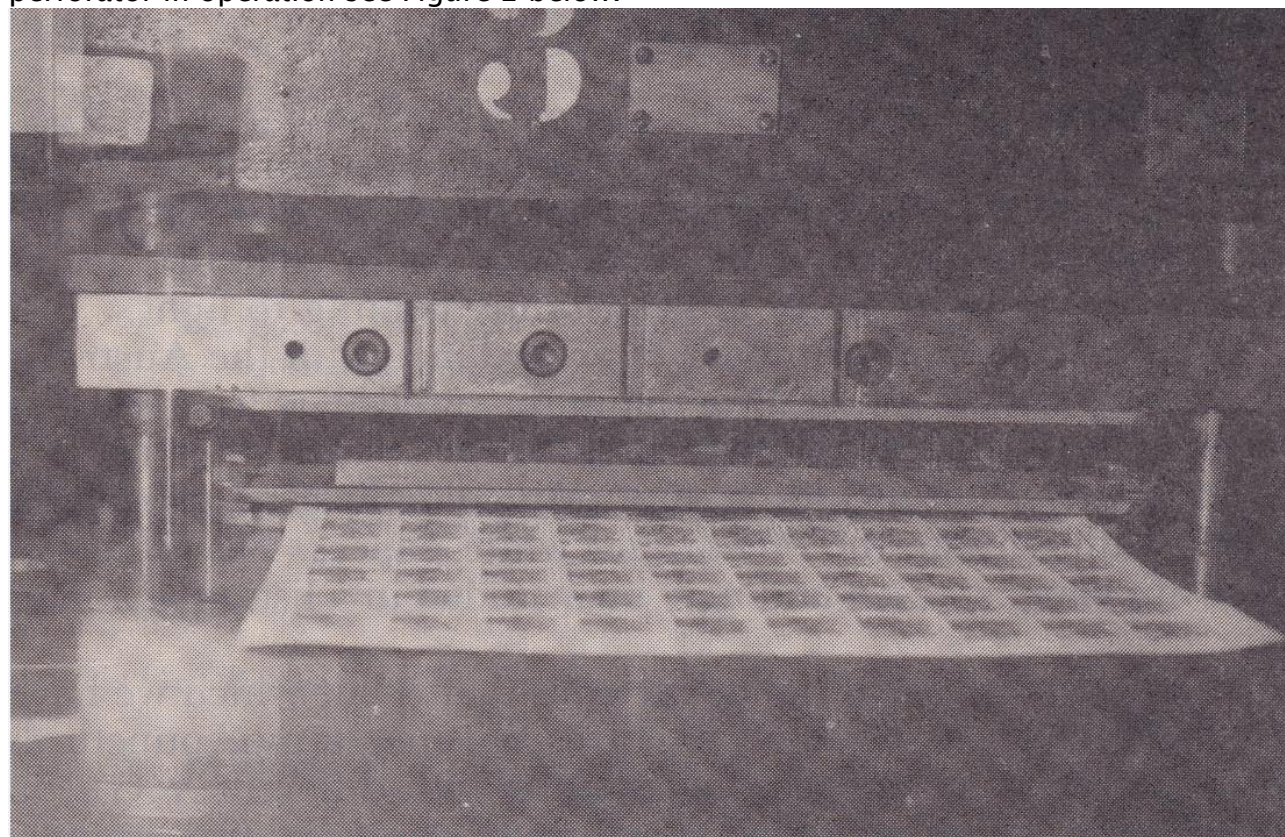


Figure 2 – 4th VG Head, Puncturing a sheet of stamps, picture from the “Victorian Government Punctures” 1982 2nd edition (Elford, Dean and Toop)

Design of the 4th head was once again different to its predecessor, taking into account the larger format stamps to be perforated.

The head had 10 dies placed sideways, with the “V” on top facing to the Left Position “E”, See Figure 3



Figure 3 – 1984 \$5 Painting Mentone VG position “E”



Each die comprised a 9 hole “V” and a 11 hole “G” similar to the die 12 of the 2nd head. See Figure 4

Figure 4 – 4th head VG perfin comparison with 2nd head die 12

The V and G are much larger, and the pins used for this head were more solid than those of the 3rd head, creating a larger hole pattern. Like the 3rd head, the 10 die types were thought to be identical. Initial studies have found identifiable differences, and these appear mainly in the “G”, see Figure 5,6 & 7

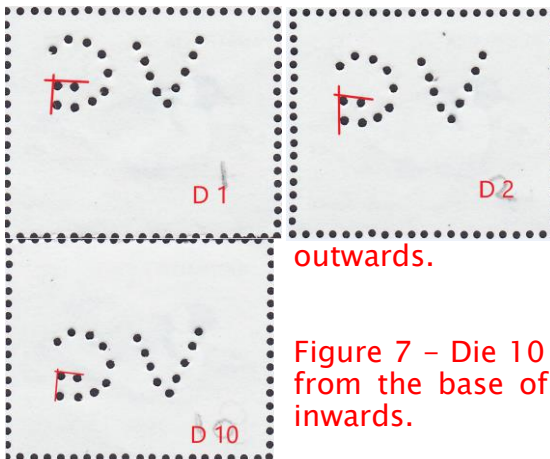


Figure 5 – Die 1(D 1) Cross bar of the “G” Horizontal. Last hole from the base of the “G” to the First hole of the cross-bar angled inwards.

