

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 90 JULY 2010

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). Back issues available from Secretary.

President & Librarian:	David Coath, 4 Fleming Court, Research, Victoria 3095, Australia email – davidcoath@onthe.net.au
Secretary:	John Mathews, 21 McConnel Cres, Kambah ACT 2902, Australia email – john.mathews@canberra.edu.au
Treasurer:	Lindsay Parker, 3 Byethorne Ave., Naracoorte SA 5271 Australia Email lwarker@adsl.on.net
Treasurer (NZ payments):	Richard Smolnicki, 19 Oakleigh Street, Maungaraki, Lower Hutt, 5010 NZ
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, 7940 New Zealand
Australia	John Mathews, 21 McConnel Cres, Kambah ACT 2902, Australia

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Recently, a significant number of rare Official perfins have been listed on eBay by one seller in Sydney who has used a sequence of identities. The characteristics of these listings are as follows:

- Rare Official patterns offered with very low starting prices
- Private auctions with bidders names suppressed
- Low number of sales

His listings include some normal philatelic items, but in many instances this seller's perfin and overprint listings are forgeries. Considering the number of items involved and information from other collectors who have traded with, and observed, this seller, it appears that he is not only a distributor of forged items but is probably involved in their manufacture. These have included various Commonwealth OS's, OS/NSW type C and the hard-to-find OS type I of NSW.

I urge all members to be most careful in dealings with this type of material and forward email links of what you consider to be suspect listings to David Andersen and David Coath. Perfin collecting is especially vulnerable to forgers and this was evidenced in the past with the "VG" forgeries.

The best way to protect our collections from these "weeds" is to :

- Improve our references
- Share details about suspect patterns and traders
- Expose forgers to the authorities such as ebay , the APTA, etc.

In addition if you feel that you have suspect items in your collection then I am sure David Andersen (Officials) , John Mathews (Private patterns) or Neale Scott ("VG") would be able to provide an opinion on them.

David Coath

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have joined since the previous issue:

- #266 Glen Howard, Huntingfield, Tasmania
 #267 Mr Antun Triglavcanin, Ardross West Australia
-

MANDURAH 2010

The Mandurah Philatelic Society Inc. & Peel Region Numismatic Group are conducting MANDURAH 2010, a National Stamp, Coin & Postcard Fair, from 19 to 21 November 2010 at the Mandurah Performing Arts Centre, Ormsby Terrace, Mandurah, West Australia. Included in this exhibition is a National One Frame Philatelic Competition. Following the successful participation in such a competition at Launpex 2009 by club members, members are encouraged to submit entries for Mandurah 2010 (particularly those who have not exhibited before).

Details of the exhibition, prospectus, and entry forms are available from the web site <http://www.mandurah2010.com>, or from the Secretary, PO Box 1285, Mandurah WA 6210. Your Secretary can also send an electronic copy by email on request.

WANTED ...

- Member Robert Dedecker (France) is interested in buying some Australian private perfins (Very Common to Uncommon ratings). He can make a wants list. He may be contacted at dedeckerr@yahoo.fr.
 - Stamps and cover with perfin of EL (EL.2) possibly from Electrolux Pty Ltd. Please contact Stellan Swenson, Odonbarsvagen 32, SE-293 41 Olofstrom SWEDEN.
 - Mike Hert is interested in buying David Jones' perfins (DJLTD.1 - .6). His email address is mikehert@hotmail.com
-

CANADIAN CUSTOMS DUTY STAMP WITH PERFIN

The Canadian Customs Duty Stamp shown was sold on eBay in April 2010 for US\$8-72. It has perfin "DM/CO" of the Dennison Manufacturing Company of Boston, Massachusetts, USA. The same perfin is known on Australian Customs Duty Stamps (US version).



