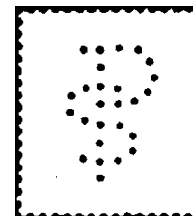


The Perfin Society

Bulletin



THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Michael Rucklidge

SECRETARY/
TREASURER/ Dave Hill
PACKET SUPT.

AUCTIONEER Harry Skinner

BULLETIN EDITOR Rosemary Smith

CATALOGUE EDITOR Roy Gault

LIBRARIAN/ John Donner
PUBLICATIONS

BULLETIN No:- 293 Subscription £5 (UK); £7 (abroad/surface); £8 (abroad/air)

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Auction No.2. (1998) 12 pages

PERFIN C.M/ & Co.. (C4956.01) THRU' P.S. CARDS

Details from **DEREK IVE**

Earlier in the year Derek told me that he had been looking round in the local museum [Gosport] when he spotted a group of QV trade post cards and return cards. Some of them were perfined and, despite the attendant not being able at that time to get into the display case, Derek sent me a drawing which I took to be C4956.01.

I sent him a copy from the Edwards Catalogue, and armed with this, and an agreement from the Curator of *Hampshire Museum Service*, he was given access to the cards. The result of his search is as follows:-

- All cards are QV ½d brown (value at top) Postal Stationery Cards - as Type 2 on Page 14, Bulletin 284 - including all that were not perfined.
- The cards covered the period of June 1883 to June 1885.
- There were about 1000 to 1100 postcards but no pattern as to why some were perfined and others not.
- The *Return Cards* all had the address:- Messrs Mumby & Co., Soda Water Manufacturers, GOSPORT:
- The *Order Cards* all had the address:- Messrs C MUMBY & Co., GOSPORT
- The perfin, as the example I sent of C4956.01, proved to be the correct die with no variations throughout the perfined cards.
- He did find three cards which were addressed to:- Messrs Mumby & Co., Soda Water Manufacturers, PORTSMOUTH, (not perfined). Whilst in the Curators office he spotted an old lemonade bottle which was marked as Mumby & Co. Gosport and Portsmouth and the curator thought they also used to have an office in Portsmouth.

The quantities of perfined cards was:-

ORDER CARDS [1883] 20; [1884]13; [1885] 1; Total **34**.

RETURN CARDS [1883] 1; Total 1.

Thanks should be expressed to Derek, and to *Hampshire Museum Service*, for establishing the identity of the user of C4956.01

POST CARD



THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



135
27
1916

Messrs. C. MUMBY & Co.,

GOSPORT.

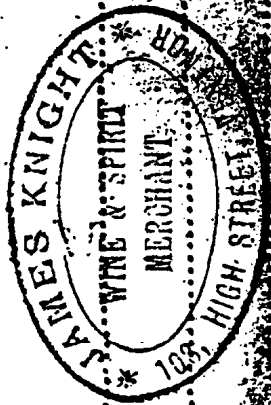
<p>ON 20</p>
<p>4956.01</p>

21 Aug 1916

Send per

- Ginger Beer
- Lemonade
- Soda Water
- SeNai "
- Polish "
- Ginger Ale

1 doz. Sops
1 doz. Sops



Name.....
Address.....

PERFINS IN CURRENT USE from Derek Ransom

Current Perfins Update

BC	B1110.03	20p	
C&A	C0080.01M	19p	
CB/H	C0775.01	1st	
C/EC	C2310.01	20p	
CLE/C	C4470.01M	1p	
EH/MC	E2020.01b	1 st	
HC/S	H1710.01	25p	Belfast 25 Sept 96
LB/C	L0340.01	1p	
L.B./H	L0440.01M	2 nd	
LB/R	L0630.01	20p	
LF/CD	L2207.01	1 st	
MS	M4960.01	20p	turquoise (SGY1674)
NH/HD	N1675.01	1 st	
PI/O	P2565.01M	29p, 50p	
RBC	R1410.01M	2p, 10p, 50p	
R/HA	R2225.02M	1p	
TH	T2060.01	1 st	
U.L	U1170.01	26p brown	(SG Y1678)

Latest Dates Seen

EH/MC	10 Mar 97	
L.B./H	1 May 97	
CLE/C	11 Jun97	
SC	7 Jul 97	Doncaster, Rochdale and Scunthorpe p/mk in block of 12, in company with 1p, 2p and £2 unperfinned.
NH/ND	4 Mar 98	not postmarked but received by my daughter in her mail at work.

I have been through literally tens of thousands of recent low value current Machins. Only one lonely 26 brown had a perfin, none of the 20p greens. It would be appreciated if anyone reporting current usage of perfins could

be specific as to the stamp and include dates if available, since there are now 2, or even 3, colours or designs for each denomination.

I have a possible clue to an ident for KC on the 19p. On the back of the card it was torn from is "King's H—". It is a school of some sort, since it goes on to say "Dear Parent or Guardian The next term starts ...". Postmark is London SE.

WANTS

Member GEORGES ROBDN

offers many and mostly European perfins in exchange for perfins of France, Netherlands and Bavaria.

Member JOE DOOLEY

would like to swap or buy 1d reds (he is doing different plate numbers of GWR, I&R/M and McI) as well as others: plus full names.

A German philatelist has asked if I can help with his thematic collection. Unfortunately I cannot. Perhaps members with 'foreign' perfin collections know of something which will fit his theme.

