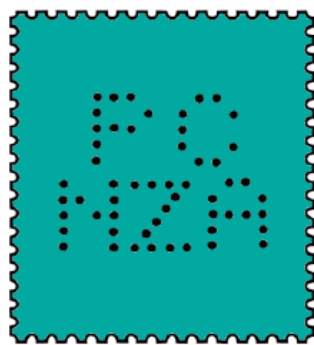




SOUTH **P**ACIFIC **P**ERFIN **B**ULLETIN



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

No.137 APRIL 2022

THE MELBOURNE TRAMWAYS
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FEATURE ARTICLES

- GNSW Type B by Tom Weir and David Coath
- The Early Commonwealth Period 1902 – 12 – OS – Jerry Austen
- Amazing Printers Samples hoard – Dave Elsmore
- R Hall & Sons – Newcastle

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 copies, as Pdf's, on CD or Thumb drive.

Committee and Bank Details

President, Secretary, Auctioneer & Editor: David Coath,
4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria, 3095, Australia
Email: davidcoath@onthe.net.au Telephone: 03 94370 366

Treasurer: Les Vincent,
PO Box 900, Warrnambool, Victoria, 3280, Australia
Email: lesliejvincent@yahoo.com.au Telephone: 0431 871 594
Bank Details: Bendigo Bank (Warrnambool): PCNZA BSB 633108, Account No. 151735909
Paypal: pcnzatreasurer@gmail.com

Assistant Treasurer (NZ): Richard Smolnicki,
19 Oakleigh Street, Maungaraki, Lower Hutt, 5010, New Zealand
Email: rsmolnicki@xtra.co.nz
Bank Details: ANZ Bank: PCNZA BSB 060493, Account No. 06 0493 0179108 00

Forgery Detection: John Graham,
135 Stuart Street, Toowoomba, Qld, 4350, Australia
Email: johngrah@ozemail.com.au Telephone: 0417 205 716

Circuit Manager (Aust): John Lee,
PO Box 184, North Lakes, 4509, Qld, Australia
Email: John_Perfin_Books@hotmail.com Telephone: 0449 877 071
Bank Details: Commonwealth Bank BSB: 064-185 Account No: 1046 3249

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

Committee Member: Greg Howard,
PO Box 31, Blackmans Bay, Tasmania, 7052, Australia
Email: dhow3371@bigpond.net.au Telephone: 0418 135 351

Committee Member: John Mathews,
164 Dumas Street, McKellar, ACT, 2617, Australia
Email: jhmrted@gmail.com

Other Roles

Public Officer: Dan Ryan,
4 Plantation Avenue, Flagstaff Hill, SA, 5159, Australia
Email: danryan@ozemail.com.au

New Zealand Bulletin Mailing: Greg Crawford
48 Clearbrook St, Shirley, Christchurch, 8052, New Zealand
Email: Greg Crawford gregc.doublee@xtra.co.nz Telephone:

PCNZA Perforator: David Coath, (see details above)

New Members

None for this issue, but if you know someone interested in perfin then give you might consider encouraging them to join.

Editors Comment

By David Coath

Welcome to the SPPB #137 which is running a bit late due to the need to get the Auction out as well.

Tom Weir continues his articles on the GNSW Type B and in this article, he deals with stamp issues other than the Kangaroo Series.

Jerry Austen presents an introduction to the new study of the Official Perfins of the Early Commonwealth period 1902 – 12 and it is just the start of these articles which will be produced on a State-by-State basis and be featured in future Bulletins.

The April Bulletin was to feature an important article on the OS patterns found on NWPI issues by new Member Robert Benoist but that has been moved to July due to space considerations. There is a “cab rank” of articles in the mix and as an indication the Cover story came to light in 2020 and has been waiting until now for a space in a 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, Bill Hewson, a repeat doner and Peter Simpfendorfer. These donations mean that the domestic mailing of the Bulletin has been covered from donations alone.

Thanks also to Gordon Monk who donated lots for the Club in the April Auction and to Robert Stahmer who donated some Forged OS and WA on Western Australian issues that will be added to Jerry Austen’s reference collection of forgeries.

The Bulletin could not come together without our regular contributors in Greg Howard, Tom Weir, Dave Elsmore, John Amiet, Stephen Jones (NZ), Jason Rowe, John Graham, Peter Simpfendorfer, Jerry Austen, Les Vincent, and our many new contributors. You can join them by sending something for the Bulletin.

Front Cover

By David Coath and Dave Elsmore

The front Cover this issue is a “taste” of a huge hoard of Perfin proofs and samples that come from a Victorian printer from the early 1900’s. There is not enough room to share all of these, but we feature the best and most thought provoking samples in an article on the last few pages of this Bulletin.

These items are not all true perfins as they feature cancelling devices and other punctures, but they give us an insight into production of early perfin devices as well as showing unknown patterns and possible links to the origin of some major perfin devices in Australia. It is an amazing story.

Subscription Notices

By Les Vincent

Enclosed in this Bulletin is a Personalised Membership Subscription Renewal Form that lists all credits and amounts due for the 2022/23 Membership year.

Payment methods are detailed on the reverse of the form.

I ask that you make your Subscription payment 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.

For any queries, 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 G/NSW Type B Puncture – Identifying the Dies – Part 3: Stamps other than Kangaroos definitives

By Tom Weir and David Coath

As detailed in parts 1 and 2 of this series (Weir and Coath 2021, Weir 2021) this puncture was primarily for use on the Kangaroo issues, with the puncturing head being converted from the OS/NSW Type A device and thus suited to the layout of the sheets of the Kangaroo issues. Various authors have listed stamps other than Kangaroos as being punctured with this G/NSW Type B puncture and so below we will detail our current knowledge of these stamps. We will follow the order of listing as in Andersen (2007) with reference to earlier authors and use of Australian Stamp Catalogue (ASC) numbers as identifiers. Identification of the 12 Dies follows that of Weir and Coath (2021) and Weir (2021), while orientation of the punctures on the stamps follows that of Andersen (2007).

1932 Zoologicals C of A Watermark

The 6d Brown Kookaburra (ASC 140) and the 1/- Green Lyrebird (ASC 141) were both issued in 1932 and were both replaced in 1937 by the smaller size 6d Kookaburra (ASC 194) and 1/- Lyrebird (ASC 196). These two stamps were first recorded as having this puncture by Watkins (1963a, 1963b) and followed by Laidler and Teunis (1985), Andersen (1987) and Andersen (2007). Both of these stamps were extensively punctured with the larger G/NSW Type A as used on the KGV definitive issues and this usage has been covered by Weir (2016, 2018). We have not been able to locate any actual stamps or images displaying real punctures although several images of suspect punctures are known, and these will be discussed in a later part of this series. Thus, we are unable to confirm the presence of real G/NSW Type B punctures on either of these stamps and would consider their existence doubtful.

1/6 Hermes Airmail C of A Watermark: 1937 – 1949

The thick paper version of this stamp (ASC 160) was issued in 1937 and the thin paper version (ASC 161) in 1948. The thin paper version was replaced in 1949 by the smaller format 1/6 Hermes Airmail (ASC 252). These were first recorded by Watkins (1963a, 1963b) and followed by Laidler and Teunis (1985), but Andersen (1987, 2007) stated that their existence was unconfirmed. We have been unable to locate any actual stamps or images displaying real punctures although several images of forged punctures are known, and these will be discussed in a later part of this series. Thus, we are unable to confirm the presence of real G/NSW Type B punctures on these stamps and would consider their existence doubtful.

1941–45 Zoological series C of A Watermark perf 15 x 14 or 14 x 15

Three stamps from this series have been recorded as having this puncture: 6d Brown Kookaburra (ASC 200), 9d Grey Platypus (ASC 201) and 1/- Green Lyrebird (ASC 202) and are first mentioned in Watkins (1963b). This was followed by Laidler and Teunis (1985), Andersen (1987) and Andersen (2007). These three stamps were issued between 1941 and 1943 and remained current until replaced in 1956 by stamps of the same design with no watermark. We have been able to confirm the existence of this puncture on the 6d Kookaburra, 9d Platypus and 1/- Lyrebird stamps. Examples of these are shown in Figures 1 and 2 below. Andersen lists the punctures in either positions 2 or 4 for the 6d Kookaburra and 1/- Lyrebird and position 1 for the 9d Platypus.



