

## VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT PUNCTURES (VG's) CATALOGUE

In the Aug'91 Bulletin (No.253) Pg.3, it was stated that Bryan Toop was hoping to bring out a 5th Edition of the above catalogue early in 1992. Bryan has sent further information, a precis is as follows:

"The project was going well and had reached the stage of first proof printing. Then serious doubts were expressed as to the authenticity of some of the new additions. It was discovered that many were fakes and two Queensland dealers were selling these fakes.

The fakes are excellent reproductions. Detection is helped by:-

- (i) the holes of the punctures are too large
- (ii) many have Queensland cancels (unlikely on stamps used by the Victorian Government)
- (iii) some have cancels dated 1931 and 1932 (the Victorian Government did not begin to punch stamps until 1933)

Therefore the new catalogue has had to be scrapped and rewriting is taking place. Every stamp listed is being checked for authenticity. This process is taking a long time and some stamps are still being questioned.

In the new book, it is hoped to list all the fakes on the scarcer stamps. The 2c Bowling stamp mentioned in Bulletin 253 is one of the fakes"

Thanks are sent to Bryan for this warning and I hope none of our members have bought any of these V.G. perfins.