

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 50 JULY 2000

The South Pacific Perfin Bulletin is published by the Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia four times each year. Club subscriptions (including payment for the Bulletin) are A \$10-00 p.a. for New Zealand and Australian residents and A \$15-00 p.a. for residents of other countries (including airmail postage).

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EDITORIAL

One of the milestones for the Club in 2000 is the 50th issue of the South Pacific Perfins Bulletin.

The Bulletin was first issued by Rev. David Dell in late 1986 and has been issued quarterly since, with a couple of short breaks. Over 600 pages of information about perfins has been published since, contributed by many members. Articles have included a New Zealand Catalogue, listings of various types of officials, numerous articles on individual perfins and information about perfin users.

Many rare and interesting items have been reported and this is continued in the current issue. It is the contributions of many members that has made the Bulletin what it is. These contributions have been greatly appreciated by both the Editors and judging from comments other Club members.

David Andersen

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome the following new members since the previous issue:

#190 Bruce Maple, Ingle Farm, Sth Australia

#191 Don Bilney, Campbelltown, Sth Australia

#192 David McNamee, California, USA

CLUB AUCTION

As expected, bidding was very strong again for this auction with a record number of bidders. Your auction coordinator thought 250-plus lots may have been too many for one auction, but the total number of bids was also very high and some lots received 8 or 9 bids. There were several instances of tied winning bids, meaning that the early bidder was the winner. A list of results is enclosed separately as a guide for bidders in future auctions.

Even though "prices realised" are a little less than in some public auctions for similar material, our bidders and vendors are all better off due to the low commission to the club – only 5% from July 1. The next auction catalogue will be sent out with the October Bulletin and the cut-off date for submission of material for this auction will be in the first week of October.

SECOND EDITION OF "COMMERCIAL PERFINs OF AUSTRALIA"

Members' responses were quite overwhelming and your encouraging support is most appreciated. My co-author for the first edition has stated that he would expect financial recompense for use of his "intellectual property" in a second edition. At this stage we are still waiting for his indication of what amount would be acceptable to him. The draft has been done and only the diagrams remain to be put in. So many people have forwarded additional information in the belief that it would be shared by all that I (JHM) am therefore prepared to produce a listing of all this additional information in consolidated form if a full second edition proves to be not viable. I hope to be able to advise more details of cost, format, etc., in the next Bulletin.

CIRCUIT BOOKS

An invitation is issued to any members who have not previously considered being placed on the distribution list for the circuit books, and to any (with apologies) who may not have been aware of there being circuit books. Most items in these books are single stamps, but occasionally there are small bulk packets and even covers. The material covers a price range from 5 cents to the price of covers. About half the material is of Australian perfins, but because of demand there is also a good range of perfin material from many other countries as well. The books which circulate around our NZ circuit contain predominantly NZ and GB material by request. Any member who would like to be added to the list please contact the appropriate circuit manager (addresses on page 1). Unfortunately, postage costs prevent circuit books being able to be posted overseas.

CLUB MEETING (NZ)

