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SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

January 1992

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Editorial

It seems that 1992 will be an interesting year for Australasian perfin Collectors. The New Zealand listing in the bulletin is likely to be completed this year and the new Australian catalogue "Commercial Perfins of Australia" is to be released in March.

"Commercial Perfins of Australia" provides a good indication of the scope of an Australian perfin collection for the first time and the rarity rating an indication of scarcity. Many collectors will try to obtain a copy of each pattern in the catalogue and due to the large number of patterns will probably decide not to acquire numerous copies of common patterns on a large number of issues. It is not an easy task to obtain a copy of each pattern listed in the catalogue and I would guess that there are few collections with more than half the number of patterns listed. Demand and hence price for common patterns is likely to drop as collectors are aware that such material is readily available. Scarcer items in general are found on letter rate stamps and prices can be expected to rise a bit for rare items. However a number of factors will limit this rise.

- a) Some rare and scarce items will turn out to be more common than thought of as present. There is always some uncertainty that rare items are really rare and this is justified in such an area as perfin collecting.
- b) Rare items will not often be available for sale. You will not expect to find duplicates of rare items very often and certainly you should not expect to find significant quantities of rare items from a single source. If you do then in all likelihood they are not rare at all and possibly not even scarce. As few duplicates are expected there are likely to be few sold by those collecting that material except when a collection is being sold. Don't expect rare items in Club circuit books all that often.
- c) The large number of patterns needed. If you were to buy rare patterns at say \$5 each a complete collection will cost say around \$3,000 to \$4,000. At \$20 each the total price is getting a bit too high for most collectors to consider even over a few years.

Now that we have a catalogue and a scarcity rating it will be quite possible to work out a price range for each level of scarcity and ignore the price of the stamp the perfin is on. We have lagged behind many other countries in this but now have the chance to catch up.

David Andersen

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ARTICLES WANTED

While there are a few articles planned we are running a bit short of articles for future issues. Please write an article soon and send it to the editor.

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The South Pacific Perfin Bulletin is published by the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia four times a year.

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Secretary :John Mathews, 21 McConnel Cres.,Kambah, ACT 2902 Aust.
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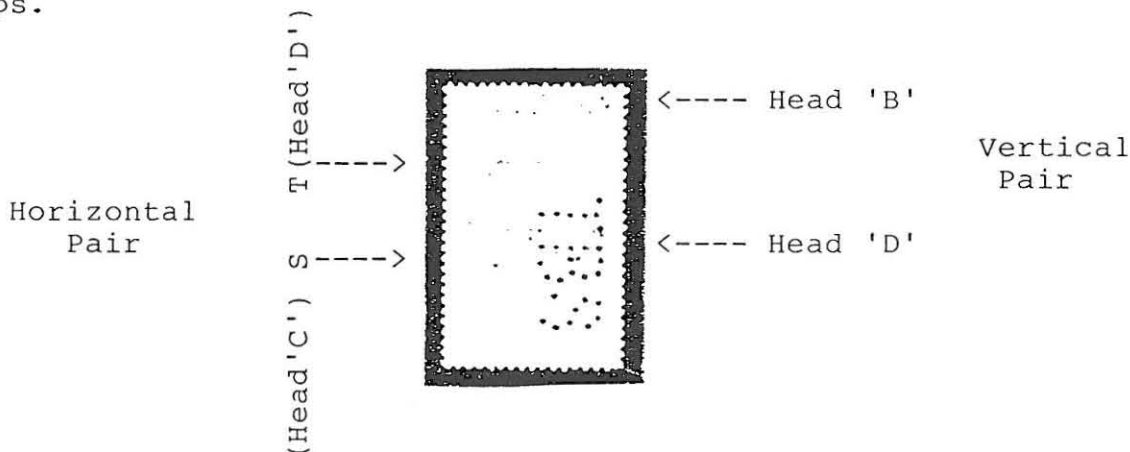
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The TBS perfins of Queensland J Mathews

I recently acquired a stamp which provides strong evidence of the final demise of the 4-head "T.B.S." perforator.