Figure 1: 6d Brown Kookaburra (ASC 200) showing Die 8 puncture in position 2 and 9d Grey Platypus (ASC 201) displaying Die 3 puncture in position 1.



Figure 2: 1/- Green Lyrebird (ASC 202) strip of three showing Die 9 puncture in position 2.

1949–56 Zoological series No Watermark

Only the no watermark version of the 1/2d Orange Kangaroo (ASC 203) which was issued in 1949 and was first recorded by Andersen (1987) is of concern here. Andersen (2007) records the puncture only in position 2, but we have located an example of this stamp with the puncture in position 4 and this is shown in Figure 3 below.



Figure 3: 1/2d Orange Kangaroo (ASC 203) showing Die 9 puncture in position 4 and 2/- Brown Crocodile (ASC 244) showing Die 2 puncture in position 1.

1938–49 Robes series C of A Watermark

Only the £1 Blue Robes from this series has been recorded as having this puncture and only by Andersen (2007). He does not state whether this is on thick paper (ASC 212, issued 1938) or thin paper (ASC 213, issued 1949), and indicates the puncture in position 4. The thin paper stamp had a short life, being replaced by the £1 Arms (ASC 256) later in 1949. We have not been able to locate either actual stamps or images of this stamp and thus are not able to confirm the presence of real G/NSW Type B punctures on this stamp and would consider their existence doubtful.

1948 Zoological series

One stamp from this series has been recorded as having this puncture: 2/- Brown Crocodile with C of A watermark. (ASC 244). This was first mentioned by Watkins (1963b) and subsequently followed by Laider and Teunis (1985), Andersen (1987) and Andersen (2007). This stamp remained current until replaced by the 2/- Crocodile with no watermark in 1956. We have seen this puncture only in position 1 as listed by Andersen (2007) and examples are shown in Figures 3 and 6.

1950–57 KGVI Definitive series perf 15 x 14

Only one stamp from this series has been recorded as having this puncture: 2d Yellow–Green Elizabeth no watermark (ASC 269). Watkins (1963b) was the first to list this puncture on this stamp and was followed by Laidler and Teunis (1985), Andersen (1987) and Andersen (2007), who records it in position 2. An example of this usage is shown in Figure 4 below.



Figure 4: 2d Yellow–Green Elizabeth (ASC 269) showing Die 1 puncture in position 2 and 3½d Rd QEII (ASC 291) showing Die 9 puncture in position 2.

1953 QEII Definitive series C of A Watermark

Of the two stamps in this series with C of A watermark, only the 3½d Red QEII (ASC 291) has been recorded with this puncture. Watkins (1963b) was the first to list it, followed by Laidler and Teunis (1985), Andersen (1987) and Andersen (2007). This was issued in 1953 and remained current until replaced by the same denomination with no watermark in 1956. We have seen numerous examples of this puncture in positions 2 and 4 as listed by Andersen (2007) and an example of this puncture in position 2 is shown in Figure 4 above.

1953 QEII Definitive series No Watermark

Of the five stamps in this series, four have been recorded with this puncture: 1d Purple QEII (ASC 293), 2½d Blue QEII (ASC 294), 3d Green QEII (ASC 295) and 3½d Red QEII (ASC 296). Watkins (1963b) first listed the 3d Green and 3½d Red with this puncture and this was followed by Laidler and Teunis (1985), Andersen (1987) and Andersen (2007). The 1d Purple was first listed by Laidler and Teunis (1985) and followed by Andersen (1987) and Andersen (2007), while the 2½d Blue was added by Andersen (2007). These were issued, in order in 1953, 1954, 1953 and 1956 and remained current until replaced by the 1959–62 QEII definitives. We have located the 1d Purple with puncture in position 4, 2½d Blue with puncture in position 2, 3d Green with puncture in positions 2 and 4, and 3½d with puncture in position 2, all as listed by Andersen (2007). Examples of these punctures are shown in Figures 5 and 6 below.



Figure 5: 1d Purple QEII (ASC 293) showing Die 7 puncture in position 4 and 2½d Blue QEII (ASC 294) showing Die 7 puncture in position 2.



Figure 6: 3d Green QEII (ASC 295) showing misaligned Die 5 puncture in position 2 and 2/- Brown Crocodile (ASC 244) showing misaligned Die 6 puncture in position 1.

Puncture alignment compared to Kangaroo stamps

The sheet format for the small Zoologicals, KGVI definitives and QEII definitives was quite different to that of the Kangaroo stamps. The former had a sheet format of 10 rows of 8 and except for the 9d Grey Platypus, were fed sideways into the puncturing machine, resulting in punctures in positions either 2 or 4. As the arrangement of the puncturing head for the Kangaroo stamps was Dies 1 to 6 and Dies 7 to 12 separated by a gutter, not all of the punctures appear fully on all stamps. In an attempt to show this alignment mismatch, we have constructed a mock up using sheets of 1d Purple QEII with G/NSW Type C puncture and 1d Red Kangaroo with OS/NSW Type A puncture, the latter having the same arrangement as this G/NSW Type B puncture. This is shown in Figure 7 below.



Figure 7: Mock-up of sheets of 1d Purple QEII and 1d Red Kangaroo showing alignment of the various Dies in the different formats.

Some conclusions are apparent from this mock up. First, Dies 5 and 6 will usually both partly show on a stamp with Die 5 as in Figure 6. Second, Die 6 will usually only ever be partly showing, as in Figure 6. Third, Die 7 will usually be well centred due to the gutter as shown in Figure 5. Fourth, Dies 10 and 11 will usually both partly show on a stamp with Die 10 as in Figure 8. Fifth, there should not be any Die 12 punctures on these stamps. In all the stamps that we have examined from this group, all the positions of the Dies agree with the above mock up, allowing for slight shifts to the left or right in the alignment of the sheets as fed into the puncturing machine.

A similar situation exists for the 2/- Brown Crocodile which had sheet format of 12 rows of 10, with each stamp having the same width as the 9d Grey Platypus and thus giving the same alignment variations, but the puncture only found in position 1.

Dates of use

The main period of use of this puncture was from 1933 (cessation of the OS/NSW Type A puncture) until 1937 (introduction of G/NSW Type C puncture) on the Kangaroo definitives, but there was continued usage on the 2/- Maroon Kangaroo until it was replaced in 1948 by the 2/- Brown Crocodile. The G/NSW Type B device was later reintroduced for a period in the 1950s as outlined below.

As detailed above, proper usage on the 1932 Zoologicals, 1/6 Hermes Airmail and £1 Robes cannot be verified by us and so no dates can be applied to this. We have not been able to ascertain dates of usage for the 1941-45 Zoological series, 1949-56 Zoological series, 1948 Zoological series, 1950-57 KGVI Definitive series or the 1953 QEII Definitive series C of A watermark mentioned above due to poor date stamp impressions and lack of any covers or cut-outs.

For the 1953 QEII Definitive series no watermark, we have located several examples of usage: August 1956 for 3d Green QEII (a cut-out and a postcard) and October 1956 for 3½d Red QEII, as evidenced by the cut-outs in Figure 9 below. Both of these cut-outs show an interesting, combined usage with the 1/2d Orange Kangaroo which has a contemporary G/NSW Type C puncture. We have also located a 3d Green QEII stamp with a date of March 1959 as shown in Figure 8 below. The reasons for the use of this G/NSW Type B puncture at a time when the G/NSW Type C puncture was in use is unknown, but it has been suggested that the latter puncturing machine might have been out of action for a short period of time. The reasons and timing of the use of the G/NSW Type B puncture on other stamps also remains unknown.



Figure 8: 3d Green (ASC 295) showing usage in March 1959 and 3d Green QEII (ASC 295) showing misaligned Die 10 puncture in position 2



Figure 9: Cut-outs from the 1953 QEII Definitive series showing usage of 3d Green QEII in August 1956 and 3½d Red QEII in October 1956, both with 1/2d Orange Kangaroo with G/NSW Type C punctures.

This brings us to the conclusion of our look at the G/NSW Type B puncture as found on stamps other than the Kangaroo definitives. The next article in this series will look at missing pins, double punctures and oddities.

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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 available to Members for 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 (AOP).