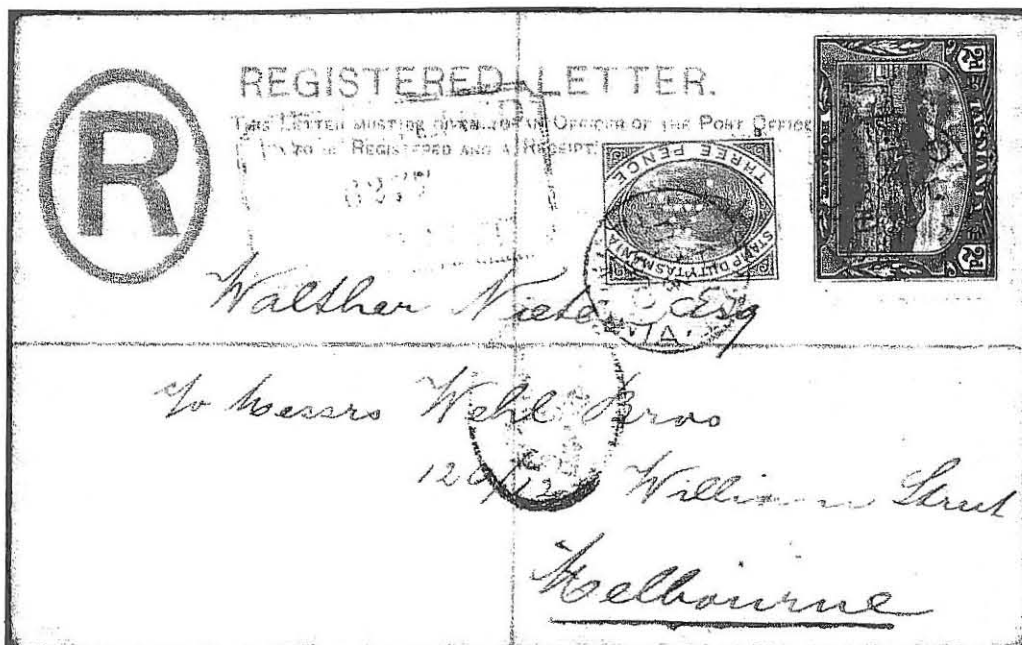
Richard Smolnicki has advised that he has arranged for a meeting time at Canpex 2000, to be held from 5th to 8th of October, 2000 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Christchurch, New Zealand. The club meeting will be held at 10 am on the Saturday 7 October. Members are advised to check at the main desk of the hotel for the room location. All members are welcome to attend, particularly any visitors from overseas. The format will be informal and it will be an opportunity to meet fellow collectors and discuss the hobby. Members are encouraged to bring along any items of interest.

PERFIN A.2 AND A PLATYPUS

David McNamee has reported a very interesting Tasmanian cover, which includes a copy of the perfin A Type 2 (13 holes 9mm x 8mm) on 3d Platypus on a registered envelope (H&G C3) dated October 30, 1900. This cover is interesting from a couple of reasons.

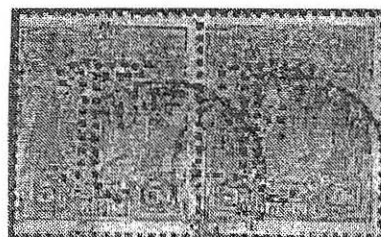
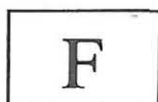
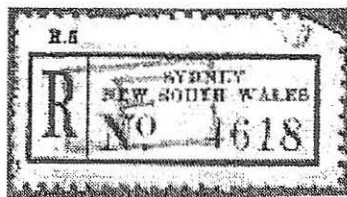
- Perfin A.2 has not been reported on a Platypus design.
- It is used in combination with a 2d pictorial without perfin.

David writes "the two stamps affixed make up the 2d postal rate plus the 3d Registration Fee. It is known that George Adams did not care for the Pictorial design of the new stamps issued 1899-1900. Others have indicated that he purchased large quantities of stamps of the Key Plate design – in fact I have a 5d Key Plate design perfin A dated October 1900. I also have several 1d Pictorials dated in mid-1900, so one wonders why Adams bought the 3d Platypus with a ready supply of 1d and 2d at hand".



AN ITEM OF PERFIN / PHILATELIC INTEREST (John Mathews)

An item recently sold on the eBay Internet auction which is of local perfin and general philatelic interest. The perfin component of this was a used joined pair of 5d King George V definitives perforated with the two dies of the perfins F.1 and F.2 of Farmer and Company of Sydney. The separation of the patterns is 20.5 mm indicating that they were from the same strike of this two-die perforator. The other part of this auction lot was a registration label inscribed "Sydney, New South Wales". On this has been hand-stamped an "F" in a rectangle. If both items were from the same envelope (pity they are not still on it!), the hand-stamp on the label may indicate that Farmer and Company had an official post office within their department store. Can any of our members confirm this?



