

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

No. 48 January 2000

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President: Robert Samuel, PO Box 394, Christchurch, New Zealand

Secretary: John Mathews, 21 McConnel Cres, Kambah ACT 2902, Australia
email - johnm@student.canberra.edu.au

Treasurer: Peter Wood, 9 Roslyn Street, Mt Martha Victoria 3934, Australia

Editor: David Andersen, 260 Hawkesbury Rd, Winmalee NSW 2777, Australia
email- d.andersen@library.usyd.edu.au

Circuit Managers:

New Zealand Ray Bennett, PO Box 354, Timaru, New Zealand

Australia John Mathews, 21 McConnel Cres, Kambah ACT 2902, Australia

Assistant Treasurer (NZ payments): Richard Smolnicki, 278 Dowse Drive, Maungaraki, Lower Hutt New Zealand

EDITORS COMMENT

Despite some concerns about major disruptions to the internet from the so named "Y2k bug", which did not eventuate, the usefulness of the internet to perfin collectors continues to grow.

In addition to web sites devoted to perfins the internet provides access to a range of online auctions that expands the range of sources for perfin material. There are already a number of online auction sites operating in Australia. These include eBay Australia (<http://ebay.com.au>), Yahoo Australia & NZ (<http://auctions.yahoo.com.au>), Ebid Internet Auctions (<http://www.ebid.com.au>), Stuff Online Auctions (<http://www.stuff.com.au>) and Sold Australia (<http://sold.com.au>). The first two of these provide access to their counterparts in the US as well which greatly expands the number of items available.

These online auctions offer free registration for bidders, no buyers fee and a range of lots from a couple of dollars to hundreds of dollars each. The major requirements are access to the internet and an email address. Payment methods are set by the individual vendors and can include cash, credit cards, cheques or money orders. Unfortunately for Australian bidders many smaller US companies still do not accept credit card payments which can make it more expensive to make payments. However it is easy to avoid those vendors. Many vendors supply a scan of each item so that you can get an idea of condition and it is quite noticeable that items with scans sell more readily than those without.

There are some risks associated with using these services as the online auction house is only acting as an intermediary between the vendor and bidder and can not take responsibility for unscrupulous vendors or bidders. To minimise such risks both vendors and bidders are asked to provide feedback about their transactions either positive or negative and it is possible to check

these records and comments before bidding. The vast majority of comments are very positive for most participants. Many of the vendors are companies that are using the online auctions in addition to their normal auctions.

While a fairly small percentage of the stamps auctioned worldwide currently go through the internet online auctions they do provide a possible source for perfins as items are offered by a large number of vendors and the value of material offered is often lower than in a normal postal auction.

A recent check on eBay Australia using their auction search engine identified 213 perfin lots on offer. Most of these were sourced in the US with bidding and payment in US\$. Lots ranged from single perfins to lots of a few hundred mixed world perfins. A similar check on Yahoo Australia & NZ identified 22 items including perfins. A somewhat larger range of perfin material than usually found in a standard postal auction.

It might be worth a look if you have internet access.

David Andersen

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following new member^s since the previous issue:

- #185 Mr E. J. Hamer, Geraldton, West Australia
- #186 Mr F. Hermsen, Bergeijk, The Netherlands
- #187 Mr P. Kelly, Frankston, Victoria

CLUB AUCTION

Auction 2/1999 was a great success for all vendors and most bidders. Bidding was quite keen for the range of items including covers and loose stamps of Australia and other countries. More material from Derek Pocock and other vendors will be on offer in 2000.

RECENT PUBLIC AUCTION - HELP SOUGHT

Stewarts Stamp Shop in Adelaide had a mail bid sale (No. 15) in November 1999 in which there were several perfin lots, including bulk lots of covers (see Auction Watch item elsewhere in this Bulletin for examples). If any of our readers were the lucky buyers, could you please check these for new information for the catalogue. In particular, one lot was described as "Long envs with KGV 1d perfins containing Adelaide Steam shipping documents or advertising brochures". Adelaide Steam Ship Co. is not a known perfin user itself, but your secretary's recollections of Adelaide in the 1950s includes an idea that Elder Smith & Co may have been agents for Adelaide Steam. Are the perfins on this lot "ES&CO" or "ES&COLTD" ?