The stamp is the 1955 Rotary International commemorative (unfortunately with a slogan cancel), and has many "T.B.S." impressions. My choice of the word "impressions" is deliberate, for there are only about 6 holes which have been completely formed, and these are in a B-D vertical pair (as annotated in Dr. D.A. Pocock's article,SPPB July 1991,p.6). There is also a weak horizontal "B.S. T" impression (C-D,based on the .S spacing) and at least two other weaker, unrelated letter impressions.

After these abortive attempts to perforate the stamp, it seems that an older perforator was recalled to service, for the stamp also has a clear perfin- of David Andersen's "Type 2" (SPPB no.4,June/Sept 1987) which had been used on Queensland state stamps.



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NEW MEMBERS

- 104 James D Nugent, 35/12 Walton Cresc. Abbotsford NSW 2046 Aust.
- 105 G.L. Bland, Graphic Court, Beldon, WA 6025 Australia.
- 106 J. Lane, 95 Mountain Rd,Henderson Auckland New Zealand.
- 107 Bob Turner, 8 Nancy St.,South Tamworth, NSW 2340 Australia.
- 108 Ken Moore, PO Box 947, Tamworth,NSW 2340 Australia.

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CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia will take place at the Seventh National Philatelic Exhibition in Canberra during March 1992.

The exhibition will be held at the Canberra GPO, Alinga Street (first off Northbourne Avenue), from Saturday 14th March to Monday 16th March at the end of Canberra's Festival Week.

The Club meeting has been scheduled for 11-30am on Saturday 14th of March.

At the end of the meeting, the official launch will take place of a new publication "Commercial Perfins of Australia", compiled by two Club members, John Grant and John Mathews, who are also members of the Philatelic Society of Canberra. This new publication is reviewed elsewhere in this edition of the bulletin.

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VG FAKES & FORGERIES

Neale Scott has provided the following additional information which has also been published in the January 1992 issue of Stamp News.

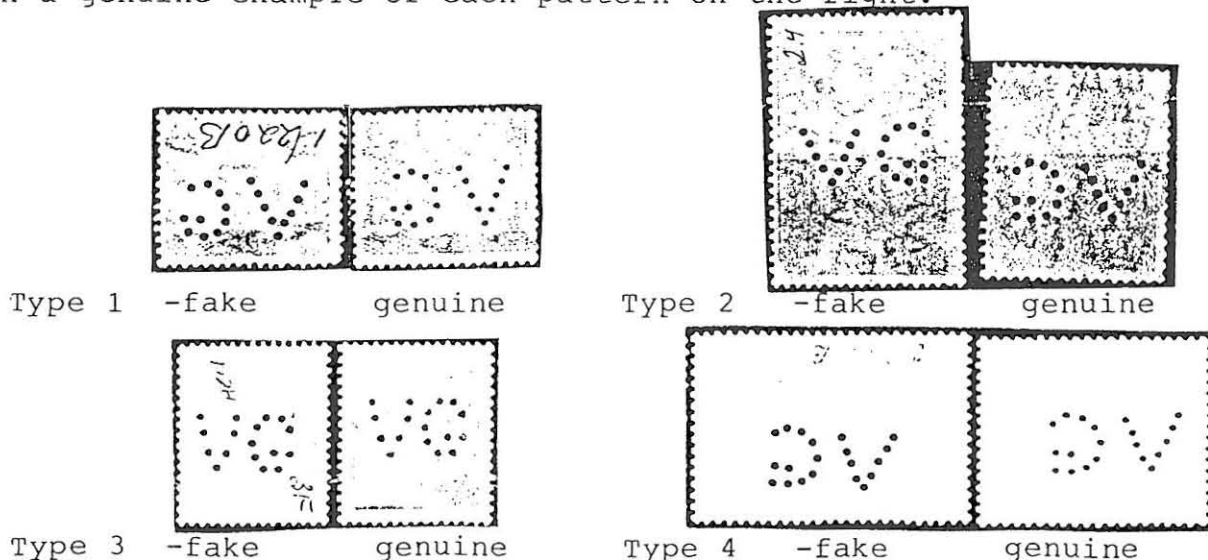
'Recently many scarce rated and previously unlisted positions of VG perfins have been discovered by Queensland collectors Jim Dean Trevor Sellars and Neale Scott.