G/NSW AEROGRAMMES

While we have been aware that a puncturing machine had been used to puncture aerogrammes very few examples have been reported.

The 10d 1964 series used 17th December 1964 was reported in the Bulletin no.23 April 1993 and is illustrated below:



Arthur Taylor has come across another more recent usage. This cutout from a 12c aerogramme issued May 1973 was used on 8th December 1973. Not only is this a more recent usage and on a new type of aerogramme, the position of the puncture is different from that previously reported. With this copy the puncturing was done from the back and sideways. Any further information about usage of this perfin on aerogrammes would be greatly appreciated.

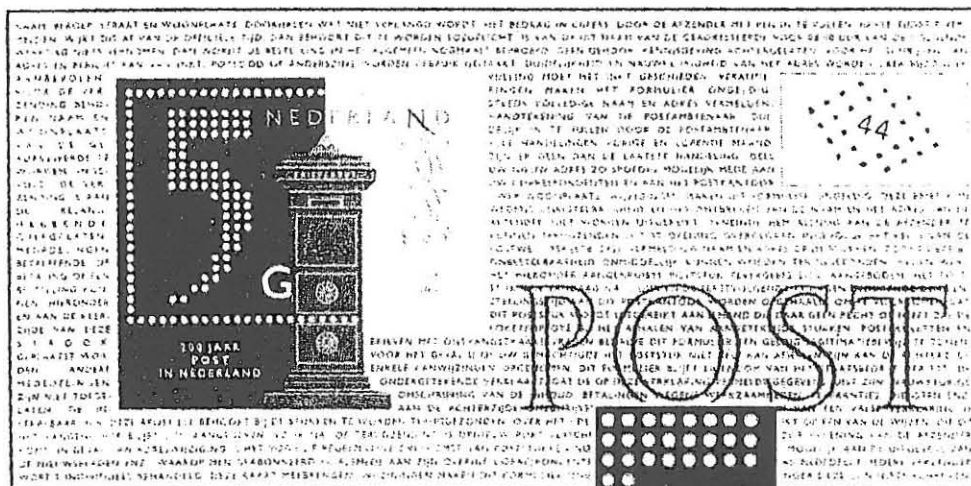
A TREND-SETTING PERFIN ITEM? (John Mathews)

The January 2000 issue of "The Perfin Bulletin" (The Official Newsletter of the Perfin Club of the U.S.) carries an article about a new perfin item which takes the concept of the recent Australian "A99" perfin to a new height.

In October 1999, the Netherlands issued the miniature sheet shown commemorating the 200th anniversary of that country's postal service. The sheet contains a single 5-guilder stamp featuring a post box in use for about 100 years from the mid-1800s, and a reproduction of the early "44" numeral cancel of The Hague.

The figure "5" of the stamp's denomination consists of 73 holes!

Willem Beckers, who is a member of the U.S. Perfin Club and the GB Perfin Society, had supplied the information and offered to purchase this item for members of those clubs, and may be agreeable to do the same for our members. The mint sheets are quoted at US\$5, a First Day Cover US\$6 (or 1 of each together for US\$9). For US\$12, he offered to use another sheet as postage as well. He requested payment in cash (bank charges overseas are even higher than ours!). His address is P.O. Box 3052, NL-5003 DB Tilburg, The Netherlands, but it is suggested that interested members may care to contact him initially by e-mail at perfin@hoes.demon.nl, identify yourself as a member of PCNZA, and check availability and costs.

