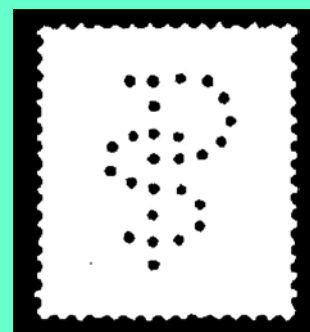


# ***G.B. PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN***



No. 356 – October 2008



**This is a used example of the only private perfin ever recorded from the Falkland Islands. It is thought to have been used by the retail store of Mr. Charles Williams, Port Stanley, East Falklands between the years 1904-1907**

**SECRETARY/TREASURER – Stephen Steere**

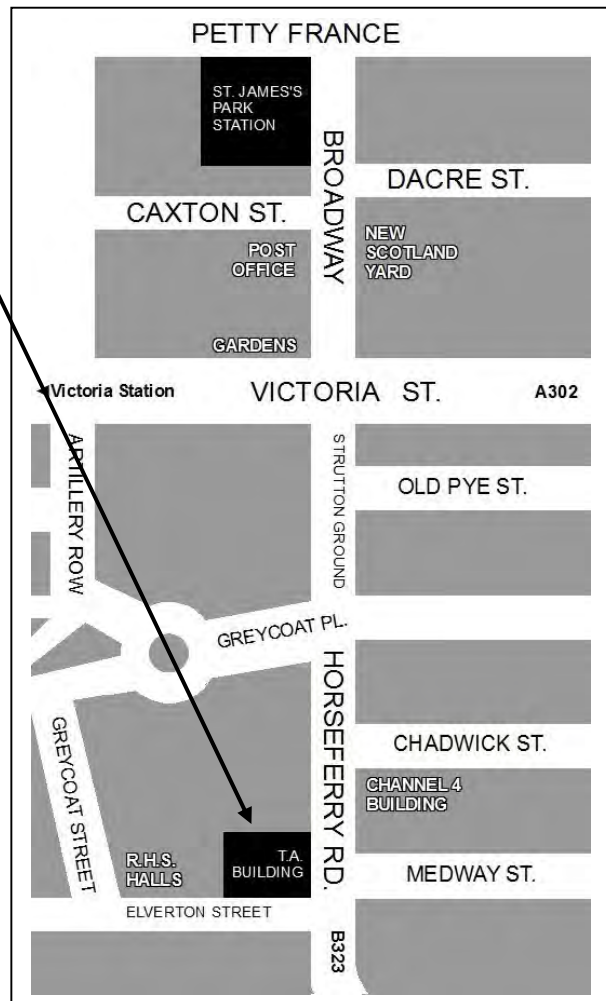
Thank you to all of you who have wished me well in my new role, and who have sent in their Subscriptions, which I really appreciate. Can I please ask that you do not put Secretary or Treasurer in my address, as some envelopes have been tampered with, no doubt someone looking for cash. A quick reminder that the AGM in London is slightly later this year on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2008 due to a change of venue. Full details are published overleaf, but if you need any advice on getting there then contact me. I do not believe we will have cups provided, so bring your own if you dislike paper ones!

A new internet bank account for the Society is now in operation, and has the ability for the Society GB members to receive direct payments by online transfer, and also for the Society to pay money directly into member accounts without having to send a cheque, (traditional payment by cheque will remain). For overseas or GB members I have opened a PayPal account, though members using it must pay an extra charge to cover fees incurred for whatever is being paid for. These are a £1 minimum charge for sums up to and including £20, and thereafter a figure of 5% on the total amount payable. This method of payment can be used for Subscriptions, Auction payments and for Publications (but only after contacting Jeff Turnbull first). In all cases please add a note that indicates what payment is for.

If a member would like payment by this method for auction sales then please indicate clearly on the bid form when sending to John Donner. An important note: **The Society cannot accept liability for cash posted to any Officer unless it can be tracked from door to door.** Note that many registered services are only tracked to the border of the sending country and not in this country. Unfortunately the postal system is not secure and monies have been stolen in the past whilst in transit. Members will have to pay again if money is lost, so please insure your mail to cover the sum sent so that the postal authority is liable. Can those members with an email address holding credit with the Society please update me with their details so that I can keep you updated with the current total.

## DATE FOR THE DIARY – AGM 22<sup>nd</sup> November

A reminder that the Society AGM will be held at a new location. The meeting will be on Saturday 22 November between 12 noon and 5pm – with the formal meeting starting around 1pm. The new venue is: London & Scottish Regimental Headquarters, Horseferry Road Building, TA Centre, 95 Horseferry Rd, Westminster, London SW1P 2DY. We will be meeting in the Dining Room - Blue Room. Entry will be via intercom with the caretaker. A lift by the entrance takes you to the 2nd floor and the room is directly in front of you. **Members attending are requested to let Stephen Steere know, as a list of names attending is required by the venue in advance.** Local parking is free except on double yellow lines and resident parking bays. I would suggest



that people park in Elverton Street at the side of the building on the single yellow line (in operation Monday to Friday only). The 507 bus runs past the venue both ways between Victoria and Waterloo.

## INTERNET DISCUSSION FORUM – Alastair Walter

It has been suggested that we add a discussion forum to the Society website. This would enable members with Internet access to post questions and comments on any aspect of perfin collecting on the forum and invite others to provide answers. It could also be used to invite contributions to ongoing research projects.

For this idea to work, we need a reasonable number of members to express an interest by emailing me at [perfins@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:perfins@tiscali.co.uk). It doesn't matter if you have never used an Internet forum before - if you can use the Internet then it's very easy!

## Perfin Society Publications Price list - July 2008

PUBLICATION	HOME	EUROPE	OVERSEAS
All prices include Postage & Packing.			
GB Perfin Society History	3-50	4-50	5-50
Sloper's History	3-50	4-50	5-50
Handbook of GB Perfins	4-00	5-00	6-50
Stamp Show 2000 Colour Book      2000	18-00	19-00	21-50
Tomkin Identities 10th Ed              2004	13-50	16-00	19-00
Wartime Provisionals      Details      1992	8-50	10-50	13-50
Foreign Bills                      Details      2005	8-50	10-50	13-50
Railway Perfins                      Details      1976	8-50	10-50	13-50
Hospital Dies                      Details      1993	3-50	4-50	6-00
GB Official Perfins                      1976	10-50	13-00	15-00
Silver Jubilees      Details + Updates      2002	5-50	6-50	8-50
British Empire Ex Details + Updates      1993	3-50	4-50	6-50
GB Graphite Lined Issues Details + Silhouettes                      2006	1-50	2-00	3-00
Monograms Details + Silhouettes      2006	3-50	4-50	6-00
Regional Perfins Details+Silhouettes      2006	2-50	3-00	3-50
46 <sup>th</sup> Parliamentary Union      Details      1996	1-50	2-00	3-00
Curved Perfins                      Details      1997	1-50	2-00	3-00
Gault (D) Details                      2005	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (D) Silhouettes                      2005	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (E) Details                      2005	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (E) Silhouettes                      2005	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (F) Details                      2007	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (F) Silhouettes                      2007	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (I) Details      (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)              2008	4-50	5-50	7-00
Gault (I) Silhouettes      (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)              2008	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault (J) Details                      1996	15-50	17-00	20-00
Gault (J) Silhouettes                      1996	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (K) Details      (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)              2008	4-50	5-50	7-00
Gault (K) Silhouettes(2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)              2008	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault (L) Details                      2003	11-00	13-50	15-50
Gault (L) Silhouettes                      2003	5-50	6-50	7-50

