

SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN

NO. 93 APRIL 2011

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 lwparke@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

EDITOR'S COMMENT

In this issue of the Bulletin you will find the updated PCNZA Library List. Most of these catalogues are fairly elementary lists of patterns and user identifications, if known. Some have more information and background included which is also very useful. Catalogues have been published (albeit not all are in print) for all countries listing the known patterns. New patterns are regularly discovered and recorded for some of these countries and I expect that this will continue to be the case. Many collectors aspire to obtain at least one copy of each pattern for the areas that they collect and this can be quite challenging.

But once you have found most of these patterns it can be quite difficult to add others that are scarcer. There is quite a deal of interest developing in looking at some of the well-known patterns in greater detail whether this is related to usage or to mapping the dies in multi-die machines. Many of the more common commercial patterns used in Australia from the 1920's to the 1960's were used by large companies with heavy mail volumes and because of this high usage of perfins they used multi-die machines. Research into these dies will yield information about these patterns. Other collectors are collecting these patterns on as many issues as they can find. There are, for example, at least two club members interested in the David Jones patterns. Copies of these common patterns are readily available and inexpensive in most cases.

It would be a pity if the information revealed by such study is not recorded and made available to others. The research does not need to be completed before the information is made available as other collectors may be able to fill in some of the missing information. Are you collecting particular companies or issues that you can tell us about or have noticed anything unusual with?

David Andersen

CLUB MEETING – SYDNEY STAMP EXPO, RANDWICK 2 APRIL

The meeting was attended by eight members, with President David Coath in the chair. Apologies were received from John Mathews (funeral), Lindsay Parker (wedding) and Bill Harley.

Reports from the Secretary and Treasurer were received and tabled. Both were accepted and the meeting thanked both John and Lindsay for their excellent work on behalf of the Club.

Those present asked that an updated library list be included with the Bulletin. A motion was put and carried to pay the frame fees for Club members exhibiting a new perfin exhibit for the first time, to encourage members to exhibit.

There was considerable discussion about the Club website. Those present asked that a survey to determine how the majority of members currently use the Internet for their collecting be distributed with the Bulletin. The members present were asked if they would be prepared to pay a Club member to set up a web site as a one-off cost and this was accepted by those present.

The Secretary was asked to investigate the cost of printing the Bulletin in colour.

The Club has donated \$160 to the APF towards a fund to refurbish display frames used at exhibitions. A plaque is displayed on the corresponding frames acknowledging the donation.

Mark Saxby showed the meeting some interesting David Jones Perfin items. However there were no Perfin displays at this exhibition.

CONGRATULATIONS...

Congratulations to the following PCNZA members who received awards for their (non-perfin) exhibits at Sydney Stamp Expo 2011 – Richard Peck, Dingle Smith, Derek Brennan and Derek Pocock.

The PCNZA prize was awarded to Paul Barsdell (ACT) for his exhibit of “Benin/Dahomey”. The prize chosen by the exhibition committee with the donation from PCNZA was a pair of Royal Doulton Crystal Fete Design Glasses. Congratulations to Paul!

STUDY OF TASMANIAN LITHOGRAPHED HALFPENNY PICTORIAL WITH OS PERFIN

The April 2011 edition of the Informer (Journal of the Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania) v.75 no.2 contains an excellent article by Jerry Weirich entitled “A Study of the Tasmanian Lithographed Halfpenny Pictorial with OS perfin”.