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

“Roo’ing” the Perfin

By Jamie Davidson

I have to preface this article by making the dreaded declaration that I am not a ‘perfin person’ per se. I think like most collectors I got started in stamps as a child as my father was a collector. If your interest persists long enough and survives growing up and the trials of puberty, girls, school, girls, work, girls, family (small girls) etc. you eventually reach the point where you suffer from that other dreaded affliction of all philatelists, (I think I mentioned girls already), Specialisation! Unlike most readers of this publication, I am not primarily a purist in perusing the perfin pantheon. I fell victim to a less alliterative, but equally attractive specialisation in my interest in the Kangaroo and Map stamps of Federation.

As with most specialisations, if you persist with them long enough and avoid that other budget damaging field (girls), you will eventually find a stage where most of the low hanging fruit of your interest is obtained and you reach the point of ‘gap-filling’ your collection. Unfortunately, with the rarer Roo and Map stamps, this is an expensive indulgence, with most gaps looking at a four-figure plus cost to acquire. To maintain a continuity in your interest and control costs you can broaden out in your specialisation to branch into areas like the North-West Pacific Island overprints or the ‘OS’ puncture variations of these stamps, and that is what happened in my case. This eventually leads to a conjunction with the perfin and my specialisation and my interest in your area as an affordable adjunct to my primary interest.

This is in no way meant to downplay or disparage the primary interest of readers of this article, rather it highlights how this can meld a fascinating area of study with another field. Not being a purist, I was not primarily motivated by the mechanics (heads etc) or history of private perfins like many in the club. I initially found the scope of the sheer variety of Kangaroo and Map perfins simply too broad to effectively engage me. As my dad would say, ‘There were too many rabbits for the dog to chase’, and I had to further refine my interest in the perfins to meld with another field of my primary interest.

The ‘Five-shilling Fetish’

The focus of my perfin section of the Kangaroo and Map stamps primarily concentrates on a single denomination of that series, the Yellow and Black 5/- denomination. Why that stamp? Aside from the fact that it is an attractive stamp in its own right, there are several reasons. Of the thirteen Kangaroo and Map denominations, only three appear across all five watermarks the stamps were printed on, the 5/- is one of those. Secondly, the four bi-coloured high-value denominations, 5/-, 10/-, One and Two-pound values, were all printed in a two-stage process with separate frames (map and value) and vignette (kangaroo) plates, resulting in a range of distinctive variations specific to this process. Thus the 5/- denomination is in addition to being on all watermarks is also the cheapest and most common of the high denomination stamps for the budget-conscious collector keen to be able to collect all of those variations. Lastly, by restricting myself to this single denomination (actually in reality all of the high-value Roo’s, of which the 5/- is commonest), I have managed to reduce the vast array of perfins down to a simpler and more manageable selection in which to specialise and investigate thoroughly.

Exhibition Pages

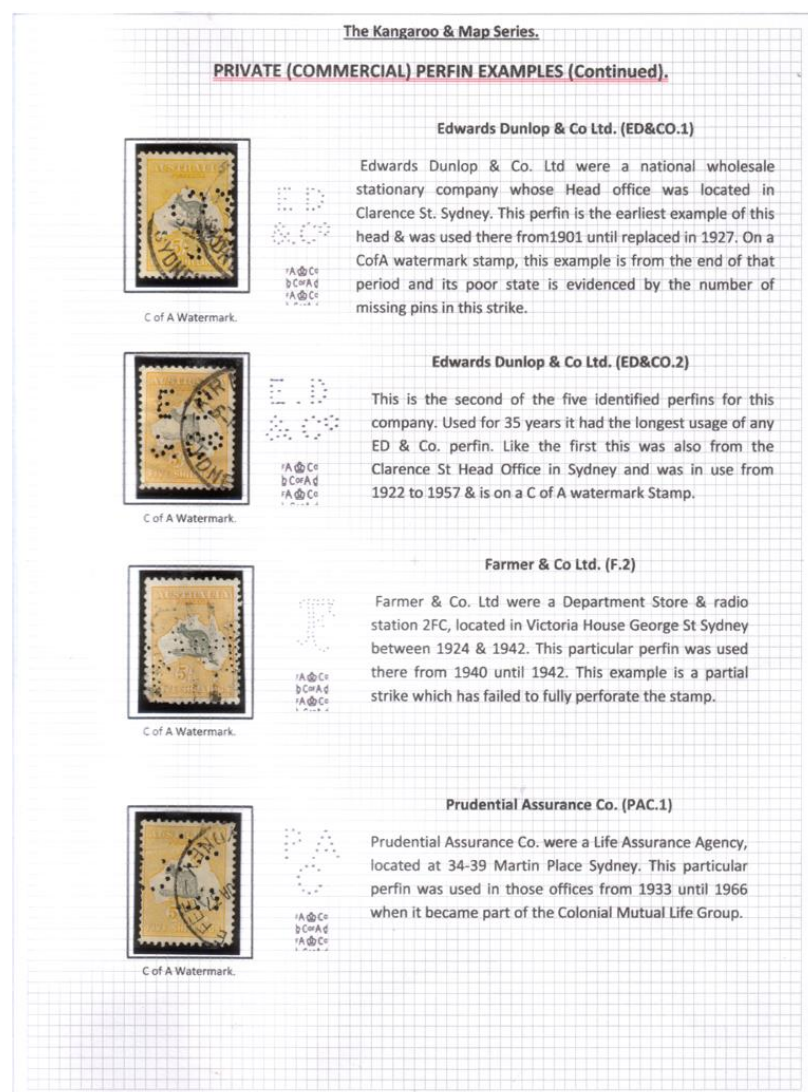
In conjunction with the above ideas, I would like to offer some thoughts on the promotion of Perfins and philately through the use of exhibition pages. The images accompanying this article are all prepared exhibition pages featuring both the Kangaroo and Map stamps and Perfins as discussed, which have been presented at venues like the local show or stamp exhibitions. I would like to

encourage readers and Perfin inclined members, to consider this option with their collection for several reasons.

Firstly, there is the 'Peacock' principle, the desire to display what we have, ("Hey look at me, I'm a man....Errr, philatelist"). As the old saying said, 'A pleasure shared is a pleasure doubled', and we all like to share what we enjoy, which is especially so when we have an unusual interest such as perfin.

Secondly is the 'Fossicker' principle. Exhibition pages at public venues like shows can on occasion lead to a member of the public revealing something of significance. Twice in the last 30 years responses like 'My dad had one similar', lead to an interesting find. Unlikely but it does happen, but only if you go to the effort involved in exhibiting.

The last and particularly relevant principle is promotion. For this club, it is the benefit of sharing knowledge and raising the profile of perfin as a speciality. The fact that it is a cheap and interesting adjunct to stamp collecting itself is worth promoting and can help increase the profile and membership of the club.



I would conclude by thanking all the readers and members for their efforts. As can be seen from the sample pages below, I have unashamedly benefited from the bank of corporate knowledge that the club represents. Your efforts and expertise only add to the field of philately, and I for one consider myself a beneficiary and can only applaud what you have done. Using images and data from your experience has not only increased my knowledge but greatly helped to also make informative and interesting displays which not only benefits the club but also helps keep philately relevant today, when there are so many competing alternatives available.

I hope you will excuse my sense of humour and enjoy how perfin have been integrated into my primary interest. I'll finally conclude with a self-interest plug, and encourage anyone with any excess, interesting or unusual high value (5/- plus

denomination) kangaroo and map stamps, please feel free to drop me a line.

James Davidson email: Jamie Davidson ttangles2@yahoo.com.au

Editor's Note

Due to space limitations, we were not able to share all of Jamie's exhibition pages, but these can be seen in all their glory on the Exhibition tab of perfin.com.au here:

<https://www.perfin.com.au/tabs/t5.html>

Official OS Perfins of the Early Commonwealth Period – An Introduction

By Jerry Austen and David Coath

Australia came into existence on 1 January 1901, the first day of a new century with the Federation of the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Australia did not issue its own postage stamps until the Kangaroo and Map issue of late 1912 and later the KGV issues, however, the State issues of 1901 until 1912 are in fact Australian Commonwealth issues as they were produced under the jurisdiction of Commonwealth Legislation.

Prior to Federation in 1901 each State had been responsible for its own postal services including the printing and issuing of stamps. In this time State Government Departments had allowed free transit of Official mail and this generally was covered by the application of Frankings and in South Australia with Overprints, initially Departmental overprints and then a more general OS.

With Federation the responsibility for the postal service moved to the newly formed Commonwealth Government and they soon crafted Legislation to remove the free use of the postal system by any body, including both the Commonwealth and State Government Departments.