His theme is 'pigeons' and he would like a perfin in the shape of a pigeon if there is such a thing. He will pay a 'fancy price' for a pigeon perfin on an authentically used cover from the user. If you can help:- LUTZ KONIG

An old time member of the US Perfins Club is interested in purchasing, cheaply, collections of perfins of New Zealand and Hong Kong. He finds that his local College, Alpena Community College, is weak in these areas and he would like to improve their collection with a donation of N.Z. and H.K. perfins. Please write to AENEAS CONSTANTDSEE MD

KODAK NUMERAL PUNCTURES

via JOHN MATHEWS

In the January 1998 (No.40) edition of *'South Pacific Perfin Bulletin'* John Mathews wrote an article about the Kodak Numeral Punctures. As I see these occasionally in dealers' stock, and, over the years, have been asked about them by various members, I thought John's article was too good to miss. As it was written, and illustrated, with reference purely to Australian stamps/labels perforated by Kodak (Australasia) Pty.Ltd., I am editing to make it applicable to our own GB stamps on Kodak labels.

"I had thought that perfin collectors were aware of the nature and origin of the Kodak numeral punctures but my attention has been drawn to a couple of lots in a recent auction in Victoria which has revised my thinking. The lots are listed under "Papua New Guinea", and are described respectively as

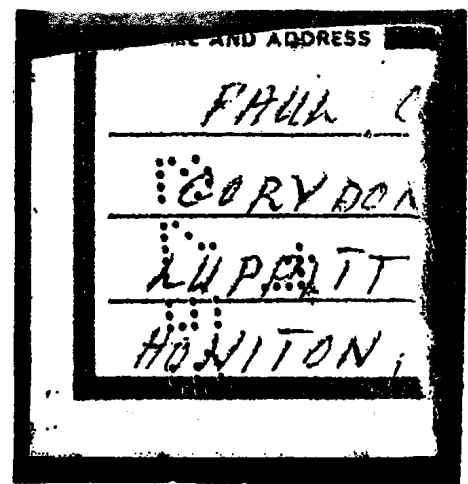
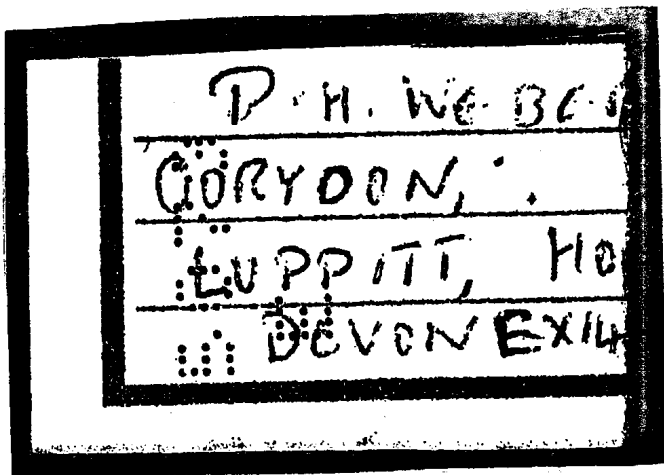
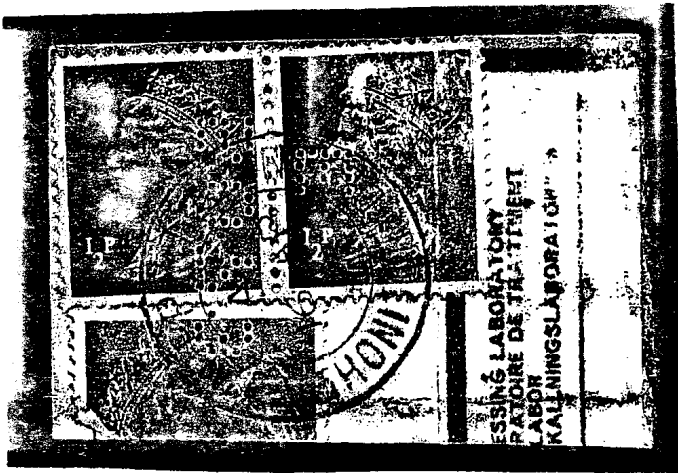
"PRIVATE PERFIN 4219 punctured on reverse of. "

and "PRIVATE PERFIN 9 over 3923 punctured on reverse of" with the comment "believed from Kodak, Port Moresby".

"During the 1960's, the popular format for tourist photography was as colour transparency slides. Kodak had the monopoly on the developing process, to the point where the cost of processing was included in the purchase price of the film. Included with the film was a cloth bag (later replaced by one of stout paper) with a draw string, and attached to the bag was a "fabric" label pre-addressed to Kodak's processing plant. On the reverse side of this label was a space for the customer's name and address, and the label was cut off and inserted into the box of slides so that the return address was visible to the postman.

"At the processing laboratory, the label and the end of the roll of film were each punctured with the same number so that the slides could be associated with the right customer. Again I recall the end of the film with puncture being included in the box of slides.

"The illustrations show two labels, both sides, and from these it can be seen that it was pure chance whether the stamp received a full puncture, partial puncture or no puncture depending on where it was placed on the label. On the stamps, the puncture appears reversed because the label was always punctured from the customer's address side, with the stamp underneath. Also, if the stamp was affixed in the upright position, the puncture would appear sideways.



"So in conclusion,

- Kodak numeral punctures are not aimed at the stamp.
- They do not serve a security purpose and hence not in the same category as perfins.
- There is no implied association between the country issuing the stamp and the location of the Kodak laboratory where the puncture was applied "

MEMBER'S COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

W.W.II Polish Army In Paris Perfins Bulletin 282/23; 285/8

A non-member, ROY E READER, has sent the following:-

"I have recently been shown a brief article that appeared in the Perfin Society's Bulletin No.285 of December 1996 concerning French stamps perforated with the letters 'WP'. The illustration of the 'WP' perforation [on next page] is as on stamps perforated at the Polish War Office in Paris in May and June 1940. I apologise for the quality of the printing.

"It will be seen that contrary to the impression given by Mr Czarniecki's article, there are no stops after the letters 'W' or 'P'. Having checked this perforation against the one in your Bulletin (285/8), it seems to me that they are the same.