Figure 6 – Die 2 (D 2) Cross bar of the “G” Angled down. Last hole from the base of the “G” to the first hole of the cross-bar slightly angled

outwards.

Figure 7 – Die 10 (D 10) Cross bar of the “G” Angled down. Last hole from the base of the “G” to the first hole of the cross-bar angled inwards.

The heads design was compatible with the sheet layouts for most of the decimal stamp types and this assisted the operator as to the direction the stamps were placed under the head.

Sheets generally comprised of 100 stamps per sheet upper and lower or left and right panes of 50 (10 by 5) separated by a central gutter.

This allowed the operator to insert up to 4 sheets and perforate 1 row at a time then after 9 rows, they then removed the sheets, rotated and reinserted to perforate the remaining row. See Figure 8 below.



Figure 8 – 1980 22c Australian Folk law, showing Positions ABBBB created when 9 rows of the full sheet

were perforated. The sheet was then removed, rotated clockwise and the last row punctured.

This meant that most of the 4th head issues can only be found in 2 positions but once again variations occur between stamp issues, as it was up to the operator's discretion on how the sheets were fed into the perforator. See figure 9 below.



Figure 9 – 1979 Ferries 20c “Canberra” can be found positions A, B, E & G. E and G being Rare

As with the previous heads, various multi punctures can be found and these seem to be more frequent on this head, some examples found that have been struck so many times almost destroying the stamp. See Figure 10 & 11 below.



Figure 10 & 11 – VG Multi Punctures 1981 20c Royal wedding, 1974 \$1 Paintings, 1984 45c Air mail, and 1976 5c Scenes

Operating the previous heads mechanism was done by a manual foot treadle, an electrical motor was attached allowing the operator to activate the puncturing mechanism with a simple touch of the treadle.

This was reported in the “South Pacific Perfin Bulletin” SPPB #30 of January 1995 (Mathews) and it was stated the electric motor was manufactured by McColl Electric Works of Melbourne between July and November 1964. It is unclear when the motor was fitted to the perforator, but it may have been incorporated when the 4th head was implemented.



The 4th head was in use up until May 1988, as reported by Bryan Toop in the “South Pacific Perfin Bulletin” SPPB #8 of July 1989. In an article entitled “The last of the VG Perfins” in which he stated that “The puncturing of Australian stamps VG for use by Victorian Government has ceased the last stamp punctured VG was the 1988 37c Opening of Parliament House.” Figure 12

Figure 12 – The last stamp found perforated VG 1988 37c Opening of Parliament House

The reason given for the demise, was that the cost of puncturing stamps had become too high. So, came to the end of a 55-year process but what become of the VG perforator?

Examination of the G/NSW Type C Puncture used on 150th Anniversary of NSW issues

By Ray Fleming

This series of three stamps; 2d Red, 3d Blue and 9d Purple (ASC 172 to 174), was issued on the 1st of October 1937, to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Foundation of Australia and of Sydney. They were designed and engraved by E Broad and F D Manley, based on a painting by John Allcot, then recess printed by John Ash. (Meara, 1983). Sheets of 80 stamps were generated in 2 panes, each 10 rows of 4 stamps. The Die and Pin numbering used in the article is as described in Fleming & Weir (2020) and the positioning of the punctures on the stamps is as per Andersen (2007).

The physical dimension of these stamps appears to have presented some issues for the use of the G/NSW Type C die set, when undergoing puncturing. The puncturing process was described in general by Taylor and Page (1952) as follows: *"The foot operated treadle machine known as No. 7 came into use in 1937 when the small format stamps of George VI replaced the larger types of George V. The puncturing head consists of 10 sets of pins each making one puncture G/N.S.W., the pins fitting into corresponding sets of holes in the lower block"*

The G/NSW Type C was a 10 die set in a horizontal format, made primarily for the smaller format KGVI stamps of approximately 20 mm x 24 mm, produced a puncture approximately every 24 mm (Anderson 2007). These 150th Anniversary of NSW stamps had dimensions of approximately 36 x 27 mm. Inserting the sheet into the device with the long side first would result in punctures of Dies 1 to 6 across the four stamps (including the gutter). This would result in around one and a half punctures per stamp. If the sheet was inserted into the device with the short side first this would have produced punctures of Dies 1 to 10 but with a drift in positioning of some 27 mm over the 10 dies (9x (27-24)) of the 10 stamps in the column. Thus, the last stamp in the column would only have a partial puncture or none at all depending upon where the first stamp in the column was punctured. If however, the operator was diligent and placed pin W11 of Die 1 towards the base of the stamp or right hand side as inserted (in Position 4), the drift due to the size difference outlined above, would result in a complete puncture through to at least Die 5, as in Figures 1 & 2.



