

# Revenue Review

## Double The Fun

Mike Kouwen of WA has an interest in Customs Duty stamps of Australia. He has a cracking exhibit, which he is constantly working on and adding to. Mike sent me figures 1 & 2. Figure one is only the second reversed 'E' in the overprint 'THREE' of THREE CENTS I have recorded. It went undescribed in a group of Customs Duty stamps in an eBay auction lot, selling for a fraction of its true value. It just goes to show, that you really need to be checking each, and every revenue that comes past your eyes, then double check! Figure 2 you have to look hard at, as its doubly printed showing a horizontal shift to the right. Again this is an excellent find. This is the first

double print to be recorded within the long range of Customs Duty Stamps of Australia. It may pay to go check your holdings of this very common value. Indeed as winter draws in, I will be checking what I have packed in my envelopes. Mike, thanks for sharing.

## All the Sixes

I have had figure 3 pass over my desk, a rather nice very last issue \$6 black with beige security grid. This is totally unrecorded and I would like to do so here in 'Revenue Review'. To add to the fascination of figure 3, it is imperf horizontally and has a vertical black roulette. The date when this \$6 was added to the series is unknown but thought



Fig 1



Fig 2



to be 1983. I remember buying a block of 4 and a single over the Stamp Duty counter back in the early 1980s. I still wish at the time I had bought a sheet. I am yet to come across this \$6 used. Maybe you, the reader, have a few \$6 blacks sitting in a book, and if you do can you please let me know.

## Titles

Another new revenue associated label to report this month, is in the form of a perforated 'Registrar of Titles' identification label. First I have seen, and not sure how this was actually used, other than to identify an instrument had passed over the desk of the Registrar of Titles, or maybe used as an official seal of the Registrar.

## Telegrams

For those interested in collecting telegrams of Australia, Jim Johnstone has put together a marvelous web site dedicated to Australian Telegrams. Of particular interest is the work Jim has done on the colonial telegrams. One of my earliest from Queensland is 1871 [figure 5] sent from Allora, Queensland to the Gas Works in Brisbane, paying 2/6d for 10 words or less. In this case 7 words were sent by Electric Telegraph. This is a fascinating subject, which personally I like to welcome under the umbrella of revenue collecting as a fee was paid for a service, making telegrams revenue stamped paper. Maybe you have a few in the cupboard? If so please let me, or Jim see them.

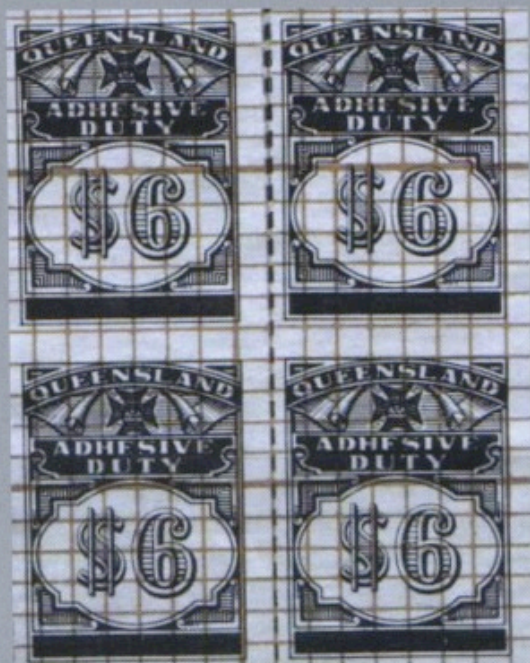


Fig 3



Fig 4



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Jim can be contacted from his Telegram home page here <http://telegramsaustralia.com>. Jim has exhibited his Telegrams at both national and international levels. Such entries are accepted in Class 2C in the Postal History, Social and Special Studies category. Great work Jim, keep it up.

## Easy As A.C.B.

Last month I showed a couple of scarce Qld rails. This month I have a new find for Qld rails, but just the one to share with you this time. Figure 6 is the first copy of 'The A.C.B. Ltd.' [Drapers] a private company issue and it just happens to be on a 5/- value. Nothing nicer than new finds on high values. Can you please check your collections of private

users as you may have this listed under ABC and not under ACB. If you do find any please let me know.