PUBLICATION		HOME	EUROPE	OVERSEAS
Gault (M) Details	2004	11-00	13-50	15-50
Gault (M) Silhouettes	2004	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (N) Details	1997	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (N) Silhouettes	1997	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (O & Q) Details (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)	2007	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (O & Q) Silhouettes (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)	2007	3-00	4-00	5-50
Gault (P) Details	2002	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (P) Silhouettes	2002	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (R) Details	1997	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (R) Silhouettes	1997	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (S) Details	1995	14-00	16-00	19-00
Gault (S) Silhouettes	1995	5-50	6-50	7-50
Gault (T) Details	2001	10-50	13-00	15-00
Gault (T) Silhouettes	2001	4-00	5-00	6-00
Gault (U,V,X) Details (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)	2007	5-00	6-00	7-00
Gault (U,V,X) Silhouettes (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)	2007	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault (W) Details	2000	15-50	17-00	20-00
Gault (W) Silhouettes	2000	5-00	6-50	8-00
Gault (Y,Z,Des,Nos) Details (2 <sup>nd</sup> Ed)	2007	5-00	6-00	7-00
Gault (Y,Z,Des,Nos) Silhouettes	2007	3-50	4-50	6-00
Gault QV Line Engraved (Part I A-I)	2007	11-00	13-50	15-50
Perfin Bulletin 1957-2007 CD	2008	5-00	5-00	5-00

Please note that discounts are available for bulk purchases of publications as postage costs can be combined. If you have a large order please contact Jeff first to get a quotation prior to placing your order. Please note that the updated edition of the letter “I” is now available. Although the page count has increased the price remains the same at: -

**Silhouettes      £3.50 Home, £4.50 Europe, £6.00 rest of World.**

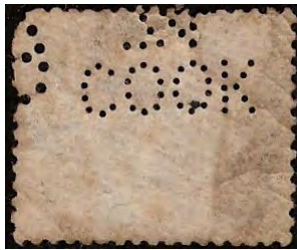
**Details            £4.50 Home, £5.50 Europe, £7.00 rest of World**

## FEEDBACK ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

### You Need to Look Closely - Bulletin 355/19

**Rudy Roy** writes with a correction to the article about the United Baltic cover on the cover of the August issue (#355) - the article quoted "Members at the meeting wondered why the mail rate was 1/3d when the Atlantic rate was 2/6d.". In fact, the rate to the US was 1/3d per half ounce for the entire war period.

### British Railway Ticket with "Perfin" – Bulletin 354/26



Further to the Thomas Cook railway ticket shown in the June Bulletin, **Peter Maybury** has sent in two further Thomas Cook items. The first is a 1d Red, which must have been affixed to a document, which was then perforated with one of the Cook date dies. The second item is a baggage insurance certificate, which was used in Capetown and has a South African stamp on the reverse. The perfin reads COOK/18 CAPT 5/36.

Series 5384.		No. 17926
	PREMIUM ... .. 8 0 s. ... .. d.	
<b>BAGGAGE INSURANCE CERTIFICATE.</b>		
DURATION OF RISK, <u>30</u> DAYS.		
The holder hereof is entitled, for the space of <u>THIRTY</u> Days from the date perforated hereon, and to the extent of: <u>FIFTY POUNDS.</u>		
on <u>FOUR</u> Packages, etc., as detailed on the Proposal Form, to the benefit of a Policy or Policies arranged by THOS. COOK & SON, LTD., or their Subsidiaries or Associated Companies, as Agents for the North British & Mercantile Insurance Company, Ltd., London, to cover Personal Baggage.		
This Certificate represents the original Policy or Policies for the purpose of collecting any claim thereunder, and, if required, in the event of any claim arising, a separate stamped Policy will be delivered to the holder hereof in exchange for this Certificate.		
This Certificate must be signed by the Holder in the space provided on the reverse side.		

## **Modern Hong Kong “Perfin” – Bulletin 354/9**

**Edward Swires-Hennessy** writes “the June Bulletin informs us of a modern “Perfin” on the stamps of Hong Kong China. I have acquired some of the \$13 stamp surplus to my requirement and I should be happy to send them on to the first people to request one, including their snail mail address.

I will fulfil as many requests as I can find stamps – but it must be on a first come first served basis.

## **A & S Henry & Co Ltd, Manchester – Bulletin 355/14**

**Vincent West** writes – “I was interested in Barrie Williamson's article on A & S Henry & Co Ltd in Bulletin 355. It is worth adding that this company also used unofficial protective underprints from the 1860s. These are listed as PP89 to PP106 in Gibbons QV Specialised Catalogue Appendix 2. There are four types of underprint:

- 'Property of/ A. & S. Henry & Co./ Belfast.'
- as last but 'Glasgow.'
- 'A. & S. H. & CO.'
- 'Property of/ A. & S. Henry & Co./ Portland-St./ Manchester'

which occur on stamp values from 1d to 2/-.

Gibbons also lists PP110 on the 1d which has the underprint:

- 'Mr. Mitchell/ Henry's/ Committee/ 82, Market-St.'

and add the comment that a Manchester origin has been suggested, which seems very likely as both Mitchell Henry and Market St are mentioned in Barrie's article. But what was his committee?

## **Member Queries – F & C.P.P. Cancel - Bulletin 353/2**

**John Spittle** writes – “I noticed in April Bulletin that member Jack Brandt had a query in regard to a part cancel F.& C.P.P. In James A Mackay’s publication on British & Welsh Postmarks since 1840 and there is an illustration 2513 and the initials stand for Foreign & Colonial Post Office. In the early days of the century I & F [Imperial & Foreign] was used but with the waning of the British Empire agreements were made with the U.P.U. member countries. London was the first to use it and then larger provincial towns. The illustration in Mackays is for Grimsby which looks like Jack’s but the provincial one's may look similar with just another town name.”

## ANOTHER "PERFIN" FROM CANADA POST

John Mathews

In February 2007, Canada Post issued two stamps for International Polar Year as a se-tenant pair. In the centre of the perforations between the stamps, there was a punch in the shape of their national emblem, the Maple Leaf.

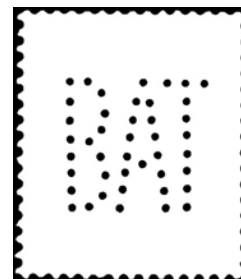


Recently, I bought an eBay item (perfin) from a vendor in Canada, who kindly used a pair of these among a selection for postage. To my surprise, there was a larger Maple Leaf punch in the selvedge of this pair, and in the selvedge of one of the other stamps that he used. He tells me that this larger punch was applied by himself, and that the punch is a craft punch which he also bought on eBay, from a Hong Kong stationery company.

## NAURU PERFIN

Jeff Turnbull

I have recently purchased the attached overprinted perfin stamp from NAURU !! I bought it for snip as a fake overprint, but on closer inspection the smudged cancel is on top of the overprint (signifying correct usage after receiving the overprint). The perfin is "**BAT**" **B0240.01M** that of the **British American Tobacco Co Ltd**. Can any member can throw any light on its origin?