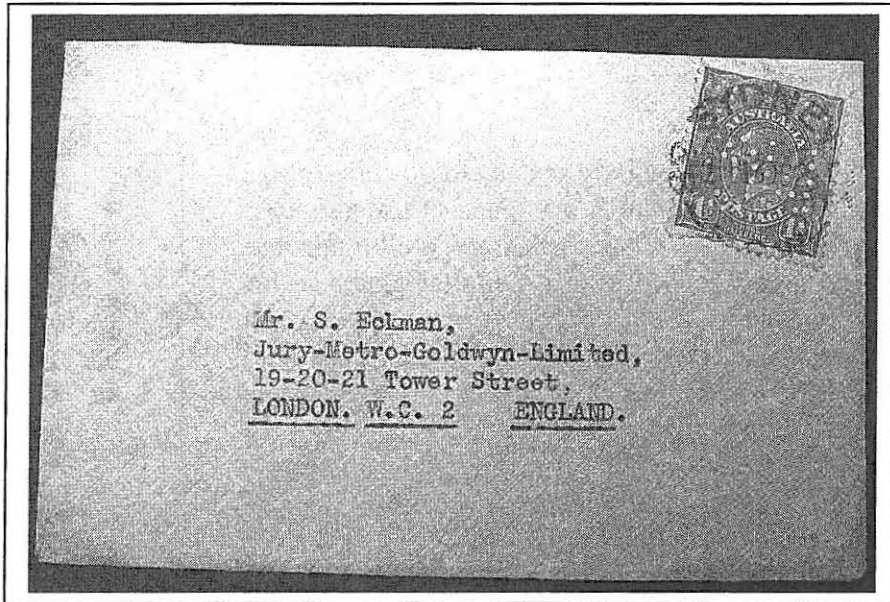
AUCTION 1/2010

This has been another very successful auction (190 out of 240 lots sold – 80%) with strong bidding especially for proving covers. Results are enclosed.

PROBABLE NEW USER IDENTITY (John Mathews)

In July 2010, the plain cover shown as sold on eBay. The 1½d red KGV stamp (just tied to the cover!) has perfin MG.1 for which a user identity has not yet been found.

However, the cover is addressed to “Jury-Metro-Goldwyn-Limited” in London and there would seem to be a strong possibility that the sender was the company’s Sydney office. In Sydney Directories, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer is first listed in 1926. From the nature of the addressee, it would seem that the merging of the companies may have taken place in two stages – can anyone confirm this? If that is the case, the user of the perfin MG.1 would probably be “Metro-Goldwyn”.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT - PERFIN CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA

Statement of Receipts and expenditure for the year ended 30 June 2010 (New Zealand account).

<u>Receipts</u> (NZ\$)		<u>Expenditure</u> (NZ\$)	
Bank Balance 1.7.2009	196.41		
Circuit book sales	1122.15	Auction vendors	123.50
Subscriptions	437.00	Transfer to Aust. A/c	1650.14
Interest	15.32	Exhibition donation	75.00
Auctions	274.90		
		Bank balance 30.6.09	197.14
	-----		-----
Total	2045.78	Total	2045.78

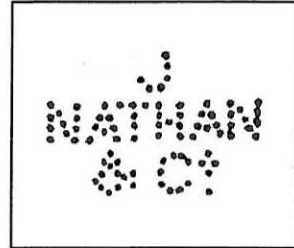
Our thanks to Richard Smolnicki for his good work in managing our NZ account, and also to Ray Bennett for his good work in managing the exchange books’ NZ circuit.

The statement for the Australian account was unavoidably delayed and not available before printing of this issue.

NEW ZEALAND PERFINS: SOME RECENT FINDINGS (G.I. Robertson FRPSNZ)

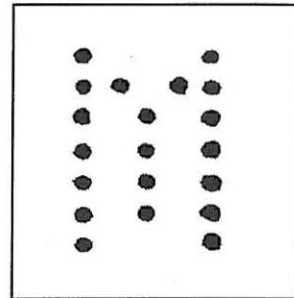
J / NATHAN / & CO

Samuel (1987,1998) and Mathews (2008) record this company as an Auckland firm. The company was established in Wellington by Joseph Nathan in 1873. A copy of this perfin has been recorded postally used at Wellington on 10 April 1885 (Dr A. Murley, pers. comm.). I can find no evidence of a branch being operated in Auckland and suggest the listing should read "J. Nathan & Co., Wellington (1885)".



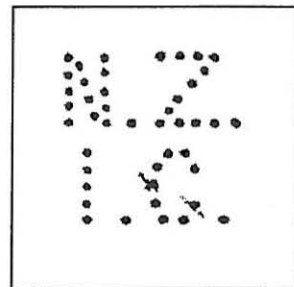
M

Samuel (1968) stated he had only seen a single copy of this perfin and was unable to identify the place of use and user. He further wrote: "Mr G. Chamberlain of Wellington has advised: The late James Currie had a similar perfin in his collection, except there was one less hole in the middle arm of the design. A note over the specimen attributed it to Messrs Yaeger and Son. The design was apparently the letter 'Y' between parallel lines". A search of contemporary New Zealand directories reveals no person with this name. There was, however, J. George Yager & Co. boot manufacturer of 36 Peterborough St, Christchurch in the 1910's.