"I think it would be quite remarkable if the officer that perforated the stamps at the Polish War Office had been able to acquire his perforating machine from whatever firm it was that had been perforating its stamps with the initials 'WP' from 1927 to 1932. I think it more likely that both the Polish officer and the firm with the 'WP' initials obtained their machines from the same manufacturer.

"The stamps in Mr Werner's possession are not amongst those perforated at the Polish War Office."

'TS' & 'MS' link with Harris Publication Ltd. Bulletin 292/18

From **JOHN MATHEWS**:- "I have a couple of bits of information regarding possible candidates for the 'M&S' perfin, gleaned from Kelly's Directories - Trades section of the 1926 Directory states:-

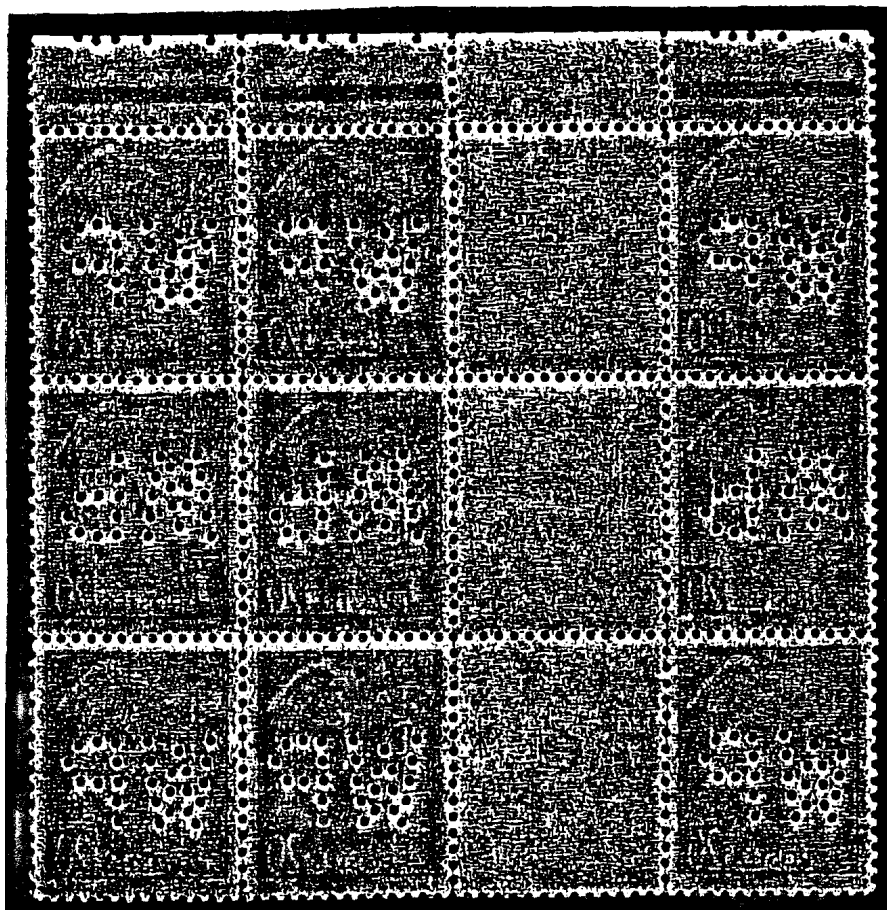
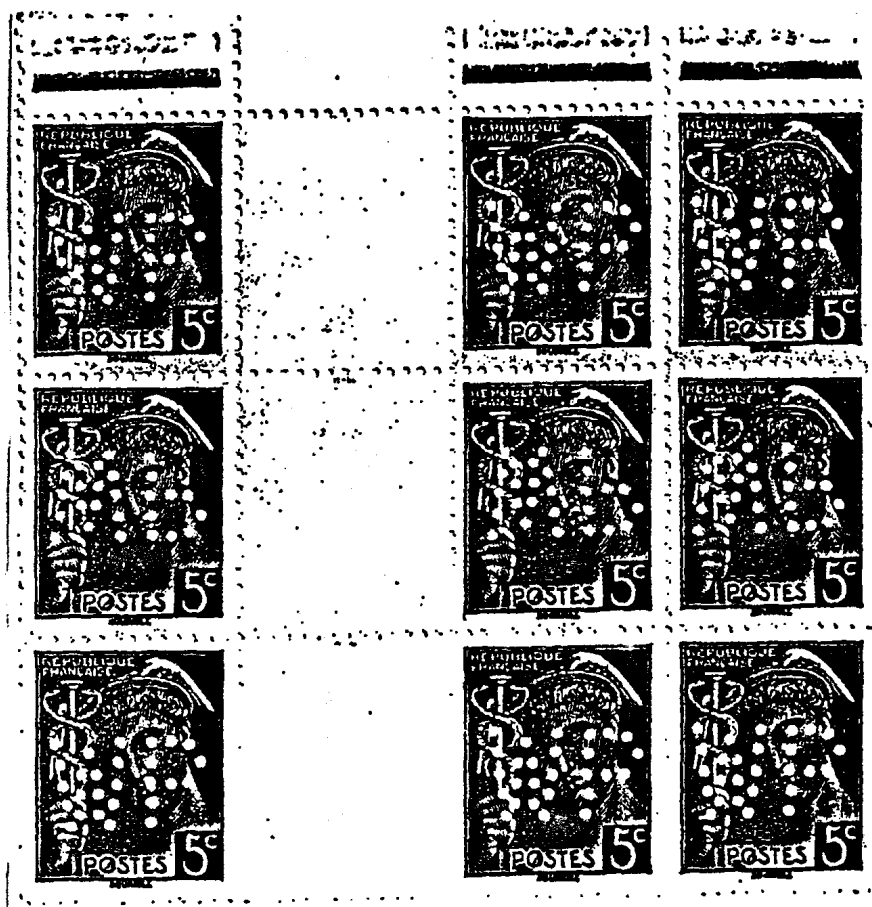
- Maclaren & Son Ltd, 38 Shoe Lane, EC4 [All
- Meiklejohn & Son Ltd, 11 Paternoster Square, EC4 [were
- Morgan & Scott Ltd, 12 Paternoster Building, EC4 [Publishers

Someone in the UK may have access to "Philatelic Magazine" issues from the 1925-26 period and see who actually published it for Harris Publications Ltd. I suspect it was Thomas Skinner & Co in one of these years and 'M&S' in the other.