In 1902 the Commonwealth Government passed the “Federal Posts and Telegraphs Act” which ended Free postal arrangements and furthermore the burgeoning Commonwealth Postmaster Generals Department introduced policies to require both Commonwealth and if required, State Governments to perforate their postage stamps. The use of Overprinting was suggested by some States, but Postmaster General insisted on perforating.

It is all well and good to make and pass Commonwealth Legislation, but it is another thing to see it implemented.

In 1902 the various States were still producing their own Postage stamps in a range of formats in State based Government Printers in NSW, Queensland, and Victoria, with South Australia served by a contracted printer managed by the State Government. Western Australia, and Tasmania had their stamps printed by the Government Printer in Victoria.

Given this rather complex and inconsistent production process it is unsurprising that the response to the instruction to perforate stamps OS was undertaken in a rather haphazard manner.

Larger States such as NSW and Victoria acted quickly but Queensland did not have OS devices in use for all issues until mid to late 1906. That is what makes these all the more interesting to collect and remember they are part of any collection of Australian Commonwealth Official Perfins.

In future Bulletins we will be featuring the details of the various patterns and devices and a sample of the issues of each State and the introduction of these, starting with South Australia.

References and Further Reading

A great deal has been written on this rather complex subject and rightly so as it defines the transition from the various State Government Postal Authorities into the Commonwealth Postmaster Generals Department.

We would recommend:

“Punctured and Overprinted Official Stamps of Australia 1902 – 1933” by Richard Breckon published in “Gibbons Stamp Monthly” November 2002.

This is an encyclopaedic and authoritative coverage of the subject through the entire period of the Commonwealth Governments use of perfins and later overprints.

"Stamps Punctured for Official Use around 1902 – 05" by Bill Lloyd Smith published in "Philately from Australia" December 2011

"A Note on OS Punctures in the Early Federal Era" by Bill Lloyd Smith published in "Philately from Australia" March 2012.

"Philately in Australia" is the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria

These articles are superbly researched and feature extracts from contemporary correspondence between the Commonwealth and State Departments that help Bill paint an entertaining picture of confusion, State rivalry, intransigence, and resentment of Commonwealth authority, which seems to have played out at the time.

"From the Australian Archives in Melbourne" by Max Hooper published in "Sydney Views" Issue #41 November 1993, which is the Journal of the Australian States Study Circle of the Royal Sydney Philatelic Club.

This article confirms many of the same archival sources used by Bill Lloyd Smith and further it outlines the structure of the Australian Post Office of the time as:

"The nominal head of the Post Office was the Postmaster General, who was always a politician and a junior member of Cabinet. The real head was the Secretary, and from 1902 – 10 this was Mr, (later Sir) Robert Scott. Under him were the six Deputy Postmasters General, who were the public servants in charge of the Post Office in each State."

"Official Punctures of the Early Commonwealth Period on State Stamps" by Greg Laidler, Henk Teunis and Ken Moore, published in "Stamp News" July 1985.

This concise article covers the salient points while also dealing with some of the smaller State Government Departments.

"Australian Official Perfins" Edition 2 (2007) by David Andersen.

David covers each pattern on a State-by-State basis and not only covers Commonwealth and State patterns but those of State Authorities and Local Governments.

Summary

If you want a copy of any or all of these articles, then please contact David Coath (details on Page 2) for a scanned or photocopied set.

"Australian Official Perfins" is available from the Club at the discounted Members rate of just \$25 plus \$10 postage in Australia. Discounted rates are also available for other destinations.

Club Auction – 2022

By David Coath

With this issue you will receive the PCNZA Auction for 2022 but it will come as a "soft copy" series of images via email. The format is a bit different this year as we are looking to move to a Pdf format to reduce printing costs and at the same time provide more images and less descriptions.

It will be an evolving process and we may in fact move to an online format in time, but this will depend on costs and ease of loading items for sale/auction.

The Auction closes on 30 June 2022 so make sure that you get your bids in by then. Remember the first bid on a given lot breaks bidding ties, so bidding earlier is best.

There is a bid form in the Bulletin and a printable version with the Auction images.

If you have any issues with your Auction Pdf or wish to see more scans of an item, just send me an email or give me a call.

R Hall & Son – Newcastle

By David Coath and John Tracey

John Tracey has been a PCNZA Member for as long as I can remember. He often sends me notes in the mail and he is a delight to correspond with, he is not a perfin specialist but has come to perfins from a specialist interest in the Postmarks of NSW and in particular the “Sydney” cancels.



John purchases and sorts many accumulations in pursuit of his collecting and encounters many perfins along the way. Because he sees the postmark first, he is interested to note the relationship of postmarks to a given pattern.

Recently John sent me a note about an interesting RH&S.1 (see left above) stamp

he had with a clear Newcastle Postmark, Numeral 55. He asked if it was possible that Robert Harper, Tea Merchants, could have had an office in Newcastle.

Let's look at what we know about the Robert Harper group of patterns.

RH&C
PTYLD

RH&C
OLD

RH&C
O

RH&S
&S

RH&COPTYLD.1

RH&COLD.1

RH&CO.1

RH&S.1

Melbourne

Melbourne

Sydney

Newcastle ??

1906 – 14*

1915 – 19*

1906 – 33

???

Note * I have added to the HAPP usage periods based on postmarks and issues that I have seen with these patterns.

Now RH&COPTYLD.1, RH&COLD.1 and RH&CO.1 are all proved to Robert Harper & Co, and we know a fair bit about that company. We know Robert Harper worked as a partner with J F McKenzie & Co, Roasting and Grinding millers and that he established Robert Harper & Co in 1865 and that the business expanded as outlined in the excellent article on Harper in the “Australian Dictionary of Biography” as follows:

The business prospered; the firm established a factory to process and package its goods and also large rice-dressing mills. By the mid-1870s Harper was a leading Melbourne merchant. His brother William became a partner and another brother John joined them about 1883. Branches were established in Sydney (1877), Adelaide (1882), Brisbane (1887) and later in the other colonies including New Zealand.

See the full article here: <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/harper-robert-6572> and a full history on the “Revenue Perfins of New South Wales” R Chapter here:

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

Harper had its main branches in Melbourne and Sydney which both had perfin devices from about 1906, and it had other offices in Brisbane, Adelaide, New Zealand, Fremantle as well as depots in Bendigo, Ballarat, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, and Townsville, but these did not have perfin devices.

So, Robert Harper & Co did not have an office or depot in Newcastle and even if it did it would be unlikely to have a perfin device.

In HAPP Appendix 1 "Possible User Identities" pages 13 – 27, (see below) there are several possible users suggested for RH&S. Note that there are 2 listings for RH&S, this was likely done so as to delineate between the various RH&S patterns as follows. The first listing could be meant to refer to the RHS (RHS.1 – .8) and RH&S (RH&S.2 – .13) pattern group found in Melbourne, Victoria. The second listing likely refers to the RH&S.1 pattern, which is the subject of our interest.

RH&S

- R Hornsby & Son Ltd, Engineers & importers, 246 Spencer St, Melbourne Vic

RH&S

- Robert Harper & Sons, Importers & merchants, 98 York St, Sydney NSW
- R Hall & Sons, Produce merchants, 136 Scott St, Newcastle NSW, and 137 Sussex St, Sydney NSW

For RH&S.1 I believe that we can eliminate Robert Harper & Co and that leaves R Hall & Son, let's see what we can learn from their history.

History of R Hall & Son – Newcastle

Richard Hall was born in Wales (some sources say nearby Gloucestershire) (United Kingdom) in 1823 and came to Newcastle (Australia) in 1851 aged 28. He initially worked as a coal miner at the "Borehole Colliery" but in 1859 he started what would become one of the largest companies in Newcastle.

Richard's start came when he began a door-to-door fruit and vegetable business buying produce in bulk from the local Market and then selling it direct to the housekeeper.

The business grew quickly and within a few years Richard established a small store in Scott St, Newcastle, from which he sold and shipped produce to contacts all through the Hunter Valley.