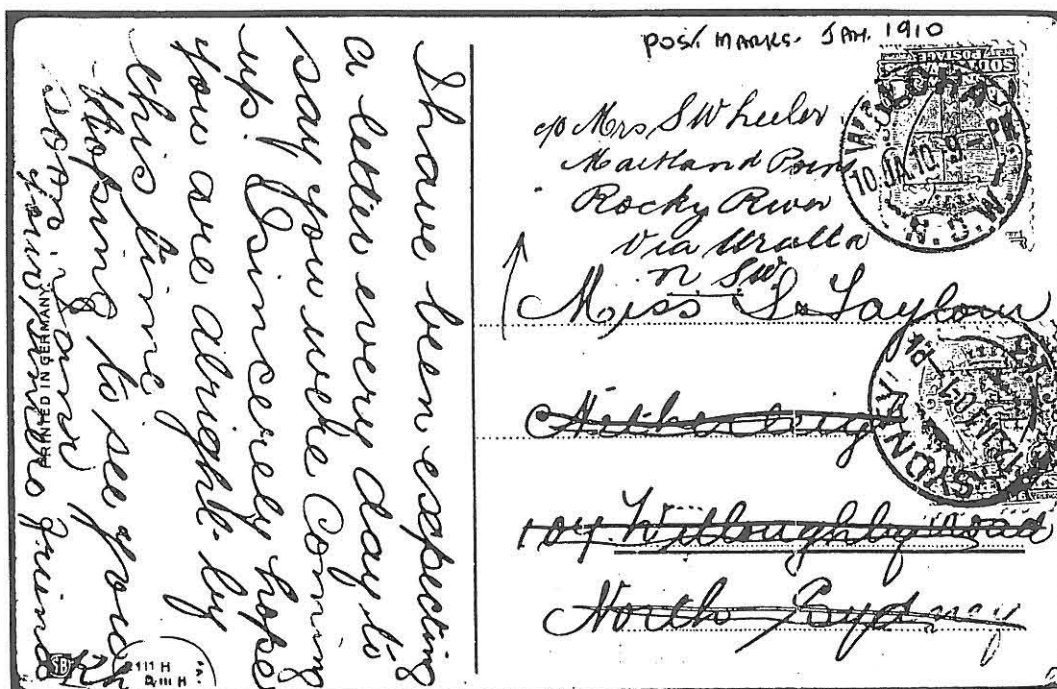


MORE ON THE USER IDENTITY OF SB.5 (John Mathews)

Five years ago, David Richards had shown me the postcard illustrated below. The card had been posted at Walcha, New South Wales, on 10 January 1910, to Miss S. Taylour at a North Sydney address, and was subsequently re-addressed to Uralla, New South Wales. The stamp added for forwarding the card has perfin SB.5 and is tied by a Sydney postmark dated 12 January 1910. The 1909 Electoral Roll lists at this North Sydney address Henry Zara Taylour, journalist, and his wife Isabel Mary. The 1913 Electoral Roll additionally lists Sara Eleanor Taylour, home duties, at the same address, indicating that Sara turned 21 years of age between 1909 and 1913. Initially, it looked like a case of illegal use of the perfin, as the occupation did not tie in with the original accredited user of SB.5.

Then, last year John Fordham showed me an unused cover with a stamp with perfin SB.5 and the pre-printed return address of "S. Bennett, / Evening News, Town and Country Journal, and Woman's Budget Offices". It appears that this cover, which was folded, was probably prepared as a "reply-paid" envelope. Details of this appeared in the July 1999 issue of this Bulletin.

Thus, Henry Taylour's occupation now seems to add support for the user of SB.5 to be "S. Bennett". There are several issues of these newspapers from the period near 1910 currently held in the National Library of Australia. Sadly, unlike modern practice, the names of journalists were not included in the newspaper reports.



The next step was to reconstruct Henry Taylour's family tree to try to find descendents who may have had knowledge of Henry's working life. Sara was the second of four children of Henry and Isabel (nee McNeil) Taylour. The eldest, Isabel, died in infancy in 1887. Sara was born in 1890 at Uralla. The "Mrs. S. Wheeler" to whose address the postcard was re-addressed was Sara's mother's elder sister, also named Sarah. (Uralla is just north of Walcha, and to the east of Tamworth in northern New South Wales). Sara died in 1912 at the age of 21 years at the northern Sydney suburb of Chatswood, obviously soon after she had enrolled on the Electoral Roll. She was not married.