Bulletin No. 293 (Apr' 98) Pg. 8.

W W II POLISH ARMY IN PARIS PERFINIS

Illustration of block of 1938 5c French definitives perforated 'WP'.



From **JOHN MATHEWS**:- "In the 1926 & 1927 Directories, the firm is listed as "booksellers etc" at both 140 Strand, WC2 and at 43 Piccadilly, W1. In these years, co-located at the Strand address was a company called "*The Information Bureau Ltd*" which may (or may not) have some connection.

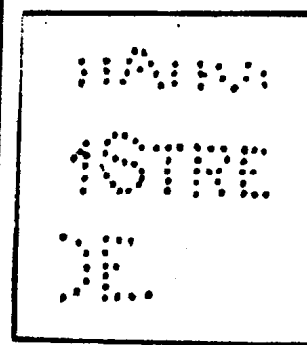
"In the 1931 and 1934 Directories, he is not listed at the Strand address - only at Piccadilly. In 1934, also at 43 Piccadilly, is a firm called "*Piccadilly Fountain Press*", publishers. Perhaps he started his own publishing company some time between 1931 and 1934 which produced "*Piccadilly Notes*". This is consistent with the 1933 postmark date which I presume goes with the return address."

Perfined Envelope Bulletin 292/20

When I typed out the article about the envelope with perforated name and address, sent in by John Evans for the last Bulletin, it did not register with me that there had been a piece in the "*South Pacific Perfin Bulletin* ", No. 37, April 1997 about an allied perforation. I had read this article but because it was about an Australian perforation it had not remained in my memory.

JOHN MATHEWS has sent a copy of the relevant page which I include, with the illustrations, at this point.

W. C. RIGBY
BOOKSELLER & STATIONER
74 KING WILLIAM STREET
ADELAIDÉ



The text reads:- An Interesting Company "Perfin".

"John Amiet has reported a South Australian stamp with 1904 postmark with the partial "perfin" shown. Because of the overall size of this "perfin ", it is probable that it was not intended to be used on stamps. Indeed, it cannot be determined whether the perforating was done to a sheet of stamps or to a document on which the stamp happened to be affixed.

"The address part of the pattern is part of "King William Street, Adelaide ". The partial word on the top line gives a clue to the user. In the 1905 Sands & McDougall Directory of South Australia, tenants in King William Street whose names or occupations could match this wording were W.C.Rigby, bookseller & stationer, at number 74, and Sands & McDougall, printers and stationers at number 64.

"Experimenting with different fonts gave a match with the partial perfin for Ariel narrow (or Helvetica narrow) size 24/20. When the company name/occupation/address was typed in this font., the exact correspondence of the positions of the set of letters in the perfin matched that of W.C.Rigby as shown. It is of note that this company also used WCR.1 and RIGBYADELAIDE.1 at about the same time. We do not yet have any proof that Sands & McDougall used a perforator in South Australia, although they may well have been agents for a manufacturer of perforators since the ledgers of Elder Smith & Co Ltd showed several entries for the purchase of stamps from Sands & McDougall".

John Mathews writes:- "I could not believe my eyes when I pulled the Bulletin out of its envelope yesterday, when it came out last page facing up and I saw the 'Rigby' perforation. Your article makes no further reference to the actual perfin other than the illustration. I presume the perforation was through the whole envelope? **[YES]**

"In the 1893 Directory, Thomas Meadows & Co are described as 'shipping, passenger and insurance agents, (etc); general European agents for the Merchants' Despatch Transportation Co. and American Express Co. of New York and Boston, USA; 35 Milk St, EC; 13 Water St, Liverpool; 51 Piccadilly, Manchester; 10 South Hanover St, Glasgow; & 4

Rue Scribe, Paris.' So T3240.01 and T3250.01 did belong to two different offices of the same company.

"But the connection with W C Rigby of Adelaide, South Australia (who incidentally supplied most of the text books when I was at secondary school) is in question. In the 1893 Directory, there is no entry for W C Rigby having their own office in London, as many Australian companies of the time did. My guess is that Thomas Meadows & Co were, at least in this instance, acting on their behalf and forwarding the envelope to Messrs Richard Bentley & Son. I do not know who might have made this amazing die for W C Rigby: I saw no mention of any of their dies in the Sloper books when I went through them in 1993."

JOHN NELSON sends the same description of MEADOWS, Thomas & Co, from his early Kelly's Directory. He goes on to say:-

"As for the W C Rigby envelope, how about this for a possible scenario. Early in 1893 Rigby wished to place a number of orders for books, required by his customers, from publishers in London, including Richard Bentley & Son of 8 New Burlington St., London W. The thin green envelopes containing these orders were not sent from Australia individually but were, under a standing arrangement between Rigby and Thomas Meadows & Co, despatched, unstamped, in a single package to Meadows at 35 Milk Street, London EC. When the package arrived on 19th June 1893, each green envelope including that to Bentley & Co, was backstamped by Meadows, one of their own perfins (T3240) was affixed and the orders were posted off on the same day."

'McI' - McIver/McIntyre? Bulletin 292/16

JOHN NELSON says it would seem that only McIver is the correct identity and that McIntyre is an error, having been confused with M1290.01. He has 10 examples of M1280.01 on stamps up to 1d Venetian red and 9 of these have Liverpool postmarks. The other one, a rogue to join Queenstown, is B47 (Llandudno).

