

Revenue Review

Hospital Annual Fee

First up this month is a very nice Western Australia Hospitals Benefit Fund annual fee stamp [Fig 1] dated 1955 and a super piece of usage. Nice to see it on the actual issued card. I have only recorded one other £2/12/- copy [off card]. The annual fee was for a single member. Printed by the Western Australian Government Printer on watermarked paper. Maybe you have one or more sitting in your collection, if so please share them here.

Plates

The first series of the South Australian embossed issues, are so large they look like plates! Early issues appear scarce to find. In fact the revenue collections in the 'Philatelics Australia Auction' I wrote about last month had just a few scraps in them. Most of it was from one collector, so one would think more would have been found and saved, as it was reasonably advanced, still there you go. Edward VII

'plates' are hard at the best of times.

The 75/- Edward in purple is new to me, so it was nice to see a pair [fig 2] of them, and a different shade of the £20 [fig 3] to add to the listing. My on line catalogue is the only catalogue to list all the recorded values. I am sure there will be some values missing from my listings held by collectors who do not share information, but would rather squirrel material away for their eyes only, what a waste!

3d well spent

It is well known Victoria has a flood of revenue material available to the collector. Very little of this is scarce [you just need deep pockets] so when a really nice rare revenue in top condition does turn up it is always nice to admire it. Figure 3 is one such item. A very rare survivor to find in brilliant condition, and this stamp has it all. It turned up on eBay and a lucky UK collector picked it up for \$470. What a great bargain, and one very happy collector.



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3

Dave Elsmore

Car Revenues

I have spoke about these before. Tax disks. Always a favourite for the... 'on the far side' collector. I wonder just how many of you collect these beauties? If you do, then you must be as mad as me! If we do the maths 99.999% would have been binned year in year out. I used to go to car wreckers, always getting a strange look, when I asked if I could take the tax disks off the windows. They never new how much to charge me for them, and when I said I collect them they were always given to me for free. The UK boys are switched on, as there is a publication on UK Tax Disks. Any takers here? As far as I am aware Western Australia issued the only circular [UK look alike] Tax Disk [fig 5] with the Australian norm being rectangular in shape [fig 6]. Both figures 5 & 6 are Police Dept issues and are courtesy of eBay.

Cypher This

Figure 7 has me stumped. I am not sure if it fits into

the revenue pages or Cinderella pages. I picked this up from Brisbane's local dealer, Craig Chappell Stamps at a weekend show a while back. I showed it to Richard Breckon [head of Australia Post archives] and he too was stumped. Richard thinks it may be to seal damaged envelopes or a proof of some kind. The descending cypher appears to be a full run, as it is imperf on 3 sides and perf 11.1 on the other. The four are printed on unwatermarked soft wove paper and measuring 8.5cm x 14.5cm it has full gum. If any reader can add to this I would love to hear from you. Maybe you have a cover with one on the back or maybe a telegram with this attached.

Sisters Reunite

Back in June 2010, I waffled on about a super new beer duty find from New South Wales being a provisional for the Commonwealth 1903 issues. I also showed you figure 8 which I was lucky to pick up in a USA auction, after remaining unrecorded for



Fig 4



Fig 5



Fig 6

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over 100 years. Amazingly another copy has turned up, but this time in New Zealand. Further study on this New Zealand copy showed it was the sister copy to the USA 'find' being one number apart, and both cancelled on the same date. Now what are the chances of that happening again? I did bid on it thinking I could reunite these sisters, but alas I was the under bidder. I do hope it has gone to a good home where one day these sisters could be truly reunited, maybe at a stamp show. If only they could talk about their travels over the last 100 years they would surely be nattering for days and days. Crikes! I just reread what I just wrote, sounds like I'm losing the plot. It must be one of those under bidder feelings left in ones guts.

Perfin Corner

Every now and then something different turns up

figure 9 is one such item. While sorting my New South Wales revenues, figure 9 fell out. This is the first copy of a New South Wales security embossing, reading NORWICH UNION/FIRE OFFICE to appear. A clear precursor to the 'NUF' Perfin [fig 10] found on later Edward issues. This 'find', well when I say find, has been patiently waiting in my collection for 40 years to be found. Anyway this 'find' is the only security embossed to come to light from New South Wales [so far]. Queensland has a very nice small group of security embossed issues on revenues, all exceedingly rare and very collectable. We can now add this New South Wales issue to the list. Keep your eyes peeled for more of these beauties. Ok I won't say NUF said.

I can be contacted by mail: P O Box 66 Springwood 4127 Queensland or an Email link from my web site ozrevenues.com



Fig 7



Fig 8



Fig 9

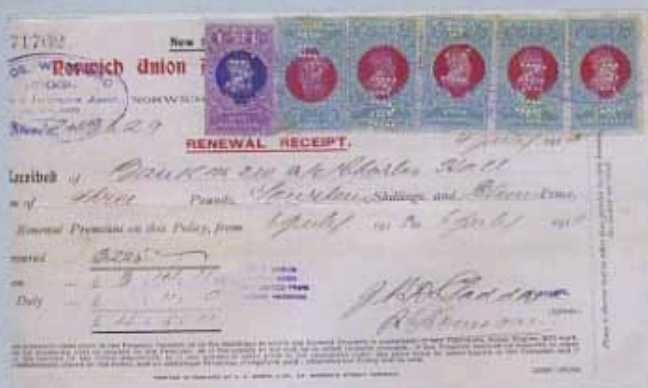


Fig 10