EXCHANGE WANTED

A non-member in UK has sent to your secretary a selection of GB perfins for which he is seeking a copy/copies of the New Zealand perfins "DB&CO". In particular, he would like that pattern on the 1898 Pictorial series (except 1d, 5d and 8d values which he already has), but would also be interested in this pattern on the 1d Universal/ Dominion issues. Your secretary is not very knowledgeable on relative values, but there is a "SUTTON/&/SONS" on 21/2d blue KEVII with Reading postmark and a "Z/O/G" on a 11/2d brown KGV (some edge damage, well away from the perfin), each of which may swap on a one-for-one basis. In addition, there is 1 x QV, 15 x KEVII, 9 x KGV and 2 x E2R which are in total worth about the same as two DB&CO perfins - can be divided into two lots if required. If anyone is interested in such a swap, please contact the secretary, stating priorities for which item/selection is the preferred swap. Some negotiation is possible.

CLUB MEETING

A meeting room has been booked for the Club to hold a meeting during the Canberra Philatelic Society's Exhibition at Dickson College, Canberra, on Saturday 18 March 2000. We would like to see as many members as possible at this meeting. If any member has items for the agenda, please advise the secretary by 15 March.

ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICE BEARERS 2000

The Club is due to have an election of office bearers this year. A nomination form is enclosed with this Bulletin and members are strongly encouraged to consider this matter. None of the offices are arduous or overly-time-consuming. Forms are to be returned to the secretary by 15 March 2000. The election will take place at the meeting of the Club in March (see separate item).

"VG" COLLECTION FOR SALE

One of our members is thinking of selling his "VG" collection, which he says includes some high value items. If anyone would like to express interest in this collection, please write to the secretary and your letters will be passed on to the present owner.

ANOTHER PERFIN ON RAILWAYS PARCEL STAMP

A Victorian Railways Parcels Stamp (eight pence red) with perfin JCH.1 has been submitted for the Club's next auction. It has "Melbourne" in black in the station tablet, and the cancel date appears to be 4 May 1931.

TWO SURVIVING PERFORATORS

Member Brian Fuller has in his possession two perforators, one of which he found in a second-hand dealer's shop. The patterns are GAS.3 and TB.2.

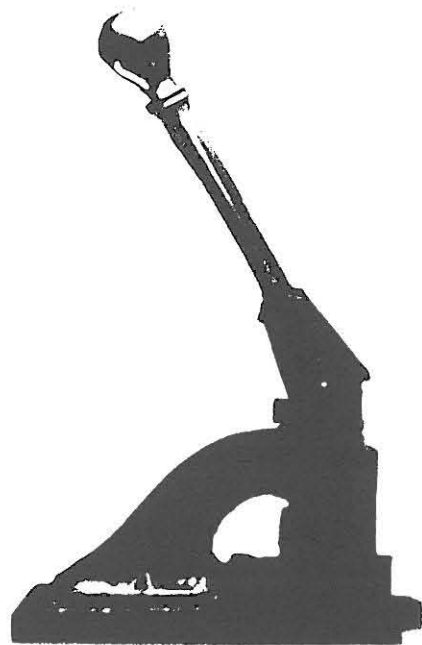
The GAS.3 perforator is 240mm high with a base of 210 by 100 mm. The cast iron body is painted black without any decorative or other markings. The straight handle has a wooden grip. The puncturing head is positioned such that a stamp placed with its top towards the handle would receive the perfin in an upright position.