The source of the fakes is established as inner Brisbane city suburbs and police acting on information supplied are continuing investigations.

The stamps assessed as fakes have larger than normal hole size and many have similar handwriting on the back of the stamps.'

As noted in the October 91 Bulletin, Bryan Toop, the author of "Victorian Government Punctures" has confirmed that these items are fakes and in the new edition of his booklet will list those issues known to be fakes. Collectors should contact Bryan Toop or the trio of Queensland collectors to obtain an opinion as to the status of scarce or unlisted VG material. Neale Scott ph (07) 2845829
Bryan Toop ph (055) 983288

Examples of forgeries of each of the four VG types are shown below, with a genuine example of each pattern on the right.



Commercial Perfins Of Australia : Review

"Commercial Perfins of Australia" Compiled by John Grant and John Mathews 1992 300 pages A4 Soft Cover perfect bound with section stitching.

Available from :J Grant & J Mathews
PO Box 3111
Weston Creek ACT 2611
AUSTRALIA

Price : A\$28-50 postpaid within Australia
Overseas add A\$10-00 for airmail
or add A\$5-00 for seamail
(Pre-publication price of A\$24-00
-postpaid within Australia for
orders with payment received by
15th Feb 1992)

This is an essential volume for collectors of Australian perfins both for the catalogue listing and for the background information provided. Its publication fills a major gap in the coverage of perfins worldwide being the first listing of all Australian perfins, both Commonwealth and States, the area boasting the fifth largest number of perfin patterns in the world. This publication will no doubt be the basis for future research on perfins in Australia.

The catalogue lists and illustrates some 1,500 patterns found on Commonwealth and State postal and revenue stamps. For each pattern: user identification where known (65% of patterns) ; period of use ; which jurisdictions stamps found on ; whether found on postal or revenue issues ; a provisional rarity rating, is provided. The perfin patterns are illustrated against a white background which is consistent with the developing practice of not showing a stamp outline. Catalogue numbers are provided, these distinguish between patterns with the same set of initials, which is a departure from the more commonly encountered sequential numbering systems covering the whole catalogue or each letter of the alphabet. This numbering system will allow for easy inclusion of newly discovered patterns without the need to resort to a cumbersome numbering system. Nine patterns are illustrated on each page with an additional space for newly discovered patterns. As the information about each pattern is adjacent to the illustration the catalogue section is easy to follow and there is plenty of room to add notes etc.

The provisional rarity rating is based on a small number of collections and so may need some revision at a later stage. It is to be expected that all scarcity systems will need some modification as more material is found. However it does appear to be a reasonable guide despite the small number of collections used to compile it.

This catalogue however is not 'just' a catalogue. Some 70 or so pages provide a wealth of background information including; Australian perfin history ; legislation ; detail about perfin manufacturers; archival records relating to perfin applications and approvals ; a bibliography ; illustrations of perforators. Of particular note is the section dealing with the Victorian 'pin punctures' (Victorian Service punctures). The explanation of the

Victorian service punctures is in itself a most interesting and important piece of research and readily explains these variable patterns and the way that they have been treated in the catalogue listing.

John Grant and John Mathews have spent a great deal of time and effort to produce a well researched and useful publication. It is evident that the compilers have tried to provide a publication of high reliability by indicating original sources and those identities that are less certain. Highly recommended and at less than a cent a page good value.

David Andersen.

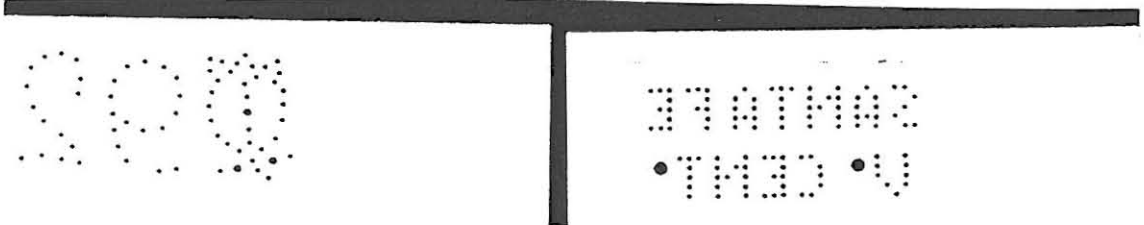
For the convenience of members an order form is included with this issue of the bulletin.