D & C McIver were Liverpool Shipowners and proprietors of the Beaver line which plied between the U.K., the United States and Canada.

John Nelson points out that the member who had more than half his Crown/B.T. perfins identified by Captain Jackson as forgeries was fortunate by comparison with Michael Burrows (Bulletin 77/Feb'66). He wrote of having submitted 26 stamps to Captain Jackson who, *'after many hours of research . . . declared the entire lot to be fakes'* of 8 different kinds including 2 new ones.

GRAHAM FORTEY writes:-

"Two items that I bought recently have prompted me to write regarding John Nelson's article (Dec'97) on Board of Trade Forgeries.

"The first item is a large piece (9/4"x3%") bearing a vertical pair of sixpenny KEVII definitives and a single 2d value. The stamps are tied to the piece by three London E.C. Hooded Circle cancellations dated June 17th 1904. The piece has a large "ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE" printed on it and is addressed (in French) to The Department of Affairs in Berne.

"Close examination of the vertical pair of stamps revealed a distinct difference in the Board of Trade perfin on each stamp - this supports John's view that multiple dies (of which these must be) were probably produced by different workmen. All these three stamps on the piece have pin holes missing in different positions, further indicating multi-dies were used.

"The second item is a loose stamp (Q.V. 2d pale rose, SG168) with a Board of Trade perfin and clear London Scroll 'VR' cancellation dated 19th MARCH 1883. I am convinced that this is genuine for the following reasons:-

- *G.B. OFFICIAL PERFINS* by T A Edwards & B C LUCAS mention the existence of Board of Trade perfins with this cancellation.
- *POSTMARKS OF ENGLAND & WALES* by James MacKay states that this cancellation was *"used on mail from Government Departments addressed to countries abroad"*.

- It is also worth noting that producing a fake Board of Trade perfin on a stamp with a clear Royal Scroll postmark would have been a waste of time. This particular postmark is quite scarce and is mentioned in the late Dr. J T Whitney's *COLLECT BRITISH POSTMARKS*.

I have seen dealers offer non-perfined examples of this postmark for £10. Perforating this stamp with a fake Board of Trade perfin would in no way have increased its value - when assessing the market value of a particular item, the highest value (stamp or postmark) prevails and not the combined value. I doubt if any of us would pay more than £10 for a loose Board of Trade perfin!!

I wholeheartedly agree with John's last statement that the case exists for a re-examination of the subject of fake perfins."

In the comments in Bulletin 292 about the "B of T" fakes, **DAVE HILL** wondered if this was all the non-perfin collector knew about perfins. He is not sure if this confirms his suspicions but he was surprised the other day to be asked, by the leading expertisation body, to give his opinion on a perfin. It was a rather poor copy of the very common "S crown O" perfin of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. It had a missing pin and perhaps they thought this was significant. He had to disillusion them.

Liverpool Corn Trade Association Bulletin 292/19

JOHN NELSON has done some directory searches in the hope of coming up with an identity since the user of the perfin must have been in the corn trade. The only contenders appear to be R HUNTER CRAIG & Co, Flour Merchants and Brokers,

Without some further proof he would not go so far as to suggest either as a provisional identity but he has a pair of ½d Jubilee green with die R0965.04 postmarked BRISTOL DE 10 00 and find that R Hunter Craig & Co., Limited, Corn and Flour Merchants, were also at 28 Baldwin Street, Bristol.

Perfin Oddities; - BUTT perfin Bulletin 292/10

DAVE HILL has an address for J E BUTT & SONS of Trafalgar Lane, Brighton, in 1884. They were timber merchants.

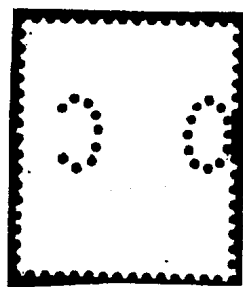
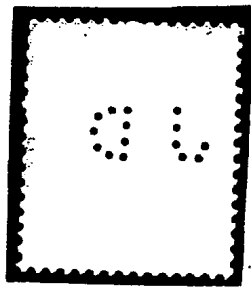
Willis, Faber & Dumas Ltd.- Bulletin 289/12; 292/12

In his "*Directory of Directors 1938*", DAVE HILL found that Harry Willis, chairman of WF&D was also a director of Clergy Mutual Assurance, London Life Insurance, Cornhill Insurance and Metropolitan Life Assurance.

So presumably these WF/C^o, WF/D and WF/P perfins could be found on any of the Insurance Companies associated with Harry Willis.

1/2d Machin (Pro-decimal) Bulletin 272/6; 290/5; 291/6

GUNNAR BECK has reported two more of this value found with perfin. They are JD (J1960.01M) and OC (O0360.02M)



Correction to New Identities Bulletin 292

Sent in by IAN HAMELL

New Identities Page 81

M0010.028 M 17 6½ Machinery Publishing Co. etc.

SOCIETY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES To March 1998 Total members 355

New Members

MISS M PAE

MR G WARCHARD

DAVID ELLIOTT

VICTOR VENDE

FRED JAQUES

Resigned

MEG ASPDEN (Recently married); GEORGE AYLING

Lapsed

ALEXANDER

D W ANDERSEN

BOYER

BOB BROWN

BUCKLEY-TROT

NIGEL JONES

CRANE

JEFFERY

SELKIRK

WESTCOTT

WINKELMANN

LAMBERSY-HALLEMEESCH

Deaths

KEVIN PARKHILL

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S COMMENTS Dave Hill

Last call for our meeting on Saturday 25th April at Baden Powell House, London SW7. This is in Queen's Gate, just off Cromwell Road, next to the Natural History Museum and between South Kensington and Gloucester Road Tube Stations. We have booked the Windsor Room between 1:00 and 5:00pm. Generally there is spare meter parking nearby: there is a restaurant in the building and we have refreshments half way through the meeting.