## Finally

It's been a long wait for a used \$200 Qld stamp duty issue to come onto the market. Figure 7 came to me via a Melbourne collector and it is the first I have seen to record used. Issued in 1981 you would think there would have been a few surface by now, but this is the first. I do have a used pair of the \$100, which always told me there was a use for the \$200 value.

## Perfin Corner

This month I have another gem for you. To look at it you would think, there's nothing special

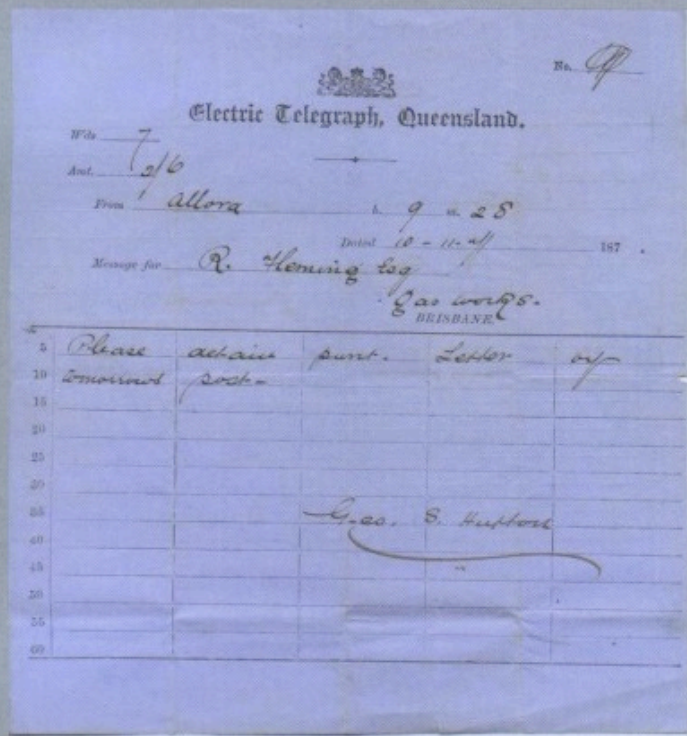


Fig 5



Fig 6



# Dave Elsmore

but look again the NGS Perfin is the first to be recorded on a Customs Duty stamp, as 99.9% were pre-cancelled with the full name. Selling in Phoenix auctions for around the \$1000 mark, this realisation reflects the keen buyers of tied proving Perfins on cover.

The National Geographic Society was formed and incorporated in Washington, D.C., USA, in January 1888, as a club for an elite group of 33 academics and wealthy patrons interested in travel.

The National Geographic Society's initial mission was "to increase and diffuse geographic knowledge" but later it was expanded to include, "promoting the conservation of the world's cultural, historical, and natural resources." The Society is governed

by a Board of Trustees whose 22 members include distinguished educators, business executives, former government officials, and conservationists.

The Society sponsors and funds scientific research and exploration and publishes an official journal, the "National Geographic Magazine" in 34 languages. They also publish other magazines, books, school products, maps, other publications, and web and film products in numerous languages and countries. Its educational foundation gives grants to education organizations and individuals to improve geography education. As of 2015 the Society's various media activities reach about 360 million people monthly. And to think just one single solitary Perfin have survived!!

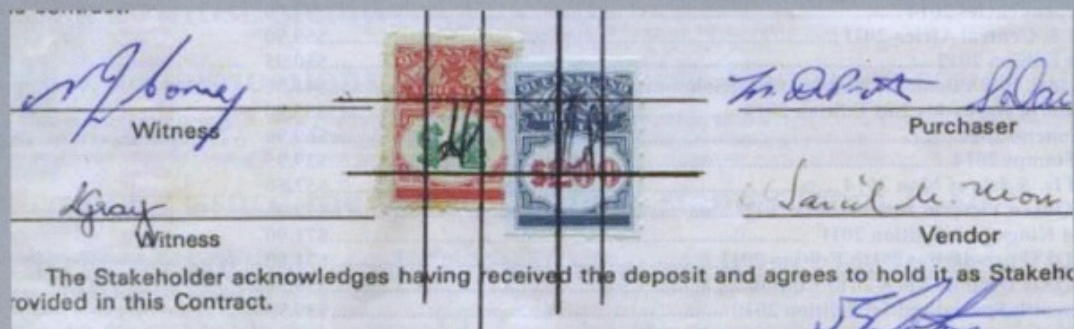


Fig 7



Fig 8