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AN INTERLUDE FROM WA Dr. D.A. Pocock

As a change from Australian perfins I thought you might be interested in a couple of items from distant parts, one at least that has a philatelic association.

Illustrated below are the perfins on a miniature sheet which has been issued by the Spanish authorities to promote the international exhibition being held in Granada in 1992. The miniature sheet of 25 pesetas bears 2 different perfins with either being available from the authorities. The first shows the Granada symbol having a rather flower shaped design with 3 large holes almost like a rose-bud followed by the numbers 92. Note that one pin is missing at the bottom of the 9. On another example of the same miniature sheet the perfin SANTAFE/U.CENT. is found. I would assume that this is a surcharge placed on the sheet for the benefit of the Santa Fe building which is illustrated on the 25 cent stamp, having the appearance of a monastery, the 500th Anniversary of which the miniature sheet appears to be commemorating.



My second item illustrated at the right comes from (Austria) Hungary. It clearly shows the letters AG and the date (?) 1831. It seems such a nicely constructed perfin that I thought readers might be interested. I have no personal knowledge of what it means either the initials or of the significance of the number or even if it is a date. My example is found on a Hungarian stamp and is dated 1886 from Budapest so would naturally be one of the earliest found, significantly pre-dating Australian examples and I would certainly be interested to hear if anyone could give further details on it.



LITERATURE

Shilling Violet the journal of the South Australian Study Group (Philatelic Society of South Australia) frequently has articles on perfin (\$8-00 pa payable to PO Box 317, Goolwa, SA 5214). A number of interesting articles have been published recently and these include:

September 1990 p.1-9 J&J Grant, A Presgrave "Perfins of South Australian Companies"

Illustrates and lists perfins used by companies in South Australia on both State and Commonwealth issues (1881-1963). Includes a simplified and brief listing of issues so punctured and earliest/latest postmark dates.

March 1991 p.15-16 "Official Stamps: the OS punctures"

Lists by SG numbers issues of South Australia found with the four different 'OS' patterns. An 'OS' with 12/13 holes is noted and more information sought.

June 1991 p.25-26 "Official Stamps: the SA punctures"

Lists by SG numbers the issues of South Australia found with the SA perfin. Inverted, double and triple patterns are listed. A 3d, 1906-12 thick postage wmk Crown/A p.12 issue with "misplaced pins at top of S" is mentioned (Unfortunately no illustration was provided).

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PRICE WATCH

From Charles Leski & Associates Auction no.100 July 22 1991 (Commonwealth Issues)

Lot no.20	E1 Roo	1st wmk	mint	OS/NSW	est \$1,925
Lot no.26	E2 Roo	1st wmk	mint	OS/NSW	est \$3,400
Lot no.152	KGV 5d	on 4	1/2d perf	OS Corner Single	mint est \$370
Lot no.153	KGV 5d	on 4	1/2d perf	OS/NSW used	est \$200

From the Continental Stamp Supplies Ltd advertisement in Stamps November 91 p.74.

France 1930 1.50Fr Air perfin ELPA30 mint E225-00

No mention of certificates in any of these cases !

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CARDINAL SPELLMAN PHILATELIC MUSEUM 15th ANNUAL LITERATURE FAIR AWARD

The South Pacific Perfin Bulletin was given a Silver award at the 15th Annual Literature Fair. The fair was held in March 1991.

The Bulletin has also been entered in the Seventh National Philatelic exhibition in Canberra, March 1992.

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WANTED

Security overprints on Australian States stamp duty issues eg.GIO ,AMPS. Purchase or exchange for perfins.

David Andersen, 260 Hawkesbury Rd Winmalee NSW 2777 Aust.

COFA and C/OF/A perfins : Part II listing of issues

This listing is compiled from numerous articles and reports from a number of collectors including John Mathews, Bryan Toop and Alan Salisbury.