There is a chance to swap, sell, show and chat and John brings along the available publications which are priced less post and package of course. You will be made welcome, particularly if you have never been before.

Paid up members in the UK should have received an ABPS membership card with the last Bulletin: please fill in your name. It entitles you to some discounts and free entries to exhibitions: which ones I am not sure. I suggest you try it next time you buy from a dealer or go to a fair or exhibition! [Write and let me know if you have any luck] Also there is a quarterly draw: I will keep an eye out for our numbers.

This year's Rowland Hill (no relation) Awards will be over by the time you read this. Some members have suggested that various officers of the Society are put forward. I have found out about this from a friend who was nominated and I am not sure that our officers would like to be nominated. It is rather like the Oscars etc. If you are in the last three selected you have to attend the ceremony. In the *Journalistic Excellence* section, James Mackay was a Runner Up for his article on Perfins published in the July 1997 British Philatelic Bulletin.

However, our hard working Catalogue Editor has won a very prestigious award in America. The following is the notice from *THE PERFIN'S BULLETIN* of January 1998 [Volume 52, Number 1, Whole number 505]

Gault Wins Hallcock Card Award

Roy Gault, Editor of The Perfin Society's *Great Britain Perfin Catalogue* has been selected as the 1997 recipient of the Hallcock Card Award. Among his contributions are four years of work on the British perfin catalog and various checklists of graphite issues, Parliamentary Union Conference issues, POKO coil issues, and coil issues with sideways watermarks.

He also organised the revised listing of penny red plate numbers with perfins and is a frequent contributor to the *Perfin Society Bulletin*. In addition, Roy has co-operated with the Perfins Club's Foreign Catalog Editor as well as giving freely of his time.

This award is judged 'like with like', and therefore each entry has an equal chance because the judges know their subject. Well done Roy.

CATALOGUE EDITOR

I, Editor, am writing on behalf of Roy this month. He has been under tremendous pressure since before Xmas. On the perfin front he has completed the 8th edition of Tomkins, which has been a mammoth task. [Thanks must also be expressed to Stephen Steere for proof reading every entry, no mean feat in itself] He has also produced the first three sets of worksheets for the letter ' W perfins; sending them to those members who help with this work, and collating the replies which come in. On top of this he has been working away from home for most of each week for part of the first two months of the year and now he is doing two/three weeks of double shifts. He apologises to all the members who are awaiting a reply to their letters and he assures them that they will hear from him at the earliest opportunity.

PUBLICATIONS John Donner

As mentioned in the previous comments, the **8th EDITION OF TOMKINS** -"The Identities Catalogue" - is now ready. The size is A4 with 4 filing holes at the side. Members can decide for themselves whether to ring bind it or put it in a binder. The price will be £10 for GB members (inc. post/package); £12 for Europe and £15 rest of the world. Copies should be at the April meeting and can be bought less post and package.

PAUL DAVEY has found an article on perfins on the World Wide Web. It is a similar introduction to perfins which Dave Hill did in the UK a couple of years ago.

For the "web-aware" the address is:-

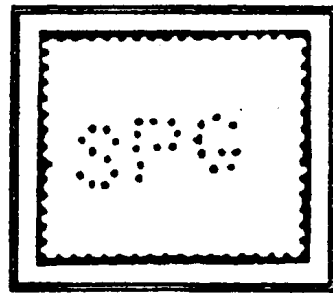
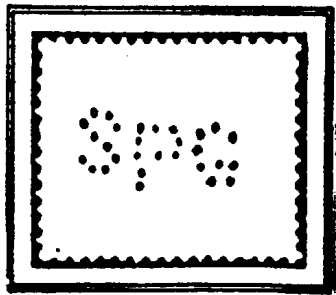
http://www.netstamps.com/january_98/perfin.htm

Netstamps is a free on-line magazine (with a bit of a US bias as one would expect). [Ed:- am I to be made redundant?]

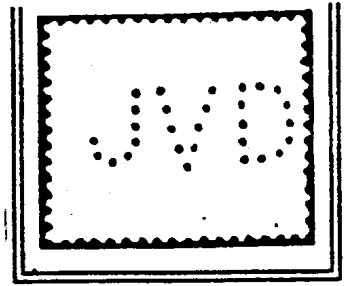
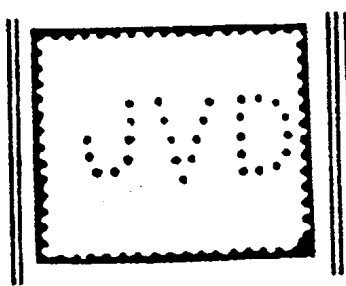
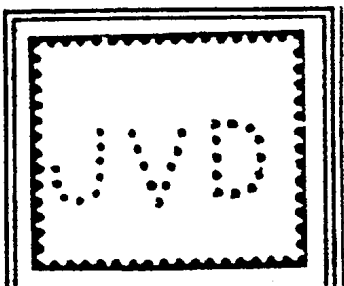
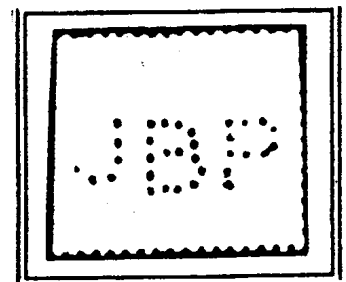
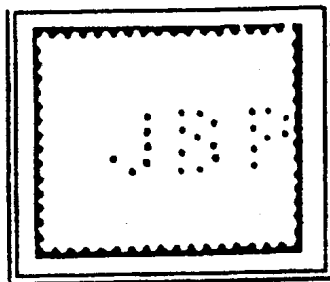
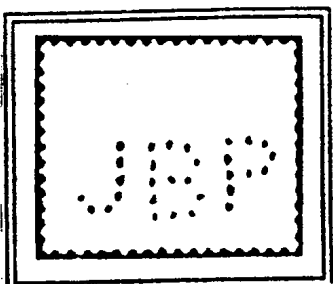
THE MAKER OF THE 'SPG' TYPE DIE

By Dave Hill

I think I have discovered the maker and user of this type of die. First, what is it? Roy Gault named it thus because as he arrived at the 'S' pages of the New Illustrated Catalogue he came to the conclusion that each of these perfins were not different dies but were dies made by single letter dies, clamped together in different combinations. This was most obvious in the many 3 letter dies, up and down the stamp, like 'SPG'. The letters are always very badly formed with larger letters from 1890 to 1905 and smaller thereafter. For instance there are many different 'S's, 'P's and 'G's and they could be assembled in many combinations (if there were only 2 of each letter they could still make 9 possible perfins).