N. Z. / I. C.

Robert Samuel described punches used by the Union Steam Ship Co. and Smith & Smith Ltd (Samuel, 1998). A third punch was recently located at Archives New Zealand. When the original New Zealand Insurance Co was wound up about 1991 the firm lodged a large archival holding with Archives New Zealand. This institution is primarily a depository of the records of government departments and related organisations but, if space allows, is willing to accept material from private firms and individuals.



The punch was retrieved from the Maryborough, Queensland, Australia office of the New Zealand Insurance Co. (type Pf. 58, Samuel 1968). Made of cast iron or steel, weighing about 1 to 1½ kg and, despite about 117 years old, it is in excellent working order (Fig. 1). No indication as to the name of the manufacturer/model could be found although the base has been punched with the letters "XI" or "IX". However, Mathews (1994) noted from official Queensland postal records "that the perforator used by the New Zealand Insurance Company was supplied by that firm's head office in New Zealand and made by Mordanne (sic) and Co. London". The name of the company was Sampson Mordan & Co., known to have manufactured perforating machines from 1879 to at least 1899.

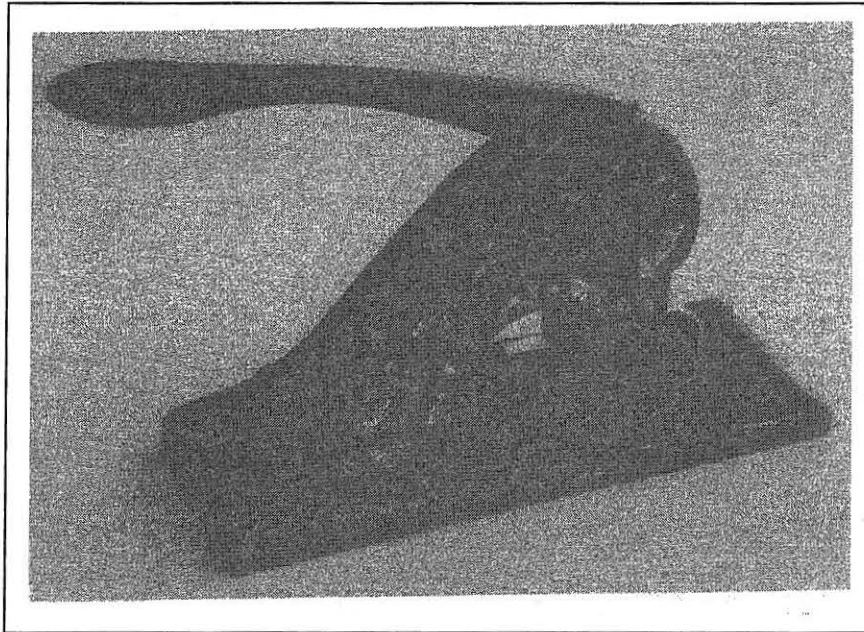
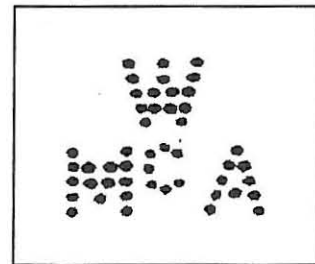


Figure 1. The New Zealand Insurance Co. punch retrieved from the Maryborough, Queensland office [courtesy: New Zealand Insurance and Archives, New Zealand / Te Rua Mahara o te Kawanatanga, Auckland].

W
McA

This perfin was first recorded by Samuel (1992) on a Second Sideface stamp with portion of a squared circle postmark reading "AUCKLAND --88". He was unable to suggest the identity of the user. A possible user is McArthur, William and Co., Importers and Warehousemen who had premises at 233 Queen Street, Auckland in 1888.



SECURITY OVERPRINT

B&B
W

This overprint has been applied in black type to a surface printed Geo. V 2d orange, perf 14, probably on Cowan paper (Fig. 2). The stamp is fiscally cancelled with portion of a rubber stamp marking in purple reading "2? SEP 19-".

There is no evidence as to the identity of the user but perhaps we can assume the "W" represents "Wellington". A search of directories from late 1920's revealed the following possible users:



Figure 2

Brice & Brice [representing Hollington Bros], 90 Wakefield St
Bonn & Braid, Plumbers, 209 Willis St
Brown & Blackie, Real Estate Agents, 28 Hopper St.