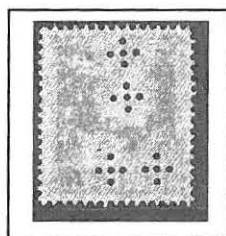
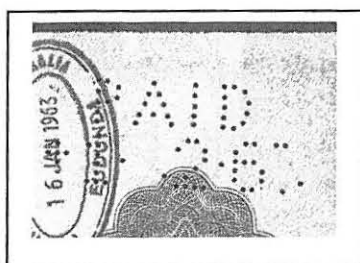
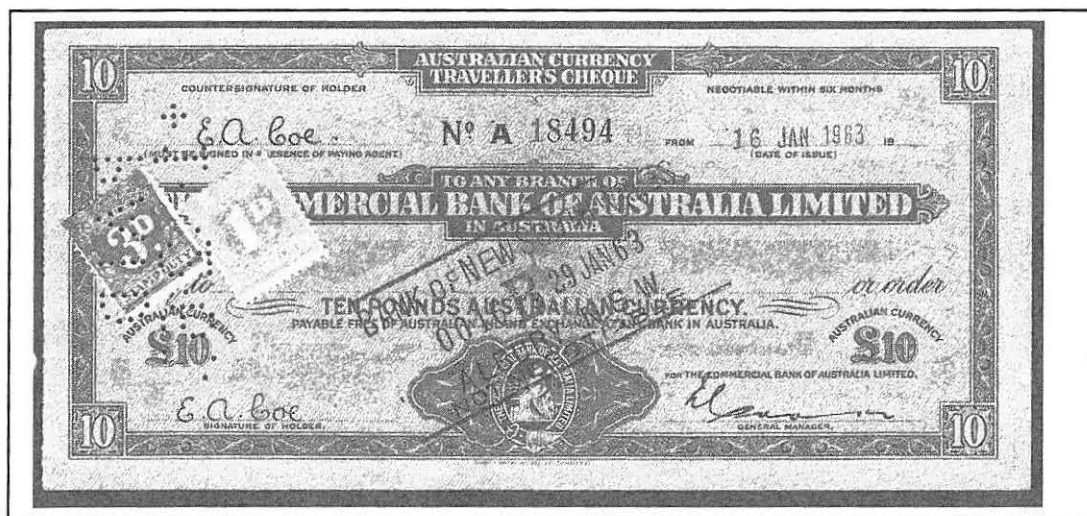
Jerry was investigating the OS with the missing pin variety that has been recorded on Tasmanian issues perfin OS. He concludes that there were three production runs of the OS perfin on the ½d lithographed pictorial. The first production run had the OS sideways, the second the OS was upright and includes the missing pin variety and the third also with the OS upright (excluding the missing pin variety) includes some double OS early in the production run. [As this missing pin variety occurs in the issues of other states this research has wider relevance.- ed.]

BNA PERFORATOR, FEBRUARY 2011

The latest issue of the BNA Perforator contains a number of interesting articles. News of the impending publication of the 5th edition of the Canadian Perfins Handbook – the new edition will include a checklist of known issues for each perfin pattern and include scans of perfins and covers for A, B and C rated patterns. Articles include: C3 Pattern Identified – Curzon Brothers (International Tailors); Identification of C31 with missing holes by Jim Graham; Counterfeit Canada OHMS Perfins; Unidentified Perfins on Canadian Stamps (HIL, GL) by Steve Konig; A Different Sort of FDC (use of 4 and 5 hole OH/MS on cover 1st July 1939) by Gary Tomasson; Postage Dues of C38 – a final word. The email edition is available free and in colour. For details see the January Bulletin.

PERFINS ON TRAVELLERS' CHEQUES

The £10 travellers' cheque illustrated below is cancelled with a large "PAID /+ 1.72.63" perfin which has also gone through the 3d stamp duty on the cheque. These are quite common items so there are probably quite a few stamp duty issues around with very incomplete perfin cancellations.



Did they ever use normal postage stamps on these cheques? If so this would explain some of the unusual perfins encountered such as that shown on the left on a 2d green QEII 1953 definitive.

INTERNET USAGE FOR PERFIN COLLECTING

While some of our Club members use the Internet a great deal in their collecting, it is not clear how important a website is to the majority of our existing members. Around half of the members present at the recent meeting at the Sydney Stamp Expo did not use the Internet in a significant way in their collecting pursuits. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to survey club members about their use of the Internet for collecting so that the club website can be developed accordingly.

With this issue of the Bulletin you will find a small questionnaire with a number of questions that may help the Club gain a better appreciation of how members are currently using the Internet and what they would use or find useful on a club website. The questions centre around a number of issues. Do members have access to the Internet? What do members currently use the Internet for? What features on a Club Website would you find most useful?

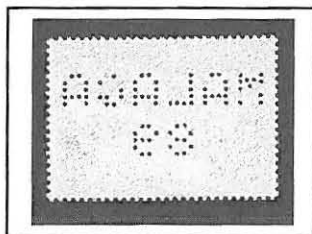
Just tick the option that reflects your view and add as many comments as you wish. Please return the questionnaire to David Coath by the end of June 2011 by whatever means you prefer, normal mail or email (scan if you are able). The questionnaires will be destroyed immediately the information is compiled.

