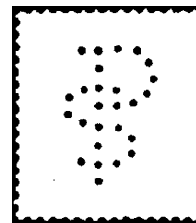


**THE PERFIN SOCIETY
BULLETIN**
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THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

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SECRETARY/ TREASURER	Dave Hill
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BULLETIN No:- 331 Subscription £10 (UK); £12 (abroad/surface); £15 (abroad-air)

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SOCIETY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES TO JULY Total membership 377

New Members

LEO MARTINI-BROWN

CLAYTON WILLEY

GEORGE WILLIAMS

Change of Address

LAURENCE BUTTERS

Secretary/Treasurer's Comments

Date for your diary - the next London meeting is on 30th October at Duchess House, as usual.

I would remind members that subs are due 1st September and they are now £10 UK, £12 Europe and the Rest of the World surface mail, £15 Rest of the World airmail. Some members still haven't realised this but don't worry, I write individually to members before I lapse anyone.

I have offered to give the Great Britain Philatelic Society a "History of Perfins" on Saturday 19th March 2005 in London. I am basing this on our Stampworld 2000 exhibit (none of which was mine, I hasten to add) plus a few bits of my own. Tony Stanford, a member of both GBPS and the Perfin Society, is giving a few frames of GB perfins on overprints and officials.

If other members feel they can show the flag by giving a display or loaning me their display to show, let me know as soon as possible. Otherwise we will have to rely on the GBPS to fill up the rest of the program.

Secretary's Musings

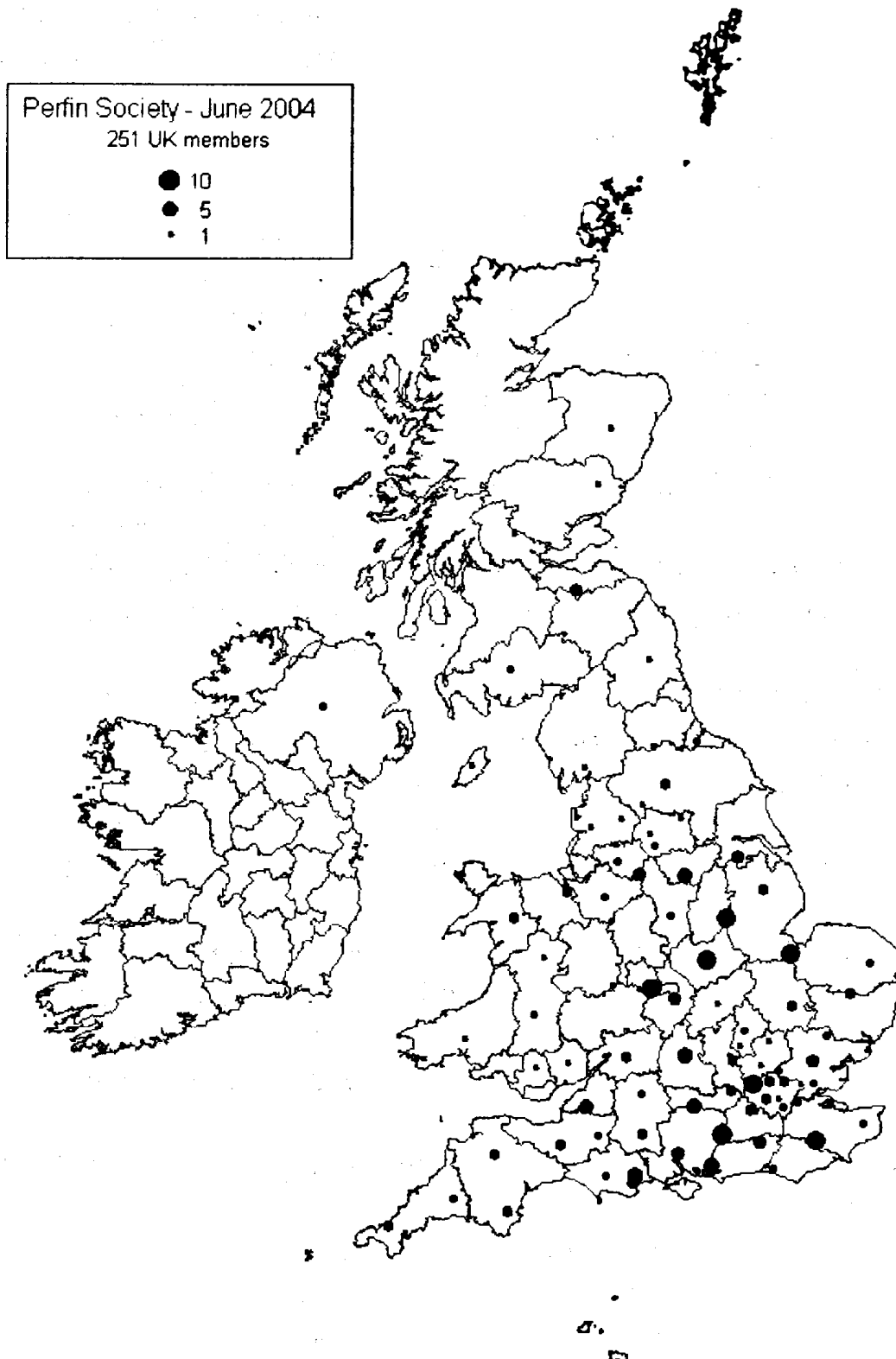
Post Office Archives/Heritage will print an Information Sheet on perfins when they decide their new name. This will put us on a par with the Postman's Bicycle and the Travelling Post Office which all have their own sheets, available to visitors and when they appear at exhibitions etc. This I have based on John Nelson's Handbook and Roy's write up for the Stampshow 2000 Exhibit, but any mistakes are my own!

The new layout at Post Office Archives is even better now. They have many runs of philatelic journals, handbooks and representative Kelly's Post Office Directories on the shelves. They are mounting a small exhibit as well. Who knows, someday it may be perfins.

Forerunners of Perforations. I thought members might be interested in James Mackay's description of the forerunners of perforations in his article in the British Philatelic Bulletin for February 2004. He says that devices for perforating the counterfoils of cheques were certainly in use by banks by 1840. The punctures were produced by a guillotine whose cutting edge terminated in tiny close-set spikes. Such an implement, however, was only capable of cutting fairly large pieces of paper, one stroke at a time. It could not be adapted to the separation of sheets of small stamps, set close together. I have myself, unsuccessfully, tried to find the forerunners of perforations from the St Brides Printing Museum.

Crosse & Blackwell, [SOHO], renowned for their jams and preserves, dropped the SOHO bit from their perfin in 1925. I had assumed this was because they moved but I find they were at 20 Soho Square until after World War 11. I can only surmise that Soho became unfashionable!

Regional Groups. I was interested, when looking at copies of *Air Mail News*, the organ of the British Aerophilatelic Federation, that they have about the same number of members as ourselves but have 5 well established regional groups. Roy has produced a map showing the distribution of our members in the hope that some provincial members may meet as has happened in the past. If you could host such a meeting, do let me know and we can broadcast it in the Bulletin.UK Membership Distribution. Roy Gault.



Map showing the distribution of UK Perfin Society Members as at June 2004. This is based on 'Post Codes' rather than actual addresses, with the 'blobs' usually occurring at the centre of the post code area. Total membership 375.

PERFIN "GIS" from Rosemary Smith

In May I bought a cover which did not have a full identity of the user on the envelope. The envelope was obviously from a private individual, not from a business. I deduced this was because of the size of the envelope, 4½ x 3½", the quality of the paper, the educated hand of the written address and the inscription on the flap in good quality print, "Hurworth upon Tees, Darlington".

The stamp was a 1d lilac, the date JA 4 91 and the post-town "DARLINGTON". The perfin was G2857.01 G.J.S 10,7,13 4½mm. I do not have a loose copy of this perfin to check any postmarks.

I sent all these details to the 'Guru', John Nelson, who wrote back:

Your query, presented a problem to begin with. Hurworth upon Tees in the 1890s was mainly agricultural and noted for the Hurworth Foxhounds but there was very little in the village in the way of commerce or industry. Certainly there was nothing in the commercial director to fit with the initials GJS.

A bit more reading however produced the answer in that among the principal landowners I found George John Scurfield resident at Hurworth House, Hurworth upon Tees, Darlington, C Durham. He is the obvious identity but he does not appear to have been in business of any kind, apart perhaps managing his land, or the holder of any position so there is no indication as to why he needed his own perfin.

I sent these details to Roy as I thought it may be an addition to his "Peerage, Gentry, and Perfins" display which also appears in this Bulletin. Roy replied:

*All the people in my article were a "Sir " or higher in the pecking order. I looked in the 1881 census to see what I could find - bullseye!
George J Scurfield Head Age 71 Occ. Justice of the Peace
George J Scurfield Son Age 29 Occ. Practising Barrister*

Unfortunately, it doesn't help understand why he (presumably the son) might have used a perfin.