B0240.01M



**SLOPER SINGLE DIE**  
**PUBLICITY PERFORATING MACHINE**

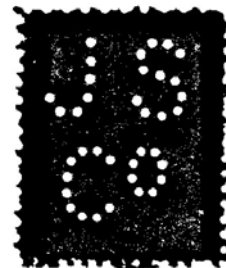
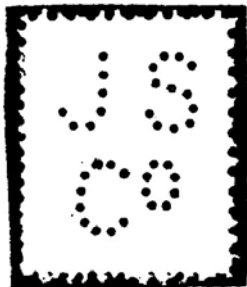
**James Norris**

Some members may recall a short article I wrote regarding a Sloper Single Die Publicity Perforating Machine that appeared in Bulletin No 263 in April 1993.

At that time I used this machine to perforate approximately 100 'labels' on gummed paper in a selection of colours and these were sent out with the Bulletin as free samples for members.

The perfin produced by this machine is the large J S / Co with pin configuration 7,12/10,8 & 6½ mm high, and is listed in the new identities catalogue section letter J and the details are listed as

*“Strike from a die believed to have been used for demonstration purposes by Joseph Sloper & Co, but not known used on postage stamps. Modern examples exist on gummed paper in various colours”.*



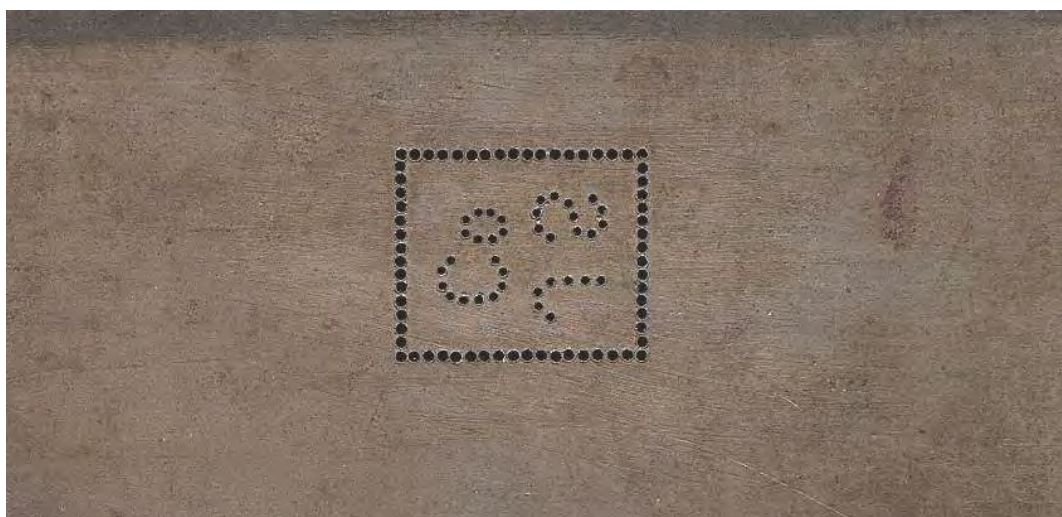
Rosemary Smith recently contacted me with a question regarding the machine and this has prompted me to give a more detailed account of the machine's history and how I came to possess it.

I have always had an interest in embossing machines since my Grandfather used one on his letterheads, the mechanics and appearance of them created a fascination for me. From the age of ten I was a keen GB collector and would buy Queen Victoria line engraved stamps whenever I could afford to on my 2/6d pocket money. Perfins on 1d Red particularly captivated my interest and

dealers at stamp fairs would often give away these items perceived as damaged stamps at the time.

When I was a salesman for an engineering company in the early 1990's, I visited a security firm in Chesham, principally involved in door entry security systems, but the owner had dabbled in security endorsement, and had an old press in the office.

I expressed an interest in the item initially thinking it was an embossing press. It was very rusty and in quite poor condition with many of the pins broken. The owner said it was destined for the skip and gave me the item. I could not believe my luck when I had a chance to examine it and found the die attached to the base plate was JS / Co!



**Figure 1.**

Close up of die showing arrangement of pins around the periphery creating the effect of a perforating comb (80% scale)

The die is unusual as it incorporates an arrangement of pins around the periphery creating a perforating comb to enable each impression to be torn from the perforation creating a single 'stamp' or label. This is best illustrated in the close up of the die in Figure 1.

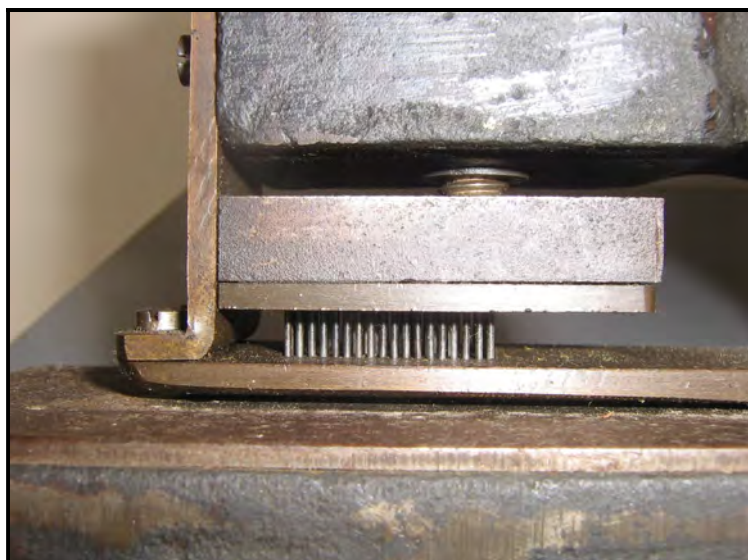
Coincidentally I was by then a member of the Perfin Society and was one of the people who went on the factory visit to Sloper's in August 1991, just prior to the closure and subsequent take over by Checkpoint.

I took the press with me to the Blackburn Road Works and Bill Cokayne, the manager at the time, confirmed that it was indeed one of Sloper's old machines, he kindly cleaned the mechanism, replaced the pins, and got it working again whilst we were being given a guided tour of the factory. See Figures 2 & 3 below.



**Figure 2.**

The machine is very crude in appearance and is made from a rough iron unpainted casting.



**Figure 3.**

Side view of die showing position of pins and base plate

Bill explained that the machine was almost certainly produced as an advertising or demonstration unit to produce labels to be sent to prospective clients. It was never intended for use on postage stamps and it is highly unlikely that it was ever used for such a purpose.

It is not clear how the machine came in to the hands of the engineering firm, but it clearly had not been used for many years.



**Figure 4.**

End view showing the guide plate that keeps the die parallel during operation.

*[Ed:- Note that this die pattern was displayed in the window of the Sloper office in Budge Row. The shop front and the sign were illustrated in the February Bulletin (352). As the company moved to Budge Row in 1914 we may presume that this machine dates back to that period.]*

**KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY - AUCTIONEERS &  
ESTATE AGENTS**

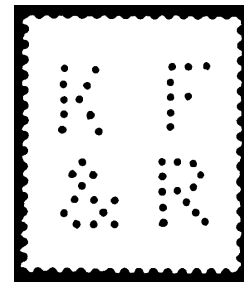
**Roy Gault**

A combination of both positive and suspected identities, along with an unusual set of initials, provide evidence for 70 years of continuous perfin use. The particular initials involved are “K”, “F”, and “R”, and the company in the spotlight is ‘Knight, Frank and Rutley’ - esteemed Auctioneers, Surveyors (later Estate Agents) & Valuers.