Where possible stamps so punctured are listed by SG numbers, but for some of the KGV issues this was not possible as most sources do not list the issues by SG numbers nor differentiate between printers or shades. In addition there are a number of issues that are part of sets recorded in Edwards "G.B. Official Perfins" as being found but have not been reported elsewhere. It is not certain that these issues exist.

Pattern positions are recorded in brackets where known, as in Australian Official Perfins.

COFA

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| SG231 KEVII 2 1/2d blue (3) | KGV 1924-26 |
| KEVII 2/6 purple (3) | SG424 4d grey-green (1,2,8) |
| KGV 1911-12 Wmk Imperial Crown | SG426 6d purple (2,4,5,8) |
| SG327 1d red | SG427 9d green (2,4,6,8) |
| KGV 1912 Royal Cypher Mult Wmk | SG429 1/- bistre-Br (2,4,6,8) |
| SG346 1/2d green | 9th UPU Congress 1929 |
| KGV 1912-22 Royal Cypher Wmk | SG435 1d ? |
| 1/2d green | SG436 1 1/2d ? |
| 1d scarlet | SG437 2 1/2d blue (2) |
| 1 1/2d brown (4) | KGV 1934-36 |
| 2d orange | SG439 1/2d green (2) |
| 2 1/2d blue | SG440 1d scarlet (4) |
| 3d violet (2) | SG441 1 1/2d red-brown (2) |
| 4d grey-green | SG443 2 1/2d ? |
| 5d ? | SG444 3d violet (2) |
| 6d purple (4) | SG447 9d ? |
| 7d ? | SG449 1/- bistre-brown |
| 8d ? | 1934 KGV Re-engraved |
| 9d ? | SG450 2/6 brown (1,4,7) |
| 10d ? | SG452 10/- indigo (3,5,7) |
| 1/- ? | 1935 Silver Jubilee |
| KGV 1913-18 High values | SG453 1/2d green |
| 2/6 brown (1,2,3,5,7) | SG454 1d scarlet |
| 5/- red (1,2,3,5,7) | SG455 1 1/2d red-brown |
| (most sources do not indicate | SG456 2 1/2d blue |
| which printing but these values | KE VIII 1936 |
| on Bradbury issues are confirmed) | 1/2d ? |
| KGV 1924-26 | 1d ? |
| SG418 1/2d green | 1 1/2d red brown (2) |
| SG419 1d scarlet (2,8) | KGVI 1939-48 |
| SG420 1 1/2d brown (2,4,6,8) | SG476a 2/6 yellow green (4) |
| SG421 2d orange | SG477 5/- red (4,6) |
| SG422 2 1/2d blue (2,4,8) | SG478b 1/- brown (2) |
| SG423 3d violet (2,6,8) | |

COFA and C/OF/A perfins : Part II cont.

C/OF/A listing

KGV 1912-22 Wmk Royal Cypher

SG357 1d scarlet (1,3,7)
4d ?

KGV 1924-26

SG418 1/2d green
SG419 1d scarlet
SG420 1 1/2d red brown
SG421 2d orange
SG422 2 1/2d blue
SG423 3d violet
SG424 4d grey-green
SG425 5d ?
SG426 6d purple (4,6)
SG427 9d ?
SG428 10d ?
SG429 1/- bistre brown (2)

KGV 1934-36

SG439 1/2d green
SG440 1d scarlet
SG441 1 1/2d red brown
SG442 2d orange
SG443 2 1/2d ultramarine
SG444 3d violet
SG445 4d grey green
SG446 5d yellow brown
SG447 9d olive green
SG448 10d ?
SG449 1/- bistre brown

KGV 1934 Re-engraved

SG450 2/6 brown (1)
SG451 5/- red (5,7)

KE VIII 1936

SG457 1/2d green (4)
SG458 1d scarlet (8)
SG459 1 1/2d red brown (2,6)
SG460 2 1/2d blue (4)

KGVI Coronation

SG461 1 1/2d maroon (2,6)