English Feudal Titles

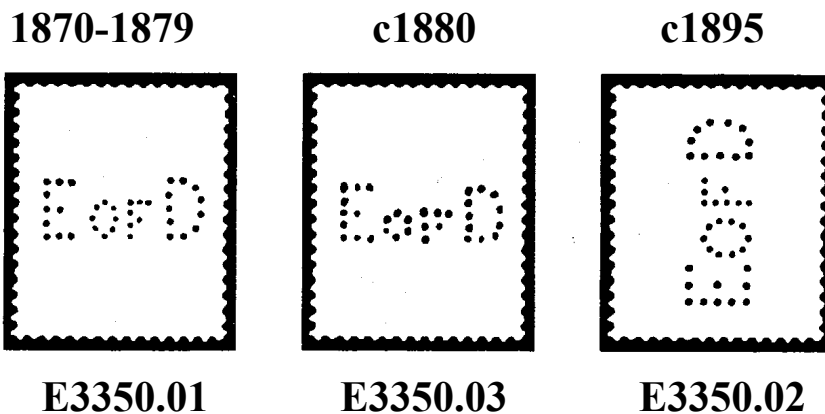
<i>Duke and Duchess</i>	<i>Highest rank</i>
<i>Marquis and Marchioness</i>	<i>2nd highest rank</i>
<i><u>Earl/Count</u> and Countess</i>	<i>3rd highest rank</i>
<i>Viscount and Viscountess</i>	<i>4th highest rank</i>
<i><u>Baron</u> and Baroness</i>	<i>Lowest rank</i>
<i>Baronet/<u>Sir</u> and Lady</i>	<i>Title of honour.</i>

Of the five ranks of peerage/nobility, only two are known to have used perfins - the Earl, and the Baron. However, at least eleven individuals honoured with the title of 'Sir' can be found using perfins, only one of which included the title in the initials.

First the Earls - the 'Earl of Dudley'.

William Ward (1817-1885) was created the 1st Earl of Dudley in 1860, and on his death he was succeeded by his son, William Humble Ward (1867-1932). The estate owned collieries in the Black Country, notably Baggeridge Colliery, the largest in the world at the time, and the Round Oak Steel Works. There was also an Earl of Dudley's Railway - the Pensnett Railway.

Three dies are believed to have been used - the first two by the first Earl, and the last one by his successor. The postmark usually encountered is the '263' duplex of Dudley.

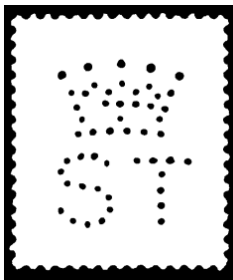


The centre die has only recently been reported and must be quite rare. Known only on a block of four (2x2) QV 1/2d Green 1880 issue.

Earl of Shrewsbury & Talbot.

Again we have two people using the following two perfins - the 20 and 21st Earls of Shrewsbury & Talbot. The 20th Earl was Charles Henry John Chetwynd-Talbot (1860-1921) who, on his death, was succeeded by his grandson John George Charles Henry Alton Alexander Chetwynd Chetwynd-Talbot (1914-1980).

1885-1905



S7050.01



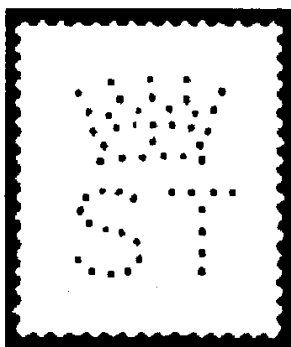
20th Earl

As with the Earl of Dudley, the estate was involved with Collieries, notably the Brereton & Coppice Collieries. However, motorcar enthusiasts will recall the famous '*Sunbeam- Talbot*' marque. It was the 20th Earl who financed a company (Talbot- Cléments) to build French Cléments for the English market.

The first cars emerged from their Ladbroke Grove factory in 1904. Via Talbot-Darracq and a merger with Wolverhampton based 'Sunbeam', they were eventually purchased by Rootes brothers in 1935. The badge shows the Earl's Coronet and a 'Talbot' (Lion).

The countryseat was Alton Towers, now a theme Park, but it was the 20th earl who first opened it up to the public in Victorian times.

1915-1941



S7050.01a

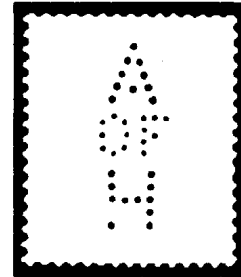
This last die is known to have been a Sloper single headed die, which was destroyed when Sloper's premises were 'Blitzed' by the Luftwaffe in May 1941.

Baron Amherst of Hackney.

William Amherst Thyssen-Amherst (1835-1909) was created the first Baron Amherst of Hackney in 1892. In the 1881 census he is recorded as a member of parliament, but he is also recorded elsewhere as a distinguished *bibliophile and collector of antiquities*.

Just one die is known which was probably used from the time he became a baron until his death in 1909. A pin in the "H" is usually missing which points to the die being single headed.

1892-1909



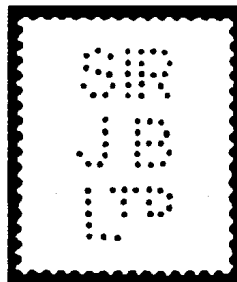
A4390.01

Space doesn't allow a look at all the perfins and individuals involved using the title '*Sir*', but a start is made here with the only known Perfin on G.B. stamps that included it in the initials.

Sir Jacob Behrens (& Sons) Ltd, Stuff Merchants.

Jacob Behrens was born in Germany c1807, but later moved to Bradford where he set up his textile business c1834. He was still alive, aged 74, at the time of the 1881 census, but may well have died by the time the perfin was introduced.

1895-1920



S3870.01

"Sir Jacob Behrens & Sons Ltd" still trade today in Manchester.

This next company involves no less than two notables - Sir William George Armstrong (1810-1900), and (of 'thread' fame) Sir Joseph Whitworth (1803-1887). Amongst various engineering activities, both were renown for their development of ordnance, and after Joseph's death his company was sold (in 1897) to his rival William Armstrong. The combined company was called:

"Sir William George Armstrong, Whitworth & Co Ltd".



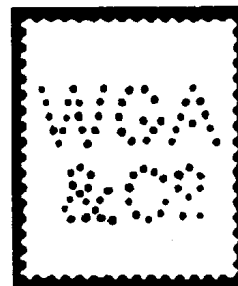
Wm Geo Armstrong



Joseph Whitworth

As far as is known the Manchester based "Whitworth & Co Ltd" never used perfins, but "W G Armstrong & Co Ltd" at Newcastle-on-Tyne used quite a few, the earliest of which is shown alongside.

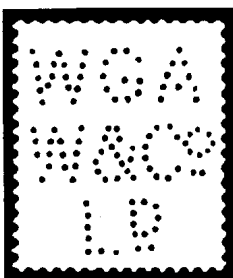
1875-1915



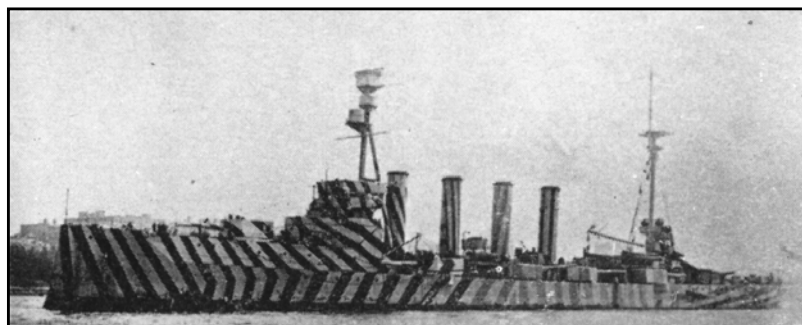
W2970.01

***Sir William George Armstrong Whitworth & Co Ltd* - Elswick.**

1897-1905



W2980.01



HMS Achilles - built at Elswick in 1905.

As well as ships and armaments, 'Armstrong Whitworth' also built Railway Locomotives and Aeroplanes.

We now move to Scotland for the background to this particular perfin and the engineer Sir William Arrol (1839-1913).

Born in Houston (Renfrewshire), he started his working life at the age of 9 in a cotton mill, but later joined a firm of bridge builders in Glasgow. By 1872 he had established his own bridge building business at the *Dalmarnock Iron Works* in Glasgow.

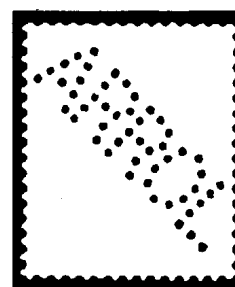


William Arrol was the contractor who built the second Tay Rail Bridge (1882-1887), the cantilever Forth Rail Bridge (1883-1890), and Tower Bridge in London (1886-1894).

He was knighted in 1890.

Just one perfin is suspected as having been used by the civil engineering company he founded, "*Sir William Arrol & Co Ltd*", albeit introduced a few years after his death.

1930-1939



A4805.01

* * * * *

The other notaries who founded companies that used perfins are:

- * Sir Augustus Harris, Playwright & Impresario, London.
- * Sir Joseph Causton & Sons Ltd, Printers, London EC.
- * Sir Lindsay Parkinson & Co Ltd, Contractors, Blackpool & London.
- * Sir WA Rose & Co, Paint, Varnish & Grease Mfrs, London EC.
- * Sir Titus Salt, Worsted Textile Mfr and Philanthropist, Saltaire.
- * Sir Thomas & Arthur Wardle, Silk Dyers & Finishers, Leek.
- * Sir Samuel W Royse & Co Ltd, Chemical Merchants, Manchester.
- * Sir Charles R McGrigor & Co, Army Agents & Bankers, London SW.