Sara had two younger brothers, Angus Eugene and Louis Zara. Angus married in 1932 but he and his wife had no children; he died in 1978. Louis did not marry and died in 1980. Since then there have been no living descendents of Henry and Isabel Taylour.

WORLD-WIDE PERFIN CONNECTIONS (John Mathews)

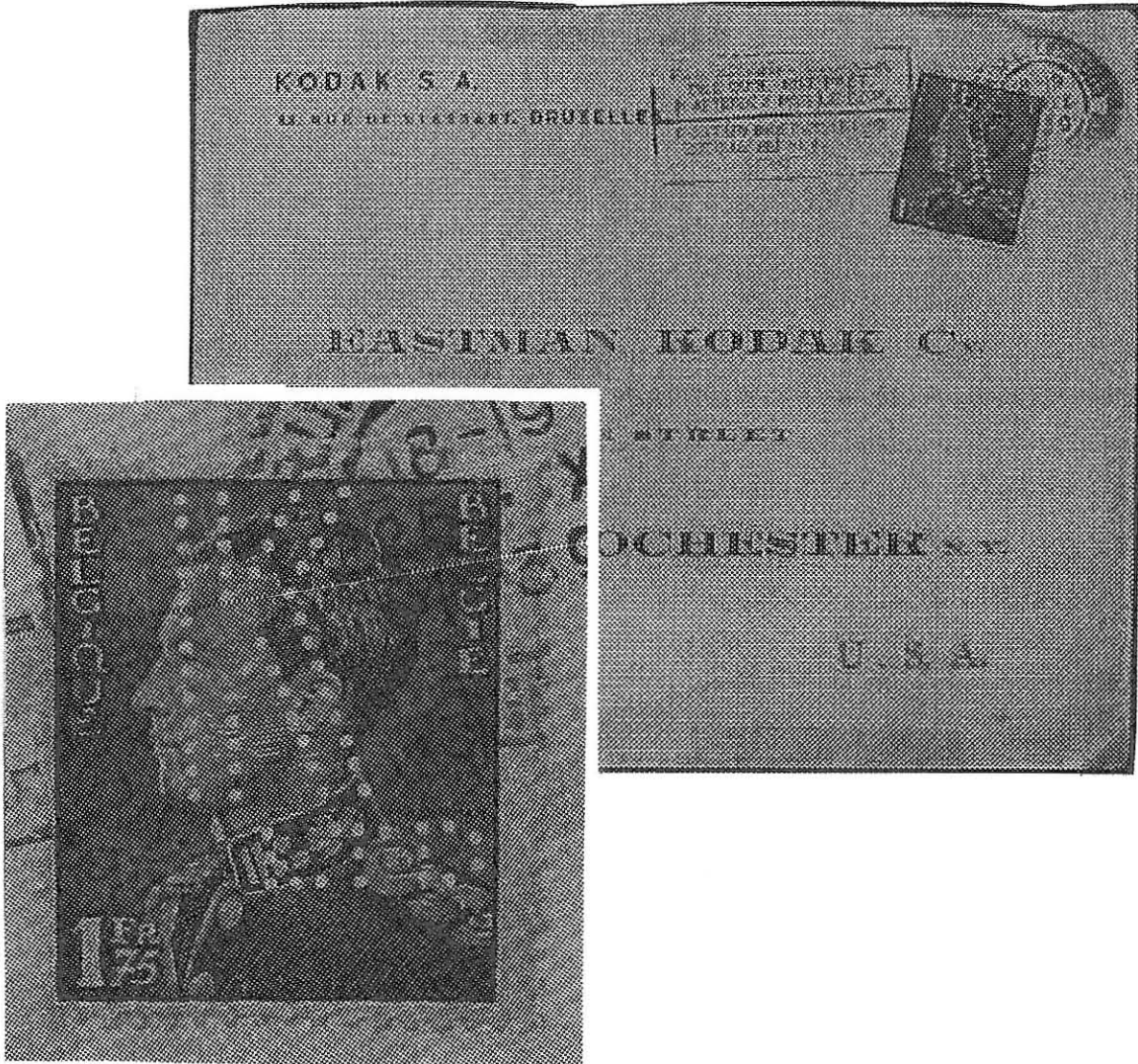
One of the aspects of "specialist" perfin collecting of which I am aware involves collections of perfins relating to a particular company and used in their various branches around the world. Many Australian and New Zealand companies, of course, were either branches of British companies, or were founded in Australia and established branches in Great Britain where most of their overseas trade was conducted. In this category were many insurance companies and major wholesalers ("warehousemen" in those days) and retailers. Among the better known of these where perfins are known on both sides of the world were Royal Insurance Company Limited, Anthony Hordern & Sons, AMP Society, John Dickinson & Co., Queensland Insurance Co Ltd., and S. Hoffnung & Co.