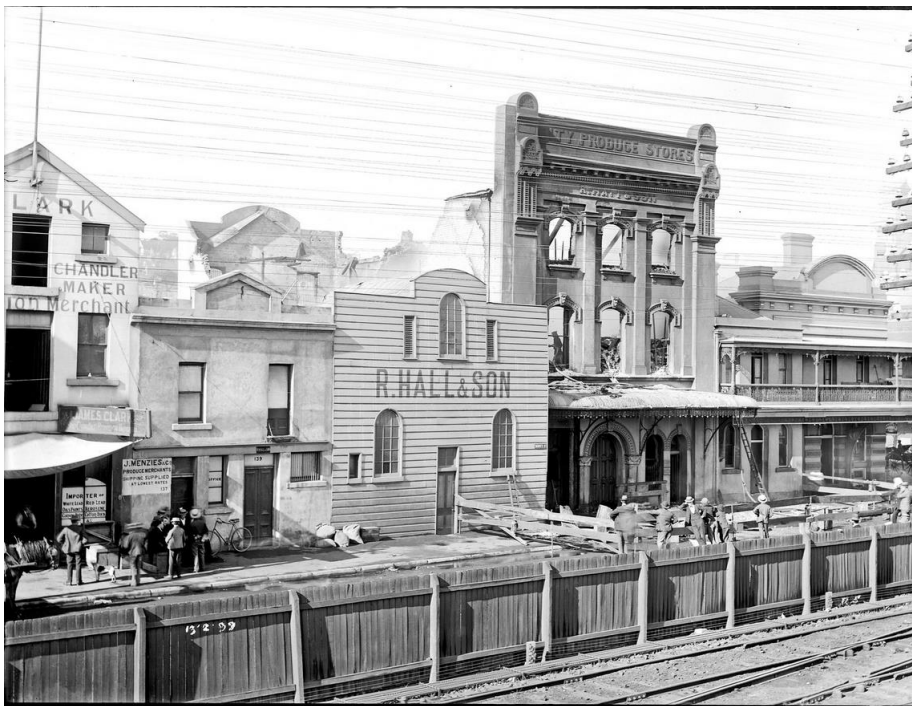
As Newcastle grew so too did Richard's business and soon, he was joined by his sons John Richard, born 26 June 1856 and George H, born in 1861(unconfirmed).

By 1890 R Hall & Son had expanded to be handling a huge range of produce and

grocery items that were not only moved through the Hunter area but by ship to R Hall & Son offices that were established in Sussex St, Sydney, Fremantle (WA) and Rockhampton (Qld).

About this time, they also built reciprocal import and export arrangements with traders in Canada, USA and England that included commodities such as coal, grain, dairy produce and flour amongst other produce items.





By 1897 R Hall & Son employed about 200 staff as carters, storemen, sales staff and clerks and a stable of more than 50 horses to pull a fleet of carts for collection and distribution.

On 14 February 1899 there was a massive fire at the Companies Scott St premises. (See at left and previous page) The fire started on the ground floor and soon engulfed the entire building destroying all stock and records over 3 floors. It was

reported at the time that as many as 170 firefighters had attended the blaze and their work had been hampered by a huge number of onlookers.

Richard Hall passed away on 21 December 1903 after a lengthy illness and his eldest son John Richard Hall became the head of the company until his death in 1921. At this point, he was replaced by Major General J Patton who held the position until John S Hall, son of John Richard Hall, took over aged just 27.



John S Hall was the Manager at the time of the celebration of the companies Centenary in 1959 which coincided with the opening of their new modern warehouse in Hamilton (NSW).

It is an amazing story of hard work, risk and success in a new country and the growing city of Newcastle.

There is one nagging piece of the jigsaw that does not seem to fit. That is why was the company called R Hall & Son (singular) when we know that Richard had two sons, John (Richard) and George H (Henry?). We know that John took over the company on his father's death but what happened to Richard's son George H Hall? That is perhaps answered by the monument found in the Sandgate Cemetery in Newcastle shown at left.

This is the monument of a wealthy family such as the Hall's and the age of 47 fits with George being the younger brother of John (born 1856) but that does not tell us George's story, but it suggests that he was not part of R Hall & Son for the long term.

The RH&S pattern

Well, we have been around the block, and we are back where we started and what do we have?

Robert Harper & Co were perfin users

RH&S is a poor fit for Robert Harper & Co as the "S" makes no sense

Robert Harper did not have an office in Newcastle and did not allocate perfin devices to regional offices or depots

HAPP suggests R Hall & Son as a possible user

R Hall & Son were located in Newcastle which fits the postmarks

R Hall & Son fits the RH&S letters in the pattern

Based on postmark evidence the RH&S.1 device/pattern was used in Newcastle around C1900

The usage period of the RH&S device /pattern is short and hence the scare rating, yet the strikes are clear showing that the device was sound

R Hall & Son had a huge fire in 1899 that destroyed their premises and may have destroyed a perforating device, if they had one

Conclusion

John Tracey's observation about the Newcastle postmarks on RH&S.1 has given us an insight into the most likely user of the pattern being R Hall & Son. This shows that the smallest piece of evidence can lead us to expand what we know or can speculate in our hobby.

It is not conclusive as although the postmarks on the examples we have of RH&S.1 suggest a C1900 period we do not have conclusive dates. We can change this if Members look through their collections for RH&S.1 patterns and see if they can find any clear postmarks with dates. Share them please if you find them.

It is about a 90% fit and certainly deserves R Hall being assigned as the Provisional user for RH&S.1. Thanks John Tracey.

References

Some images from Flickr, TROVE, "The Newcastle Sun" Supplement of 9 June 1959 entitled "R Hall & Son Pty Ltd Supplement – A Hundred Years of Progress", "Billion Graves" website featuring Sandgate Cemetery – Newcastle.

PCNZA Facebook Page

By Dave Elsmore, Greg Howard and David Coath



The PCNZA Facebook page is entitled the "Australian Perfin Group" and it continues to grow and now has more than 275 Members.

These sites are what you make of them, and they rely on Members posting questions and finds. They can also be a source of humour and good-natured banter between collectors.

This was a recent post I made after my son Alex had introduced me to Meme Generation sites. A Meme was

first described by the Evolutionary Biologist Richard Dawkins in his book "The Selfish Gene". He considered them like genes but that they were ideas or information that spread, evolved, and affected what they came into contact with.

So I generated a meme on this site called "The Three Wolves Meme Generator" <https://imgflip.com/memegenerator/254265664/The-Three-Wolves> You get the image and you just key in text to fit and save it, it is great fun.

You will find our Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ozperfins>

New Zealand Reports

By Stephen Jones

1898 Pictorial with "Cancelled" perfin

This interesting perfin was seen recently in a collection of 1898 Pictorials in a lot for sale in Mowbray's public auction, the 8d value of the set, uncanceled and perfined with a partial strike of a "(CA)NCELLE(D)" perfin device.

The example was from the first local printing of the issue in 1899, perf 11 and without watermark. The back of the stamp had a shiny look, giving the appearance of still having gum, but I could not be 100% certain if this was the case.



1899 8d perfined "Cancelled"



Reverse

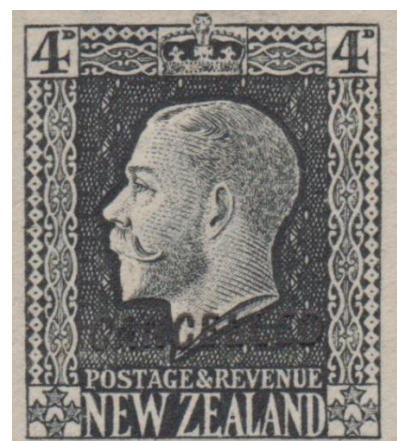
In the 19th and early 20th century the New Zealand post office would gift copies of mint stamps to dignitaries or important collectors. These were overprinted "Specimen" (until around 1890) or cancelled with various cancellation devices.

This cancelling probably ceased around the mid 1910's. As a member of the UPU, New Zealand would supply the other UPU member countries with three mint copies of each of the stamps that were issued here. These were sent without any form of marking. Typically, the receiving postal administration would mount the stamps in an album and often overprinted them "Specimen" or cancelled the stamps with their own distinctive administrative markings.

The Crown Agents also produced copies, perfined "Specimen", of the stamps they produced for their client administrations. This is not a collecting field I am familiar with, but my understanding is that this would have been prevalent on stamps issued during the reigns of George V and George VI.



Crown Agents Dominica perfined 1915 GV Overprinted "Cancelled" "Specimen"



As far as I am aware, all the Specimen perfin devices in use were always small enough to result in a full strike of the word on the stamp it was applied to. If they occurred, any partial strikes would be due to poor application of the punch.