Figure 1: Front view of 150th Anniversary of NSW stamps showing Die drift (left to right)
3d Blue – Die 1 bottom and Die 2 top, Position 8, Die 2 – 2.5–3.0mm lower on stamp
2d Red – Die 1 bottom and Die 2 top, Position 8, Die 2 – 2.5–3.0mm lower on stamp
2d Red – Die 5 bottom and Die 4 top, Position 4, Die 5 – 2.5–3.0mm higher on stamp



Figure 2: Back view of 150th Anniversary of NSW stamps showing Die drift (left to right)

3d Blue – Die 1 bottom and Die 2 top, Position 8, Die 2 – 2.5–3.0mm lower on stamp

2d Red – Die 1 bottom and Die 2 top, Position 8, Die 2 – 2.5–3.0mm lower on stamp

2d Red – Die 5 bottom and Die 4 top, Position 4, Die 5 – 2.5–3.0mm higher on stamp

Andersen (2007), cites this series with punctures being found in Positions 2, 4, 6 & 8 for the 2d, 3d & 9d (ASC 172 to 174) with the 2d also being found in Position 1 as well, but no stamps with the puncture in Position 1 have been seen during this study.

It is my belief that this problem was solved by folding the panes in half, gum to gum, to produce what would appear to be 5 rows of 4 stamps. These would then be inserted into the puncturing machine with the short side (27mm) of the stamp first. Depending upon which way the sheet was oriented, top of stamp to left or right, the position of the puncture would vary. Where the top of the stamp was to the left, the puncture orientation on the upper stamp would have been Position 4 and Position 8 for the lower stamp. If however, the insertion orientation was for the top of the stamp to be on the right, the puncture generated would have been Position 2 for the upper stamp and Position 6 for the lower stamp. This approach would also explain the relatively equal amounts of Position 4 & 8 or 2 & 6 respectively in any accumulation of the 150th Anniversary of NSW stamp, but stamps with Positions 4 and 8 far outnumber those with Positions 2 and 6 which suggests that insertion of the sheet was predominately done with top of the stamp to the left.

The process outline above is not the only way that these 4 positions of the G/NSW Type C puncture could have been generated. The sheets could have been physically halved into 5 rows of 4 stamps. Then depending upon the orientation, they were fed into the puncturing device, Positions 2, 4, 6 & 8 could have been made. This is a far more complex process for the operator and the simpler approach initially detailed would have been used in preference. Yet another method, is to fold the sheets into 5 rows of 4 stamps printed face to printed face. The G/NSW Type C puncturing head had only seen five months usage when this series of stamps was introduced, so the pins would exhibit little wear to the cutting edges. Close inspection of the puncture holes for pressure ridges, where they exist, would indicate that position 4 was punctured through the printed side and position 8 through the gum side, as shown in Figures 3 & 4.



Pins "S1, S2 & S3 & N9 & N10

Figure 3: G/NSW Type C in Position 4 Die 1 from reverse of stamp, pressure ridges indicating puncturing done through printed surface.



Pin "W1"

Figure 4: G/NSW Type C in Position 8 die 1 from front of stamp, pressure ridge indicating puncturing done through gum surface.

Some credence for this theory is gained from the fact that only dies 1 through to 5 are found on these three issues. Full validation would come with finding a vertical pair exhibiting both Positions 4 and 8 or 2 and 6 on the adjacent stamps. An appeal to fellow G/NSW Type C collectors, David Coath and Tom Weir to search their accumulations for such a piece yielded a block of 2d Red from the late Arthur Taylor's collection, showing Die 5 in both Positions 4 and 8 as in Figure 5. When folding the piece together along the long side of the stamp the holes match up exactly, verifying the puncture of the two adjacent stamps was done in one process.



Figure 5: Block of 4 2d 150th Anniversary of NSW (ASC 172) with Die 5 in both Positions 4 and 8.

However, further proof of this practice of folding the sheets prior to perforation can be implied from figure 6 and 7 below, where the stamps have either Dies 4 or 5 punctures and a die 6 puncture in the selvage.