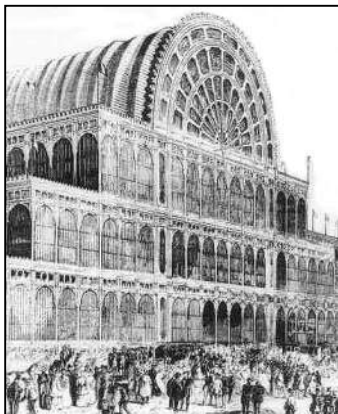
The story starts in October 1895 when John Frederick Horace Knight (1859-1931), Howard George Frank (1871-1932) [later knighted], and William Rutley (1864-1909) formed the partnership ‘Knight, Frank & Rutley’. Their first auction was held in London in April 1896 from their offices at No. 9 Conduit St, London W.

The first positively identified use of a perfin is “KF/&R” (K0790.02), known used from c1905, but could easily have been introduced a little later in 1910 when they moved to larger premises at No. 20 Hanover Square, London W. The die was in use until 1921 when it was replaced another “KF/&R” (K0790.03M).

**1905-1921**

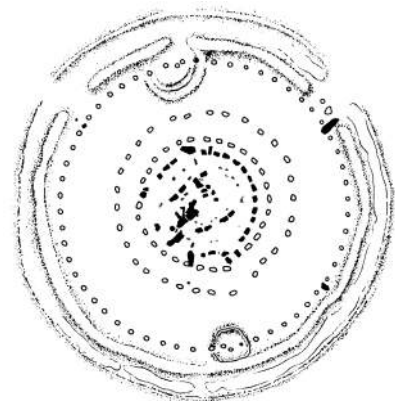


**K0790.02**



Notable sales during this period include:

- **Crystal Palace**, built to house the Great Exhibition of 1851, for £210,000 in 1911, but destroyed by fire 25 years later.
- And Lot 15, **Stonehenge**, sold at auction in 1915 to Cecil Chubb for £6,600. He bought it as a present for his American wife, but gifted it in 1918 to the nation.



The replacement die, “KF/&R” (K0790.03M), Sloper m/c No. 62827 fitted with a 2x2 multiheaded die, was dispatched to ‘Knight, Frank & Rutley’ on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 1921.

Notably, in October 1921, virtually the entire town of Reigate was sold by ‘Knight, Frank & Rutley’ for £203,840. This unusual feat was repeated in 1937 when the greater part of Lytham St Anne’s was sold, including the famous golf club and course.

1921-1930



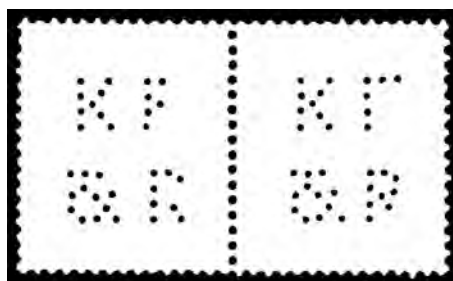
K0790.03M

This die in turn was replaced c1930 by another multiheaded die (of unknown composition), using the now standard Sloper 4-pin high alphabet. The fact it was multiheaded can be seen in the joined pair illustrated below showing different pins missing each of the patterns. This ‘failure’ of the die may have precipitated a replacement (K0790.01c), known only on King George VI dark colour definitives. This latter die is almost certain to have been destroyed in the “Blitz” on Sloper’s premises in May 1941, hence its relative scarcity.

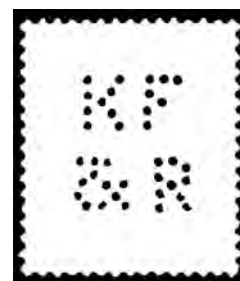
1930-1941



K0790.01aM



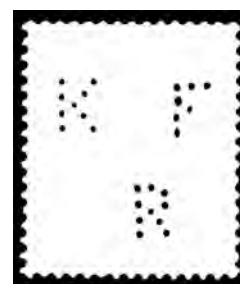
c1941



K0790.01c

The ‘Emergency’ replacement was “KF/R” (K0780.01p) which appears in the Sloper m/s ledger with the notation [1-1-12]. These were the instructions to the operator to create the initials using a single headed “K”, followed by a single headed “F”, then finishing off with a 12x1 multiheaded “R”. Usually the result was that the letters appeared on the stamp ‘all over the place’!

1941-1945



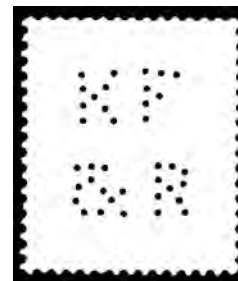
K0780.01p

In due course this so-called ‘Sloper Wartime Provisional’ was replaced by a regular single headed die, “KF/&R” (K0790.01), held at Sloper’s premises. The “F” has a characteristically ‘droopy’ top, as well as a convex top to the “&”.



The KFR Trademark was awarded a certificate of excellence in Milan, March 1974.

1945-1975



K0790.01

This die was the last and longest lived of the perfins used by ‘Knight, Frank & Rutley’, and can be found on stamps up to the early decimal Machins of Queen Elizabeth II. The latest known date for its use is the 16<sup>th</sup> July 1975. By comparison, the earliest known date for their first die (K0790.02) is the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1920, although as it’s found on the stamps of King Edward VII, it was clearly in use a decade earlier.

Letters	Cat No.	Die in use	Earliest Date	Latest Date
KF/&R	K0790.02	1905-1921	5 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1920	---
KF/&R	K0790.03M	1921-1930	9 <sup>th</sup> Sep 1923	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb 1929
KF/&R	K0790.01aM	1930-1941	... Oct 1934	24 <sup>th</sup> Dec 1940
KF/&R	K0790.01c	c1941	---	---
KF/R	K0780.01p	1941-1945	---	---
KF/&R	K0790.01	1945-1975	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb 1959	16 <sup>th</sup> July 1975

If anyone can report earlier/later dates for the various dies as shown in the above table, I would be pleased to hear from you.

The firm continues in business to this day, although the ‘Rutley’ part of the name was dropped in 1996.

One thing I forgot to mention earlier is their nickname:  
*‘Knife, Fork & Cutlery’!*

## MODERN PERFINS - ABBREVIATIONS

Derek Ransom

Some members have requested a “translation” of the various letterings and abbreviations used in my listings of Modern Perfins. Anybody who sends me queries or inputs automatically gets the latest list, which has a translation at the top. But for those who have not sent me anything yet I can give the following – hopefully this will encourage members who are not so familiar with this area of collecting to look at their holdings and submit their findings.

To account for the various printing changes (since 1993), each value is annotated in sequence. In 1997 Harrison and Enschede re-mastered their dies, leading to the Queen's Head appearing with finer detail. These re-mastered dies are suffixed “r”.

There were three different 20p values. The 20p - turquoise is 20, the 20p - green is 20a and the re-mastered is 20r.

25a signified All Over Phosphor, 25b has 2 phosphor bands.

The 1997 26p and 2003 the 1st Gold are suffixed “G”: the 1st olive green Machin with white background is “M” (for Millennium).

