

## THE ONLY SWEDISH COMMEMORATIVE PERFIN

By Leif Bergman

Instead of a vignette which is commonly issued at stamp exhibitions in Sweden a special perfin was in use at the national stamp exhibition TRELLEBORG 70. This exhibition, organised by TRELLEBORGS FILATELIST SALLSKAP, was held in Trelleborg, a town in southern Sweden, on 15th - 19th May 1970.

At many stamp exhibitions vignettes had been made by overprinting the 1911/1919 set (small coat of arms with watermark wavy lines). The reason for this was that the stamps were still for sale at the Post Office Section for Philately (PFA) at face value, which was very low, only, 1, 2, 3 and 4 ore. The 1 ore was not particularly good for this purpose because of its black colour.

At the time of this exhibition only the 3 ore was not sold out and horizontal pairs were perforated TRGB 70. They were sold at the Exhibition affixed to an envelope with a black background beneath the stamp to make the perfin visible. An inscription above the stamps read, "SKYDIDSPERPORERING DET NYA SAMLAROMRADET" which means "Perfins the new collecting field". To cover postage an unperfinned stamp was also fixed. Different special cancellations were in use during the Exhibition.

For the first but not last time a perfin collection was shown in Sweden. It received no award but was congratulated by the jury.

After the Exhibition mint perfin pairs were sold in lots of 10. It was stated that eight different positions were possible to exist although only four could exist.

A "rarity" was also made, the 35 ore Changeover to Right-hand Traffic stamp of 1967 was perfinned and used on 13 envelopes. DDR stamps were also perfinned for use on banquet cards. The banquet was held on the ferry M/S SKANE which travels between Trelleborg and East Germany.

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