Many moons ago, Dave Hill sent me these two illustrations which he had found. I did not think at the time to put them into the Bulletin because the identification of the full name "ARROL" was not proved. It is still only catalogued as a 'possible' but as Roy has mentioned 'Arrol' in the preceding article, I publish them here, as an adjunct to Roy's article. It adds a little more information about the man.

Why should you Vote for
SIR WILLIAM ARROL,
THE UNIONIST CANDIDATE?

BECAUSE the best interests of the Empire and Country will be served by the return of the UNIONIST PARTY to power.

BECAUSE the UNIONIST GOVERNMENT, during five years of power, has encouraged trade and brought good wages to all.

BECAUSE the UNIONIST PARTY has done more than any other party for the People, to whom they gave—

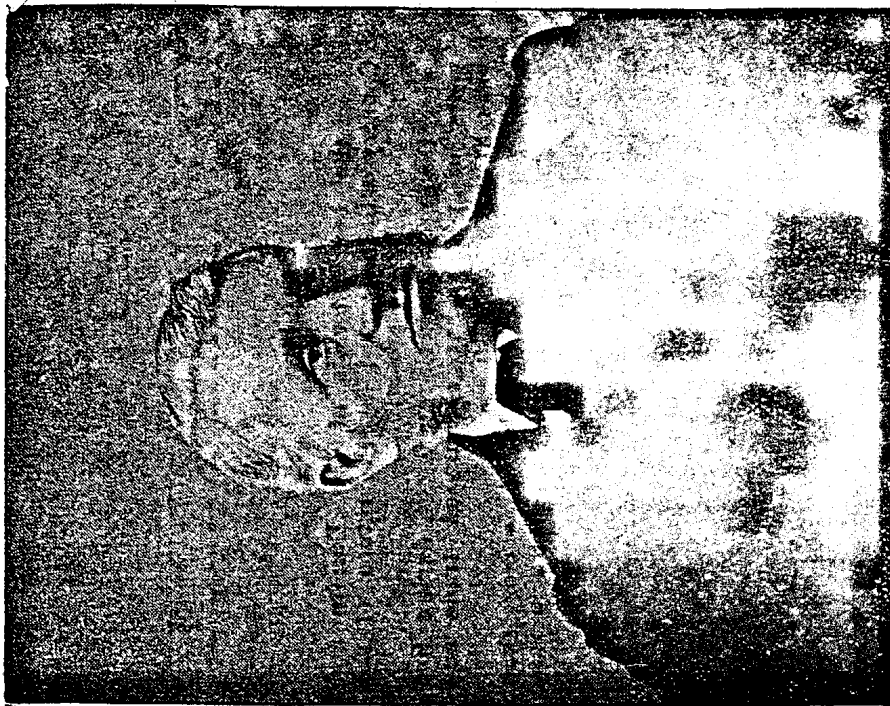
- LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
- TECHNICAL EDUCATION,
- FREE EDUCATION,
- COMPENSATION TO WORKMEN,
- HEALTHIER DWELLINGS,
- ABOLITION OF THE TRUCK ACT,
- AND IMPROVED TRADE.

BECAUSE they pacified Ireland, relieved its distress, and restored its prosperity.

BECAUSE SIR WILLIAM is one of yourselves. BECAUSE he lives among you, and is accessible to every Elector at any time.

BECAUSE he knows your local wants, and can best bring them before Parliament.

BECAUSE he once was a workman himself, and knows the wants and wishes of all classes.

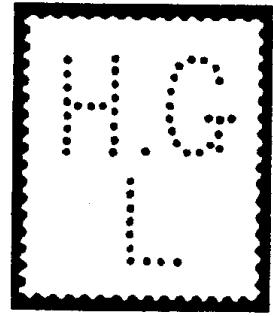


Yours Faithfully
William Arrol

"Perfin Disaster".

Roy Gault

In compiling section 'H' of the new 'Line Engraved Catalogue', the London identity for "H.G/L" (H2930.01), in use 1870-1877, seemed at odds with the '946' duplex postmarks for Middlesbrough usually found on the die. Maurice Harp answered my query with the following information from an 1877 Kelly's London Trade Directory.



Hopkins, Gilkes & Co Ltd - Manufacturers of Rails, Bars and Angle Iron, Chairs, Pipes and all kinds of Cast Iron Work, Locomotive & Stationery Engines, Bridge Work etc.
Works: Middlesbrough.

London office: 25 Laurence Pountney Lane, London EC.

Subsequent research has shown that the company was formed by two Middlesbrough Iron Masters.

Left: William Randolph Innes Hopkins (1827-1920).

Right: Edgar Gilkes (1821-1894).



Edgar Gilkes was born at Nailsworth (Gloucestershire) and came to Middlesbrough in 1843, having previously worked for the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company. William Hopkins (born at Wick, Scotland) came to Teesside in 1850, where, in 1853, he and a certain Mr Snowdon formed the 'Teesside Ironworks'. This later merged to become ***'Hopkins, Gilkes & Co Ltd'***.

Both men became Mayor of Middlesbrough - Gilkes in 1863, and Hopkins in 1866 and again in 1867.

Unfortunately, the company were involved in a number of mishaps. For example, a boiler at their ironworks supplying steam to drive the rolling mills exploded. Scalding steam and flying debris from the blast seriously injured 16 workers, and even hurled men into the River Tees. Sadly, many of the men died on the journey to hospital in Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Just at the time when the company was running into financial difficulties, they were fortunate to secure in July 1874 the contract for the construction of the Tay Bridge. This bridge was designed to carry the railway line linking London via Edinburgh to Dundee and the north, and crossed the Tay estuary at Wormit, Fife. At the time it was the longest bridge in the world, and opened for traffic on 31st May 1878.

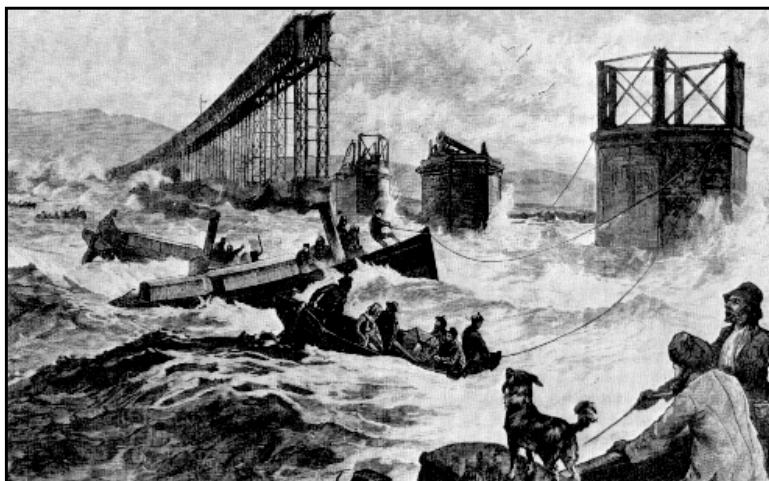


Illustration from the 'Illustrated London News', 3rd January 1880.

Disaster! On the night of the 28th December 1879, a gale force wind of around 80 mph was blowing down the estuary. The central spans of the bridge collapsed and the train of five carriages fell 88 ft into the icy water below. All 75 passengers and crew were killed, although the precise number was never known. At a subsequent Court of Inquiry, the designer of the bridge, Sir Thomas Bouch, was blamed together with Hopkins, Gilkes & Company who were accused of *grave irregularities* at their Wormit foundry on the south bank of the Tay.

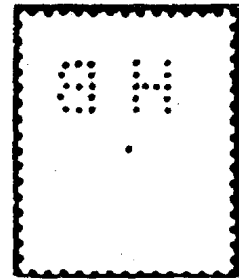
Naturally, such bad press ruined the company, hence the short life of the firm. Hopkins as general manager was finished, and in 1880 he was declared bankrupt.

During the Edwardian Reign, official trials were given to a number of coil machine manufacturers. Each machine produced their own characteristics, i.e., pulled perfs or cut perfs on 2, 3 or 4 sides.

On a one stamp study, namely the KE7 1d, I have noticed that practically all perfinned stamps have cut perfs on all four sides, which would suggest that an in house guillotine was used for separation. I have not seen this observation in print, perhaps too obvious to be worthwhile? I would be interested if members can confirm this on Victorian issues too.

In Dave Hill's article (Bulletin 310 p.10/11) regarding the perfinned stamps of 'S&J Watts', his research on the company revealed that during a proposed change over from underprinting to perfinned stamps, the "trial" was abandoned because the perfin used had problems with the sheets breaking up. Was this due to stamps being parted by hand and not by a guillotine?

On two copies of perfin H0365.01 (HB/.), one dated FE 10 02, both show cut perfs on 4 sides. Do those on Victorian issues? This perfin also shows an unexplained dot below 'H' of perfin hole size diameter.