Also in 1997 sheet printed NVI metamorphosed from Litho to Photo, indicated by “p”. The 2007 "sizes" are “l” for Large and “s” for Small. Regional suffixes are Re, Rs, Rw and Rn if and when any more appear. For the high value Castles I use Cas, and the Machins are Mac.

Lastly there are a few more additions to my listings courtesy of **Rosemary Smith** and **Barry Williamson**.

C3577.01M	C/I	2nd S	
H3410.01M	HH/MC	2nd S	Hereford or Hillingdon Management Committee
L0440.01M	L.B./H	1st S	London Borough of Hackney
T1268.01M	TDC	1st G	Taunton Dean Borough Council + new die
S1310.01	SC/C	25	(a or b not stated)



## 2<sup>nd</sup> EDITION I's AND K's

Roy Gault

By the time you read this, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the letters 'I' and 'K' will have been completed, but please wait for Jeff Turnbull's announcement that they are available for purchase. The 1<sup>st</sup> editions were produced way back in 1995, so it's not surprising that quite a lot has happened in the intervening thirteen years.

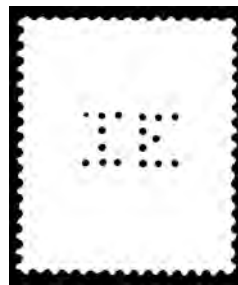
### Letter I

There are now **366** different 'I' dies. Having started with 348 in 1995, we lost 27 along the way (mainly partials and 'SPG' consolidations) but gained another 45. The count of confirmed and suspected identities has reached 227, so we have a good idea who used 62% of them.

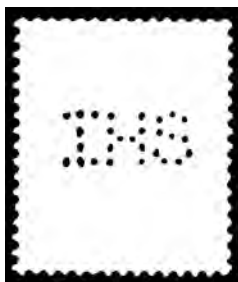
Unfortunately there are still *Five dies* for which no details have been recorded. Can I ask you to have a quick look to see if you have any of them tucked away in your collections? If you have, I would be more than pleased to receive the details!



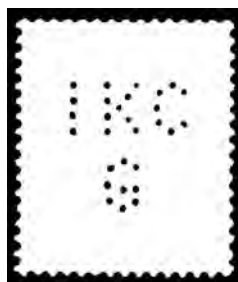
I0350.05



I0760.05



I1195.01



I1450.01



I1595.01

## Letter K

There are slightly less K's, which now stand at **346** different dies. We started off with 325 in 1995, lost 17 as we went along (again mainly partials and 'SPG' consolidations) but gained a further 38. The total number of confirmed and suspected identities has reached 222, which represents a healthy 64% (just like the I's).

Again, there are still a handful of dies for which no details have been recorded, so can I repeat the earlier request for you to look specifically for these *Four dies*, some of which may turn out to be partials.



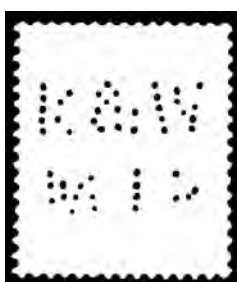
**K0080.01**



**K1210.01**



**K1850.01**



**K1880.01**

This final table gives an idea of the rarity/scarcity of the I's and K's.

<b>DDF Known</b>	<b>I (DD)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>K (DD)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Scarcity</b>
10 or more	95	26%	130	38%	Common
4-9	105	29%	94	27%	Reasonable
2-3	70	19%	57	16%	Scarce
0-1	96	26%	65	19%	Rare
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>366</b>		<b>346</b>		

The total number of G.B. Dies (All Letters) is currently **23,675**.

All figures correct at the time of writing!

*[Ed:- Jeff informs me that the number of pages for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of K is approximatey the same as the 1st and therefore the cost will be the same as before. Orders can be sent to him now for both sections.]*

## THE POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

**Brian Merryweather**

I know Maurice Harp is always on the lookout for articles for the Bulletin, so for what it's worth, here's my two-pennuth! Apart from Perfins, Postmarks, and Postage Stamps (the three P's), I must also confess to being fascinated with anything to do with the Post Office Savings Bank (Money Boxes, Documents etc.), making it four P's.

But first a little of the history.

The **Post Office Savings Bank** was established by the Palmerston Government, opening for business on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 1861. The idea behind the scheme was to encourage the working class to save money, and so '*provide for themselves against adversity and ill health*'. More importantly, it also gave the government easy access to the money deposited! The public confidence in the scheme came from the knowledge that the Bank was backed by the Exchequer.

As well as Savings Accounts, other services were progressively added, for example:

- Government Stocks and Bonds in 1880.
  - War Savings in 1916, and
  - Premium Bonds in 1956.

In 1969, the Bank ceased to be part of the Post Office, becoming a quite separate government department known as 'National Savings'. This lasted until 1<sup>st</sup> July 1996, when 'National Savings' became an Executive Agency of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In 2000, it became known as 'National Savings & Investments'.

To mark the centenary in 1961 of the establishment of the Post Office Savings Bank, the General Post Office commissioned three stamps. Peter Gauld designed the 2½d (which sold 24,720,000), and Michael Goaman both the 3d (sold 114,360,000), and the 1/6d (sold 7,560,000). The set was issued on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 1961.

Currently just 20 different Perfin dies (most with known users) are recorded on the issue. Only one, “BC/BC” (B1200.01M) on the 3d value, is known on a cover postmarked Bury, 5th October 1961.

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in Use	2½d	3d	1/6d
1	A2080.02M	A/EI	1960-1969	2½d	---	---
2	B1200.01M	BC/BC	1960-1985	---	3d	---
3	C6800.21	C&S	c1961	2½d	3d	---
4	D0860.02b	D/&C <sup>o</sup>	1941-1965	---	3d	---
5	D2730.01M	D.L.	1915-1975	---	3d	---
6	E0140.01	EA/L	1960-1985	---	3d	---
7	E0510.02M	EC	1952-1974	2½d	---	---
8	F1870.01	FH&P	1895-1978	---	---	1/6d
9	F2460.01M	FL <sup>d</sup>	1930-1968	---	3d	---
10	G1390.01	de in G	1876-1972	2½d	3d	---
11	H0010.21	H	1920-1975	2½d	3d	---
12	H0730.02	H&B/L <sup>d</sup>	1909-1965	---	3d	---
13	I1510.01M	IL	1935-1985	---	3d	---
14	J5060.01	J.L.T.	1930-1965	---	3d	---
15	M3620.03aM	M.L	1930-1966	2½d	---	---
16	N1530.01M	N.G.	1918-1965	2½d	---	---
17	N2750.02	NR/C	1936-1965	---	3d	---
18	P2350.01M	P.H/C <sup>o</sup> .	1908-1975	2½d	---	---
19	U1170.01M	U.L	1903-1996	2½d	3d	---
20	W1170.01	W.C/C <sup>o</sup> L <sup>td</sup> .	1920-1962	---	---	1/6d
21	W8230.01M	W.W./&S.	1957-1975	2½d	3d	---

Can anyone add to this list?  
If so, I would be pleased to hear from you!



(SG624)



(SG623)

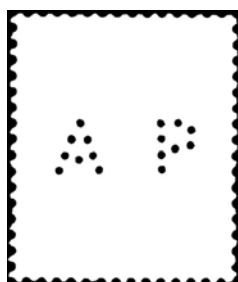


(SG625)

## HOW DID THIS COVER GET TO GERMANY

Rudy Roy

The illustrated cover with pattern A4460.02b presents several mysteries that I am hopeful that members in the UK can unravel some or all of them for me.