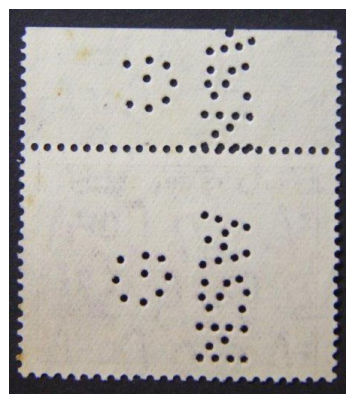


Figure 6: 9d Purple 150th Anniversary of NSW (ASC 174) with Die 5 in position 8 on the stamp and Die 6 in selvage. Note Die 6 is characteristically missing Pins G2 & S7.



Figure 7: Block of 4 with gutter and “John Ash Australian Note and Stamp Printer” in selvage, 2d Red 150th Anniversary of NSW (ASC 172) with Dies 4 and 5 in position 4 on the stamps and Die 6 in the selvage. Note die 6 has no visible missing pins.

The physical proof of the puncturing process presented herein for positions 4 and position 8 can be used to imply that a similar process would have been used to generate positions 2 and 6. The sole difference being the orientation the sheet as it was fed into the No 7 foot operated treadle machine.

This finding then raises the question as to why this puncturing practice changed with the introduction of the 1/6d Hermes Airmail stamps (ASC 160 & 161, thick & thin paper). These identical sized stamps were printed in the same format as the 150th Anniversary of NSW issues i.e. 10 rows of 4 stamps. They were issued on 31/10/1937 and 12/2/1948 respectively, the former only 30 days after the Anniversary of NSW issues. Andersen (2007) only lists these Airmail issues in positions 1 and 4. Both of these features suggest that an alternate puncturing process was developed for the Airmail issues.

REFERENCES

- Fleming, R. and Weir, T. “Differentiating the Individual Dies of the G/NSW Type C Puncture – A New Approach”. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No 131. October 2020: pages 6 – 9
- Andersen, D. 2007. “*Australian Official Perfins*” 2nd Edition. Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia. 236 pp.
- Meara, J.P. 1983. “*The Australian Commonwealth Specialists’ Catalogue*” 42nd Edition. page 125
- Taylor, C.B and Page, E.F. 1952. “The George VI Issues Punctured G/NSW”. *Australian Commonwealth Specialists Society of Great Britain*. August 1952: pages 75–79 and Appendices.

New Reports

By David Coath, Greg Howard, Maciej Pilecki and Dave Elsmore



This could go into New Report or Auction Watch, as it is both. It is a CofA (GB Perfin Catalogue ref: 5510.01) and the postmark is a clear strike of 18 June 1909, which is months earlier than we have seen.

It was part of a Lot of these comparatively uncommon Australian Government Perfins, that was listed in a recent Phoenix Auction #87 as Lot 1677 and it sold for a very healthy price of \$420++, most likely on the back of this item.

These interesting and important CofA and C/of/A patterns are covered in “*Australian Official Perfins*” by David Andersen (pages 53 – 64) and there are still some for sale in Part 3 of the current PCNZA Auction.

BUZACOTTS (Queensland) LIMITED
Machinery Merchants and Manufacturers
Specialists in Spraying, Pumping and Irrigation
 Tel. Cent. 5215 (3 lines)
 Box 573 G.P.O., Brisbane
 ADELAIDE STREET
 BRISBANE
 and at 158 EAST STREET
 ROCKHAMPTON
 30th JUNE 1930
 STATEMENT FOR MONTH ENDED

PORT CURTIS CO-OP DAIRY ASSOC.
 BUNDABERG.

ACCOUNTS STRICTLY NETT. INTEREST CHARGED ON OVERDUE ACCOUNTS

DATE	REF.	PARTICULARS	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE DUE
JUNE 17	B797	To Account Rendered			
19	B799	TO GOODS	1 10 11		
19	B799	TO GOODS	12 11		
19	B799	TO GOODS	5 7		
					2 9 5

No. B10397

BUZACOTTS (Queensland) LIMITED
 ADELAIDE STREET,
 BRISBANE

Received from _____ 192

the sum of _____ pounds

_____ shillings _____ pence

by _____

BUZACOTTS (Queensland) LIMITED

Per _____

Exchange Discount Net Payment Amount Credited Your Account

5 9 5 5 9 5

This Statement is made up to the end of the month. Any payment reaching us after that date will be credited on the next account.



This report from Dave Elsmore, it is a great new Security Overprint for Buzzacotts (Queensland) Limited.

The proving piece is amazing (see left), but the confirmation that it is a Security Overprint comes from the exploded view (see above). Note that the "S" of Buzacotts is restricted to the stamp and does not carry across

onto the Document, which it would have had it been applied as a Cancelling cachet.