Figures 1 to 3 are unperfinned stamps, cut sides on 4 sides with a single hole (perfinned size as M.) and dated before official coil trials began. So some form of gripper can be ruled out. The horizontal dimensions to the hole centres are the same. Can any member comment?

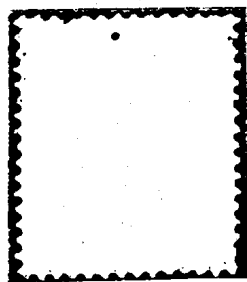


Fig 1
1903

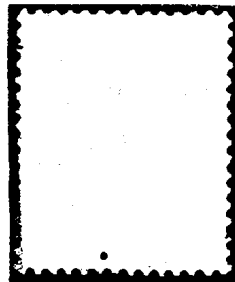


Fig 2
Dec '03
Gravesend

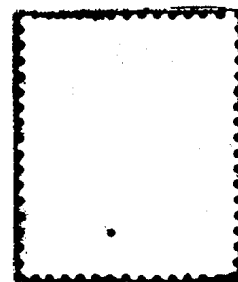


Fig 3
Oxford

SEEN IN AUCTION

Sent in by Frank Brown from various auctions - and dates.

Rhodesia (British South Africa)

- 1896-97 Large Arms, perfined "USEW" - uncanceled 10s SG 50 and fiscally cancelled difficult £ 1 SG 73 Est £34
 - 1898 £10 SG 93 with 'date' perfin & a 'cleaned' fiscal cancel Est £60
 - 1898 £20 SG 93a perfin "USED" and 'date' perfins on 1898 £1 blackish-purple SG 90a, £ 10 SG 93 & 1909 £1 SG 113, fiscal cancels Est £200
 - 1922-24 Admirals £1 deep magenta SG 311 "BSA/C" perfin used fiscal cancel, fine and very striking appearance Est £40
 - "BSA/C" perfin on postally used 1898 Is and apparently unused 1898 £5 SG 92 & 1909-12 £2 rosy-brown on blued SG 113d Est £80
- *****
- **Hong Kong HSBC Perfins** A very long description in the catalogue but range from KE7, KGV, KGVII (c30, many high values), plus other company perfins -Ceylon (c25), Straits Settlements (c12), India (c4) many up to \$2 or 25r. Est £200/£250
 - GB Perfins unchecked hoard of 100's in a large envelope QEII 1970/80's - many diff. types and many diff values also packets containing perfins from QV. Good original lot Est £80/£1 00

These latter two were from Philangles sale and they are still putting in the German (£1600/£1800) and European (£220/£250) lots.

At the London meeting someone gave me a "Rushstamps" priced catalogue.

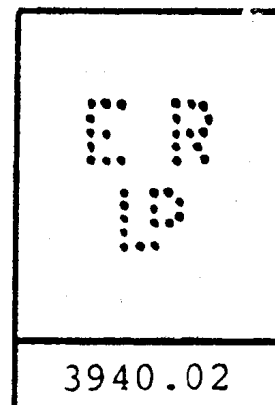
Unpicked G.B. Mixture

- 1900 ½2d green Jubilee. Cut rather than torn from cover. 95% of stamp intact. Inc. 7%-10% perfins. 1000 stamps+ £22-50
- QV to early KGV. Mainly on paper, shades, pmks, perfins etc. 2200 stamps £65.00; 4500 stamps £120.00
- KE8 on paper. 3 lower val only. Unpicked, perfins etc. 250 grams £25
- 1934,1936 & 1937 3 Kings on paper. Vals to 1½d. Unpicked. perfins, wmks, inverted/sideways etc. 250 grams £25; 500 grams £45.

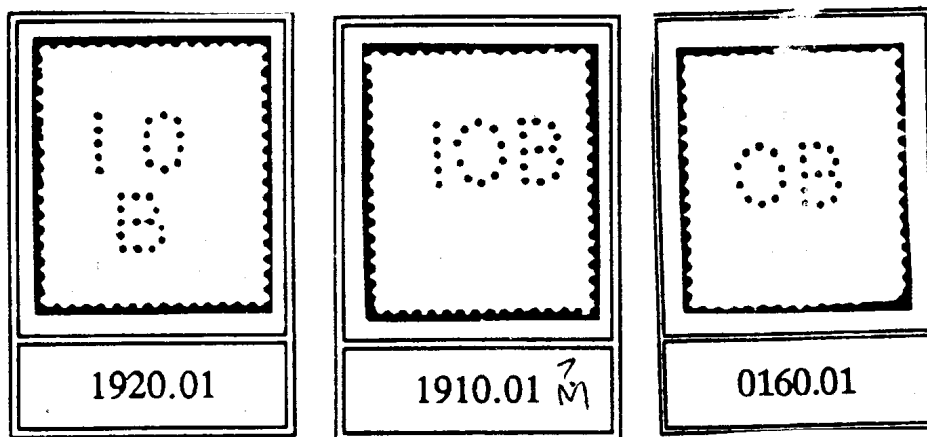
MEMBERS' QUERIES/WANTS

The first four of these comes from our Secretary, **Dave Hill**.

- I have perfin E3940.02 (ER/Ld) with a "British Goods are Best" slogan postmark which was used in 1925 and 1926. It has a partial town postmark of CARD... which I assume is Cardiff. E3940.01 is a similar perfin but used c1952 by Evans & Reid Coal Co. Ltd., Shipbrokers. Can anyone confirm that Evans & Reid were about in 1926 so they could be possible users of the earlier perfin ?

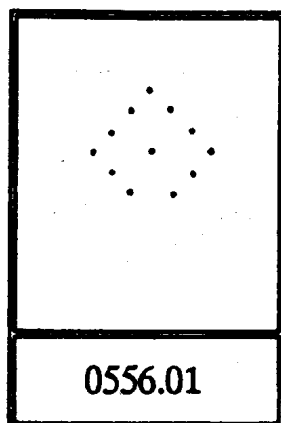


- I recently came across an accumulation of **IMPERIAL OTTOMAN BANK** perfins. They used "IO/B" from 1910-21 and just a straight "IOB" from 1921-30, even though they changed their name to plain Ottoman Bank in 1925. (This was some years after World War I when the Ottoman Empire collapsed.) From 1929-55 their die reflected this change and was just "OB". I have seen the "IOB" die on seahorses with two impressions so was it a multi die? Certainly, the "OB" die was, I have seen it on KGV1 commemoratives.

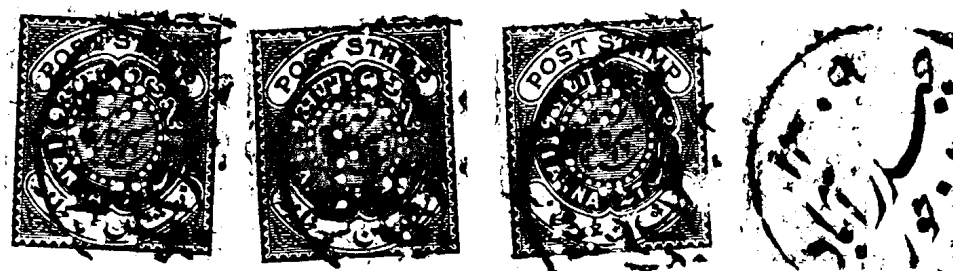


- **Design 05560.01 - Stop in Diamond** - has two users so I looked them up in Kelly's in PO Archives. *H Halford & Co*, 26 Change Alley is the earliest user, cover dated 23-3-81. They are listed in a 1880 Kelly's but not in the 1884. *G Ross & Co*, 80 Cornhill used the perfin on 13-3-83 and are listed in both the 1880 and 1884 Kelly's. Cornhill runs on one side of the Royal Exchange, where stockbrokers did business. Change Alley is actually Exchange Alley, shortened, and runs behind the Exchange. No real conclusions apart from the fact

they were near neighbours and both were Stockbrokers. So it might have been a takeover or borrowing of stamps when one firm was out of stock. If you have covers for either of these firms, with the design perfin Des 0556.01, please write in with details, or in fact, any information relevant to the firms. Why the use of this particular design? The Editor has the G Ross 1883 cover and there is no logo on the cover to suggest a possible link.



What Is It? I came across another foreign perfin which must have a story worth telling in the Bulletin. Do you know anything about it? The stamps are tile 1871-1909 issue of Hyderabad with the perfin "S.J.E." (The reproduction leaves something to be desired.) Again the postmark in native script hides the date and place of use. India was early with stamps with the "Scinde Dawkes" in 1852 although these perfins may date from the end of the period of issue.



Stephen Steere has found a part identity on piece for die G.F (G1720.01). The stamp is postmarked Liverpool on 29 Aug 1902. Can anyone complete the details to uncover the full name and address? I have G. Fl---- , 56 Victor(ia St?), Telephone no. 1175.