Although I have a proof example, overprinted "Cancelled", of the New Zealand 4d GV value issued in 1915, I do not recall seeing any New Zealand stamp with a perfin of this nature.

I believe the "Cancelled" perfin on this New Zealand stamp is the result of it being attached to a document of some sort, probably a bank draft, which was subsequently punched as part of the processing of the that document.

While it is unusual that the stamp was not cancelled in some manner, it is not unknown for this to happen. Steaming the stamp from the document, or saturating it and peeling it off, would leave an amount of gum residue remaining on the stamp. Stamps from the first local printing of this issue are often found with quite thick gum, certainly sufficient to remain and give the appearance of being mint.

GB Perfin Catalogue – Thumb Drive

By David Coath

The GB Perfin Society has a fantastic offer for GB Society Members

For those of you not familiar with the GB Catalogue it is an amazing resource that has an enormous amount of detail about each pattern.



As well as the normal image of the pattern and catalogue number, the catalogue lists the issues that it is found on, the structure of the device, owners of the device including address and nature of business as well as likely Postmarks and usage ranges. It is an amazingly detailed reference especially when you consider that the scope of the GB Perfin Study extends to almost 25,000 patterns.

The catalogue is massive but now the GB Perfin Society Members are able to obtain the entire catalogue and its related publications on a single thumb drive for just £30 plus postage.

The contents are as follows:

- *'The Gault Catalogue of G.B. Perfins (Gault-2)'* - sections A-Z, Designs, Numbers, and Monograms. {over 3,450 pages}.
- The *Tomkins Catalogue of Identified G.B. Perfins*. {700 pages}.
- The complete set of updated files forming the website project *'G.B. Stamps known with Perfins - 2022'*. {1,560 pages}.
- *'The Gault Catalogue of Irish Perfins'* - 2022 edition. {170 pages}.
- *'The G.B. Coils Catalogue'* - 2022 edition. {155 pages}.
- A complete set of *Perfin Society Bulletins* 1957-2021. {8,700 pages}.
- *'Sloper Records'* - Maurice Harp {320 pages}.

It is worth joining the GB Society just to get this great deal, I re-joined and have received Thumb Drive and it is an amazing resource.

For more details about how to order this see the GB Society web site here: <https://perfinsoc.org.uk/>

Auction Watch and New Reports

By Tom Weir, Greg Howard, Dan Ryan, Jamie Davidson, Jerry Austen, John Amiet, Jason Rowe, David Coath and Dave Elsmore



This new report from Greg Howard is a new Bevilles security overprint on a Victorian Stamp Duty. (See reduced image of full document at left)

There was already a Bevilles overprint reported for New South Wales which you can see in the "Commercial Security Overprints of Australia", here:

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

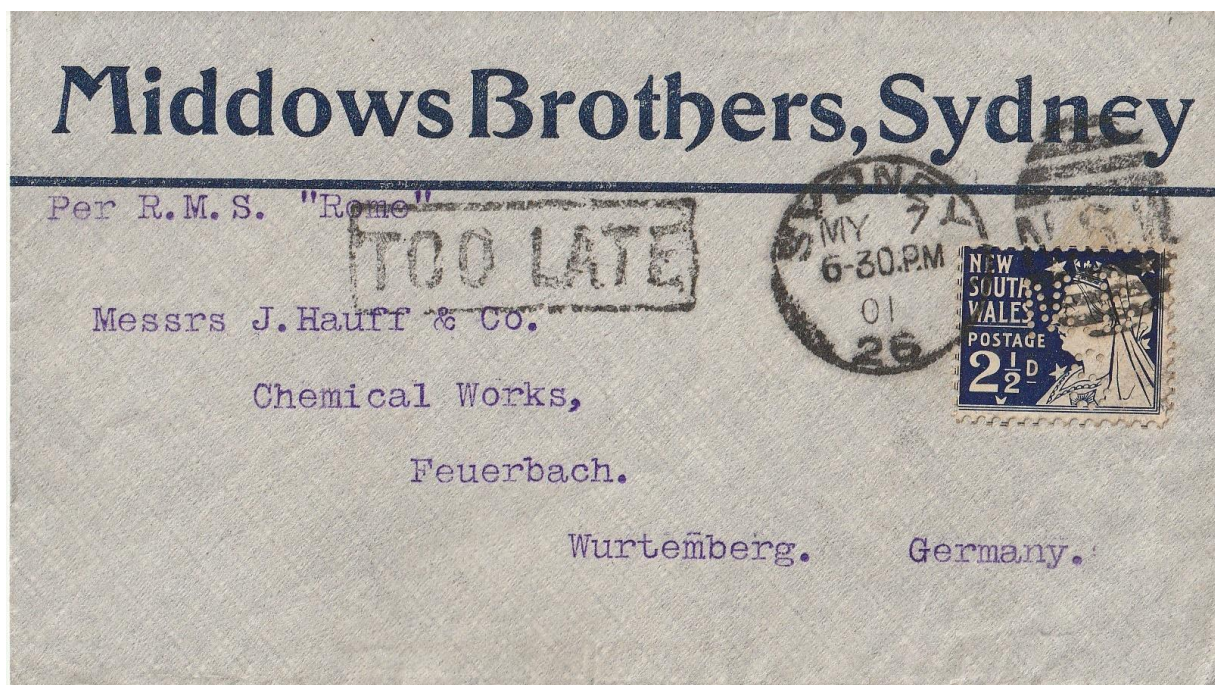
The NSW Bevilles is on the B page of the NSW Section here:

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

The example on the Victorian stamp duty reported by Greg is in the form of two partials and it appears to have been struck with a rubber stamp.



This is a common feature of Security Overprints from rubber stamps as the purpose of the Security Overprint is just to show the users details. The same occurs with "blanket" overprints which cover multiple stamps or indeed "blanket" perfin dies that do the same such as the large L.&L.&G./INSURANCE/Co. die found on the Revenue stamps of NSW and later in an amended form on those of Queensland. See the L Page of the "Revenue Perfins of New South Wales."



Greg Howard reported this rare cover which was listed in a recent Abacus Auction. It is a proving cover for MBS.1 which is rated as a common pattern, but more likely is uncommon to scarce and very rare on cover. It sold for just \$75

HAPP lists it as used from 1901 – 1914 and this makes this usage very early. Note the full address for Middows Brothers is 71 – 73 Clarence St, Sydney.



Jamie Davidson reports this PAC.1 on a 10/- Roo with a CofA watermark, that was in the recent Phoenix Auction #91 and sold for \$125.

Only a handful of private patterns have been reported on 10/- Roos and this is a rare find



Jerry Austen spotted this RO.1 on eBay. It is a Temporary pattern from Melbourne and the User is unknown, but it is rare on any value, but this was only the 2nd example that I had seen on the beautiful Victorian 5/- Bi colour.

The postmark is hard to read but it is 1912 which is early usage.



Tom Weir reports that this pair of high value GNSW Type B's were on eBay recently and sold for just \$87. Tom assures me that they have found a very good home.

These are most uncommon, and I have seen the 10/- go for hundreds on its own. I guess that now Tom is searching for the other 11 dies of this 12-die device on the 5/- and 10/-.



This 5/- with an AE.1 2nd watermark Roo reported by Jason Rowe sold on eBay for just for \$48.

AE.1 is an uncommon pattern and finding it on a 5/- is a challenge but finding it on a 2nd watermark is an even greater challenge. We can forgive it the ugly Melbourne Parcel Cancellation.

AUSTRALIA - Kangaroos - First Watermark



Ex Lot 2071

2071 *

A-/A+ 1/2d to £2 complete punctured 'OS/NSW' plus a second 3d with the *Watermark Inverted*, variable centring and the odd short perf, the 2 1/2d has no gum, the 5/- has slightly aged gum but is unmounted, the 10/- is lightly mounted, the £1 is *superb* unmounted & the £2 is lightly mounted. An unusually fine set of these rare official stamps. Separate *Chris Ceremuga Certificates* (2014) for the 5/- to £2. [Until now, the *Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Catalogue* has not listed or priced State Government Officials. We hope that will be addressed in future editions] (16)

\$10,000

This set of 1st Watermark Roos from 1/2d to £2 mint might look familiar. As I recall it was part of the Stuart Hardy Collection sold in 2013 by Phoenix Auctions. If my memory serves, they were passed in at about \$1500 and purchased by a dealer who on sold them at the Exhibition that was being held at that time at the Exhibition Buildings. I know this because the set was missing some of the lower values and I helped the buyer fill a few gaps in the set after it was sold.