There were other companies which had branches throughout many countries and perforated their initials into the local stamps of these countries as well as the country of their headquarters. I have seen world-wide perfin collections for International Harvester Company (covering 5 continents), Thomas Cook & Sons, and Vacuum Oil Company.

Some of these companies no doubt purchased several perforators from one supplier near their head office, and then distributed them to their various branches. The similarity of the various Royal Insurance Company perfins is a clear example of this, since the Australian and New Zealand patterns have a very similar style to the many patterns associated with several of that company's branches within Great Britain. In other cases, "foreign" branches may have purchased perforators locally but specifying a similar design base as the parent company pattern, typically similar to the company logo or trade mark.

Recently, I was reminded of an example of this by an item on offer on the eBay auction (see illustration). The cover was used by the Brussels office of the Kodak company and the pattern of the perfin is "K / LTD". A similar arrangement of letters is used on the company's GB perfins and Australian perfins, the latter even extending to those produced by the puncturing service in Melbourne! In the case of the Belgian perfin, the letter "K"

consists of double lines, as if producing a single-line pattern is not enough of an engineering challenge.



OLYMPIC PERFINS

With the Sydney Olympic Games in a few weeks there is a considerable amount of interest in Olympic stamps. While the Olympic movement has not itself used perfins there have been quite a few Olympic stamps with perfins. With the earlier Olympics the usage on Olympic stamps are limited to the country where the Olympics were held as most countries had not jumped on the bandwagon and issued Olympic stamps every four years.

A few examples are illustrated though no doubt there are many others.

1948 Olympic Games: all usage on British Stamps



BG/Co

CPA

E.W.

1956 Olympic Games Melbourne: Olympic stamps were used widely on mail both by companies and state governments.



2/- blue
G/NSW
T
VG

2/- green
G/NSW
T
VG

4d red
G/NSW
T

7 1/2d blue
G/NSW
VG

1/- multi
G/NSW
VG
DJ/LTD

2/- multi
G/NSW
T
VG

1968 Olympic Games, Mexico City



VG

1976 Olympic Games, Montreal



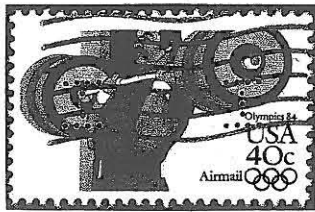
VG

VG

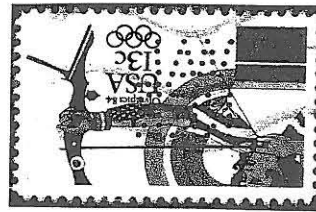
G/NSW & VG

G/NSW & VG

1984 Olympic Games, Los Angeles



I (State of Illinois)



WAL/KER(Personal pattern)

2000 Olympic Games, Sydney ?????

No doubt there will be some usage. Possibly PC/NZA, JA etc used for philatelic purposes.