It is now 42 years since the Postal History Society of New Zealand Inc. published "New Zealand stamps with perforated initials" by the late Robert Samuel. A revised and updated edition of this basic guide to the perfins and security overprints used by New Zealand institutions, within New Zealand and overseas, will be published by that Society this year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank Mr. C. Carrick-Leslie, solicitor acting for the New Zealand Insurance Co., for permission to examine the company's archives currently held by Archives New Zealand and that organisation for allowing me to photograph the N. Z. I. C. punch.

As always, H. E. Waite has been very generous in sharing information and resources.

REFERENCES

- Mathews, J.** 1994, A manufacturer of perforators used in Australia. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No.29, p. 8.
- Mathews, J.** 2008. J. Nathan & Company. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No.81: pp. 7-9.
- Samuel, R.** 1987. Two more New Zealand perfins. *South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* No.2, p.6.
- Samuel, R. D.** 1968. *New Zealand stamps with perforated initials*. 52pp. The Postal History Society of New Zealand Inc.
- Samuel, R. D.** 1998. New Zealand stamps with perforated initials (perfins). In "*The Postage Stamps of New Zealand VIII*", pp. 471-82, The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand Inc. *Wise's Post Office Directories*.

[NOTE: This article has been re-printed from "New Zealand Stamp Collector", Volume 90, No. 1, March 2010, by kind permission of the author, Dr. G. I. Robertson, FRPSNZ. - jhm]

NEW ZEALAND STAMPS WITH PERFORATED INITIALS", 2nd edition, by Robert Samuel.

Advice has now been received from the Postal History Society of New Zealand Inc. that this publication referred to in the article above is now available. A "flyer" is enclosed for all NZ members of PCNZA (others who are interested can obtain a "flyer" from the PCNZA Secretary.) It has 90 A4 pages, includes both perfins and overprints, and is lavishly illustrated. It does NOT give a listing of all the issues on which each perfin pattern is known (but such a detailed listing is in the course of preparation by PCNZA). Cost is NZ\$27.00 within NZ, and for overseas buyers cost ranges from NZ\$33.28 (to Australia) to NZ\$41 (to UK and Europe).

TAMWORTH PERFIN SOUVENIR

200 sets (of 2) of the 1999 Navigators Minisheet with the A99 perfin were overprinted in Gold for The Tamworth Lions Club Collectables Fair and the Tamworth Philatelic Society Stamp Fair held at the Tamworth Town Hall from 19th to 21st February 2010. Sets of 2 were sold at \$30.

SPECIAL PERFINS FOR EXHIBITIONS (Frank Franchi)

I collect Italian perfins and can add to the known exhibition perfins mentioned in the article in the April 2010 Bulletin (page 3). I have scanned three postcards from Italian exhibitions:

- 1946 (Milan) – perfin “MF/IM” one letter on each stamp) (figs. 1a and 1b),
- 1946 (Venice) - perfin “RFPV.46” (figs. 2a and 2b),
- 1948 (Venice) – perfin “R/F/P/V48” (figs. 3), and
- 1949 (Venice) – perfin “R/F/P/V” (figs. 5a and 5b).

They are mentioned in the latest Italian Perfin Catalogue (fig. 4) [there is a copy in the club’s library – jhm]



Fig. 1a. 1946 Milan Exhibition mini-sheet (front)

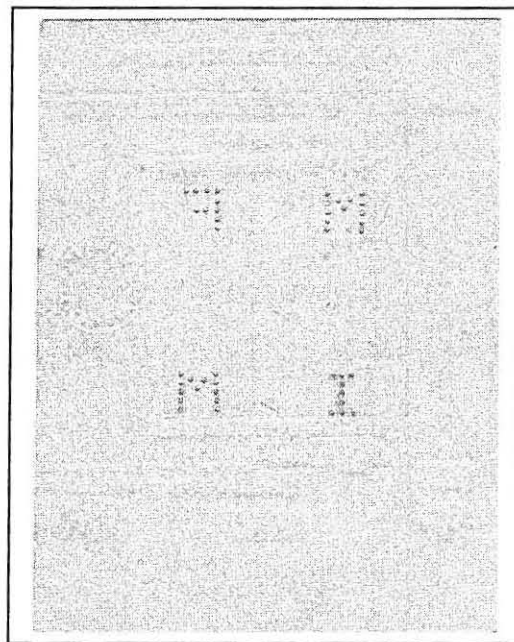
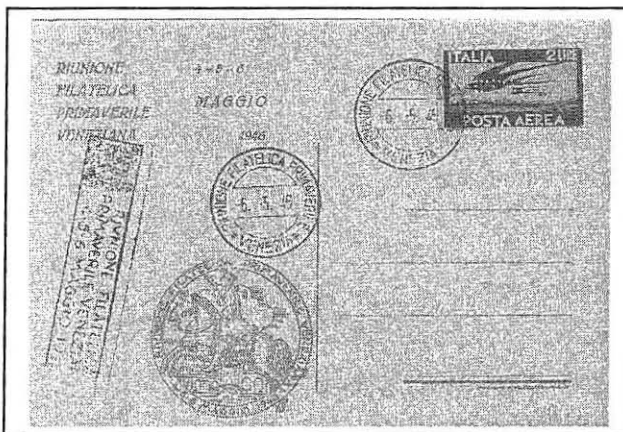