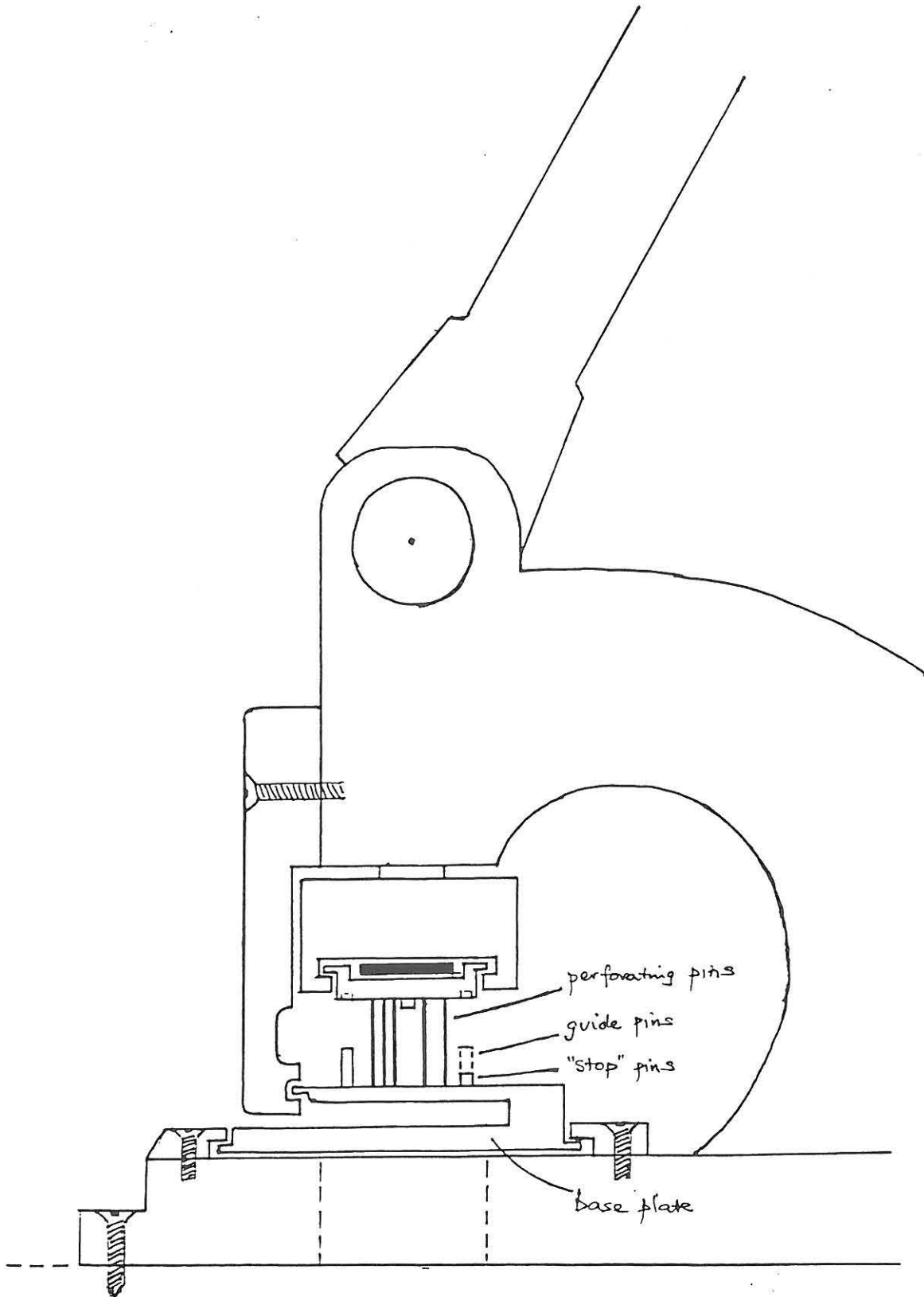
The TB.2 perforator is quite different to any other known perforator. It stands 250mm high with a base of 180 by 70 mm. The cast iron body is painted black and has ornate gilt decoration, but there are no identifying markings regarding the maker's name. At each end of the base there is a flange in which there are holes so that the device can be screwed down. This would have been necessary because the device is operated by pulling the handle towards the vertical. On the end of the steel handle is a round brass knob.

On the bottom of the vertical shaft, which is depressed by the action of the handle, there is a brass block held by screws either side (unfortunately now sheared off). In this block are grooves into which can be slid the head with the perforating pins. The pins are set in a rectangular grid of 15 by 12 holes with a row spacing of 1.5 mm separation! A brass insert between the heads of the pins and the brass block holds the sliding assembly and the pins firmly in place. Screwed to the base are two metal strips with guides into which slide the base plate with a corresponding grid of holes. Attached to this base plate is the guide plate, with a similar grid of holes. The free end of the guide plate runs in a groove in a block which is attached to the front of the body of the perforator, just below the handle's pivot. The head holding the perforating pins and the guide plate have long guide pins and shorter "stop" pins.