HISTORY OF FIRMS USING PERFINS

MAPLES THE FURNISHERS

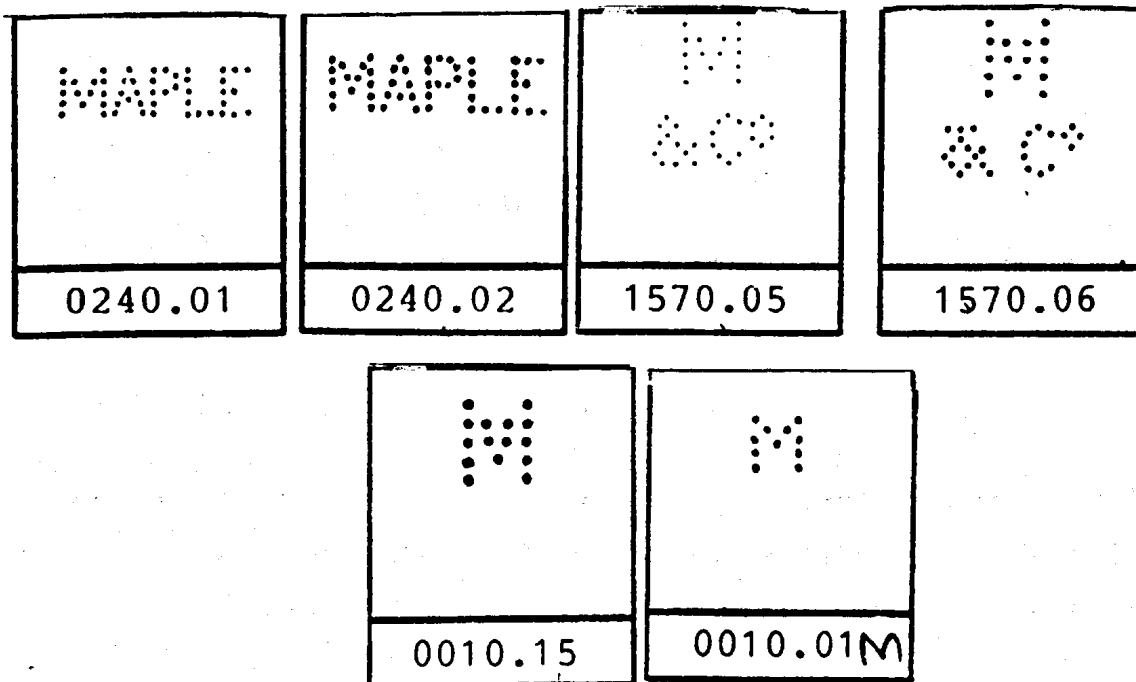
from Dave Hill

This story is from a press release which Arthur Harris got from Maples some years ago.

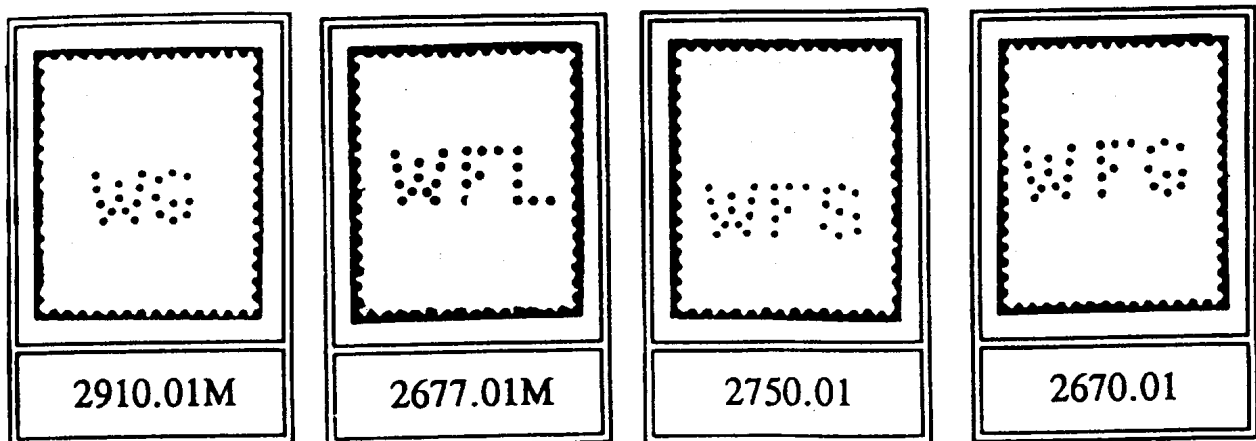
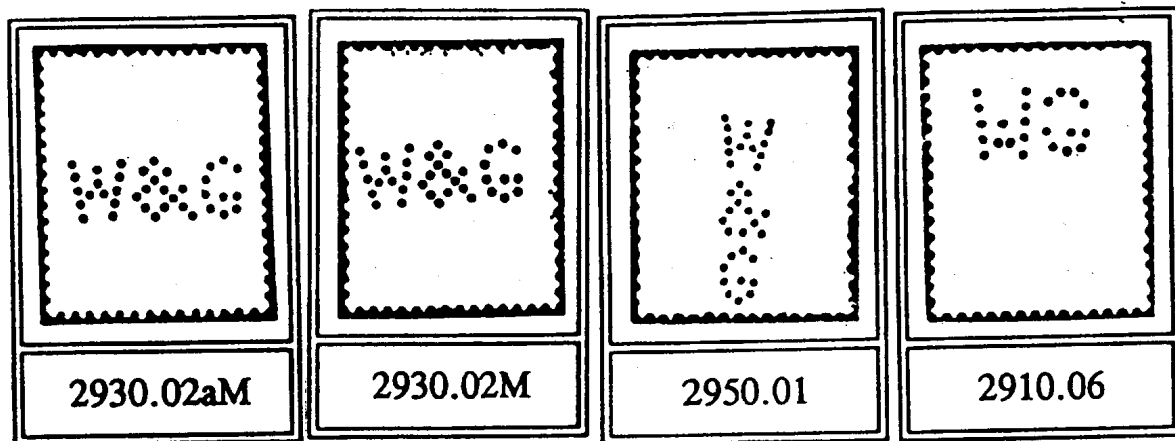
In 1841, 26 years old John Maple opened a drapers shop in London under the curious trade sign "Hen & Chickens". Soon he was describing himself as a "General Furnishing Warehouseman". Advertising and the famous illustrated "Maples Catalogue" spread the name to the suburbs. Within 20 years the firm increased 30 times in size and became a household name.

In the 1930s branches were opened in the seaside towns of Brighton and Bournemouth as well as abroad in Paris, Buenos Aires and Montivedeo. Maples joined forces with Waring and Gillow in 1980 and were then bought by Allied, Britain's leading carpet and furnishing retailers. In the 1990s new style stores were opened in Leeds and London.

Maples. used the full name perfins 'MAPLE' M0240.01 (c1885) and M0240.02 (1870-90). They used 'M/Co' M1570.05 (1890-1915) and a similar die M1570.06M (1905-1915). From 1920 to 1930 they used a single letter 'M' (M0010.15) and from 1941 shared the Sloper 12 wide die M0010.01 M with other users.



Waring and Gillow's first machines were made between 1900 and 1902, all 'W&G', 2 Sloper single head and 1 x 4 head, all W2930.02aM and these were used until 1935. A similar 4 head machine was added in 1905 and used till 1945, W2930.02M. 'W/&G' (W2950.01) was used from 1929-39 and a POKO machine 'WG' (W2910.06) from 1932-39. Again after the war they shared 'WG' (W291 0.0 1 M) [Sloper 12x 11 with other users. (Although the envelopes only have 'W&G Ltd' on the flap this is almost certainly Waring & Gillow.)



They became **Allied Carpets**, but whether this is Allied Furniture Centres Ltd, Sheffield, who were previously Williams Furniture Supermarkets (perfin WFS); Williams Furniture Ltd., (perfin WFL) or W&S Williams Ltd., (perfin WFG for Williams Furniture Gallery) I do not know. I have asked about Williams before through the Bulletin, thinking that someone may have first hand recent knowledge.

Answers to Members' Queries.

Identity of 'W&W' perfin

Bulletin 321 (Dec.2002) N.I. Page 211.

In the New Identity pages this perfin, W&W, W7950.03 had been reported on a piece of a receipt dated 12-9-27 with just the letter ' ilson Ltd'. Postmarks on loose stamps were Croydon. It is known that this perfin was in use from 1900 to 1930.

Walter Green wrote in to say that he was sure the firm were WILSON LTD, George Street, Croydon, a firm who were specialists in Tea & Coffee. They also had a cafe in George Street.

Once again I passed these details onto John Nelson to see if he could come up with further information about the first (or second) 'W' in the perfin. He was unable to find anything of relevance in his directories. Now we have a possibility, is there anyone else with local knowledge of the area who can suggest why the two 'Ws'?

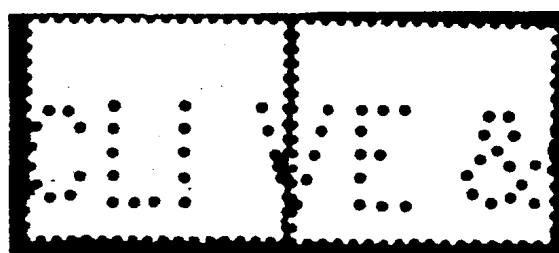
Is It Really 'CLIVE & Co'?

Bulletin 330 Page 27

Mike Hemsall sent his 'once joined' vertical pair of stamps to Roy Gault for his inspection. Roy has this reply.