Fig. 1b. 1946 Milan Exhibition mini-sheet (back)



(Above) Fig. 2a. 1946 Venice Exhibition postcard (back)



(Right) Fig. 2b. 1946 Venice Exhibition postcard (front)



Fig. 3. Cover of Venice Exhibition 1948


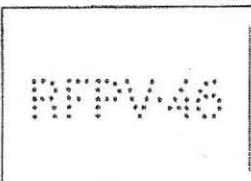


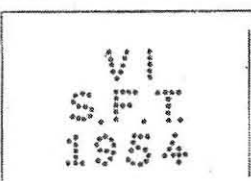
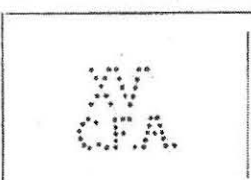
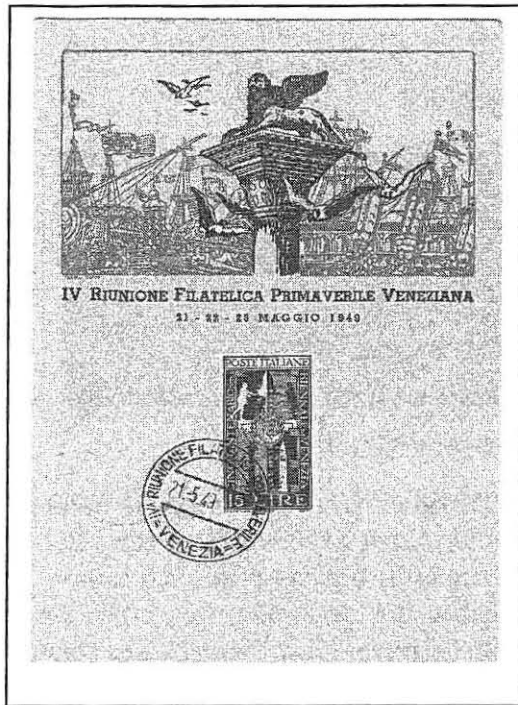
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Mostra Filatelica Internazionale Milano 2 Ricordo Mostra 3 4 Milano 5 1946 6 cartoncino ricordo con applicata quartina perforazione passante di una lettera per ciascun francobollo 	<p>NC6</p> <p>H M23 C M4-F3-I M —</p> <p>V D</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Riunione Filatelica Primaveraile Veneziana 2 3 4 Venezia 5 1946 6 cartoline e buste speciali illustrate 	<p>NC7</p> <p>H R11 C R10 M —</p> <p>V D</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Riunione Filatelica Primaveraile Veneziana 2 3 4 Venezia 5 1948 6 perfìn usato anche nel 1949 senza  	<p>NC8</p> <p>H — C — M —</p> <p>V C</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 VI Settimana Filatelica Toscana 1954 2 3 4 Livorno 5 1954 6 cartoline speciali illustrate 	<p>NC9</p> <p>H V3 C S21-NU1 M —</p> <p>V D</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 15° Anniversario Circolo Filatelico Apuano 2 3 4 Viareggio 5 1946 6 	<p>NC11</p> <p>H — C — M —</p> <p>V B</p>

Fig. 4. Page from latest edition of "Perfin Italiani/Italian Perfin" (2009), E. Bertazzoli, B. Ermentini & G. Roncetti.



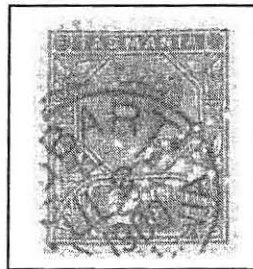
(Above) Fig. 5a. 1949 Venice Exhibition postcard (back). Note the perfin through the card under the first line of the address.