The perforating pins in the device form the pattern TB.2. However, when the perforator is turned upside down, it can be seen that there is paper in about 60 of the 180 holes! If the sliding assembly were able to be removed, it would be interesting to do the equivalent of a geological "core sample analysis" on the pieces of paper in the various holes and deduce the combination of holes for the different patterns produced by this device over at least part of its lifetime.

Certainly, the holes with paper represent more than can be explained by the various "TB" patterns, and other holes may also have once had paper which has subsequently fallen out. It is therefore quite likely that this device was used to produce many "Victorian Service Punctures". Perhaps this perforator was sold to the Tramways Board when the perforating service ceased.





The TB.2 perforator

AN INTERESTING COVER

From The Netherlands, Wim Tukker reports a cover used in 1925 with perfin JJWLD.1. This is interesting for two reasons. First, it extends the known usage period for this perfin by 6 years - so can anyone else report dates of use between 1919 and 1925, or did the perforator get put into storage for a while?

Second, there is a surprise in the reported user - Binnie Wheel Company Limited, 93 Elizabeth Street, Zetland. This address is about 3 km south of J. J. Weekes Ltd's Kent Street address.

Until 1915, the Sydney Directory shows another firm of saddlers and saddlers' ironmongers, R & H Binnie, at 524 Kent Street, Sydney - 2 blocks south of J.J. Weekes Ltd. From 1916 to 1919, no "Binnie" company is listed in these directories. Then, in the alphabetical section in 1920 and 1921, Binnie Wheel Co. Ltd., wheelwrights, have there registered office at 465 - 475 Kent Street (J.J. Weekes Ltd's premises) and a factory at Elizabeth Street, Waterloo. (Zetland was considered to be part of Waterloo).

In the directories' street listings, in 1920 the premises on the south-west corner of Elizabeth Street and Allen Street is shown as being occupied by J.J. Weekes Ltd, sawmillers and timber yards.

In 1921, the occupants of these premises were shown as Binnie Wheel Co. Ltd.

In the October 1919 to April 1921 Sydney Telephone Directories, J.J. Weekes Ltd are listed as having a wheel factory at Elizabeth Street, Zetland. The October 1921 telephone directory lists Binnie Wheel Factory at Elizabeth Street, Zetland - at the "Tram Terminus".

BAGOT, SHAKES AND LEWIS, LTD

John Mathews

Edward Meade Bagot arrived in South Australia in 1840, only four years after that colony was proclaimed, and became a pioneer pastoralist. When the Overland Telegraph was to be built between Adelaide and Darwin, he was the successful tenderer for the southern section of the line, a distance of 500 miles for which he tendered the price of £41. The wire was hung on this section within 15 months of the start, a considerable feat as there was no suitable timber for the poles within 300 miles of the proposed line the telegraph would take. He also set up as a stock and station agent in Adelaide in 1866, and when he died in 1886, the firm passed to the control of his eldest son George Wallwall Bagot.

James Shakes was an auctioneer at Kapunda, a town north of Adelaide. In 1875, he also became a stock and station agent. In that year, Kapunda was also the terminus of one of the northern railway lines.

In 1876, John Lewis of Kooringa (Burra) became a partner of Liston, Shakes and Lewis. Like Kapunda, Burra had developed around copper mines. [An aside - in 1856, your secretary's great-great-grandfather had organised a petition which was presented to the State Governor, urging consideration of the benefits to be gained from extending the railway line from Gawler northwards through Riverton, where the petitioners lived. The line to Riverton was opened in 1870, and by 1876 it had been further extended to Burra.] Lewis was a shrewd judge of stock and was a most successful salesman. Burra stock sales attained huge proportions, and brought together great numbers of sellers and buyers. It is recorded that Mr. Lewis conducted one of the largest stock sales ever held in Australia, disposing of 47,000 sheep and 1,200 head of cattle in

a single market.