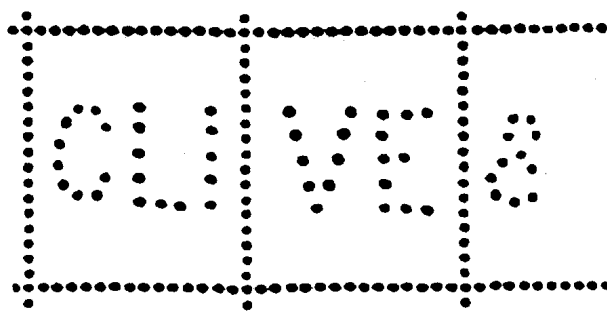
The illustration in the Bulletin (329 N.I. Page 240) was re-constructed from a number of loose examples so it's likely to be a little inaccurate. It was placed against a background strip of three to explain the 'gap' in the "CLIVE" lettering. It was only intended as a quick visual reference.

After analysing your stamps closely, I'm 100% positive that they once read "CLIVE &" rather than "..VE &CLI.." For the purpose of the following I've called the example with "CLI V" the "C" stamp, and "VE &" the "&" stamp.



- [a] There are two long perfs near the base of the "V" on the "C" stamp which marry with two short perfs at the base of the "V" on the "&" stamp. Joining the stamps by *matching the long and short perforations* automatically makes it read "CLIVE &".
- [b] If you overlay precisely one stamp on top of the other, (matching the stamp perforations exactly), you can see that the holes forming the base of the 'L' align with the holes forming the base of the "E". There is no ½mm difference. Sliding one of the stamps by one stamp perforation will show all 7 pins of the 'L' lining up with the corresponding pins forming the "E". Hence there is *no discernible misalignment* between the "CLI" and 'VE' portions of the re-constructed die.
- [c] The re-joining the two stamps the 'other' way round *seems* to the naked eye to match the 'nibbled' edge of the "&" stamp with the "C" of the "C" stamp breaking through the stamp perforations. However, this places the "&" *uncomfortably close* to the "C", and is highly unlikely to have been made like this.
- [d.] Finally, your enlarged illustration of the two stamps matched as point [c] above show the holes to the back of the "C" would have to be *elongated/oval* to connect to the 'nibbled' portions of the '&' stamp. Again, this is not likely.

But what can we take from this, apart from the (near?) complete and the date extension to c1915. There is another possibility in that the die could have been in two lines, i.e. "CLIVE &/Co". If so, the two part-holes breaking into the stamp perforations next to the "&" could be the part of the "C" of "CLIVE" from a neighbouring strike. However, I'll stick with "CLIVE &" until more examples come to light.



C4523.01 (Blanket Die)

PERFINS ON THE STAMPS OF CRETE

From Kenneth Kloss

I seem to recall some mention of the Crete revenue stamps with 'X' perfin in the GUS Bulletin not too long ago, so I thought the enclosed photocopies might be of interest. They show the front and back of a document fragment to which is attached two strips of the 20L red stamp with 'X' perfins. Multiples are, I think, scarce."

Ed.--- Looking back through the Bulletins, the particular items mentioned by Kloss were not stamps with an X' but the ones with the number '28' on them. This was in Bulletin 318 Pg 14-15; 320 Pg. 19 and 321 Pg. 12-13. The original article came to the notice of The Forces Postal History Group and they were delighted that Alastair Walter, our Librarian, found the nearest explanation of this perfin in various philatelic journals in our own library material. I wonder if anyone can come tip with the answer to this puzzle? The illustrations do not show a date or location so perhaps that would be a starting point.



Ν. Χ. Παπαδάκης (Τ.Ε.)

Οόφια κρημνιστά σπάγξυς ιδί τού σφυλοκώου
ταίω.

Τη 4 Νοεμβρίου 1310

Ο σφυλοκώου

Μεταδάκης Κρίσ. (Τ.Ε.)

MODERN PERFINs

Derek Ransom

Things are looking up. 7 requests now for the full list of Modern Perfin. The following are additions reported by Chris Carr, Rosemary Smith and myself since the June Bulletin.

New Values

C0775.01	CB/H	1st M	add to 21st Cent list
C5647.01	COV/HA	1st M	add to 21st Cent list
K0260.01	KC	2nd p	add to 21st Cent list - Jun 2003
L0430.02	LB/H	2nd	
M2755.01	MGN	1st M	add to 21st Cent list
N2710.06	NR	1st p	missing centre pin - report others
S1210.01	SC	1st M	add to 21st Cent list
W3456.01	W/HA	1st p	

I make this to be 29 dies used this century. Please keep reporting any elliptical perfin with recent dates.

BoT PERFIN FORGERIES

The Saga Continues

By Dr Tam Llewellyn-Edwards

I had a great interest in John Nelson's article on this subject (Bulletin 330). It would seem that some BoT Perfins are indeed forgeries.

Although the forgers were not named nor brought to justice it now seems clear that some of these perfins are indeed forgeries and sadly forgeries produced by philatelists. However, this aspect of our hobby will never die and the controversy goes on. In his article, John Nelson asks which are the forgeries - and don't we all.

It is surprising that the discovery of the forgeries has not been disclosed before and it just goes to show how completely an accusation can be buried if those powerful enough want it buried.

There is no evidence in the Mack's Stamp Review article to help us identify the forged die, but we do have some circumstantial evidence. The forgery was produced sometime in the first years of the 20th century. There were a 'large' number of forgeries produced and they were (allegedly) produced by knowledgeable philatelists. The machine used to produce the forgeries was based on a design taken from a genuine perfin, and John Nelson suggests that the machine used was a single die machine.

This all leads me to suggest that the forged perfin is in fact the design we have previously listed as Die 2 (Small holes) and which has previously been considered genuine. A suggestion that this was a forged die has been made before - in the book "G.B. Official Perfins" and elsewhere, but it had generally been considered as a genuine die.

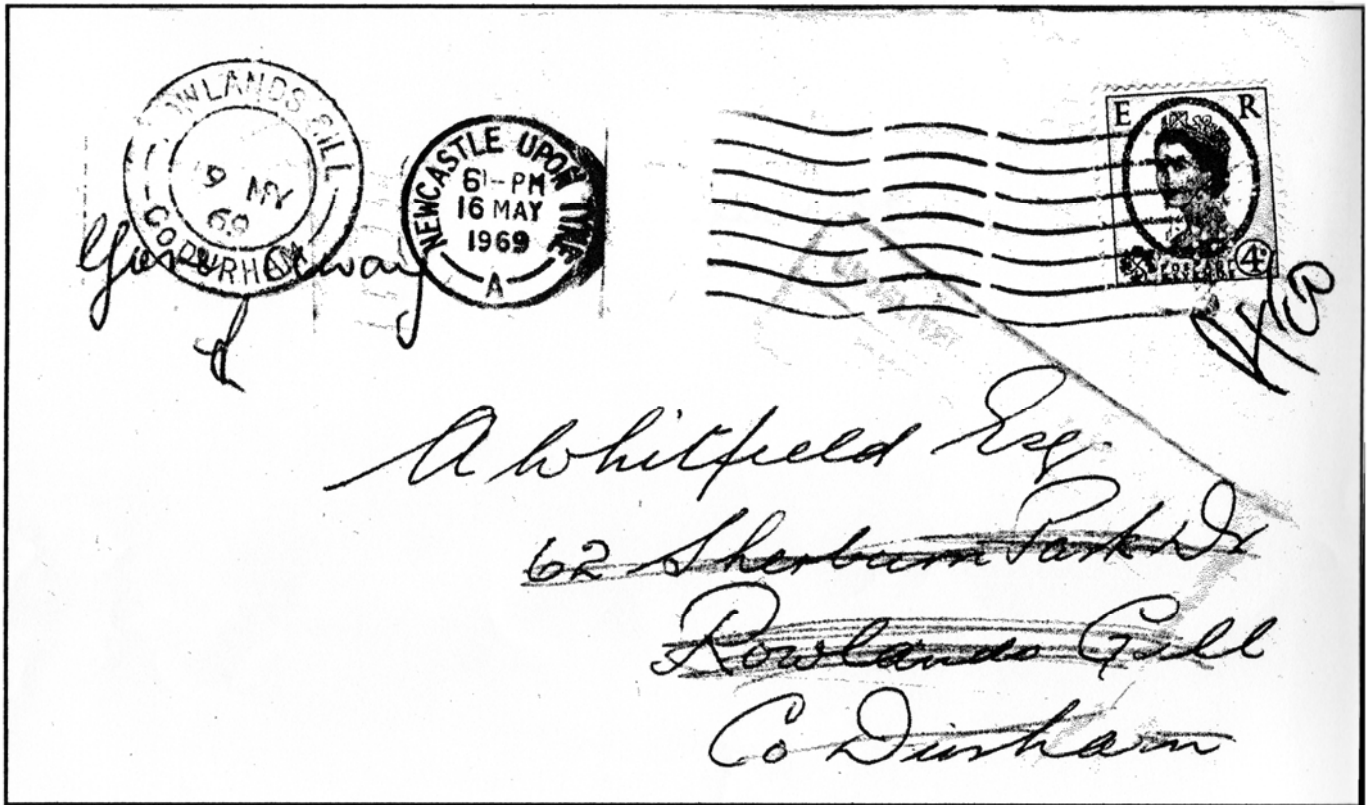
If Die 2 (Small holes) is a forgery it would satisfy the evidence above. It only appears on later issues (including a suspicious number of mint stamps), there are relatively large numbers of this forgery, and they are largely on 'correct' issues. I look forward to others adding to this evidence or refuting it.