(Left) Fig. 5b. 1949 Venice Exhibition postcard (front). Note perfin through stamp and card.

“SEEING DOUBLE” – MORE EXAMPLES

(John Tyson)

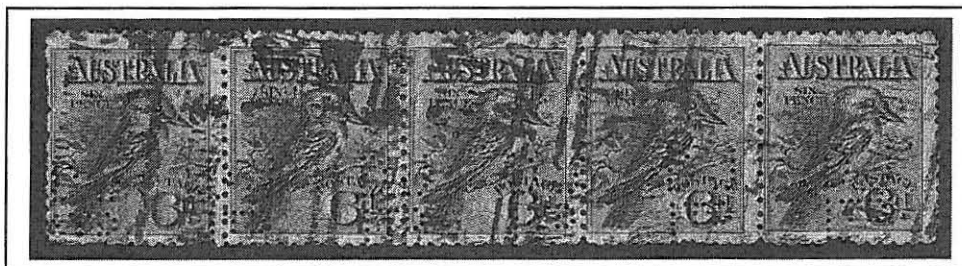
I have found 2 more examples of double strikes of “A” perfins on Tasmanian stamps to add to those shown in David McNamee’s article in SPPB No. 58, July 2002. The first is a 2d Pictorial postmarked AP 18, 1900, with 2 inverted strikes of pattern A.1. The second is a 2½d “Tablet” postmarked “JL 23, 1900” with pattern A.2 as both left and right sideways strikes [could this one indicate that sheets of stamps were turned around/over to perforate the last rows/columns as was done with the “G/NSW” and “VG” punctures? – jhm]



POSSIBLE NEW IDENTITY

David Coath has reported a new “DA” pattern on a 1d red KGV tied to part of an envelope of McRorie & Co. Pty. Ltd., 262 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, by a May 1916 machine roller cancel. Daniel McRorie was born in Geelong in 1859 and died in 1934, aged 75 years. The company is first listed in the Melbourne Post Office Directory of 1898 at Degraives Street, and from 1900 is listed in Flinders Lane. They were variously described in subsequent years as “indentors”, “warehousemen”, “merchants”, and “importers”. In 1899, they applied for a patent relating to umbrellas. On 20 May 1921, their building at 262 Flinders Lane was gutted by fire, and on 6 June the following year the company went into voluntary liquidation. So far, no connection has been found between the perfin letters and the company.

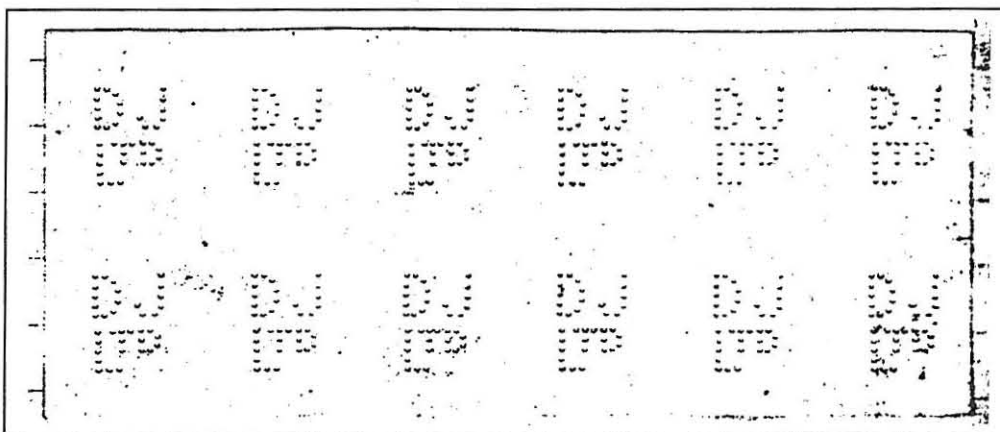
STRIP OF 5 ENGRAVED KOOKAS WITH PERFIN



Status International auction 265 (May 2010), lot 1138

The used strip of 5 Engraved Kookas with Perfin DJLTD.2 was listed in Status International auction 265 in May 2010, but was unsold at \$150 + GST, P&H, etc. To find such a large used multiple as this on this issue must be very rare. In addition, the strip has 6 complete strikes of the Perfin because the perforator was made on 23 March 1908 (Sloper serial number 60832) for the narrower New South Wales stamps.