KGVI 1937

SG462 1/2d green
SG463 1d scarlet (2,4,6,8)
SG464 1 1/2d red-brown (2,4,5)
SG465 2d orange
SG466 2 1/2d ultra (4,6)
SG467 3d violet (2,8)
SG468 4d grey green

KGVI 1937

SG469 5d brown
SG470 6d purple (2,4,8)
SG471 7d green
SG472 8d carmine
SG473 9d olive green (4)
SG474 10d blue
SG474a 11d ?
SG475 1/- bistre brown (2,4,6,8)

KGVI 1939 High Values

SG476 2/6 brown (3,5,7)
SG476a 2/6 green (2,4,6)
SG477 5/- red (2,4,6,8)
SG478 10/- dark blue
SG478a 10/- ultramarine
SG478b E1 brown (2)

KGVI 1941-42 lighter colours

SG485 1/2d pale green (4)
SG486 1d pale scarlet (6,8)
SG487 1 1/2d pale red brown
SG488 2d pale orange
SG489 2 1/2d pale ultra (2,8)
SG490 3d pale violet (2,4,8)

Victory

SG492 3d violet (8)

KGVI 1950-51 new colours

SG503 1/2d pale orange
SG504 1d ?
SG507 2 1/2d pale scarlet (4)
SG508 4d light ultra (4)

KGVI 1951 High Values

SG509 2/6 green (1,2,5,6,7,8)
SG510 5/- red (1,2,3,5,6)
SG511 10/- ultramarine
SG512 E1 brown (1,2)

QEII 1952-54 Wildings

SG516 1d ultra (2,3,4,8)
SG517 1 1/2d green (2,8)
SG518 2d red brown (4)
SG519 2 1/2d red (4)
SG520 3d deep lilac (2,4,6,8)
SG521 4d ultra (8)
SG523 6d purple (2,4,5,8)
SG526 9d green (8)
SG531 1/- brown (1,2,4,6,8)

COFA and C/OF/A perfins : Part II cont.

C/OF/A listing cont.

1953 Coronation
SG532 2 1/2d red
SG533 4d ultramarine
SG534 1/3 yellow green
SG535 1/6 grey blue

QEII 1955-68 High values
SG536 2/6 brown (2,4)
SG537 5/- red (2,4,6)
SG538 10/- ultra (4,6,8)
SG539 £1 black (4,6)

QEII 1955 St Edwards Cr. Wmk
SG543 2d brown (2,6,8)
SG551 9d green
SG554 1/- bistre brown

1957 IPU 46th Conf.
SG560 4d ultra (1)

1958 Commonwealth Games
SG568 6d purple (4,6)

QEII 1959-68 Multi Cr. Wmk
SG582 9d green (6)
SG584 1/- bistre brown (4)
SG595 2/6 brown (4)
SG596 5/- red (1,4,7)
SG597 10/- ultra (2,4)
SG598 £1 black (1,2,8)

1964 Shakespeare
SG650 2/6 slate-purple

1966 World Cup
SG693 4d Multi (1)
SG694 6d " (2)

1967 Flowers
SG721 9d Multi (8)

1967 Machin
SG735 5d blue (3,4,8)
SG787 2/6 brown (6)

1969 Anniversaries
SG793 1/- ILO (2)

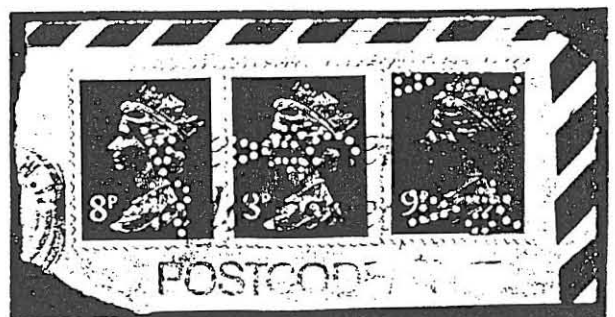
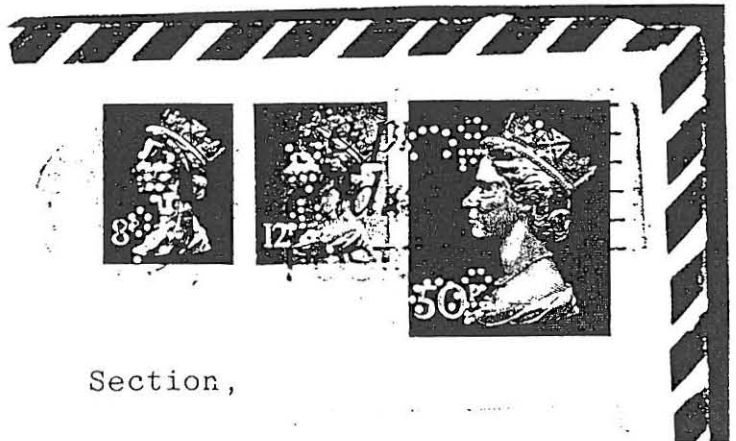
1969 Post Office
SG810 1/- Telecommunication (6)