Roy was faced with cataloguing all these combinations. John Nelson had also long recognised that there was something different about these dies. Blocks of stamps proved that they were not different dies of a multi-die and Roy came to the conclusion that they were individual letter dies, somehow clamped together.



I discovered that the dies were made by Waterlow & Son. I made the discovery in quite a devious fashion. In the New Illustrated I noted that one late user of an 'SPG' type die, J B Pash, later used a Sloper wartime provisional. Another, J V Drake, also used a regular Sloper die in the 1950's and I remembered that with our Sloper records we have a few lists of clients which they 'inherited' from Waterlow. Looking at these I saw that both the above firms were ex Waterlow clients. From about 75 Waterlow clients I found that 25 had had 'SPG' type dies.

When looking for proof I found the answer staring me in the face. Before Roy made his discovery I had been in correspondence with the Waterlow Study Circle. They had sent me a copy of a Waterlow advert for perforating for the year 1891.

At the bottom this stated, *"The above charges include the use of stock Dies, such as "E.A.S.", "S.&G.", or any combination of three letters. Any greater number will require the preparation of a special Die, which would have to be charged to the customer."*

Not all Waterlow clients had 'SPG' type dies: some no doubt wanted better looking dies or more than three letters. Some of these dies might have been made for Waterlow by Sloper or other firms over a period of years. The 'SPG' type die was only used by Waterlow, not sold to their clients.

Also I think Sloper perfined other stamps for Waterlow over a period of years as well as supplying dies and machines. So from the lists we have of Waterlow clients we get a mixture of dies.

Some clients like SPG went back for more perfins time after time and got a different combination of letters. Others only made one order and only one die is known. At first the letters were vertical, later horizontal. Two letter perfins are also known but single letter perfins are best ignored. It might be this type of die or it might just be 'home-made'.

Waterlow did quite a lot of business. We have some figures from the Post Office for about 1906. Waterlow perfined about £75,000 worth of stamps per year, more than Allchins but a lot less than Slopers £525,000.

Despite its crude results Waterlow used this machine for nearly 50 years. Why they didn't use neatly shaped letters all the time, I cannot understand.

* * * * *

WATERLOW ADVERTISEMENT FOR 1891

Perforation of Postage Stamps

FOR PREVENTION OF FRAUD AND EMBEZZLEMENT.

Extract from "Post Office Guide"

"In consequence of representations made to the Post Office by various Firms that there is reason to believe that their postage stamps were purloined by persons in their employ, the Department has recommended that the initials of Firms, &c., be perforated through the stamps by means of a machine devised for the purpose, and Postmasters have been instructed not to purchase such stamps."

WATERLOW & SONS LIMITED have prepared Machinery by which they are enabled to perforate the initials of Firms, Companies or private Traders on all kinds of Postage Stamps.

Stamps so perforated are secured from misappropriation, as they cannot be purchased by Postmasters or used for Savings' Bank forms.

CHARGES FOR PERFORATION.

If less than 12 sheets are ordered, a minimum charge of	2	4
If 12 sheets or upwards, per sheet	0	1
and Sixpence to cover Registered Postage.		
Post Cards and Wrappers, per 1,000	2	0
" " " 500 and under	1	0
Plus carriage.		

The above charges include the use of steel Dies, such as "E. A. S.," "S. & C.," or any combination of three letters. Any greater number will require the preparation of a special Die, which would have to be charged to the customer.

N.B.—Remittances must in all cases accompany Orders and the Stamps will be forwarded promptly.

Wholesale Stationery Mchrs: 49 & 50 Parliament Street.