CUMMINS PERFORATOR COMPANY PERFIN (John Mathews)

The Cummins Perforator Company of Chicago, USA, possibly produced a large percentage of perforators used by US companies, and may have even been the manufacturers of some Australian perforators since illustrations on an advertising brochure for the Excelsior Supply Co Ltd of Melbourne refer to the Cummins Perforator Company.

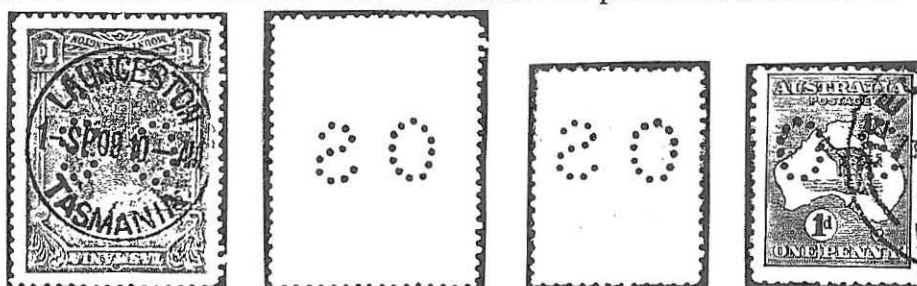
A recent item on the eBay auction featured a cover of the Cummins Perforator Company, posted in Chicago in 1939, using a pair of stamps with the company's own perfin ("CPC").



FEDERAL 'OS' ON STATE STAMPS

When the Commonwealth introduced OS official perfins in 1913 on Kangaroo issues a large OS pattern was used. Following complaints in April 1913 a smaller OS was issued late in 1913. Two machines were used one for the Kangaroo issues and the other for the KGV issues. That at least is the story usually told.

John Mathews reports an item that challenges some of this story. The 1d Tasmanian pictorial issue illustrated below bears the smaller OS perfin and is dated 1 SP 1909.



Other state issues with the smaller OS have been reported: a Tasmanian 2d pictorial (SPPPB July 1989 p.4), a South Australian 1d red (SPPPB Jan 1990 p.5) and a Victorian 1d red (SPPPB Jan 1998 p.8). It would appear that the perforator for the smaller OS was obtained prior to 1913 and used to perforate a range of state issues. When a replacement for the large OS was needed this machine was used again. Possibly a second machine with an identical pattern was purchased for the KGV issues.

PERFIN CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA
Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for year ended 30 June 2000

<u>Australian account (A\$)</u>	Receipts	Expenditure	
Bank balance 1.7.1999	5246.34	Prep & despatch 4 Bulletins	1410.80
Subscriptions *	1069.05	Bank & Govt charges	56.55
Bank interest	5.98	Postage & Stationery	126.30
Exchange Branch	9095.15	Exchange Branch	8059.65
Auction 1/1999	1019.82	Auction 1/1999	924.90
Auction 2/1999	2250.10	Auction 2/1999	2044.35
Transfer from NZ a/c	392.90	Transfer to Term Deposit	1000.00
Interest Term Deposit	<u>234.65</u>	Bank balance 30.6.2000	<u>5691.44</u>
	19313.19		19313.19

* includes \$333.35 in advance or credit

Term Deposit Account - A\$7000 @ 3.9% for 12 months due 6.4.2001

<u>New Zealand account (NZ\$)</u>	Receipts	Expenditure	
Bank balance 1.7.1999	311.65		
Subscriptions	247.00	Postage	10.00
Exchange circuits	406.37		
Auction	222.25	Auction	22.25
Interest	5.85	Transfer to Australian a/c	500.00
Circuit commission	19.09	Miscellaneous	20.00
Members' credit	<u>8.50</u>	Bank balance 30.6.2000	<u>668.46</u>
	1220.71		1220.71

Our warm thanks go to Peter and Richard for their good work in keeping our finances in order.