A4460.02b

A4460.02b – of the Associated Press  
of Great Britain, 85 Fleet Street,  
London EC - known used between  
1939 -1949

The cover is franked with a 3d King George VI and postmarked 30 June 1949, London. It is addressed to a person in the OMGUS (Office of Military Government United States) with a U.S. APO (Army Post Office) address. References list that APO as being located in Germany at that time. The cover was received at the APO on 6 July 1949.

The envelope used is one specially printed for airmail. In the U.S. such an envelope could ONLY be used for airmail – and if the postage applied was insufficient, then it was either returned for additional postage or assessed postage due. As this cover was being sent from

the U.K. to the U.S., the airmail postage for a basic letter of ½ ounce was 1/, in effect since May 1946. In theory there was no way the sender should have known the location of APO 742, so the international airmail postage rate should have been paid. It may have been possible, but highly unlikely, that this cover was sent to the London Exchange Office and then sent to the U.S., but being posted on the evening of June 30, and then being receipted at the APO in Germany on July 6 tends to indicate that somehow this cover was placed into the U.S. mails in London.



I cannot find any reference that indicates special arrangements between the U.K. and U.S. mails were in effect at this time permitting mail addressed to U.S. Army Post Offices in Europe to go directly into the U.S. mails in London for delivery in Europe. Mail for U.S. addresses would have normally gone to an Exchange Office for dispatch to the U.S.

The questions are – how did the cover get from U.K. mails to U.S. mails? How did the cover get to the addressee? By air or surface transport? If by air, was it commercial or military? What was the postage rate? Was there a special accommodation at this time allowing for mail to U.S. Army PO's in Europe to bypass transport back to the U.S. and be sent direct from the U.K.?

I would appreciate any and all comments.

## ADDITIONS TO PERFORATED POSTAL STATIONERY

Rosemary Smith

In the August Bulletin (355) page 22, I said that I had not seen some of the items reported and so could not accurately ascribe Perfin Catalogue numbers to the dies. Now, thanks to the trust placed in me by Alan Huggins, who actually sent me the items to inspect, I have new details and was surprised at how many were new dies to the existing Perfin Society Catalogue. Perhaps these dies are only found on Postal Stationery items. To help identify the alterations, I am following the text used in Bulletin 355.

### Postal Stationery Wrappers

#### Queen Victoria ½d Green without date

B1930.01	B&D.	(note stop after 'D')	Mint Wrapper
G3400.02	GM/&G	Ginner Morton & Goddard	NPB cancel
H4110.02a	H.J/&S	Ø Henry Johnson & Sons 35 Great Tower St, EC. Known used 1895-1902	London EC pmk

#### Queen Victoria ½d Brown

N0150.01	N/A·V·L	05-03-90 - Note different perfin New die to our catalogue	
G1975.01	GG/&C <sup>o</sup>	30-01-88	Bradford pmk
S4850.05a	S&/M <sup>c</sup> D	29-01-83 Note change to die	Pmk Glasgow.

### Postal Stationery Cards

#### Queen Victoria ½d Brown

R0330.05	R.B.	This was reported in B.284 without a die number. No report since but now I have seen the Card. New die to our catalogue	
----------	------	---	--

#### Queen Victoria ½d Green

C1110.03	CC	Corporation of Croydon Sanitary Dept, Town Hall, Croydon. Thos. H Culver, Chief Drain Inspector ½d green cards are not very common	Mint Card but 190.. for end date
----------	----	--	--

**Queen Victoria 1d Brown (correction to B355/23 – not ½d Green)**

J7220.02 JS&S John Sutcliffe & Son, Grimsby 18-07-81  
New Die to our catalogue

**King George V 1½d**

T4820.01 TV/R Taff Vale Railway 15-12-23 New value  
Date is the latest date for this die.

**Postal Stationery Registered Envelopes**

**Queen Elizabeth II 8½p**

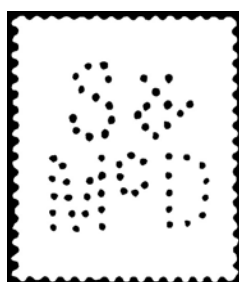
R1080.03 R&C<sup>o</sup>/L<sup>d</sup> Rowntree & Co Ltd, York  
This is extra to Bulletin 355

**Illustrations of Newly Reported Dies**

(shown against the background of a definitive  
sized stamp for convenience)



N0150.01



S4850.05a



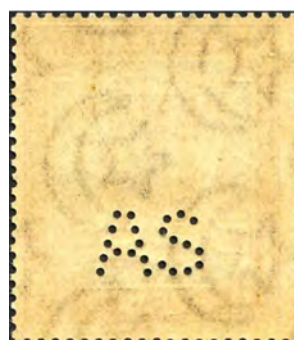
J7220.02



R0330.05

**SEEN IN AUCTION**

In September ebay a SUDAN 1914 10pi Arab Postman, "AS" (Army Service) Perfin was put up for sale with a starting price of £71. The stamp which is listed by Gibbons as SG A25 and had an RPS certificate failed to find a buyer although catalogued at £475.





## PERFINNED BRITISH LEVANT OVERPRINTED STAMPS

Tony Stanford

Further to my article in the Bulletin 352; I have recently acquired two interesting additions to my collection of British Levant perfins. The first is a new discovery, the 'G.S.' perfin (G4465.01) of the George Stameny Company of Smyrna on a '1 PIASTRE' KGV surcharge with a SMYRNA cancellation dated 14 November 1913 as illustrated below. This perfin was previously recorded on Greek, Italian, Austrian and Turkish stamps used in Smyrna.