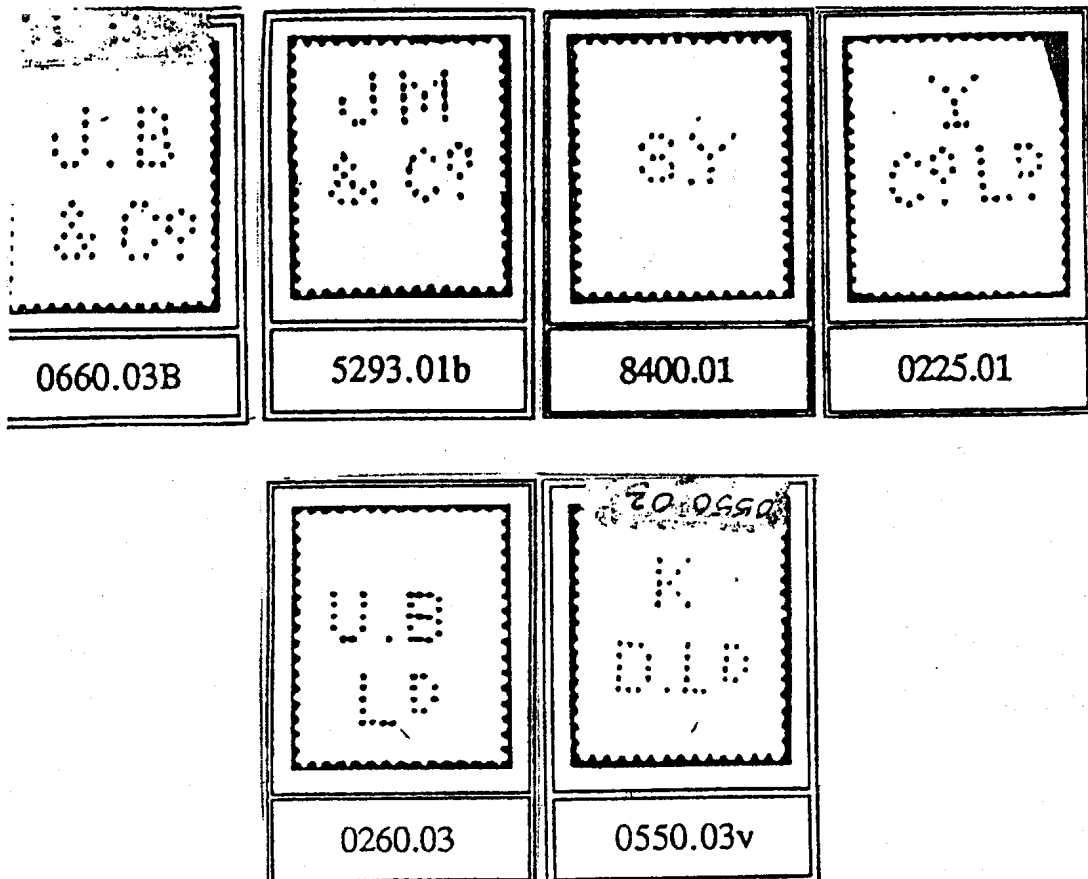
SOME THOUGHTS ON ALLCHIN DIES

By Dave Hill

We have two long lists of clients for whom Sidney Allchin perforated stamps in 1905 and 1906. With the extra information in the New Illustrated Catalogue on dates and postmarks it is possible to identify some of these dies. In fact the list gives us clues to some of the users where we do not know them.

I offer the following tentative conclusions on possible Allchin alphabets. A word of warning however. We can be 95% sure that after about 1935, Sloper used the alphabet they use to this day, the one with which we are all so familiar: before that date it would appear that each perforator used a different alphabet each time!

I illustrate below some distinctive dies that are almost certainly Allchins. However for much of the time they were capable of neat letters, little different to any other maker.



I don't think this is to any regular grid of pins but it is interesting that as well as producing the two sizes of square corner letters shown, Allchin appear to have been responsible for the dies for Kelly's Directories Ltd (K0550.03v) which does apparently have pins on a regular grid. I can't believe that the pins were removed to make different letters. Perhaps there was a square grid from which all letters were drilled. Hence letters made from straight lines look ok, but curves look odd with square corners and slopes generally must follow diagonal lines of holes. Note particularly the corners of the J's and the U's, and the arms of the Y and the middle of the M are at 45 degrees. The first Co has square corners, the rest look fine.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Rosemary Smith

I had been congratulating myself on feeling back to form after my weeks of 'chesty cold' during January thru' to February: catching up with my most outstanding correspondence/exchanges/worksheets etc: completing the first four pages of this Bulletin: then disaster struck. My husband is now in hospital having suffered a slight stroke - with the emphasis on slight. At the time of writing he is only showing weakness in his left hand and a slight numbness to the far left hand side of his face.

I trust that the contributors to the Bulletin, whose articles are included in this issue, will take the inclusion as my reply: and the ones whose articles are still in the pipe line will not be impatient for a reply. However, I have found that completing the Bulletin has taken my mind off my troubles and also the weight off my feet as I have had to sit down at my desk and computer.

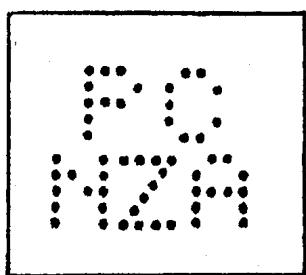
In the Society Information there is the notice of the death of Kevin Parkhill from Rochdale. Kevin was well known in Yorkshire and Lancashire philatelic circles and a very keen perfin collector. He had fought this illness for at least three years with a determination and cheerfulness which earned him the respect and friendship of all with whom he came into contact. He will be missed by many. Our sympathies go to his wife, Pat and daughter Tracy and family.

NEWS OF THE PERFIN SOCIETY 'DOWN-UNDER'

Rosemary Smith

I can do no better than quote most of the article by Robert Samuels in "Captain Cook", the Newsletter of The Christchurch (N.Z.) Philatelic Society (Inc.), issue 573, March 1998.

PC/NZA - A NEW PERFIN



*The Perfin Club of New Zealand and Australia was founded some years ago by a New Zealand collector, David Dell. In the intervening years, though, the club has become more of an Australian club than a New Zealand club, with its main officers now resident in Australia. Still, in recognition of its roots, it has always been known as the "New Zealand and Australia" club rather than the "Australia and New Zealand" club. The club publishes a quarterly newsletter, **The South Pacific Perfin Bulletin**.*

In November 1997 the club obtained its own perforator, and is now using stamps perforated with the initials PC/NZA. Stamps so perforated were first used on 11th February 1998. So far only Australian stamps have been perforated but, I suggest, it will be only a matter of time before we see New Zealand stamps perforated in this manner. The hand operated perforating punch was obtained from Chainstream Ltd, 69-71 William Street, Carshalton, Surrey, England, and is to be "ceremoniously unveiled" in March, at a meeting of the club to be held in Canberra in conjunction with Natstamp '98.

The PC/NZA perfin is a new addition to the small list of overseas perfins incorporating the letters NZ-perfins such as BNZ, NZL, and NZ/IC^o.

Those collectors who have an interest in the perfins of Australia or New Zealand and who may wish to join this club should write to Mr John Mathews