AUCTION WATCH

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

	Est.
a. 2 cheques with Victorian Duty Stamps o'printed "F.H.Ltd." with cachet of Federal Hotels Ltd (payee). (Jimbo's Direct Sale Apr 00)	\$ 15
b. 1906 2pf grey Germania stationery env from Straus & Cie, Cannstatt, with 2 stamps added both with perfin "S&C" Ashford Stamps (NZ) Auction, May 00)	NZ\$ 80
c. NZ "C&G" perfin on 1d Terraces (Stirling & Co Auction Apr 00)	NZ\$ 7.50
d. GB QV 2½d perf "SM&CO on S Montagu & Co cover London to USA (Stirling & Co Auction Apr 00)	NZ\$ 25
e. NZ "VO/CO" (no stop) on Victory 2d ovpt. (J Mowbray Auction May 00)	NZ\$ 45
f. Pitcairn Is 1940 defs set perf "SPECIMEN" UHM (D Holmes (NZ) Sale May 00)	NZ\$ 1000
g. NZ 1d Universal perf "S&S/W" (D Holmes (NZ) Sale May 00)	NZ\$ 10
h. Stockbook inc 500xGB, 280xAust, 18 NZ, 230 World (D Holmes (NZ) Sale May 00)	NZ\$ 250
i. 5 diff adv covers for Harris Scarfe with "HS" perfin (Tasmanian Stamp Auctions Apr 00)	sold for \$ 75
j. 1932 S.H. Bridge 5/- with Farmer & Co perfin (Rod Perry Sale Apr 00)	sold for \$ 360
k. 2 stockbooks with 100s world perfins (mainly Australian) (Rod Perry Sale Apr 00)	sold for \$ 210
l. Collection of Aust Official & private perfins (100s) plus copy of "Commercial Perfins of Australia" (Chas Leski Auction May 00)	\$ 300 - \$ 400
m. 1853 Tasmania 4d orange with small triangular official puncture with BN '18' of Campbell Town (Macray Watson Auction Jun 00)	\$ 100
n. 3 Australian covers with private perfins, "D&J/F", "GD COA", "HB&CO" (West Brisbane Stamp Sales Jun00)	\$ 40
o. Rhodesia 1892 £1 brown perf "USED" (West Brisbane Stamp Sales Jun 00)	\$ 50
p. 5 "NZ" perfins on GB stamps, KEVII to E2R (Donald Ion (NZ) Auction, Jul 00)	NZ \$ 10
q. Tattersall's underprints - 5 h/stamped, 34 typed (Tasmanian Stamp Auctions Apr 00)	sold for \$ 125
r. NZ KG VI 1d green perf "MGM" on MGM adv window env (D Holmes (NZ) Sale Jun 00)	NZ \$ 225
s. 1954 Goode, Durrant & Murray Ltd cover with 2 stamps perf "GD CO/A" & "Late Fee" cancel & h/s (Premier Philatelic Auctions May 00)	sold for \$ 55
t. "GSB" on New South Wales 1d (Premier Philatelic Auctions May 00)	sold for \$ 3½
u. 230 stamps with perfins from all over the world, mostly period 1920s-1930s (Auckland City Stamps Postal Sale July 00)	NZ \$ 150
v. NZ perfin "GNB/LD" on 1d Universal (Auckland City Stamps Postal Sale July 00)	NZ \$ 70
w. NZ perfin "DB&CO", large letters (Auckland City Stamps Postal Sale July 00)	NZ \$ 40
x. NZ perfin "NZ/ICo" on £2/10/- duty stamp (Auckland City Stamps Postal Sale July 00)	NZ \$ 50

WANTED ADVERTISEMENTS

Members wanted to buy or exchange requests can be included in the Bulletin free. If there are particular items or types of perfins you would like to obtain contact the Editor to have a request in the next Bulletin.