The perforator had two rows each with 6 dies as shown in the image of the strike from Sloper's Workshop Impression Books shown below. Measurement of the positions of the dies indicate that the 6 dies on the strip of stamps above were from the same strike of one of the rows of the perforator.

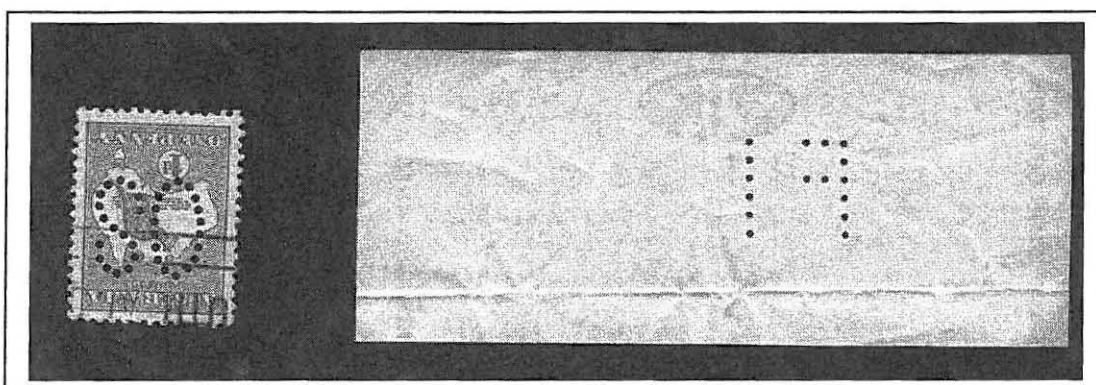


Strike of perforator DJLTD.2 (serial number 60832) from Sloper's Workshop Impression Books

SAVING COUPON FROM BALLARAT AND MILDURA

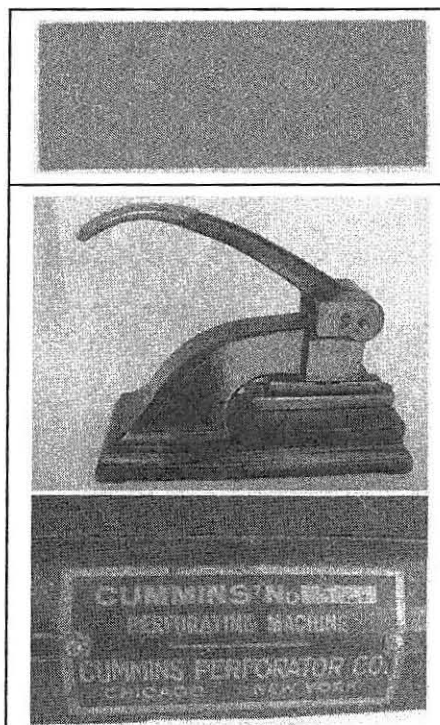
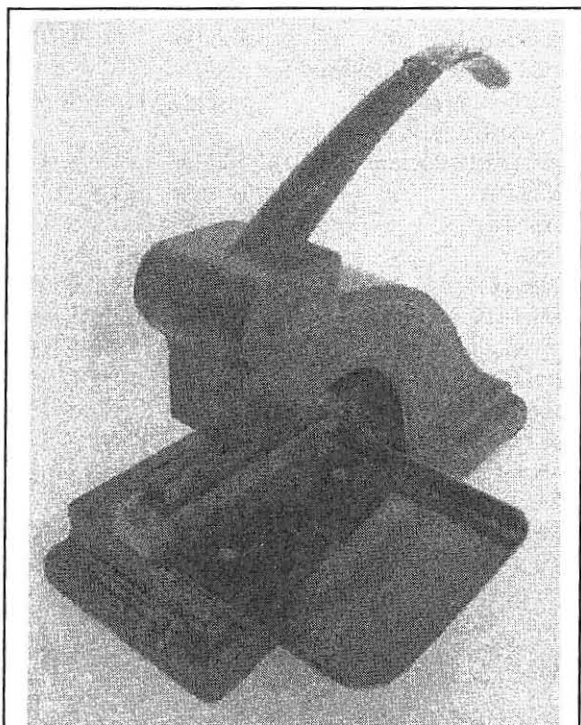
Dave Elsmore has come across an interesting private saving coupon used by James McKay & Sons Pty Ltd in Ballarat and Mildura with an FI or F1 perfin. Like all coupons when they were passed in at the issuing shop(s) and possibly stuck in a booklet they would have been destroyed. Could the perfin have been applied as a cancelling device to prevent reuse after redemption? While this is probably the reason most readily suggested, it probably is not the reason as coupons could have more easily (and cheaply) been cancelled with a pen or crayon.