What then of the host of other dies suspected as forgeries? Some of them may be examples of single die machines used officially by the Board, but others are, I am sure, forgeries. Some of these are well made and could well be officially produced dies (or even the forged die referred to in the Mack's Stamp Review article), but others are poorly produced and must surely be forgeries. Perhaps the knowledge of the production of forgeries, which seems to have been wide in philatelic circles encouraged others to try their hand at a little illicit perfinning.

I would not want to leave this article without giving a little ground for controversy so I will end with some facts that may point to the Die 2 (Small holes) being genuine. I must have seen a mint vertical strip of SG 271 with such even spacing that it must have been produced by a multi-headed machine, and like John Nelson, I cannot believe that the forgers would produce such an expensive machine when a cheaper single die machine would suffice. Also I have in my collection an unused example of SG 188 (which must be more valuable unperfined), which appears to be Die 2 (Small holes). It has a British Association Expert Committee certificate as genuine. The certificate is dated 1958, which is after Capt. Jackson's original disclosure of the existence of fakes and after the Mack's Stamp Review article.

So if the forgery is not Die 1 (Small holes) which is the forged die? Based on the numbers that appear to be in circulation I would suggest either "GB Official Perfins" Type 1 or Type 3 (which are probably Nos 9 & 13 in Nelson's earlier articles in the Bulletin). However, both of these are known used on 'impossible' issues which the forgers, if they were philatelists, should have known to avoid.

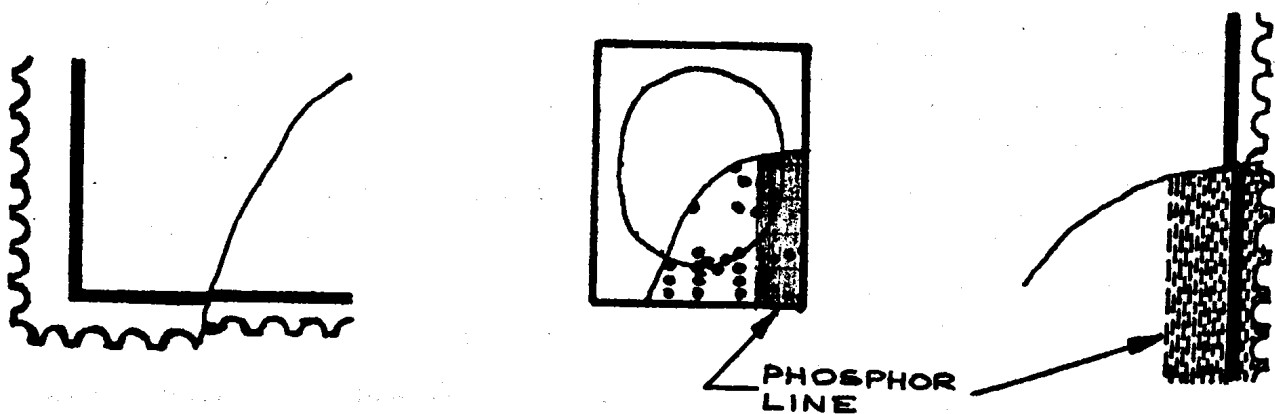
I doubt we will ever get to the bottom of this but I would be delighted to hear what others think, and of any further evidence which may be lurking in the collections of others. For the time being I reserve my position until I have seen and evaluated everybody's additional evidence.



The envelope illustrated was purchased over 40 years ago from a local society exchange packet. The reason for the purchase was the violet 'RETURN TO SENDER' cachet (*the cachet is actually stronger than shown*). Later scrutiny of the 'stamp' however revealed it was a fraud having been made up of pieces of two stamps.

Several similar cacheted items had been bought at the same time and one of them had triggered the closer look at all the cacheted covers. The first to be examined appeared to show the Queen with two mouths!! Examination with a magnifying glass soon revealed the reason for the two mouths. The 3d 'stamp' had been made from uncancelled halves of two different stamps but the parts had not been perfectly matched.

The 4d stamp on this illustrated cover was an even worse fake. The fraudster had cut a circular part of one stamp, thus removing the postmark, and then cut an uncancelled piece to fit. The larger part was from a non-phosphor 4d stamp whereas the added piece was taken from a phosphor lined PERFINNED stamp!!



It is believed the fraudster's daughter had the responsibility of taking her employer's daily post with the appropriate amount of petty cash at the end of the day. She was taking the mail home where her father was applied his fakes and pocketed the petty cash. The fraud would never have come to light had some of the envelopes not been returned to the firm. The fraudster obviously had asked his daughter to bring home any envelopes with extra markings. These he put into the philatelic society exchange packet without realising some of them bore his fakes.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Jeff Turnbull

At last the "**Stampshow 2000**" booklet is on sale. This 71 page, A4 size, metal comb bound book has the original 64 page display which provoked many appreciative comments from the philatelic public at Stampshow 2000. Roy Gault has added extra pages of additional valuable perfin information. The whole is in colour, which shows the material to advantage.

Roy Gault has painstakingly produced all the copies on his colour copier and when I say that each page takes 6 minutes to copy, you can appreciate how much time and effort have gone into this labour of love. This book is a must for anyone who is a serious collector of perfin material. It gives a thumb-nail sketch of almost every aspect of the hobby. Orders from Jeff Turnbull as usual.

Prices are:- Home £18; Europe/World by Sea £19; Rest of World Airmail £21-50p. These prices include P & P.

NEW DIE "MJE" - M. J. ELLINGSEN

A Tale of Two Covers

By Rosemary Smith

In 1984 I bought an entire at Stampex for a very reasonable price. It was dated OCT 31 1885, postmarked Edinburgh duplex 131, the stamp was the 2½d lilac of the 188-3 issue. The perfin was a new one to my 'book of covers' which I carried round to all stamp fairs.

When I returned home and checked in the perfin catalogues available at that time, I discovered that not only was it a new identity but it was a new die too. I duly reported it to the Catalogue/Bulletin Editor, Tony Edwards. It appeared in the April 1985 Bulletin as a new identity but had not been given a catalogue number.

When the Edwards Catalogue was published, slowly a letter at a time, the die was given a number, M3335.01, but there was no illustration, just typed 'MJE'. This state of affairs must have continued until Roy Gault began his *Illustrated Catalogue with Details*.

When I received my worksheet for the "MJ" dies of the 'M' section, I found that M3335.01 was still only typed as "MJE" and at the side were the words, "*Without an illustration, This will be deleted!*" Naturally I sent the cover to Roy, in some trepidation I may add because of letters being lost in the post. It was obvious that this was a rather rare cover.

When I sent the cover to Roy I also told him the second part of this story. He it is that thinks this whole tale is worth the telling.

The following year, 1985, I was once again at Stampex. One of my dealer friends who saved items for me, showed me a cover and, although it did not have a perfin on, he thought it might interest me as the stamp was overprinted. He had assumed it was another security device.

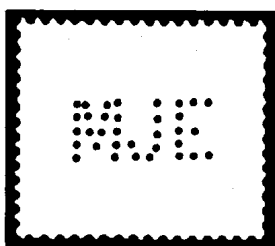
Imagine my surprise when I saw an entire almost identical to the one from M.J. Ellingsen which I had purchased the previous year from a different dealer. This later entire was dated 26 MY 1886, again from

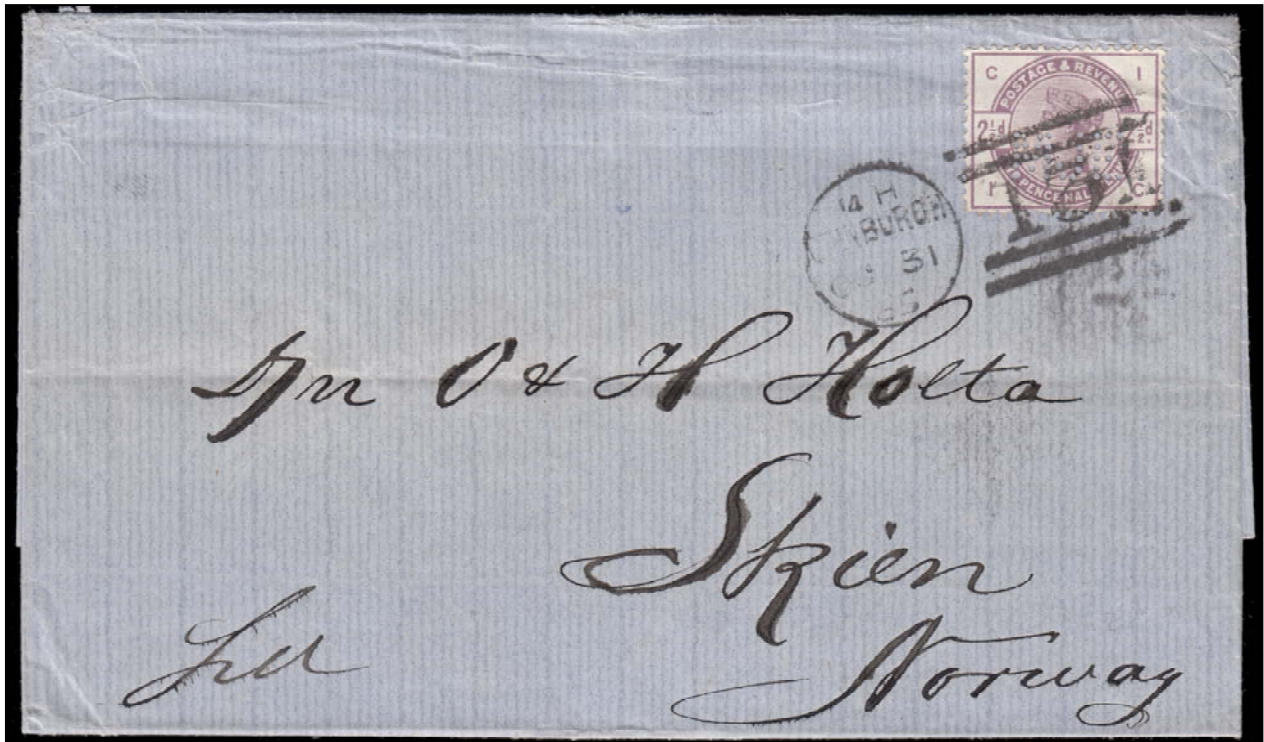
Edinburgh with the same 2½d stamp and actually addressed to the same firm in Norway. The stamp is overprinted in carmine with **M.J.E.**