You can find it listed in the Commercial Security Overprints of Australia in the Queensland Section here:

<https://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/Queensland-Revenue-ZB-Perfins.html>

The story of Buzacott/Buzacotts is an interesting read. The application to use a Perfin device, BUZ, by Buzacott dates from 1915 and the usage that we have seen on postage stamps, includes strikes on the 1d Green KGV Perf 13.5x12.5, which was issued in late 1926, so usage into 1927 is most likely. Perhaps the BUZ device had been used in this office and that they then chose to use Security Overprints.

If anyone has a cover or document with BUZ on it, then we would share it in a future Bulletin.

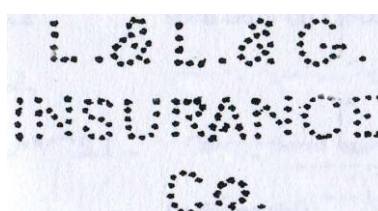


This report from new Member Maciej Pilecki in Poland. It is an unremarkable T pattern but an interesting Postmark. Hard to read but it is Cape Barren Island which was a small and remote Bass Strait settlement. Unfortunately, the Postmark is rather common due to its length of service between 1901 - 34.

But, this "opens the door" on a possible collecting interest to find all the Postmark locations for a given Government pattern. A word of warning collecting GNSW or VG would not be for the faint hearted, but it would be an interesting exercise.

Auction Watch

By David Coath, Greg Howard and Dave Elsmore



These 3 examples of the Blanket Die of Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance cost the Princely sum of \$5, on ebay.

The strike on each of the stamps is a different part of the large die, which proves that the stamps were punched prior to being affixed to documents.



This amazing pick up by Dave Elsmore was another ebay bargain. The pattern is S&H.1 which is unremarkable, as the pattern is common, but use on this issue is very rare and not reported as a Revenue, let alone this Postal use in 1913.

This pattern shows the characteristic bent H which is seen from about 1906, for more information on the variation in this pattern over time, see the Revenue Perfins of

Queensland here:

<https://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/Queensland-Revenue-S-Perfins.html>



Such high value Postal usage is rare on these Chalon values, which go from 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- to £1. They are more common as Revenues but can be seen as Postal use like this 2/- from Greg Howard. Be careful of a cleaned Revenue use pretending to be Postal use.

Help Wanted Part 2 – PCNZA Perfins

By Peter Simpfendorfer

Unfortunately, my request in the last Bulletin did not generate any responses, but being resilient, I will try again with a new list of stamps.

Most members would be aware that I maintain online catalogues for stamps from Australia, Australian Territories and New Zealand that have been punctured PCNZA using the club perforator.

Stamps are only included in the catalogue if I have actually sighted them, or I have seen a photocopy of them.

Frequently, only some stamps from a particular set have been identified with the PCNZA perfin and this raises the question if the remainder of the stamps in the set were also punctured PCNZA.

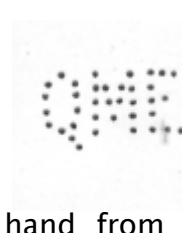
In the interests of having the catalogues as complete as possible, I am seeking the assistance of members to try and identify if the following **Australian** have been punctured PCNZA:

- 2004 Landmark Bridges **self-adhesive** Lockyer Creek Qld and Birkenhead Bridge SA
- Renewable Energy **self-adhesive** Solar Power and Biomass
- Australian Inventions **self-adhesive** Black Box, Racecam and Polymer Banknotes
- Motor Cycle Racing Troy Bayliss, **sheet format**
- 2005 Australian Parrots **all five stamps self-adhesive**
- Native Trees **self-adhesive** Snow Gum, Karri and Moreton Bay Fig
- 2006 Commonwealth Games Gold Medallists – **all stamps**
- Lighthouses **self adhesive all five stamps**
- Postie Kate **self-adhesive** Checking Address
- Driving Through the Years **self-adhesive** Toyota Landcruiser
- Rock Posters **self-adhesive – all 10 stamps**
- Dangerous Australians **self-adhesive** White Shark and Blue-Ringed Octopus
- Fifty Years of TV **self-adhesive** Homicide and Neighbours

Please send any images of the above stamps punctured PCNZA to Peter Simpfendorfer email simpy19@bigpond.com or post to PO Box 2029, Wagga Wagga NSW 2550.

QME.1 Queensland Meat Export & Agency Co

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



This QME.1 for Queensland Meat Export & Agency Co. was the front cover item from an earlier Bulletin.

More information about this rare pattern has come to

hand from John Amiet and it includes the Applications and Approvals for the use of the perfin device, and this gives us an insight into why the pattern is so rare.

