

KGV RESEARCH
KGV THREE HALFPENCE RED DIE I
PROPOSED CRACK ON 24R57/58/59 AND PLATING OF 24L49

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In ACSC Article 3603 in March 2015, David Wood presented research he had conducted which identified 4 separate states for clichés 24R58/59, and proposed that 24R58 is a cracked cliché. This was excellent work by David, and provided the basis for storing my stamps for these 2 clichés.

But the story does not end there.

I recently purchased an Imprint strip from Millenium Auctions comprising 24L49-60 and 24R49-60 inclusive. This is from a late printing, and as a consequence, I was able to plate UCV H424 as 24L49 from the piece.

Whilst checking the remainder of the clichés, I was drawn to clichés R57/58/59, which indicated to me that at a minimum, clichés R57 and R58 are both cracked clichés. I must say, like David, copies of the cracked states of both stamps are very scarce, and from the dates, it appears the cracks occurred very late in the life of the electro, with dates on my copies all May 1926.

The combination of both our research is summarised as follows:

24L49 (Previously UCV H424)

Bottom Frame: Frame broken on an angle sloping down slightly from right to left 4mm from BRC.



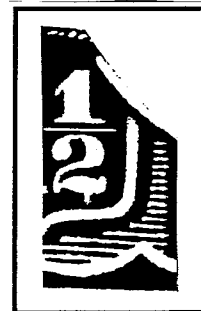
24L49

24R57 (2 flaws, 3 states)

1st State

(a) LVT: Small downward projection from the tail of the small numeral 2 at junction of middle and right thirds.

Note: This flaw is similar to, and not to be confused with, 17L51.



24R57

2nd State

(a) As before

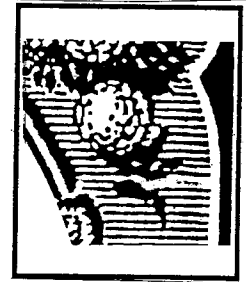
(b) Right Wattles: 6th shading line (counting up) from bottom of right wattle stem thinned from right of wattle stem to the inner white border frame. The inner white border frame is slightly widened. Beginning of crack ?



24R57 St 2

3rd State (Cracked Electro)

- (a) As before
- (b) Right Wattles: Crack as now developed, opening up gap between 5th and 7th shading lines, and the 6th shading line has now disappeared, leaving only small traces. The crack extends through the right wattle stem.



24R57 St 3

24R58 (4 flaws, 5 states)

1st State

- (a) Oval: The top 2 shading lines in the oval above the kings head, below "TR" of AUSTRALIA, are broken, with the break extending into the 3rd shading line downwards at a slight angle from left to right.
- (b) Australia: A small white spot above the of right of "L" of AUSTRALIA, sometimes showing attached. Not always present.



24R58



24R58

2nd State

- (a) As before
- (b) As before
- (c) Right Wattles: The shading line level with the bottom of the right wattle stem has become fragmented from the bottom of the wattle stem to the inner white border frame. Beginning of crack ?



24R58 St 2

3rd State

- (a) As before
- (b) As before
- (c) Right Wattles: The shading lines now appear almost normal.
- (d) Emu: Shading on emu's beak becomes darker.



24R58 St 3

4th State

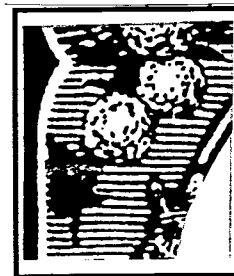
- (a) As before
- (b) As before
- (c) Emu: The front section of the emu's beak has now disappeared.



24R58 St 4/5

5th State (Cracked Electro)

- (a) As before
- (b) As before
- (c) As before
- (d) As before
- (e) Left Wattles: Crack appears through



24R58 St 5

entire bottom leaf of left wattles level with tip of roo's ear.
Extends to right white border frame, level with flaw (b)
on 24R57.

24R59 (3 flaws, 2 states)

1st State

(a) Roo: 0.75mm diameter white flaw near top of rear leg.

Note: This flaw is almost identical to, and not to be
Confused with, 24R54.



24R59 St 1

State 2

(a) Roo: Flaw has decreased considerably in size to 0.5mm
in diameter.



24R59 St 2/3

State 3 (Cracked Electro)

(a) Roo: As before

(b) Left Wattles: Small white flaw into left side of bottom
leaf of left wattles from inner white border frame, level
with 4th shading line (counting down) from tip of roo's
ear, level with flaw (c) on 24R58.

Beginning of crack ?



24R59 St 3

Footnote: I believe there is a subtle crack extending across all three stamps,
24R57/58/59, which developed in May 1926, as all copies of the stamps with the
crack characteristics are dated May 1926.