SPECIAL PERFINS FOR EXHIBITIONS - A SPANISH VIEW

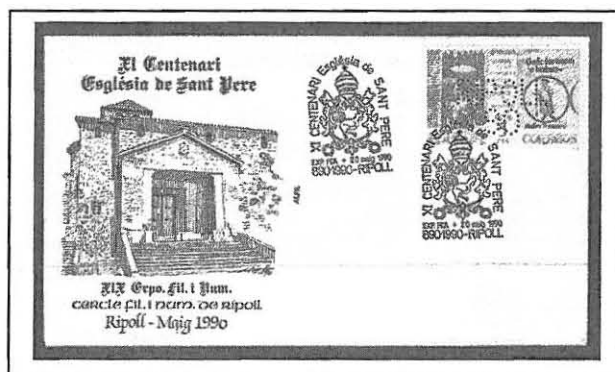
Like the Italians the Spanish have produced a significant number of exhibition perfins. Unfortunately, there does not appear to be much on the Internet about these exhibitions.

All of these perfins date from 1989 to 1992 suggesting that one person may have been behind their production.

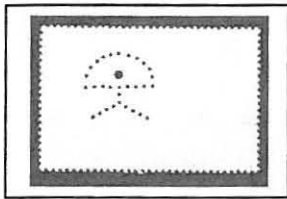
MALAGA 89 perfin- MALAGA/89



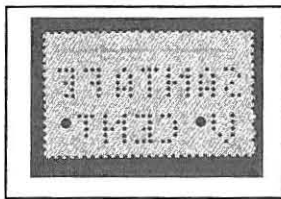
RIPOLL – May 1990 - perfin RIPOLL/ 90



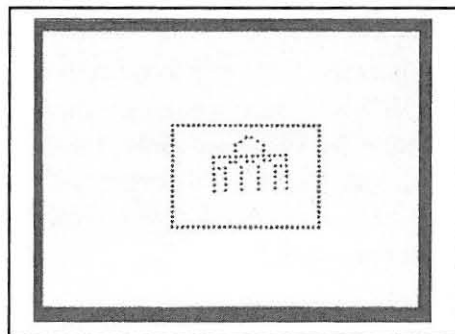
EXFIAL -90 – 19 to 21 June 1990 – perfin appears to be a person skipping ?



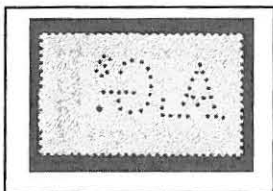
SANTAFE - Exposicion Filatelica Tematica Nacional 17th to 21st April 1991
Perfin SANTA FE/ V. CENT



Exfilna 91 – December 1991 perfin – Islamic style building ?



ALGECIRAS – 16th Exposicion Filatelica 4th to 8th October 1992 perfin A.G.



PERFINS ON THE INTERNET

A few websites of possible interest:

Spanish –Philippine Perfins

<http://www.nigelgooding.co.uk/Spanish/Perfins/perfin.htm>

The three perfins, S.B/ & Co, H & Co and R.R/ & Co. that are found on Spanish Philippines stamps are listed and the issues that they are found on are recorded.

Perfins on Finnish Stamps

<http://www.jiv.dk/finland/perfin.php>

This is a section of the website Postal History of Finland 1889-1918. Patterns are illustrated including covers of each. Patterns listed: F & Co, K.B., J.G.W., S., ASEA, V.E., V, N, FORD, W and FT. Also included is the ABOEX 84 perfin found on aerogrammes from the ABOEX 84 Stamp Exhibition.