A New Book on Queensland Approvals

John found in his house an amazing bound book of all the Applications and Approvals for Perfin devices in Queensland. See the image of the spine, (reduced), below.

QLD. APPLICATIONS FOR PRIVATE PERFORATING OF POSTAGE STAMPS

The book is professionally bound and seems to have been created from photocopies of Archival Documents held by Australia Post (Formerly the Post Master General's Department – PMG).

Australian Postal Commission
Australia Post
Telephone 630 6918 Area Code 03
Reference 281/1/157
Headquarters
199 William Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
29 AUG 1975
State Manager
AUSTRALIA POST
QUEENSLAND 4000
/4281/1/15 PRIVATE PERFORATING OF POSTAGE STAMPS WITH
FIGURES LETTERS OR DESIGNS
A request has been received from a Dr D. A. Pocock of Dalkeith
W.A. seeking historical information from our records about customers
who have been permitted to perforate postage stamps by the Aus-
tralian Postal Administration. Dr Pocock informs us that the in-
formation is required for research that he is currently undertaking.
Information about permit holders was last sought from State Admin-
istrations in 1957. Replies revealed that only a small number of
permit holders were still using perforated stamps at that time.
In order to assist Dr Pocock in his enquiries it would be appreciated
if the organisations listed below, and any permit holders added to
your State list since 1957, could be approached and asked whether
they agree to having their names and addresses provided to Mr Pocock.
W. K. Waterson
for CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER
NSW
British & Foreign Marine Insurance Company Ltd.
QLD
Burns Philp & Co Ltd, 133 Mary Street, Brisbane
New Zealand Loan Rockhampton
Department of Agriculture
SA
Harris Scarfe Limited
WA
Boon Bros Perth
Nestle and Anglo Swiss Milk Co., Perth
Cecil Bros Shoe Store Perth
Aherns Ltd Perth
VIC
State Government Departments.

The format is A4 and as a result some of the details from the bottom of the Archival material has been lost, as it would have been in Foolscap, which is slightly taller than A4.

At the start of the book is some correspondence between the then Chief General Manager and the State Manager of Queensland, but it is reasonable to assume that there would have been copies addressed to each of the State Managers. (see left)

The correspondence is in response to a query by Dr Derek Pocock. Derek needs no introduction to Members of the PCNZA, but I will state some high points. He was one of the international group formed by the US Perfin Club and lead by the Canadian, Joe Purcell, who formulated the Work Sheets that became the basis of "Commercial Perfins of Australia" (CPA) Grant and Mathews 1992.

Derek was an avid philatelist and very keen on perfins and served as President of the PCNZA.

1975 is very early in the Australian Private Perfin study and Derek can be rightly regarded as the "father" of our hobby here in Australia.

Returning to the book in question, it represents an amazing insight into the Application and Approval process in Queensland and covers the period from 1895 – 1945 and suggests to what the process may have looked like in other States.

To my knowledge this is the first time this book has been discussed in the PCNZA and it is not clear if it was a reference used by previous writers on this subject.

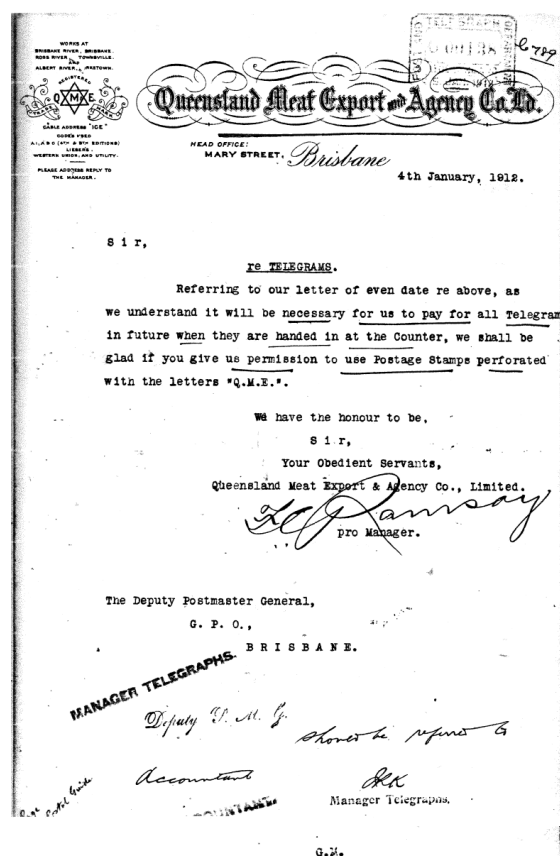
The first writer on this matter was Kel Vicary who was an early PCNZA Member and wrote an article for the SPPB # 11 of April 1990 entitled "Queensland Perfin Applications" (pages 4 – 6).