Now they are on offer at Abacus in their huge Public Auction 247 of 27 - 30 April 2022. The reserve is \$10,000 and bidding starts at \$7,500.

AUSTRALIA - Kangaroos - First Watermark



Lot 2083



Lot 2085

2083 V A- B1 1d red Die II punctured 'OS/NSW' with the *Perfin Inverted*, well centred, a couple of very minor blemishes, light 'LIDCOM[BE/NSW]' cds. PCNZA Certificate (2022).

\$250

At the same Abacus Sale, you will find Lot 2083 which is a very rare OSNSW Type A inverted. Before you wonder if it is a forgery, you can put your mind at ease as it carries a PCNZA Certificate and would have been expertised by Tom Weir.

A rare item indeed when genuine but generally you should be cautious when you see inverted strikes for sale and seek advice from Tom. His details are on Page 9 of this Bulletin.

Forgeries – Some are better than others

By David Andersen and David Coath



David Andersen shared these “gems” on the Facebook Page (see article bottom of Page 17).

The W/A is a rare find on 1/6 Hermes. It is listed in “Australian Official Perfins” Edition 2 on page 207 and stated to be found in Position 1 (upright). Now this would seem an unlikely position as the W/A Device was initially built to puncture the KGV issues with a standard 12 die horizontal array with a gap for the centre selvedge, like the Commonwealth OS’s, the VG (1st and 2nd Heads) and the OSNSW Type C, to name a few. Therefore, if a 1/6 Hermes was struck in Position 1 it would carry a partial of at least one other strike. Frankly I would expect it to be struck in Positions 4 or 8, like the example above as the height of the Hermes approximates the width of the KGV issue. But I would expect it to carry a WA postmark and not a Sydney Parcel cancellation like this one.

The other item has been enlarged in order for you to see the pattern more clearly as it is rather faint. It is an OS in the style of OS Type G that is found on the 1st Watermark Roos but it is smaller and it has been applied to a 6d small Kookaburra of the 1938 – 56 issue.

The forger has gone to some trouble, not only in the creation of this bogus pattern but also in its presentation. They must have removed the stamp, punctured it and reattached it to the paper. If this is the case, then they have done a good job of matching the postmark (Glenferrie South) well. Full points for effort but it is rubbish.

Amazing Horde of Printers Samples and Proofs

By David Coath and Dave Elsmore



This is the front cover item, and it is a massive pattern that is approximately 145mm x 66mm. It hints at its date Circa 1903 and its purpose was as a cancelling punch applied to a financial instrument, in this case a Debenture.

The story of "The Melbourne Tramways Trust" and its relationship to the "Melbourne Tramway & Omnibus Co Ltd" and its transition to the "Melbourne & Metropolitan Tramways Board" is a story worth telling from both the historical and perfins sides, as it relates to the MTO, MTOC, MTOCO and TB pattern groups which collectively total almost 40 patterns. But this can be for another day.

Dave Elsmore is primarily a revenue collector and as a result he searches not just for postage stamps or perfins but for revenues, railways, documents and even ephemera from all sources.



This Huge Tramways Trust Perfin was in an eBay lot from a seller who was disposing of the contents of an old Printing Company, and it was described as being "Antique 1900's Paper Embossing Perforator Letter Press...".

(See the sample photos at left, above and some others on Page 27)

Dave was the only bidder and after the sale of the item for \$45 he contacted the seller to see what else he had and to ask where the material came from.

and most importantly, some background on the Printer.

The seller explained that he had purchased a clearance lot from a Printing Company in suburban Melbourne and it included some old furniture with material from an earlier printer from the Melbourne city named Durre. This started us looking for Durre as the possible source of perfin as well as the related devices.

History of Hermann Durre/Max Lober

Friedrich Wilhelm Hermann DÜRRE was born in Berlin, (then Prussia) in 1855 and was an engraver who arrived in Melbourne in August 1882 on the "MARSALA", along with his wife Dorothea Theresa (nee Bartsch).

Durre started an engraving and later printing business as early as 1884 and it was reported that he was initially located at 452 Bourke St, Melbourne.

He is also reported to have been involved in the production and distribution of Tourist Guides including the "New Tourists' Guide & Victorian View Album for 1888-1889".

The Sands & McDougall "Melbourne & Suburban Directory" of 1900 shows that he had moved to 389 Little Collins St by 1900. See extract below left and larger advert below, both from the Directory.

DURRE, HERMANN
General engraver, manufacturer of brass and rubber stamps, etc; First Order of Merit C.I.E., Melb.; 389 Little Collins-st (see advt)

DURRE, HERMANN,
general engraver, manufacturer brass and rubber stamps, etc; First Order of Merit C.I.E., Melb.; 389 Little Collins-st; p.r. 31 Auburn-gro, Auburn (see advt)

The Durre family lived-in inner-City Prahran but by 1900 they had moved to 31 Auburn Grove, (Auburn) East Hawthorn. See above right. Durre was a member of the "Melbourne Deutscher Club Krankenverein (German Sick and Relief Society) from 1883 until his death on 14 October 1944, his wife had died on 20 December 1938. The family may have later moved to Mitcham.

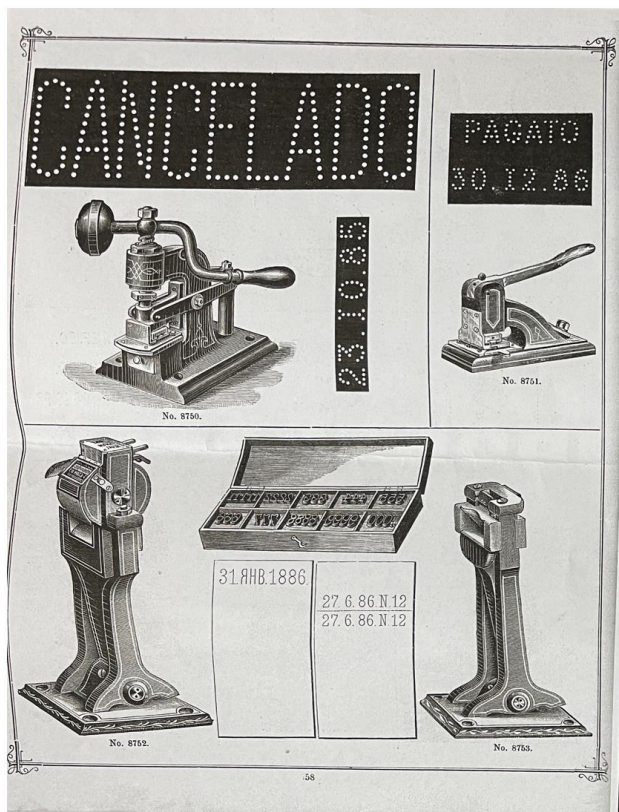
Durre ran his business from 1884 to 1925 when it was sold to Max Lober who was also an engraver and is said to have operated a business in Collins St., but we cannot confirm this as he does not feature in the Directory at that time. Lober continued to operate in the City, before relocating to Bridge Road, Richmond. The business was again sold in 1988 but continued to trade as a provider of metal and rubber stamps. Although there is also another Signage Business in Richmond claiming lineage from Max Lober.



This "muddies the waters" somewhat as we cannot be certain if the hoard dates from the time of Durre or the later time of Lober, but there are some clues.



The Melbourne Tramways Trust pattern is clearly intended for use from 1903 onwards and in the collection of larger perfin samples shown on Page 23, the Day/Month/Year punch is set to 1 NO 1907. See at left.



Furthermore, included in the hoard were some pages from trade catalogues and they show perforators of various styles. These are reminiscent of the one shown on Page 13 of "Commercial Perfins of Australia" (CPA) which was part of an advertisement for C G Roeszler & Son Pty Ltd, who were contemporaries of Durre and had a similar listing in the "Melbourne & Suburban Directory" of 1900, see at left.

The trade catalogue pages are similar to ones that have been shown in previous Bulletins over the years and they appear to be of German origin, which is consistent with Durre's background, although the examples shown are for other languages, PAGATO – is PAID, ANNULLATO is CANCELLED and PAGADO is PAID OUT in Spanish while UNGULTIG is INVALID in German etc. Notably in the left-hand page the four dates shown are "85" and "86" which would be 1885 and 1886, although the date of the catalogue may be later. Furthermore, the receiving stamp on one of the Sample sheets (see left) shows a date of 1911 which is well inside the Durre period.

