

Revenue Review

Happy Birthday Queensland

The 1st November 2010 marks 150 years of the first Queensland postage stamp issue. Queensland became the fifth Australian Colony to be created after breaking away from New South Wales on 13th May 1859 by Royal Letters Patent.

The first Governor appointed by the Crown was Sir George Ferguson Bowen, arriving in Brisbane, proclaiming the colony on 10th December 1859. With a population of about 25,000, the first Parliament was opened on 29th May 1860. The *Gazette* of 17th December 1859 contained the following notice: "*The public are reminded that the colony of Queensland being now legally separated from New South Wales, the postage thereto will in future be chargeable at the inter-colonial, instead of the inland rates. Not exceeding 1/2oz., 6d. Exceeding 1/2oz but not exceeding 1oz 1/-*". At this time there were 16 working post offices. All letters bearing New South Wales stamps used after 1 November 1860 were treated as unpaid. It would be another six years to the day before Queensland issued adhesive duty stamps figure 1 show's usage on the

very first day. The paragraphs above are taken from a feature article I have written on Queensland's birthday which has been published in the November edition of 'Stamps' magazine in Great Britain.

I'm Impressed

A Canadian dealer has turned up a super first issue set of the tiny blue specimen overprint die's in the New South Wales 1865 Impressed series. Up until now I had only recorded four values with this overprint. I am calling this group the first issue as there were only fifty different values originally ordered in 1865 with many more added over time. It is excellent to finally record the original values. Along with the 'set' was a most unexpected and unrecorded die [fig 2] a two line DEFICIENCY DUTY. I would like to place this on record here.

Customs Duty

Customs duty stamps appear to have been well documented by early students inc Bassett Hull. A good series of articles appeared in the 1930's stamp mags



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Dave Elsmore

of the time so it is always nice to find something new to add to a listing. Serious collectors of these issues I could count on one hand. John DiBiase from WA has a fine Customs Duty exhibit, another serious collector in Victoria, a couple in NSW, one in the UK & USA and finally one in Qld [yours truly]. Hang on that's seven, ok I can count them on two hands. Figure 3 shows an unrecorded 12c on 8d from the first 1907 series perf 10. I have added figure 3 to my 'FREE ON LINE CATALOGUE' where I have only recorded one other perf 10 with the 'cents' overprint - the 18c on 11d. This now makes two values from a possible 11, or possibly there was surplus stock of the perf 10, 8d & 11d [and maybe other values] at the printers and these were taken to be overprinted with the perf 14's from the next issue. You may like to check your holdings and see if you can come up with further perf 10 values so overprinted, and if you strike it lucky please let me know.

Rare NSW

eBay has turned up an exceedingly rare New South Wales Edward 12/6d value. The copy in question is

shown in figure 4. It's all there and perfined to boot. As I type this I am hoping my present bid will secure it for me as it has 2 days still to go. The 12/6d is the rarest of all the Edward values to find. I have recorded less than 8 copies in the last 25 years. The seller tells me it is from a mixed lot in a *Status Stamps* auction totally undescribed. Looks like we all missed that one.

Beer Beer Beer

As you are all aware, I have a very comprehensive listing of all the states beer duties in my Free 'ON LINE CATALOGUE' of revenues and railways. Very few new finds are to be had with less than a handful per year showing up. Figure 5 is one such find and is from the 1920-1923 issue, a 5 gallon showing the provisional 1/9d rate. This is the first value to show up either provisional or purpose printed and I would like to place it on record here.

Railways on Line

For 30 plus years I have collected and exhibited Queensland railway parcel stamps. I have finally got



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

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around to loading up my 1865-1915 five frame exhibit onto my web site, this has been added in the 'Exhibits' tab.

The station numerals which can be found in some of the 1915 station name cartouches have always been of particular interest to me with very few showing up for grabs in either public auction or good old eBay. Figure 6 is one such numeral 644 from Atherton station selling on eBay for around £35. Maybe you have a few sitting in your collection that have not been recorded, if so put down your Stamp News and go and pull them out, jot down the issue and the numeral then please send your list to me as I would like to hear from you just in case you have an unrecorded gem.

Australian Money Orders

For some time now I have been collecting Money

Orders printed to private order for my revenue collection. I can share one such example with you in figure 7. this is a \$3.00 payout from the SPC Ardmona Food Service Juicy Rewards promotion which wound up in 2005 with five winners each receiving \$5,000 down to a \$3.00 consolation. SPC Ardmona is an Australian-based company that specialises in large fruit packing and owns and operates a canning factory in Shepparton, Victoria. The company is currently owned by Coca-Cola Amatil and carries the SPC, Goulburn Valley, Ardmona, IXL, and Taylor's brands. I would love to hear from you if you any such printed to private order money orders in your revenue collection.

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Fig. 6



Fig. 7