In "Commercial Perfins of Australia" (1992) the authors have a sound Bibliography, and they list the Kel Vickery SPPB article. Furthermore, in CPA Chapter 6 "Archival Records: Queensland" they again refer to the Vicary article and state that it covers the period 1895 - 1945. They then add that there was a second reference on the subject and that was "Queensland Postal History" by Mr H M Campbell, but they state that this only covered the period 1895 - 1912.

Given these as the only named sources, it seems most likely that Kel Vickery had access to this book, as it mirrors the period of his article. It is possible that he did all of the original research himself and arrived at the same period of coverage and the same users, but that would seem unlikely.

But that is the story of the book and not what it tells us about QME.

Queensland Meat Export and Agency Co Ltd (QME.1) Approval



For QME, the book contains 3 pages from the archives as follows:

4 January 1912 Queensland Meat Export letter to Deputy Postmaster General GPO Brisbane (see left).

Note that the stated purpose for the Application concerns the change in Post Office policy that required the company to pay for Telegrams when they were lodged.

Clearly, they used a lot of Telegrams and perhaps in the past they had done so on account.

Now they have to pay on lodgement and rather than use cash, they elected to use Postage stamps and for security, they chose to have them perforated.

The fact that the usage is for Telegrams would explain two key factors of the QME pattern.

Firstly, why only higher values are found (6d and 1/-) as Telegrams generally require higher values. Secondly the poor survival rate of Telegram remnants explains why so few examples of the pattern exist.

12 January 1912, the quick reply and Approval comes from the Post Office. Note that this is a file carbon copy, so it carries no letterhead.

The 3rd piece of correspondence was written on 16 January 1912 and is just the courtesy response from Queensland Meat Export to the Deputy Postmaster General GPO Brisbane.

So, it was as easy as that, all you had to do was ask and it seems permission was given.

Thumbing through the Applications and Approvals in the Book, it was not always that easy, and generally the Post Office required a sample of the pattern. This is understandable and I would be confident that they would have maintained a register of the patterns that they had approved.

Summary

Thanks to John Amiet, we now have access to a "treasure trove" of data about the Applications and Approvals for Perfin devices in Queensland. If any Member is interested in the Application and Approval correspondence for any Queensland company, then I would be more than happy to photocopy it and send it to them.

Sudan Perfin Update

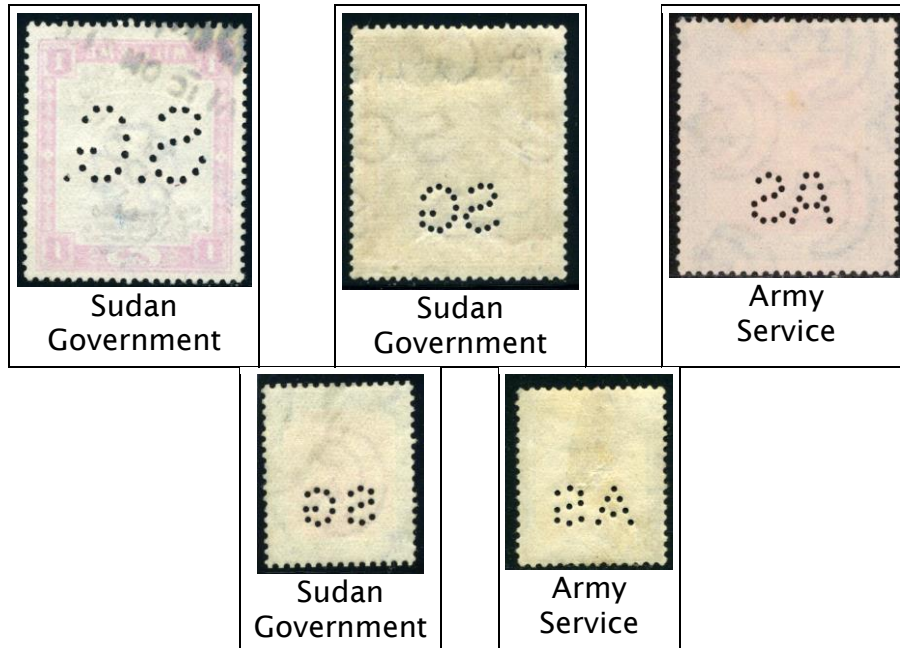
By Gary Tomasson

In 1995, the Perfin Club (US) published "The World Perfins Catalog, African Section" edited by Robert J Schwerdt. It identified 10 different Sudan Perfins, actually 9 different perforating machines and one cancelling device. Two of the 9 users were not identified and 2 of the Sudan perfins were actually Egyptian perfins with fake Sudan overprints.

