

# Revenue Review

## Queensland Re-perfs

Very few revenues in Queensland have been recorded with a compound re-perf to realign poorly placed line perfs. In fact, I have only recorded one such series, the 1930 small adhesive numerals perf 11 and re-perfed 14, all are rare, to very rare if you can find one. One such block [fig1] of the 1d value surfaced in a Brisbane auction completely undescribed and obviously unrecognized by the countless viewers. This re-perf both vertically and horizontally turned the value of this block from 50c per stamp to \$45.00 per stamp. The moral of this story is, when viewing auction lots make sure you really take the time to view each lot carefully. You never know what may turn up. Remember this is a compound re-perf and not a double perf. I think Western Australia has the only other revenue compound re-perf which affected several long swans.

## Lonely Holes

While chatting about Queensland, perfin on railway fee stamps are hard to find. I picked up fig 2 at the last Brisbane stamp show looking very lonely all by itself in a dealer's stock book. I just had to find a home for it. This was not catalogued by me, and has since been added to my 'on line' Railway Perfin stamp catalogue.

## London 2010

My 'Australia and New Zealand Revenue and Railway Parcel Stamp Catalogue' is a comprehensive catalogue of Australia and New Zealand Revenue and Railway Parcel

Fee Stamps inc. perfin and local carriers which is linked to my website. This publication has been approved by my regional commissioner for an entry in the International Stamp Exhibition London 2010. I also intend entering the same 'on line' catalogue into Melbourne 09. I think this will be a first for Australia, judging literature on the internet. Gee how things have changed. Can I please ask you all to have a look and see if I am missing anything in the areas I am listing, so I can have the best chance of getting this series of Australian States catalogues into these exhibitions, thereby giving Australian revenues and Railways as much publicity overseas as possible. Who knows, we may even draw in some new collectors in our chosen field.

## Catalogue Juggling

While I dealt with my catalogue in the last paragraph, I really must bring to the attention of any dealers, auction houses or eBayers reading this column the problem of catalogue juggling. You guys just don't get it do you? You really need to pick one catalogue to use in your listings. Since my catalogue has been published, we now have you dancing all over the place, using several catalogues to suit the lot you are listing i.e. "unlisted in Craig" [a 30 year old catalogue] but listed in my [up to date] 'on line' catalogue for a small amount, because of a large accumulation coming onto the market place since Craig published. Then we get Craig listing an item for a pittance and "Elsmore online \$500" wow! The reason for this is, no more have been found since Craig published, hence reversing the values. If you follow



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 5



Fig. 3

this pattern you are purposely juggling catalogues which can confuse the buyer. I have also noticed this practice on eBay, the same seller switching catalogues, picking the best description for the lot. Now come on your guys, how about putting us collectors somewhere between doing the right thing and maybe listing just one, both or all catalogues for the one lot, to give the buyer a much better detailed description rather than dancing between catalogues trying to make out collectors are a bit on the slow side and hoping they will not pick up on your description juggling.

## Tasmania Beer Update

Dingle Smith has asked me to ask collectors to have a dig into their collections of Tasmania Beer duty stamps to see if you can add to the listing he is about to publish. A link to draft version 1.4 is here: <http://www.tps.org.au> which is the Tasmanian Philatelic Society web site home page. At the time of writing this [Dec 30 08] I have just updated my own 'on line' Tasmania Revenue catalogue including updating the beer duty section, and notice I have added some new information and values to Dingles 1.4 draft. The only problem I can see with this work is that it will be published in the Tasmanian philatelic journal "The Courier". Ok if you are a member, but if not, well you may have to join the society just to view the completed work. I believe Dingle is going to have a stab at each and every beer duty in each and every Australian State, including the Commonwealth of Australia. Let's hope this can be achieved and that we all live long enough to see this work published.



Fig. 4

## South Australia again

Since the release of the new South Australian Railway Parcel booklet late last year, I can't seem to get any response from the authors. I have even taken time to upload my thoughts onto Glen Stephen's *Stampboards* where both authors visit, but at the time of writing this I have not had any replies. Probably the Christmas break has slowed things down or maybe the authors are sitting on a sandy beach somewhere with a beer in their hand spending all the royalties from the sale of this booklet and not had a chance to get to answering collectors queries. No doubt answers will eventually be addressed, anyway here is what I wrote on Glen's *Stampboards* which was posted on: Thu Dec 18, 2008 17:15:44 pm : *"I have a question for the two authors of The Railway Stamps of South Australia which I am hoping they can answer for me. At present I am in the middle of writing up 5 frames of South Australia Revenues for Melbourne 09 with frame 4 being the railway fee stamps. I am hoping to get this new exhibit in and if accepted it will be the first mixed duty stamp and railway fee exhibit. Anyway, I have sorted my 1927's for display and have a single value on white/cream paper with a very light lime green underprint which I can't find in your book. This has got me thinking about the 4 values you list on plain paper, your numbers 56-69 - could these 4 values be washed out lime green underprint as you can see on the picture below the 4d value [at the top] has a form of albino plaid underprint, maybe these were the very first issues with the printer changing to blue paper for added security. Can I have your thoughts?"* The picture I speak of above is shown as fig 3 with the full 1d on cream paper as fig 4. I have decided to take the bull by the horns and list in my 'on line' catalogue how I think the listings of the 1927 issues should read. I am also writing up my exhibit this way so it will be interesting to see how the judges handle this. I am hoping they will not just have this booklet under their arm or I will be up the creek without a paddle!

To finish this month, I would like to show another perfin on a railway fee stamp this time from Victoria. An 1882 8d perfined S.B.N. [fig5] [Sargood, Butler & Nichol] running vertically up the left side above E of EIGHT. John Mathew's excellent publication *'Handbook of Australian Private Perfins'* rate this perfin as common but on a railway stamp it is exceedingly rare! Maybe you have an unsuspecting perfin sitting in amongst your railways fee stamps. Best go check just in case and if you do find one, please let me know. My thanks to Roger De Lacy-Spencer from the UK for sharing this with us all.

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