1970 Machin
SG830 20p olive green (1)
SG831 50p ultramarine (6)

1971- Machin
SG846 2 1/2d centre band (7)

SG867 9p violet (8)
8p (centre band-issued
20/8/79) (3,4,7)
12p (Phos ppr-issued
30/1/80) (3)

In Part I the most recent usage reported for the C/OF/A pattern was in 1970. A summary of an article from Sevenoaks Philatelic Society Newsletter in the Perfin Society Bulletin Oct 1991 suggested that this pattern was definitely not used since 1972. However John Mathews has provided information that demolishes this assertion. John sent photocopies of some C/OF/A items on piece. The upper item is postmarked London SW1.. Aug 1981. The issue dates of the stamps confirm that issues were punctured at least into 1980.



VOCo VACUUM OIL COMPANY PTY LTD, Various Centres (1902-1947)



The first VOCo perfin had six holes in the "o" of "Co", with a full-stop below this letter.

A number of missing hole varieties, listed here as sub-types, are associated with this perfin. The perfin with all the letters complete is known used at :

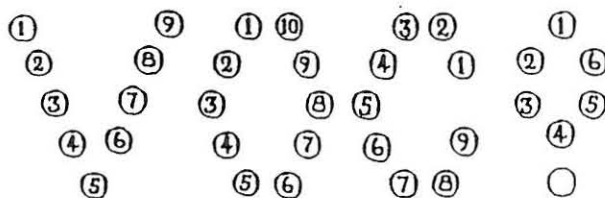
Wellington	1FE02 untilE06
Christchurch	8AP13 until circa 1918

In my 1968 book I recorded a copy of this perfin postmarked Trentham, October 1924. A fresh look at this stamp reveals that the perfin is neither complete (the letter V does not appear on the stamp), nor is it postmarked TRENTHAM (only the letters "HAM" appear on the stamp). It is most likely that this stamp is an example of the Christchurch sub-type with the missing hole in the letter V (see below) and that the postmark is that of SYDENHAM (a suburb of Christchurch).

The Wellington/Auckland Sub-Types

From about 1907 until about 1910 various pins seem to have been removed from the VOCo perfin. This appears to have been done deliberately. During these years the Auckland office commenced using stamps perforated VOCo. Stamps used by the Auckland Office were almost certainly supplied from Wellington and it is possible that the various missing pins represent some sort of code, designed to identify stocks of stamps issued to the two offices.

Unfortunately, stamps showing dated postmarks or the name of the town are few and far between. The order of listing these various sub-types, as given below, is purely arbitrary.

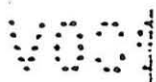


The easiest way of describing these missing hole varieties is to give each hole a number, as shown in the above diagram. The description, V(3) O(3,8) C(5) o(3) would indicate that the third hole in the letter V, the third and eighth holes in the letter O, the fifth hole in the letter C, and the third hole in the letter "o" were missing. We sometimes come across stamps where, in addition to the true missing holes, the other holes are weakly perforated or "blind". Care should be taken not to identify such items as additional or "unrecorded" sub-types.