Currently 11 Sudan perfins have been recorded. Seven are considered good perfins, four are fakes, plus two cancels and one Kodak (the cancels and Kodak are not included in this article). The 11 Sudan perfins are defined as follows:

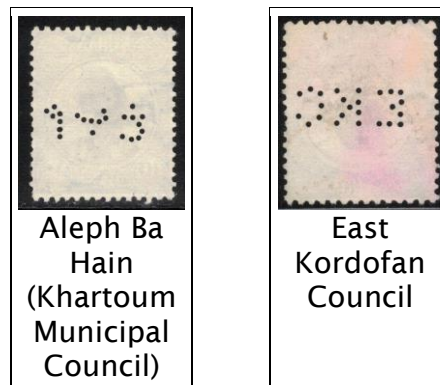
OFFICIALS

5 KNOWN



SEMI-OFFICIALS

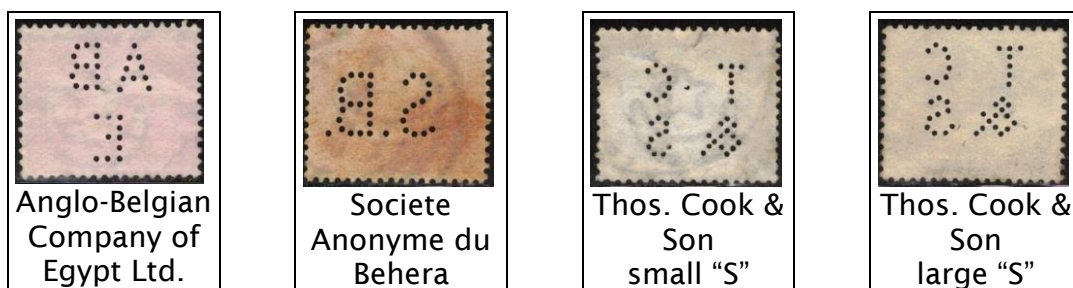
2 KNOWN



PRIVATE

4 KNOWN

All Are Egyptian Perfins with FAKE Sudan Overprints



Over the past 120 years, a great deal of study has been devoted to understanding the history and origins of the Sudan Official perfins. Recent information has been gathered on the two Semi-Official perfins, but we still need more details on the actual stamps used or perforated on the two semi-officials. Likewise for the private perfins. Questions we are trying to answer include:

- 1 Are there actual Sudan private perfins or are they all Egyptian perfins with fake Sudan Overprints?
- 2 What stamps were perforated and used?
- 3 The major difference in the two Thos. Cook perfins is the size of the "S" or small and large. We still have not found a copy of the small "S" Thos. Cook & Son perfin.

If you are able to help then please contact Gary via email at: tomasson@shaw.ca or Jon Johnson at: jcperfins@hotmail.com

Perfins of British Caribbean Islands and Area

By Jeff Turnbull and David Coath

PERFINS OF THE BRITISH CARIBBEAN ISLANDS & AREA



Member Jeff Turnbull has released another one of his British Commonwealth Perfin catalogues and it is available as a PDF on the GB Perfin Society Website here: <https://www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/> , just select the Publications link or go direct here:

<https://www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/publicat/caribbean.html>

Jeff covers these rather thinly spread patterns in the same manner of the US Perfin Club World Catalogues and lists all manner of patterns that are found on the stamps of the Caribbean.

Read through it and see if you can add to the listing and tell Jeff at: mrjandit@gmail.com

Check out the other catalogues that Jeff has done that cover, India, Ceylon (Sri Lanka), Malaysia, Africa and Mauritius and again if you can add anything to them, then just let Jeff know.

Meet a Member

By David Coath

I have a few of these Profiles in production, but why don't you join the queue and share your story.

I had planned to interview long time Member John Tracey for this Bulletin, but that has been delayed due to his ill health. I will look to catch up with John in time for the next issue.

Contact me to start the process of sharing your life, philatelic and perfin story.



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Trade with your Fellow PCNZA Members on eBay

The following PCNZA Members have regular eBay listings, including many Perfin items:

<https://www.ebay.com.au/usr/8479smacma> Andrew Ballis (Ormond – VIC)

<https://www.ebay.com.au/usr/moose280353> Donald Adams (Gold Coast – QLD)

<https://www.ebay.com.au/usr/edenzac> Tim Papadopoulos (Dandenong – VIC)

<https://www.ebay.com.au/usr/kenfmoore> Ken Moore (Port Macquarie – NSW)

<https://www.ebay.com.au/usr/scrubwren> Lindsay Parker (Kingston - SA)

<https://www.ebay.com.au/str/artsoldier> Peter J Smith (South Caulfield – VIC)

Make them a Favourite. To be added to the list just contact the Editor.