Perfin and Meter Stamps of Mauritius

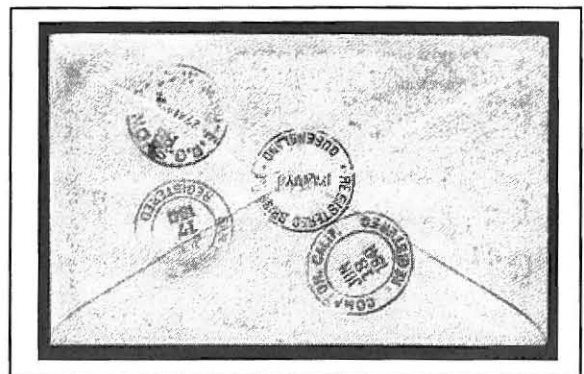
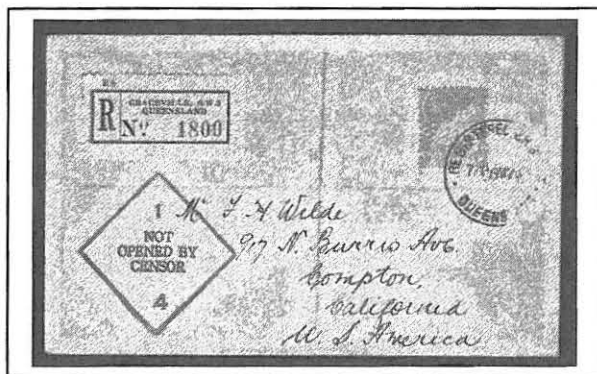
http://www.mauritiuspostalhistory.com/perfin_meter/perfin.meter.htm

It includes information about the known Mauritius perfins. Patterns are illustrated and include B, BB/ & Co, B.B/ & Co., CFICY, COTC/LTD, HMC, JP, MCB/M, MFI/CoLD, MBI/LTD., MP, RM?, and S.M./ & Co.LTD.

PHILATELIC USAGE ?

The envelope illustrated below turned up fairly recently. It bears a New South Wales 6d yellow QV with OS/NSW perfin and was sent from Queensland to Compton, California by registered mail in 1941. Clearly this is not genuine usage and one must suspect a philatelic connection.

At this stage I doubt it is a product of our notorious Queensland forger as the usage of the OS/NSW perfin is so unlikely. It was posted at Graceville ? though postmarked Brisbane on 19th May 1941, backstamped Brisbane 21st May 1941, Sydney 22nd May 1941, San Pedro, California 17th June 1941 and Compton, California on 18th June 1941. Does anyone know anything of the addressee Mr. F.H. Wilde ? Was he a well known philatelist ?



PERFIN CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA LIBRARY (April 2011)

The Club has a small library of catalogues and other information available for members to use. If you would like to borrow any of this material please contact the Club Librarian (and President) David Coath - contact details on the front page.

ARGENTINA

“Sellor Postales Perferados de la Republica Argentina” by Walter Rose (1985)
[lists of patterns with users but no images, text in Spanish]

AUSTRALIA

“Commercial Perfins of Australia” by John Grant and John Mathews (1992)

AUSTRIA

“Austria Patterns” by John Nussbickel (1991) with updates 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995
[A comprehensive and thick book in A4 format, comb bound, with images and users. Includes Bosnia and Austrian Post Offices Abroad]

BELGIUM

Collection of photocopies of Belgian patterns (Unknown author or date)

CANADA

“Canadian Stamps with Perforated Initials” by JC Johnson and G Tomasson (1985)
[Paperback, excellent and detailed coverage of Commercial and Official patterns]

CEYLON

“The Alnis guide to the perfins of Ceylon and Sri Lanka” by Albert Ellis (1988)
[Thin A5 list of patterns with images and users]

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

“Perfins from the Territory of Czechoslovakia” by Vojtech Maxa(1972)
[Thin comb bound A5 format. Has images and users]

CHINA

“Perfins of China” by Harvey Tilles (undated)
[An 8 page listing of mainly Hong Kong users]

DENMARK

“Katalog over Danske Firmaperforeringer” (2001)
[A5 loose-leaf in small binder. Has images and users]

FRANCE

“Timbres Perfores” by Robert Dedecker, M Herbert, R Janot and G Ledgers 3rd edition (2008)
[Hardback A4 with colour plates- also have 2nd edition with 1993 supplement softback A4- comprehensive listings of images and users of France and colonies, text in French and English]

GREAT BRITAIN

“The Tomkins Catalogue of Identified GB Perfins” 7th ed by Ray Gault]
[supplied with the GB Perfin Society Bulletin – A5 comb bound- lists of users, no images]
“The Handbook of British Perfins” by John Nelson
[Thin A5 booklet summarising the development of perfins in Great Britain]