John Lewis was a son of James Lewis who had to come to South Australia on the brig "Rapid" with the first group of settlers. James Lewis had been a member of the party which surveyed the site of Adelaide. It is interesting to note that John Lewis also was associated with the transcontinental telegraph. In 1870, while the work was in progress, Mr Lewis crossed the continent from south to north, and stayed there for 5 years engaged in mining and exploring. After Mr Bagot's contract was completed, he managed the courier service between the central and northern sections, carrying telegrams to and fro until the wires were joined. He was elected to the Legislative Council (the Upper House of the South Australian parliament) in 1897.



Photo by A. R. Edwards.

BAGOT, SHAKES, & LEWIS'S PREMISES, KING WILLIAM STREET, ADELAIDE.

Their firm traded under the name of Liston, Shakes and Lewis until Mr Liston retired in 1887, and then as Shakes and Lewis. It amalgamated in October 1888 with Mr Bagot's firm to form Bagot, Shakes and Lewis, Limited. In May 1906, the firm amalgamated with the firm of Luxmore, Dowling and Jeffrey Ltd., wool, hide, skin and grain brokers, and continued under the Bagot, Shakes and Lewis name. The company had branches in most South Australian country towns.

Finally, the firm was incorporated into Goldsbrough, Mort and Company Limited in 1925.

SECURITY AND CANCELLING OVERPRINTS ON AUSTRALIAN STATE STAMP DUTY ISSUES PART 2

This article is the second in a series to bring together information about security overprints on stamp duty issues and is based on a compilation put together by Bryan Magee.

There has been some discussion about the term "overprint". Often the device that was used was produced with a rubber stamp. Bryan suggests "precancel" and comments "I can just imagine the accountant at BCC saying "To hell with printing costs, go and buy a rubber stamp, it will do the same job at hardly any cost". An alternative suggestion from John Mathews is the term "security and cancelling overprints" which has been adopted in the article title.

There have been quite a few new items reported already. Please keep those reports coming to Bryan Magee (2 Macquarie Road, Toorak Victoria 3142 AUSTRALIA).


In the table below the description includes the colour of the overprint, the height in mm and the issues that the overprint has been reported on. Unless otherwise indicated the stamp duty issues the overprints are found on are the normal stamp/adhesive duties for the State recorded in the second column. Predecimal issues except where indicated are found on the series of issues available from the 1930's to 1960's, usually the common small size types.

OVERPRINT	STATE	DESCRIPTION	USER
DAVID JONES (PERTH) LTD.	WA	Black, 1.5mm on 1d (sideways)	David Jones Ltd. Perth
DAVID SYME & Co LIMITED	VIC	Black, 1.5mm on 3d	David Syme & Co. Ltd (Publisher of the Melbourne AGE newspaper)
E'Lux	NSW	Black, 5mm on 3d	Electrolux Pty Ltd
F.H.Ltd	VIC	Black, 2mm on 3d	
F.H. Ltd	VIC	Red, 2mm on 3d	

FitzGerald's 7 Stores	TAS	Black, 2.5mm on 2d purple	Fitzgerald Stores, Launceston
FOYS	VIC	Purple, 4mm on 3d	
Foy & Gibson	VIC	Purple, 3mm on 3d	
G.I.O.	NSW	Black, 3.75mm on: 3d, 6d, 9d, 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6/-, 8/-, 10/-, 12/-, 14/-, 16/-, 18/-, £1 1c, 3c, 4c, 10c, 15c, 60c, 80c, \$1, \$1.20, \$1.80, \$3	Government Insurance Office, Sydney
GWB&CO	QLD	Black, 2.5mm on 1d red 1882/3 postal issue	
HALLS BOOK STORE	VIC	Black, 1.5mm on 3d	Halls Book Store, Melbourne and Pahran
HERALD	VIC	Purple, diagonal	Herald Sun Pty Ltd, Melbourne
KRAFT FOODS LIMITED	VIC	unknown	Kraft Foods
LONDON & LANCASHIRE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY	NSW	unknown	
MBF	QLD	Black, 9mm on 5c	
M.L.C. LIFE OFFICE	NSW	Red, 2.5mm on 2d blue	MLC Life Assurance, Sydney
M.L.C. LIFE OFFICE	NSW	Black, 2.5mm on 2d orange	MLC Life Assurance. Sydney
M.M.B.W.	VIC	Black, 2.25mm on 2d yellow (14.5mm wide with serifs)	Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works