I think we have enough information to date the sample hoard to Durre's period rather than Lober's, so let's see what else we can find in the hoard.

Sample Perfin patterns on Sheets



This is JMP&S.2 which is a customised pattern that is provisionally assigned to J M Peck & Sons, Stock and Station Agents which is reported in HAPP as being used in the period 1913 – 16. The examples at the top of page 26, show use on Victoria which could be 1913 but the KGV 1 ½ d Brown is a Large Multiple issued and postmarked in 1919 but even with this expansion of usage the period is within the Durre period of operation.



JMP&S.3, a Temporary pattern, was proved to J M Peck in a cover featured on page 38 of SPPB # 102 of July 2013 and JMP&S.1, also a Temporary pattern, had previously been confirmed to J M Peck in CPA but this was qualified to a Provisional user in HAPP.

It is very likely that J M Peck were the users of all these patterns. JMP&S.1 dates from 1896 until at least 1900 and there are a handful of other unreported

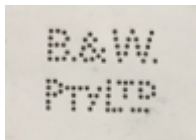
JMP&S Temporary patterns used in the early 1900's before JMP&S.3 in 1911 and then this customised pattern JMP&S.2 in about 1913.

All of this fits the history of J M Peck who existed between 1888 and 1922.

There is a comprehensive history of J M Peck on the recently loaded J Page for the "Revenue Perfins of Victoria" here: <https://www.perfins.com.au/OZ-Revenue-Perfins/Victoria-Revenue-J-Perfins.html>

Now Dave Elsmore's find does not help us with confirming the user of JMP&S.2 or any of the other of the JMP&S group, but it does support the possibility that Durre was the maker or supplier of the JMP&S.2 device

This is B&WPTYLTD.1 which is provisionally assigned to retailer Ball & Welch Pty Ltd in HAPP. Frankly there are no other contenders for this pattern so in the "Revenue Perfins of Victoria" we list it as the user without qualification.



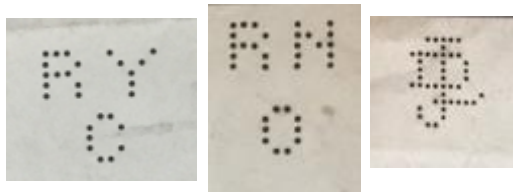
The history of Ball & Welch shows that they were in operation at the time of Durre and the pattern is found only on railway stamps and only in the period of 1902 - 17. Usage is very rare, so it is very difficult to be certain about usage dates, but they are contemporary with Durre who seems to have been the maker or supplier of the device.

There is another interesting Sample page (one of many) that came from another of Dave's sources that also carries a strike of B&WPTYLTD.1. It is hard to date but could be Circa 1914 and what is most interesting is that it also carries a strike of RICOLD.1 which was one of a series of identical devices that were introduced by



Royal Insurance in 1912.

It is speculation but this Sample page could also be from Durre and this is supported by the strike of B&WPTYLTD.1, and this presents the possibility that Durre was also the maker or supplier of the RICOLD.1 devices.



They

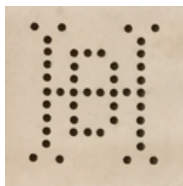
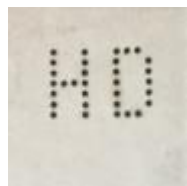
These are RYC, RNO and DJL and they have not been reported on any Australian stamp.

RYC and RNO are very similar and look to have been created by a Temporary device of the type most often used in Victoria.

and the other stylised patterns on the sample sheet on

the bottom right-hand corner of page 27, appear to have been formed by a device that had a grid of possible pin locations. See Page 33 – 39 of “Commercial Perfin of Australia” for further information about these Grid based patterns.

These deserve more investigation to determine if they match the grid for any other known patterns, but as it stands, they suggest that Durre had made or imported a device capable of making Temporary patterns.



These HD patterns have also not been reported but like RYC, RNO and others they appear to have been made on a device with a grid for making Temporary perfin patterns.

Interestingly these HD's fit Hermann Durre.



This is another unreported pattern, and it is clearly a Customised device.

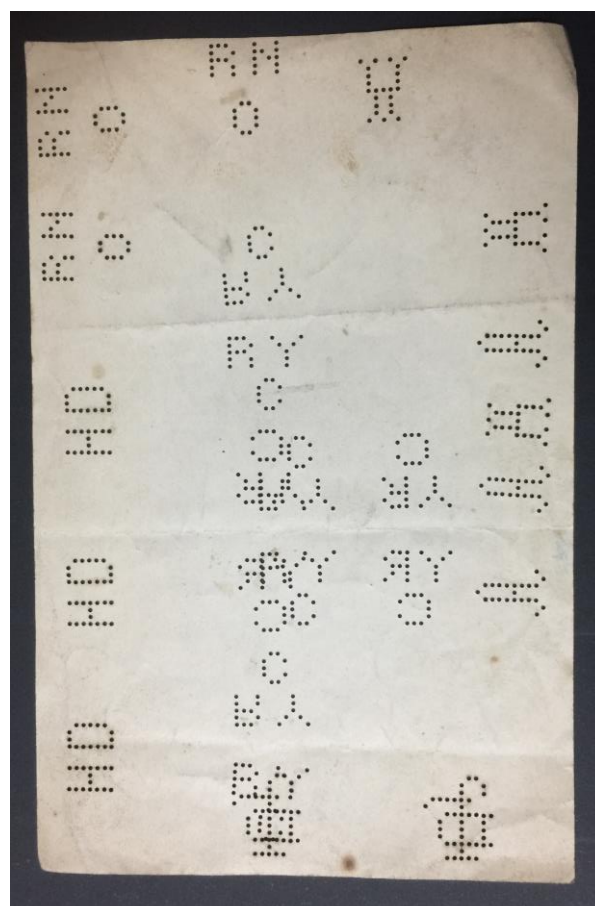
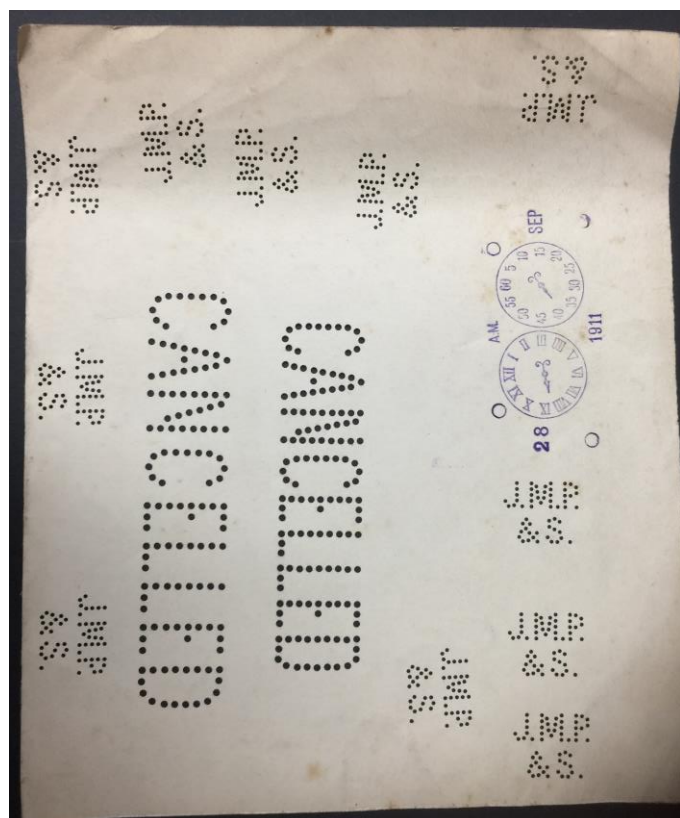
It may have been made or supplied by Durre as a sample to demonstrate a perforator. It does not match any known Application, Approval or user.

Summary

This is an amazing and most likely unique find and from all indications it is a trove of perfin samples and proofs that were from the early 1900's and they are likely to have been created by Engraver and Die Sinker, Friedrich Wilhelm Hermann Durre.

They tell us little about perfin users but possibly identify one of the few Perfin device makers and/or importers of the early 1900's. Others are listed in CPA Chapter 3 Pages 9 – 14 and HAPP Pages 1 – 7.

Sample sheets with perfins (images reduced) below.



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