HONG KONG

“The Perfins of Hong Kong” by Harvey Tilles
[10 page A4 listing of images and users]
“Security Markings” by P Orsetti and P Pugh
[15 page A4 listing of users of security markings including perfins produced by the Hong Kong Study Circle. No images]

INDIA

“The Perfins of India and Indian States” by Max Werner(1990) with Supplement 2 (1998)
[American quarto published by US Perfins Club. Images and users]

IRELAND

“Ireland Catalog of Perfins” compiled by Richard Mewhinney(1984)
[A4 – 40 pages published by the US Perfins Club. Images and patterns]

ITALY

“Italian Perfins Catalogue” by Enrico Bertazzoli and Beppe Ermentini (2009)
[Hardbound A5 book with comprehensive listing of images and users for Italy and Colonies Patterns.
Text in Italian and English]

MALAYA

“Perfins of British Malaya” by Peter Griffen (1989)
[small 40 page book with images, users and some related background information]

NEW ZEALAND

“New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials” by Robert Samuel
[Wire bound 90 page book- comprehensive listing with images, user information and company
backgrounds. Also includes patterns of NZ companies abroad]

PORTUGAL

“Selos Perfurados de Portugal, Acores, Madeira e ex-Colonias” (2008)
[40 page loose leaf A4. Text in Portuguese]

ROMANIA

“Catalogue of Romanian Perfins” by Laszlo Eros (1989) with Supplements 1, 2 and 3
[good coverage with images and user details]
“Katalog Rumunskych Perfinu” by Vojtech Maxa
[A4 photocopy of A5 original, 50 + pages with images and users. Czech text]

SWEDEN

“Svenska Skyddsperforeringar” by Bergman, Lagerwell and Swenson
[A4 photocopy of A5 booklet of 80 + pages. Good guide to images, users and information on
perforating devices. Swedish text]

WORLD

“The World Perfin Catalogue- Africa Section”
“The World Perfin Catalogue- Asian Section”
“The World Perfin Catalogue- European Section”
[Simple guides to patterns including images and users for countries many of which do not have their
own catalogues e.g. South Africa, but includes many colonies also included in the catalogues of their
“colonial masters”, published US Perfins Society]

Collections of various newspaper and magazine articles by subject:

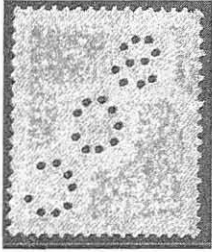
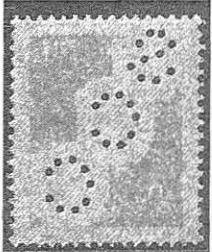
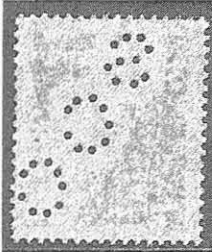
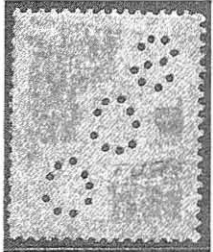
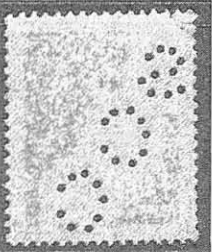
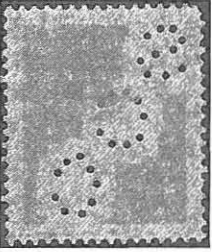
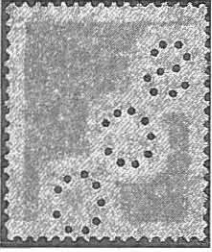
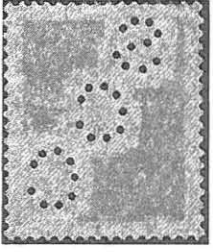
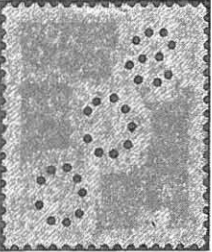
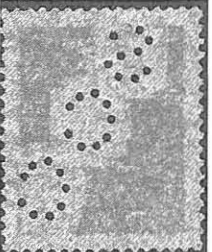
1. General Perfin articles
2. Foreign Perfin articles
3. Australian Official Perfin articles
4. Revenue Perfin articles

STAMP SECURITY DEVICES USED BY THE SYDNEY COUNTY COUNCIL

The Sydney County Council was established by the Gas and Electricity Act of 1935. One of the organisations taken over was the Sydney Municipal Council Electricity Department and the old SMC perforating equipment was taken over and modified to form a new SCC pattern (Type A).