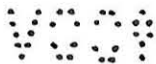
(a) C(5)

circa 1908



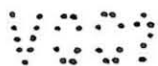
(b) C(5) o(4)

Auckland, 18AP10



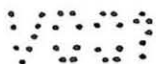
(c) O(3,8) C(5)

Wellington(?) circa 1907



(d) O(3,8) C(5) o(3)

Wellington, circa 1907-08



(e) V(3) O(3,8) C(5) o(3)

Auckland, circa 1907-08



(f) V(4) O(3,7) C(5) o(4)

circa 1910



(g) V(3,4,5,6,7) O(3,4,8)
C(5) o(3)

Wellington, 30SP08

I have been unable to detect any "pattern" which would explain these sub-types. It is clear that, not only were pins removed, but that pins were replaced. For instance, the sub-type with only one hole missing is found on the surface printed 1d Universal of 1908: other sub-types with a greater number of missing pins are found on the earlier recess printed 1d Universals of 1906-07. Likewise, the sub-type with two missing pins is known used at Auckland in April 1910, whereas the very extreme variety with ten missing pins is known used in September 1908, almost two years earlier.

Christchurch Sub-Type

The Wellington punch appears to have been sent to Christchurch at some time between 1910 and about 1913. In its original state the letters were complete. From about 1920 a pin was removed or was accidentally lost from the right leg of the V, giving rise to the "Christchurch sub-type".



(h) V(6)

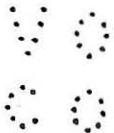
Christchurch, circa 1920 until circa 1925.

Examples of the Christchurch sub-type are known postmarked Timaru.

VO/CO and VO/cO

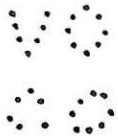
Two punches with the letters in two lines appear to have been introduced at Wellington about 1921. The interesting question is, what punch was used at Wellington between about 1910 (or even earlier) and 1921.

I have yet to see a stamp perforated VOCo used from Wellington during the period 1909-20. But I do have two items of Australian private postal stationery, posted from Melbourne, and with the printed return address, "..... return to Hutt Road, Thorndon." Thorndon is a suburb of Wellington and it seems that much wellington mail (perhaps monthly accounts, etc) was sent from Melbourne to New Zealand addresses. One of the items in my collection is postmarked 12FE19: the other does not show a dated postmark but, as the postage rate is 1d, it was probably used prior to World War I. we know too that a franking machine ("WELLINGTON 57") was introduced during this period so there may have been little need for postage stamps at the Wellington office during these years.



The first of the two-line Wellington punches had the letter in two lines, all four letters being of the same size. I have recorded this perfin used at :
Wellington 6FE(?)21 to 11NOV1921

This perfin appears to have been employed mainly on stamps used to post parcels. Stamps in my collection cancelled with parcels postmarks are the 1d Dominion, the 3d King George V surface print (including a block of eight), the 6d King George V, and the 3d Victory. I have also a 2d King George V and a 1 1/2d Victory which have been used on letters.



The second two-line perfin has a very small letter "c": the "o" of "Co" is large and is positioned on an angle. Good strikes of this perfin seem not to exist and, invariably, the letters "Co" are partially or almost totally "blind." I have recorded this perfin used at:

Wellington on 1 1/2d yellow brown King Georege V
Gisbourne on 1 1/2d Victory (postmarked 30SP22)
Napier on 1d Dominion

This punch was probably held at Wellington, stamps being supplied from there to other branches.

All my copies of the VO/cO perfin appear to have been used on letters. Possible explanations for the appearance of this perfin at this time are: Firstly, instead of accounts being sent from Melbourne (which seems to have been the practice until at least 1919) accounts may have been sent out from the Wellington office, or even from local branch offices. Secondly, franking machines when originally supplied did not have a 1 1/2d die. Postage rates were increased in 1920, the second class rate rising from 1d to 1 1/2d and the first class rate from 1 1/2d to 2d. The commonest use for perforated stamps would have been to frank envelopes containing invoices and monthly statements. It is possible that the franking machine was later altered and one of the dies replaced with a die of a 1 1/2d denomination. This would account for both the sudden appearance of this perfin about 1921 and its equally sudden "disappearance".

Both of the two-line Wellington perfins seem to have had but a short life and both are scarce.