M.M.B.W.	VIC	Black, 2.25mm on 2d yellow and 3d green (17mm wide no serifs)	Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works
M.M.B.W.	VIC	Red, 2.25 mm on 3d green (14.5mm wide with serifs)	Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works
M.M.B.W.	VIC	Green, 2.25 mm on 3d green (14.5mm wide with serifs)	Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works
M.M.B.W.	VIC	Black, 2.5mm on 50c orange (15.5mm wide with thin letters)	Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works
MOORES	VIC	Black, 2.25mm on 3d green	Charles Moore & Co., Prahran
MOORE'S VIC. SQ. ADELAIDE	SA	Black, top line 2.25mm, others 1.75mm	Moores Pty Ltd, Victoria Square Adelaide
MORSHEAD'S BALLARAT	VIC	Black, 1.5mm on 3d	
MYER	VIC	Black, 3mm on 3d green and 5c blue	Myer Emporium Ltd, Melbourne
MYER (BALLARAT)	VIC	Black, 2.5mm on 3d green (7mm between lines)	Myer Emporium Ltd, Ballarat
MYER (BALLARAT)	VIC	Red, 2.5mm on 3d green (5mm between lines)	Myer Emporium Ltd, Ballarat
MYER (CHADSTONE)	VIC	Black, top line 2.5mm, bottom line 1.75mm (5mm between lines)	Myer Emporium Ltd., Chadstone
THE MYER EMPORIUM LIMITED	VIC	Black, 2.5mm (9.5mm between MYER and EMPORIUM) on 3d green and 3d opt on 2d brown	Myer Emporium Ltd.
THE MYER EMPORIUM LIMITED	VIC	Black, 13.5mm between MYER and EMPORIUM	Myer Emporium Ltd.
THE MYER EMPORIUM LTD.	VIC	Black, 'MYER' 2.5mm, remainder 2mm (9.5mm between MYER and EMPORIUM LTD.) on 2d brown	Myer Emporium Ltd.

N.M.L.A.	NSW	Black, 3.25mm on 3c orange	
NESCA NESCA NESCA	NSW	Black, 4mm on 3d purple	Shortland County Council, NESCA House Newcastle
NESCA NESCA NESCA NESCA	NSW	Purple, 3mm on 3c orange	Shortland County Council, NESCA House Newcastle

<p>*****061 UGSH 372 00000</p> <p>Shortland County Council NESCA HOUSE King Street, Newcastle Telephone: 20491 P.O. Box No. 1487 HAMILTON. 2.N. H. 5967 MR. F.M. GREGORY, 85330P 106 NATIONAL PARK ST * 85331P HAMILTON. 2.N.</p> <p>TAR.A.</p>		<p>Cheques being paid.</p> <p>Payments by Mail</p> <p>PLEASE SEND RECEIPT.</p> <p><i>F.M. Gregory</i> Signature.</p> <p>A receipt will not be forwarded for payments received by mail unless specially requested. If a receipt is required sign in the space provided above. If a receipt is not required the bottom portion of the account may be detached and retained for record purposes.</p>
 <p>Special Meter Readings at Customer's cost</p> <p>Unless 48 hours notice in writing is given to close Account the Customer is responsible for all Charges until Supply is disconnected or transferred. E. & O.E.</p>	<p>3</p>	

Bryan is hoping to establish a photocopy library of as many patterns as possible and would appreciate photocopies preferably in colour, though black and white would still be very useful, of the security and cancelling overprints listed below. He is more than happy to reimburse the cost of the photocopies.

- AMP SOCIETY/ PERTH
- C.C.C exists ?
- CGA (red print)
- CHARLES MOORE/&CO (W.A.) Pty Ltd
- COLES & / GARRARD/Pty Ltd (red print)
- CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION CANBERRA exists ?
- CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION SYDNEY exists ?
- DAVID JONES/PERTH/Ltd
- KRAFT/FOODS/LIMITED
- LONDON &/ LANCASHIRE/ FIRE / INSURANCE/ COMPANY
- RECEIVED FOR/ W.E. SMITH/ STATIONER/ SYDNEY
- THE DIRECT PUBLICITY COMPANY

AUCTION WATCH

Items of perfin interest from auctions/direct sales since the last Bulletin include the following. Thanks to Tony Nobilo, John Amiet, and Bryan Magee for passing on their keen spotting of perfin lots in these auctions.