It appears that the machine was held by the New South Wales Government printer and has similar characteristics to the other contemporary 12 die machines such as the OS/NSW Type C used by that organisation. These die heads were designed to perforate the KGV sideface issues. The modification work was not carried out as accurately as the production of the original dies and there are significant differences between the dies.

With the help of David Coath 10 of these dies have probably been identified.

			
Type 1 – missing hole in second ‘c’	Type 2 – ‘c’s well formed , top of ‘s’ holes very close and first hole quite low	Type 3 – first two holes in first ‘c’ very close as are last two holes in the ‘s’	Type 4 – both ‘c’s malformed, back of first ‘c’ holes 3 to 5 flattened
			
Type 5- first two holes in first ‘c’ very close, middle holes of ‘s’ widely separated	Type 6- the second ‘c’ very malformed	Type 7- holes at top and bottom of ‘s’ widely separated	Type 8- ‘hook’ at top of first ‘c’
			
Type 9- similar to type 5 but top of second ‘c’ nearly level	Type 10- similar to type 5 but differences in middle of ‘s’ and top of second ‘c’	Type 11 – missing	Type 12 – missing

Can you identify any of the two missing dies or do you have horizontal pairs or strips that will enable us to start to reconstruct the order of the dies in the head? Very few stamps have dated postmark impressions so if you are able to provide postmark information this will also be of assistance.

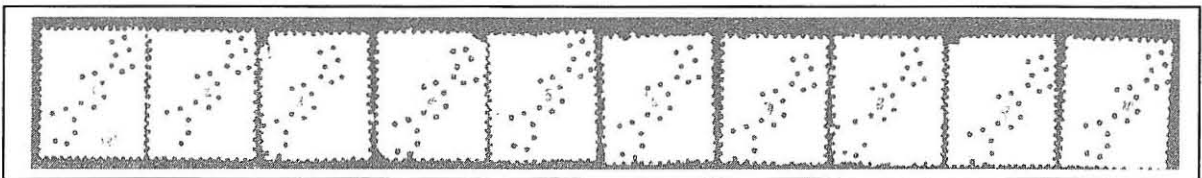
This pattern is surprisingly scarce and only a limited range of issues are found. This is hardly surprising as the Sydney County Council was only established in 1936 and the smaller KGV stamps were introduced in 1937 for which this machine was not suitable as the stamps were a different size from the KGV issues.

Issues reported are:

1926-30 KGV sideface Small Multi Wmk p.13.5x12.5 2d red both die 1 and 2, 3d blue

1931-36 KGV sideface CofA wmk 1/2d orange, 1d green, 1 1/2d brown and 2d red.
All are found only in Position 1.

In 1937 when the smaller KGV stamps were introduced a new pattern was introduced (Type B). Again this is most likely a similar type of head to the contemporary G/NSW Type C pattern, 10 dies in a row. These issues are somewhat more common and appear to have been used until the late 1950's. The dies are again poorly constructed but as the holes are so far apart it is more difficult to separate all of the dies. Arthur Taylor has identified the 10 dies and these are illustrated below.



Again assistance with multiples to start to sort out the order of the dies would be much appreciated as would dated postmarks.

Issues recorded are:

1926-30 KGV sideface Small Multi Wmk p.13.5x12.5 1 1/2d brown

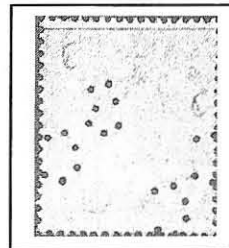
1931-36 KGV sideface CofA wmk 1 1/2d brown

1937-41 KGV Definitives p.13.5 x 14 1d QE green, 1 1/2d KGV maroon and 2d KGV red die 1

1937-41 KGV Definitives p.14.75 x 14 1 1/2d maroon and KGV 2d red die 2

New South Wales Stamp Duty 7th series 1929-66 2d orange and 3d magenta (including GNSW underprint issue)

The KGV issues with this pattern are scarce. One of the examples reported has two poorly centered punctures as the KGV stamps were much wider than the KGV issues for which this puncturing device was designed (illustrated right). Usage on the KGV 1 1/2d issues is hardly surprising as the first KGV 1 1/2d stamps were released in April 1938 a year or so after the new pattern was introduced.