Maybe the perfin was used to validate the coupons when they were issued or was used as additional security to prevent forgeries. Can anyone help towards solving this mystery? Possibly a sheet or booklet with coupons exists and if so may give us a better idea of why the perfin was used. Please contact the editor if you can help. A normal OS stamp is included in bottom illustration to show the size of the coupon.



ANOTHER CUMMINS PERFORATOR SOLD ON eBay

The Cummins No. 52 perforator shown was sold on eBay in April 2010 for US \$ 305. It produces a row of 5 patterns of the Sun Oil Company. It measures 10 inches (25cm) high, 7.5 inches (19cm) wide and 12 inches (30cm) long.



AUSTRALIAN OFFICIAL PERFIN UPDATE

Thanks to Arthur Taylor and Ken Moore for reporting these issues.

G/NSW Type D on Commonwealth Issues

Issue	Position	Issue	Position
1959/60 Zoologicals 1/- Platypus	4	1966 Navigators \$1 Flinders	8
1963-64 Navigator 10/-	4	1966 Navigators \$2 Bass	7
1964-65 Birds 2/5 Blue Wren	4	1974 Paintings \$1 Light Horse	5

T on Commonwealth Issues

Issue	No. of holes	Issue	No. of holes
1914-21 KGV single wmk 1d green	5/4	1966 Definitives \$2 Bass	5/5
1966 Definitives \$1 Flinders	5/4		

NEW ZEALAND "ARMS" TYPE STAMPS WITH PERFIN

Following the article in the April 2020 Bulletin (page 5), member Ray Bennett (NZ) reports the following "Arms" type duty stamp values with perfin "RI/CO" – 1/3, 2/6, 4/-, 5/- 6/-, 8/- 9/, 10/-, £1, £2, £3, £4, and £5. They were used at the Christchurch office of the company. Ray also reports perfin "RI" on the 6/- and 10/- values of this issue.

AUCTION WATCH

Items of perfin interest from auctions/direct sales since the last Bulletin include the following items. Thanks to Tony Nobilo, and John Amiet for passing on their spotting of perfin lots in auctions. Stamps are "used" unless otherwise indicated. Prices in A\$ unless indicated.

		Est.
a. 1d red KGV perf GWA.1 on advertising card of George Wills & Co Ltd, Adelaide.		
	(Status auction, Mar 10) sold for	\$ 90
b. 1912 Queensland QV 1d vermillion perf "HSCo" tied to ppc by Rockhampton pmk.		
	(Status auction, Mar 10) unsold at	\$ 60
c. 1932 5/- Sydney Harbour Bridge with Farmer & Co Perfin, heavy parcel pmk.		
	(Mowbray (Aust) auction, Mar 10) sold for	\$240
d. 5/- Roo perf JKS.3.	(eBay, Mar10) sold for	US \$ 41
e. £1 Robes perf "W/A".	(eBay, Apr 10) unsold at	\$ 18
f. Cummins N0. 52 perforator (see article this Bulletin)		
	(eBay, Apr 10) sold for	US \$305
g. Horiz pair of 6d eng Kooka perf BN.16.	(eBay, May 10) sold for	US \$ 65
h. GB 1883 QV 10/- perf "N.Z.L.".	(Len Jury auction, Jun 10)	NZ \$100
i. 19131/2 d Roo perf A&RLTD.1.	(Auckland City Stamps, Jun 10)	NZ \$ 10
j. 1913 2d grey Roo perf "NZ/IC".	(Auckland City Stamps, Jun 10)	NZ \$ 20
k. 1914 4d orange Roo perf RICOLD.1.	(Auckland City Stamps, Jun 10)	NZ \$ 10
l. Victoria £1 KEVII (mint) perf "OS".	(eBay, May 10) sold for	US \$141
m. Queensland QV long 2/- Duty Stamp perf NZIC.4.		
	(eBay, May 10) sold for	US \$ 20
n. Queensland QV 5/- Chalon perf NZIC.4	(eBay, May 10) sold for	US \$ 23
o. NZ 1893 2d SSF lilac, p.1o, 2 used adverts in red-brown ("Crease's Dandelion Coffee..." & "Silver Miners use only Sunlight Soap"), both with "NZF" Perfin.		
	(Mowbray NZ auction, Apr 10) sold for	NZ \$ 35