	Est.
a. 1/4d strip of 3 with perfin IHC.3 (Macray Watson Sale 80, Oct 99)	75
b. West Aust. 19 values 1/2 d to 5/- perf "OS", 15 values 1/2 d to 10/- perf "WA", plus "PWA" (2), "PWD" (1) and 1 opt. "IR" (Stirling & Co Sale, Oct 99)	NZ \$500
c. 1929 cover of Mutual Fire Ins Co of Tasmania with 11/2 Swan perf RI/Co of Royal Ins Co, Launceston. (Tasmanian Stamp Auctions, Nov 99)	40
d. GB 1400+ perfins, 12 cvrs, + 4 books - 7th ed. Identities Cat., 1986 Perfins Cat., Pt. 1 New Illust. Cat. and Railway Perfins of GB (Tas. Stamp Auct., Nov 99)	400
e. NZ "GNB Ld" on 1d Universal (NZ Stamp Auctions, Oct 99)	NZ \$ 70
f. NZ "S&CoLtd" on pair 1d Universal (NZ Stamp Auctions, Oct 99)	NZ \$ 40
g. NZ £4 blue revenue perf "NZ/ICo" (David Holmes Sale, Nov 99)	NZ \$100
h. NZ Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer adv cover used 1946 Wellington (Registered) with 6d Pictorial perf "MGM" (David Holmes Sale, Nov 99)	NZ \$300
i. NZ "W&T/W" on 2/- QV long type fiscal (Stampland Sale, Nov 99)	NZ \$ 15
j. "BNZ" perfins on 31 high val GB issues - QV to 10/-, KE7 to 5/- (Stanley Gibbons (NZ) auction, Nov 99)	NZ \$200
k. "NZ" on 3d and 1/- GB KGVI on 1937 OHMS air cover to NZ (Stirling & Co Sale, Nov 99)	NZ \$125
l. NZ "AC&S" on 1d Terraces - s/w right (Stirling & Co Sale, Nov 99)	NZ \$125
m. NZ "A.C/&S" on 1d 2nd sideface (crease) (Stampland Sale Dec 99)	NZ \$ 8
n. Parcel post label with large 6d Kooka, 2d KGVI x 5, & 1d Queen all with D & J Fowler perfin. (Stewart's Sale, Nov 99)	\$ 20
o. Perfins on advert. Cards, mainly Harris Scarfe and Fowlers. Inc. 5 colourful "Lion Grocery" cards (17) (Stewart's Sale, Nov 99)	\$ 50
p. Perfins on company window envs, mainly Harringtons and Fowlers (59) (Stewart's Sale, Nov 99)	\$ 30
q. Perfins on window faced advert. envs., good range of sources (100) (Stewart's Sale, Nov 99)	Sold for \$ 260
r. 1909 adv. env. for "The Australian Widows' Life Fund" with 2d QV perf "AWF". (Chas Leski auction Nov 99)	\$ 100 - 120
s. Book of world perfins (425 UK, 365 Australia, 100 World, 35 NZ) (Auckland City Stamps Sale, Jan 2000)	NZ \$ 310
t. "NZL" perfin on Aust. 2d red KGV (David Holmes (NZ) Sale Feb 2000) (this reflects the demand for "NZ.." perfins in NZ, but overlooks the fact that these Australian perfins are quite common.)	NZ \$ 20
u. "NZ" on GB 6d E2R on piece (David Holmes (NZ) Sale Feb 2000)	NZ \$ 10
v. "M&CLtd" on NZ 1935 2d Whare (David Holmes (NZ) Sale Feb 2000)	NZ \$ 40
w. 1937 Perth window env. with QM 1d green "GDCO" perfin, Goode Durrant & Murray Ltd imprint at LL (Premier Philatelic Auctions Jan 2000)	\$ 15
x. 1906 Fitchett Bros cover 1d "TS/F" perfin of T. Shaw Fitchett, creased (Premier Philatelic Auctions Jan 2000)	\$ 40