Stamp duty issues are recorded used from 1953 to 1958 though the period of use is probably much wider. The example below shows typical usage during this period. A typical dated cancellation of the stamp duty issue is clearly shown.

At some stage possibly in the 1950's the Sydney County Council began overprinting duty stamps S.C.C. or SCC. A number of types are listed in "Security & Cancelling Overprints of Australia" by Bryan Magee. Bryan lists five types, two larger types S.C.C., 3-4mm letters, and three diagonal SCC types, letters around 2mm high. I have not seen Bryan's type b which is SCC in blue and 4mm letters. However there is some variability in both my S.C.C. and SCC copies suggesting that these different types may actually be the dies of only two devices used to overprint the stamp duty issues. Can anyone provide scans of multiples that will clear this question up?

<p>Type 1 – SCC overprint in black. Letters around 2mm . Reported on 2d ,3d stamp duties plus 3d with GNSW underprint</p>	<p>Type 2- S.C.C. overprint in black Letters around 3.5mm. Reported on 3d and 3c stamp duties. An inverted overprint is known</p>	<p>Type 3- S.C.C. overprint in purple. Letters around 2.5 mm. The overprint seems rather fuzzy unlike the clear letters encountered with Type 2. Reported on 3c stamp duty</p>

One example of Type 2, illustrated at the right, has surfaced with two overprints on the one stamp but as the separation is not sufficient to ensure centering on each stamp it is not clear what this means. Any ideas? Can you provide any earlier or later dates of usage for any of these issues ?



Lots of questions about these well known perfins and overprints which were used every time you paid your electricity bill in Sydney or had any written correspondence with the Sydney County Council.

EARLIEST OVERPRINT

The first commercial overprint on Australian revenue issues possibly is JF&Sons attributed to John Fairfax & Sons. Bryan Magee lists the earliest date of usage as 21st October 1872. The copy at the right, used 8th October 1872, bears an earlier date. Do you have an earlier date ?



AUCTION WATCH

Items of perfin interest from auctions/direct sales since the last Bulletin include the following items. Thanks to Harold Waite, Tony Nobilo, Richard Smolnicki, 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. 1930 £2 Roo commercially used with "G/NSW" puncture. (PHILAS sale, Mar 11)	sold for \$1,700+
b. "C.A." overprint on mint GB KEVII 1d red. (Phoenix auction Feb 11)	sold for \$ 550
c. NZ 5/- green "Arms type" with Perfin "M/G/M". (Ashford Stamps, Mar 11)	NZ \$ 15
d. NZ 1945 Metro-Goldwyn Mayer window env with 1d green KGV1 perf "M/G/M" tied by Wellington machine cds (Auckland City, Mar 11)	NZ \$ 150
e. (NZ) "N.Z.L." on GB 10/- blue 1883 QVic (Len Jury, Mar 11)	NZ \$ 90
f. NZ c1915 to 25 VOCO perfins incl blk 6, 3 horiz strips of four, etc (Mowbray auction, Mar 11)	sold for NZ \$ 125
g. GB c1900 2½d N&P perfin on 4 covers, each different horiz format (Mowbray auction, Mar 11)	sold for NZ \$ 45
h. 1913 10/- Roo 1st wmk with OS/NSW perfin mint (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 2,500 to 3,000
i. 1913 £1 Roo 1 st wmk with OS/NSW perfin used (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 2,000 to 2,500
j. 1913 £2 Roo 1 st wmk with OS/NSW perfin unused (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 5,000 to 7,000
k. 1915 5/- Roo 2 nd wmk with OS/NSW perfin mint (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 450 to 500
l. 1915-28 10/- Roo 3 rd wmk with OS/NSW perfin mint (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 200 to 250
m. 1915-28 £1 Roo 3 rd wmk choc & blue with OS/NSW perfin used (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 500 to 600
n. 1923-24 £1 Roo 3 rd wmk grey with OS/NSW perfin mint (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 350 to 400
o. 1931-36 £2 Roo CofA wmk VG perfin part imprint mint (Grosvenor Mar 11)	GBP 1000 to 2000