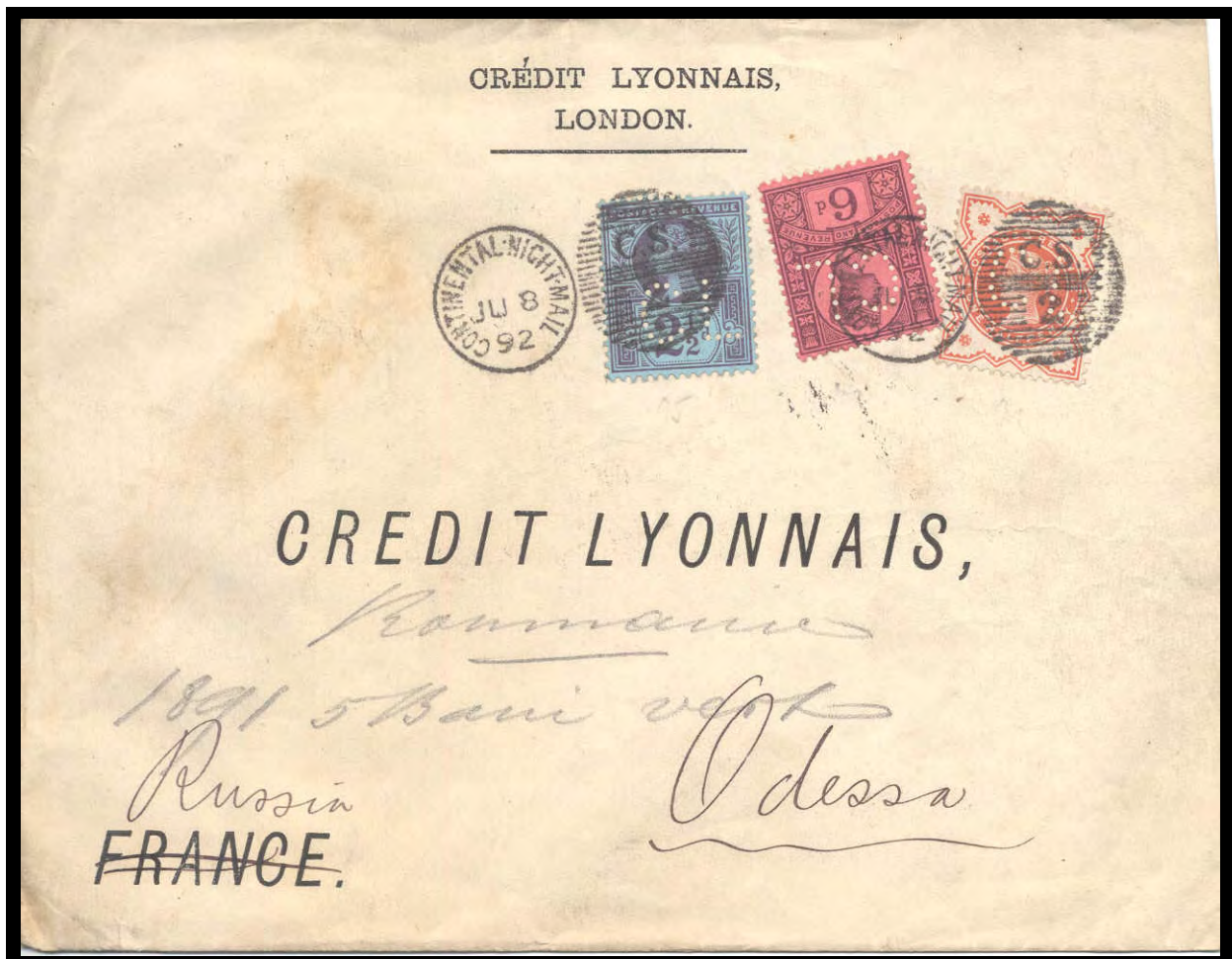
Correspondence with new Secretary/Treasurer Stephen Steere revealed that he possesses an un-overprinted 2d orange die I with the same 'G.S.' perfin and part REGISTERED SMYRNA oval cancel which unfortunately does not reveal the year of usage, which is most likely to be during the post WWI period when the Smyrna post office was re-opened using un-overprinted stamps. This is the first example I have seen of an un-overprinted stamp perfined for use in British Levant.



The second addition was a great disappointment as I thought I had found an example of the 'CL' perfin on the Queen Victoria '12 PIASTRES' surcharge. In fact this is an apparently genuine CL perfin of the Credit Lyonnais Bank on the Queen Victoria 2/6d lilac stamp with the scarce Cannon Street Station (C.S. / 2) Continental Night Mail duplexes which has had a bogus '12 PIASTRES' overprint applied, presumably in the hope of augmenting the value of a rather poor example of this stamp. A genuine specimen version of the surcharge is shown on the left for comparison.



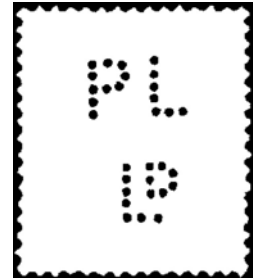
Lastly I include an illustration of a superb Continental Night Mail cover from the collection of my GB Overprint Society colleague Alexios Papadopoulos. This Credit Lyonnais cover is franked with the QV Jubilee ½d, 2½d and 6d definitives, all with a 'CL' perfin and cancelled with the Cannon Street Station (C.S. / 2) Continental Night Mail duplexes dated 8 June 1892. This pays a total of 9d comprising 5d for the double weight (20-40 grams) and 4d late fee for the Continental Night Mail service from Cannon Street Station. It is interesting to note that the 6d has a different perfin die to the other stamps, with the 'C' noticeably shorter than the 'L'.



## ALBERT LUFF - PERFORATOR

Maurice Harp

The advertisement below dating from 1906 is from one of the lesser known perforators – Albert Luff. Luff was originally recorded in our Bulletin as being at 26 Ivy Lane, EC but I have been unable to confirm this address. In directories that are available to me (1905/06/10/15) he is shown as being at 13 Paternoster Row, EC. Interestingly in the 1895 and 1899 directories I cannot find him recorded. However in all directory entries he describes himself simply as a “postage stamp perforator” with no mention of being a stationer. So he clearly regarded this as his primary business. **Dave Hill** found a survey in the P.O. archives of perforators, which included a note that Albert Luff made the perfins for Pawson & Leaf and Hitchcock Williams & Co. Also recorded in the PO archives is that he charged 1d per sheet or 1/- for £5 mixed denominations.



P2960.02

1895-1915

Pawson & Leaf and Hitchcock, Williams both used many dies over the years. Possible Luff dies may be P2960.02 or P2960.05, both of which were introduced around the start of Luff's business. As for the Hitchcock, Williams die it is purely speculation as to which might have been made by Luff as there are many HW/&Co dies.

ESTABLISHED 1896.

**A. LUFF,**  
GENERAL PRINTER, STATIONER,  
India Rubber Stamp Manufacturer,

---

POSTAGE AND OTHER STAMPS PERFORATED  
With Initials of any Firm,

---

13, PATERNOSTER ROW, E.C.  
AND AT  
74, VERNEY ROAD, S.E.

---

Receipt Stamps Overprinted. Pens, Pencils, etc., a Speciality.

## NEW SOUTH WALES PERFIN

Rosemary Smith

In the collection of the late John Luft, which I am breaking up for the Society Auction on behalf of his widow, I came across an unusual pair of stamps.



They are £1 Stamp Duty (pink/red) of New South Wales. I looked first in Stanley Gibbons Part 1 but found no reference to these stamps. The perfin “MM” (11,11 holes, 5½mm high) and the perfins are mirror image so the sheet must have been folded prior to striking.

The pair of stamps have a handstamp, part of which reads, “MERC?---/INSURANCE”. The pair has a crease across both stamps and one has a slight nick at the top of the perforation. They will be going into a future auction but can anyone identify the perfin user and probable date of use. I would guess this is not a common item.