The dealer had this entire on a sheet with a photocopy of a page from the June 1985 Gibbons Stamp Monthly. The article was headed, *Overprinted Stamps and Advertising Rings for Private Firms 1856-90*. The relevant passage in this article was highlighted and it read, **"In spite of the ban on the overprinting on the face of stamps in 1867, several instances are known used in the 1880s. A particularly interesting example of a late use was recently found, and is shown in figure 1. This cover was used from Edinburgh to Norway with an 1883/4 2½d (S.G.210) overprinted in bright carmine 'M.J.E.' which from the contents proved to stand for M.J.Ellingsen, Shipbrokers of Leith and dated February 1886."**

As the entire being offered was three months later than the one mentioned in the article, and the price being asked was 25 times the price of the entire from the year before, my cautious nature about such coincidences came into play. I examined the entire very, very closely with my glass but the black postmark was definitely laid **over** the overprint so I was satisfied that this was not a forger at work with his bull-dog outfit and carmine ink. I told my friendly dealer that I would think about it. It was only mid morning and I had lots of other dealers to see. Would my money last out, I asked myself? However, mid afternoon came, I had not spent all my 'spending money', so I returned to the original stand. The entire was still there and the deal made.

It is only since filling in the 'M' worksheets and being told by Roy that the perfin cover may be a unique item that I have really appreciated that I have an interesting pair of covers. I have shown them at a few Philatelic Societies when I have displayed "Perfins" but I never thought to stress their importance. Are there any more lurking out there? If so tell Roy.





Aleksander Stocki: Enigmatic Philatelist

In Bulletin 282/23; 285/8; 293/8 there were references to the perforin "WP" found on French stamps 1939-45. One of these articles (Bull 293) was from Roy Reader. He and George Kay have published a book which includes the known facts about these perforins. I am including here all the information on the advertising leaflet as it could be of interest to collectors of other philatelic material.

Aleksander Stocki - army officer, philatelist and stamp dealer - went through his early life unfailingly leaving controversy in his wake, right from his days in Warsaw as officer and stamp dealer until his time in the Polish Army in exile first in France from January 1940 and then in Scotland from June 1940 until the end of World War II and beyond.

This book presents an impartial survey of Stocki's life and activities and, in so doing, explores the controversies that arose around him. Was he, for example, involved in some sort of skulduggery with the Warsaw-Tokyo Flight labels in 1926? Did this result in his being forced to leave the army? In France, was he involved in the perforating of French postage stamps with the letters 'WP' supposedly for use on mail sent by the Polish War Office in Paris? And were these stamps ever genuinely used on such mail? Moreover, how was it that he could turn up in Scotland with a lot of these stamps in his possession for sale? Also in Scotland, was genuine use ever made of the very many labels and small number of date-stamps produced by him supposedly for use by the Polish and other Allied Field Post Offices? Was he in reality the H.M.Smith whose name appeared as author on the cover of a 1946 catalogue of wartime Polish postal material? And why did his sales drive in Poland in 1947-48 bring down the wrath of the Polish philatelic press upon him? Finally, what eventually became of him when he seemed to disappear, with at least one person believing that he had gone to Palestine and another that he had set up a huge wholesaler's business in the Bahamas, Malta or some other Commonwealth country?

These, then, are some of the questions that this book examines in its survey of Stocki's life and activities. In some cases it is clear whether the controversy around him was justified or not; in other cases, the reader will have to make his own mind up from the evidence. The book will

certainly help the collector to identify philatelic material produced partly or entirely by Stocki. It will also help the collector to decide for himself whether this material is worthy of his album or just of the dustbin. The book's sixty-four pages include numerous illustrations, a catalogue of Stocki's labels produced in Scotland and key documents difficult or impossible to find in the United Kingdom.

The book **Aleksander Stocki: Enigmatic Philatelist** can be obtained from R.E.Reader

The cost per book is £9.50 plus postage & packaging (£1.50 within the United Kingdom, £2.50 to Europe, £4.00 to other destinations abroad). The sum of £10 must be added to cheques from abroad to cover bank charges. Cheques should be made payable to R.E. Reader. Orders will normally be sent out within ten days of receipt.

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS Rosemary Smith

There is still a deathly silence over a replacement Editor. Comments have come in, such as:- *"Dear Rosemary, (Editor for Life?!)"* and *"I'm sorry you have not been flooded with offers to take over the editing of the magazine. This could well be a reflection of people not wishing to look poor in the light of the work you have put in so successfully in your time as Editor "*.

I have stressed this before - it is only by being the Editor, receiving so much material, access to past Bulletins, catalogues etc., that my knowledge about perfins has grown. Whoever takes over as Editor will find it a very rewarding task. Without an Editor, the Society will fold: it is the only means of contacting members.

Even though there are no offers for Editor, I am appreciative of the articles sent in for the Bulletin. It does mean that the Bulletin is a good size once again.

Lastly, John Donner had a page to spare in the Auction list and I have put in the **Perfins on KGV Silver Jubilee Issues** and the **Perforated Foreign Bill Stamps**. If you add these to your catalogues, don't miss it.

PERFINS ON KGV SILVER JUBILEE ISSUES

George Greenhill

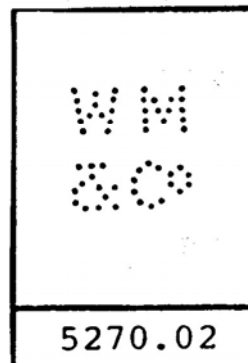
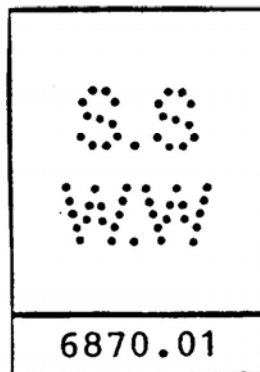
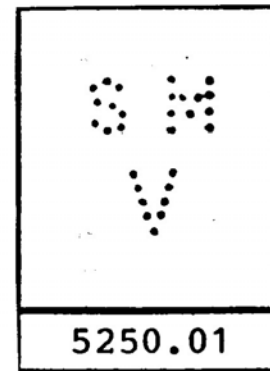
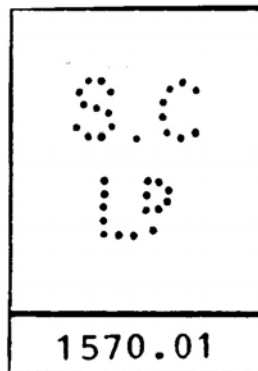
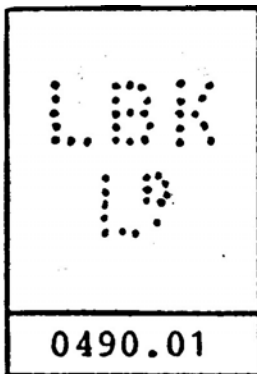
The following can be added to your Silver Jubilee Perfin Catalogue

New Values

D4540.01	DS/Ltd	1½d	M0010.23	M	1½d
T1100.08	TC/∑S	½d	U1790.01	US/L	1½d
W0420.05	W.B	½d	W2300.01M	WE/L	1d

New Dies

L0490.01	LBK/Ld	1½d	S1570.01	S.C/Ld	1½d
S5250.01	SM/V	½d	S6870.01	S.S/W.W	½d
W5270.02	WM/∑Co	½d			



PERFORATED FOREIGN BILL STAMPS

Jeff Turnbull

In use: 1916-1920+
Dates: 13-7-192—
Issues: EDVII 15/-, GV, 1/-

Ident: Charles J Hambro & Son,
70 Old Street, London EC.

New illustrated
Cat No C