[Ed: **John Mathews** has seen this piece and has provided the following]

*The Perfin is MM.5 in the Australian private Perfin catalogue. It was used by the Mercantile Mutual Insurance Company Limited, 120 Pitt Street, Sydney, with known date range of 1938 to 1974, so it is not uncommon as Rosemary thought. GB stamps of the KGVI and early E2R periods were inscribed “Postage and Revenue” – hence can be found with perfins (mainly Postal use) and overprints (revenue use). In Australia, after Federation in 1901, there were separate postage stamps and revenue stamps because Postage was a Commonwealth government charge and Stamp Duty was a State government charge. Many of the Insurance companies perforated their revenue (Stamp Duty) stamps as well as their postage stamps, because of the high denominations used on Insurance policies (known up to £50). The £1 value is in fact quite common. This example would probably have been used in the 1960s, prior to the change to decimal in February 1966.*

# J. SLOPER & CO – REQUISITION FORM

Maurice Harp

**To J. SLOPER & CO., LIMITED.**  
ESTABLISHED 1858.  
NEW BRIDGE STREET HOUSE, NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

Number of Sheets of Stamps	POSTAGE STAMPS	Value £   s.   d.
	½d @ 10s per sheet of 240	½d
	1d    "   £1    "    "	1d
	1½d   "   £1 10s "    "	1½d
	2d    "   £2    "    "	2d
	2½d   "   £2 10s "    "	2½d
	3d    "   £3    "    "	3d
	4d    "   £4    "    "	4d
	4½d   "   £4 10s "    "	4½d
	5d    "   £5    "    "	5d
	6d    "   £6    "    "	6d
	7d    "   £7    "    "	7d
	8d    "   £8    "    "	8d
	9d    "   £9    "    "	9d
	10d   "   £10 "    "	10d
	11d   "   £11 "    "	11d
	1s    "   £12 "    "	1s
	1s 3d   "   £15 "    "	1s 3d
	1s 6d   "   £18 "    "	1s 6d
	2s 6d   "   2s 6d per Single Stamp	2s 6d
	5s    "   £5    "    "	5s
	10s   "   £10 "    "	10s
	20s   "   £20 "    "	20s
<b>Stamps in Rolls</b>		
	P ½d @ £1 per roll of 480	P ½d
	O 1d    "   £2    "    480	O 1d
	N 1½d   "   £3    "    480	N 1½d
	T 2d    "   £4    "    480	T 2d
	M2½d   "   £5    "    480	M2½d
	S 3d    "   £6    "    480	S 3d
	H 4d    "   £8    "    480	H 4d
	J 6d    "   £12 "    480	J 6d
	D ½d    "   £2    "    960	D ½d
	B 1d    "   £4    "    960	B 1d
	K 1½d   "   £6    "    960	K 1½d
	Q 2d    "   £8    "    960	Q 2d
	F 2½d   "   £10 "    960	F 2½d
	C 3d    "   £12 "    960	C 3d
	A 4d    "   £16 "    960	A 4d
<b>RECEIPT STAMPS (overprinted)</b>		
	2d in sheets    ...    2d	
	2d £4 per roll of 480    ...    2d	
	6d in sheets    ...    6d	
	1s in sheets    ...    1s	
	Commission    ...	
	Cheque herewith £	
	Name.....	
	Address.....	
	Date.....	

Telephone: CENTRAL 1331 (3 lines).  
Telegrams: "SLOPER LUD, LONDON, N.

Date.....

Received by.....

CHEQUES TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO J. SLOPER & CO. Limited

The requisition form illustrated here from J. Sloper & Co turned up during the disposal of John Luft's collection. Early Sloper requisitions are quite well known but this one dates from a much more recent era.

It shows the address of New Bridge Street House. When Sloper's premises were destroyed in the blitz in 1941 they moved to New Bridge Street House. The requisition form, which includes sheets and rolls, includes the 4½d value, which puts the requisition form between 1959 and 1966.

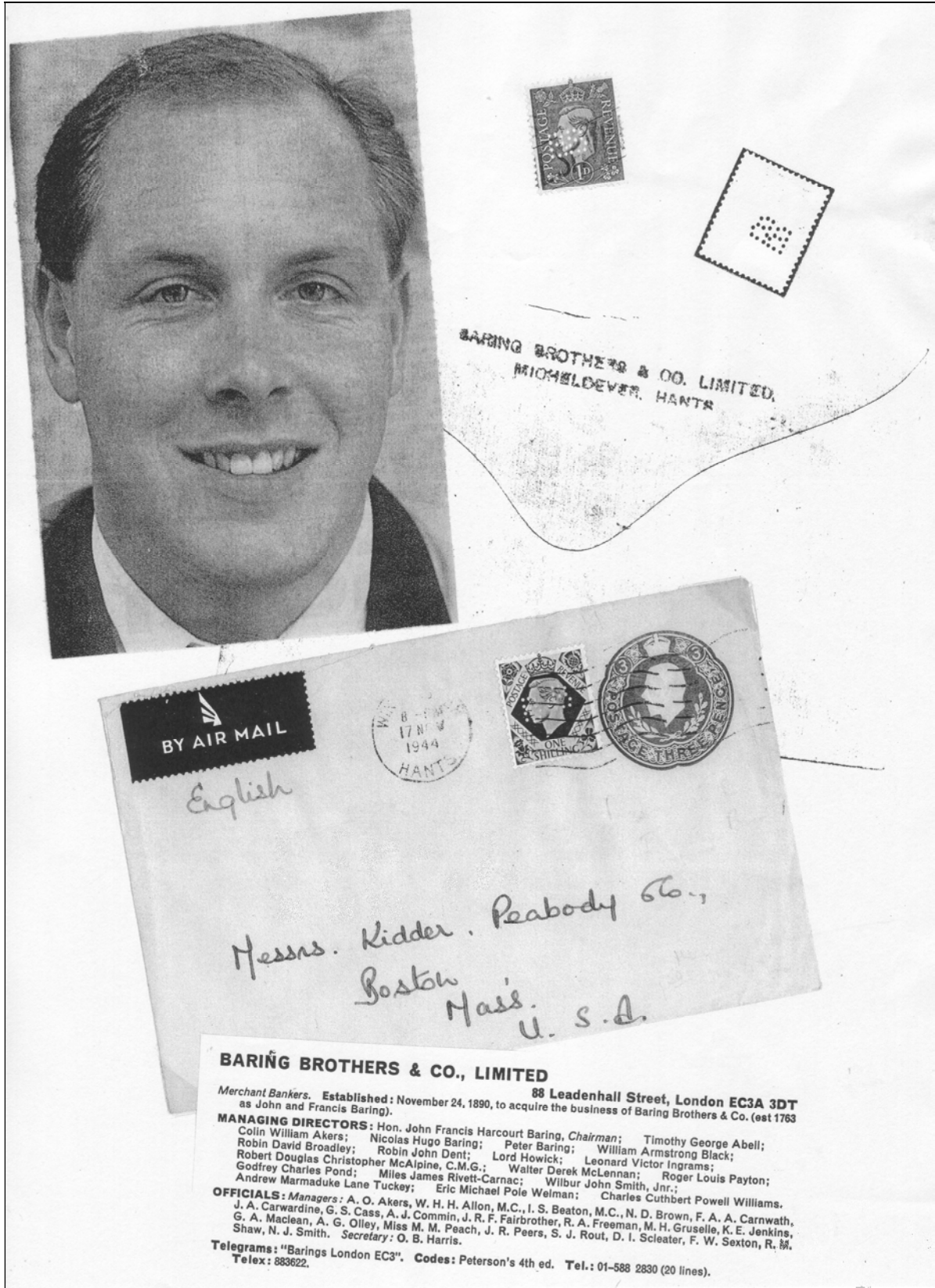
Interestingly the perforation is still being carried out at the face value of the stamps and they were still willing to perforate individual high value stamps.

I am sure that some other member with a greater knowledge of Elizabethan issues may be able to more closely date this form.

## ANOTHER "FUN DISPLAY" PAGE

"B" is for Banks

Graham Fortey



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The Bulletin of the G.B. Perfin Society is a bi-monthly journal.  
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For further details of the G.B. Perfin Society and membership application  
please contact: