

The Perfin Society

Bulletin

THE SOCIETY'S OF	FFICERS			
PRESIDENT	Michael Rucklidge			
SECRETARY/ TREASURER/ PACKET SUPT.	Dave Hill			
AUCTIONEER	Harry Skinner			
BULLETIN ED.	Rosemary Smith			
CATALOGUE ED.	Roy Gault			
LIBRARIAN/ PUBLICATIONS	John Donner			
BULLETIN No:- 279.	Subscription £5 (UK); £7 (abroad/surface); £8 (a	broad/air)		
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New Identities:- 4 Centre Pages.

Gregory, Roweliffe & Co.; Duff; RBC/B; St&C°.

Auction No.8 (1995) 12 Pages.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES NEW MEMBERS

TREVOR JONES

P.KESSLER

GUNNAR BECK MICHAEL BLACKMAN

B.CLARK

NICOLA ESPOSITO

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
STEVE LEGG

JOHN MARRINER

PETER STOCKTON

<u>DIED</u> S. SQUIRE.

NEWS FROM SECRETARY/TREASURER DAVE HILL.

Congratulation to Roy Gault. His 'Catalogue of Sloper Wartime Provisional Perfins' gained a Silver Medal at Autumn Stampex.

The date for the <u>Spring Meeting</u> of <u>The Perfin Society</u> has been booked for <u>Saturday April 27th 1996</u> - at Baden Powell House as usual - so book the date in next year's diary.

It has been suggested that the Bowman Prize (£10 credit in meaningful if it was the Society Auction) would be more given annually to the author of the article the best Bulletin in VOTED BY THE MEMBERS. To this end I ask you, the members, now the evenings are too dark for gardening, to look back through the Bulletins of 1995 and tell me (Dave Hill) which article you thought best. A postcard will suffice.

Spring comes early this year - Spring Stampex that is. It is on from 24th to 28th January 1996 at a new venue: the Business Design Centre, Upper Street, Islington, North London. This is a

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modern building with good access and parking. It is near Angel Tube Station on the Northern Line and near numerous antique shops. I have free tickets if you send me a S.A.E.

The Council of the Association of British Philatelic Societies has 10 representatives from National and Specialist Societies as well as representatives from each County or Regional Federation etc. If any Perfin Society member wishes to represent Specialist Societies in general and our Society in particular, I can put you in touch with Phil Kenton, the ABPS Liaison Officer. In this way the ABPS can better serve the Specialist Societies, Ideas at present are a register of publications of all societies, workshops, specialist exhibitions and displays at national exhibitions.

Meetings to discuss the needs of Specialists are planned. If you do not wish to be on the Council but would like to attend these, please contact me.

If you have paid your subscription to me before I send the membership cards and labels to John Luft (about 25th Nov.) your membership card should be with this Bulletin. If you have not paid then the amount you owe will be written on your label in £--p. If then you do not pay your sub I will have to assume you no longer wish to be a member, your membership will lapse and this will be the last Bulletin you receive. Recruitment of new members has been good but we must not be surprised when an almost equal number give up perfins. It would be useful if we knew why you are giving up.

Apologies to foreign members; we do not quote membership in foreign currency; I can accept US \$ bills. I save these and exchange when I have 3 lots or \$100. In the former case I spread the charge between the 3 members, so there is a small advantage. Of course the rate of exchange is that at the time of exchange.

All foreign cheques and other currency will be credited at the rate of exchange ruling at the time I change them less any charges. Members in Europe can use Giro or Eurocheque.

Unused GB stamps are acceptable for small amounts, subs etc. but no high values without gum or postage dues please! You can pay your sub with sales of perfins from the auction; please let me

know if you wish to do this. Remember it often takes 6 months or more for material to get to auction so let me know now for next 1 year's subs. Of course your material for auction must be saleable (no rubbish please) and you must estimate a realistic reserve.

TREASURER'S REPORT Contact DAVE HILL.

INCOME & EXPENDITURE for YEAR ENDED 31st AUGUST 1995

INCOME & EXPENDIT	UKE IOT	YEAR ENDED SISTAUGUS	1 1993				
<u>INCOME</u>	£	EXPENDITURE	£				
Subscriptions	1834	Bulletin	1912				
Auction £24364		Meetings	225				
-£22513	1851	-					
Interest	167	Ass.of British Philatelic					
		Societies.	100				
Publications £2625							
-£2370	255	Bowman Prize	10				
Packet	41	Photocopier	250				
Photocopying	60	Officers' expenses/post/	684				
		printing					
		Surplus	1027				
TOTAL	<u>4208</u>	TOTAL	<u>4208</u>				
BALANCE	BALANCE SHEET AT 31st AUGUST 1995						
<u>ASSETS</u>		REPRESENTED BY:-					
Cheques) in	1666	Accumulated fund at	4739				
Cash) hand	260	1st September 1994					
Bank	1928	Surplus	1027				
GIRO	547	Members' credit	3978				
60 Day A/C	4966						
Premium Bonds	150						
Publications Account	227						

<u>INCOME</u>: Subscription is up as the sub was increased this year. Auction is also up due to increased sales and better payment on Auction 4. Figures would have been better still but over £1500 is owing from one member in the US.

TOTAL

9744

TOTAL

Publications are up due to the "New Illustrated Catalogue". Many publications sent abroad surface mail were either damaged or lost so this will affect the figures.

EXPENSES: I bought a cheap second hand photocopier which has

9744

reduced my costs and is more convenient. Copying for people in the town brings in about £10 a month as well as paying for supplies. Otherwise expenses ace down which gives us a healthy surplus this year.

It has been pointed out that I was wrong to include publications stock in last year's figures as we have always written off the value of any purchases. This makes the surplus of £268 last year a deficit of £2606, which is not unreasonable considering the level of expenditure. This makes the accumulation fund brought forward to this year £4739.

* * * *

<u>CATALOGUE EDITOR'S COMMENTS</u> ROY GAULT.

The "K" pages of the New Illustrated Catalogue are with the printer. The "K" pages with detail have the same number of pages as the "I" section (£4) so the cost will be the same: £3-50p U.K.; £4-50p Europe; £6-50p Elsewhere.

John will be sending out the "I" & "K" pages of Silhouettes only together to save on postage. Price for these is not with me yet but the pages should be ready by the time the Bulletin appears. Orders to John Donner please.

* * * *

EDITOR'S COMMENTS ROSEMARY SMITH.

I apologies for the mistake of one digit in my telephone number at the front of the October Bulletin, I know one member who rang the wrong number and I hope he was the only one.

I also apologise for the fact that I have no doubt that this December Bulletin will be late. I have been out of the country for five weeks and it has been a push to get the copy to the printers by December 1st. I only hope it is printed quickly.

If the subject of your letter to me appears in the Bulletin it may be your only acknowledgement from me this time.

* * * *

MEMBERS' WANTS:- Peter May

wants railway perfins and will give two G.B. perfins for each different one received.

1995 YEAR END - CATALOGUE EDITOR'S REPORT.

This year the "New Illustrated Catalogue" has seen the completion of the huge letter 'S', as well as two smaller letters 'I' and 'K'. Figures from the 12 sections published so far are tabulated below.

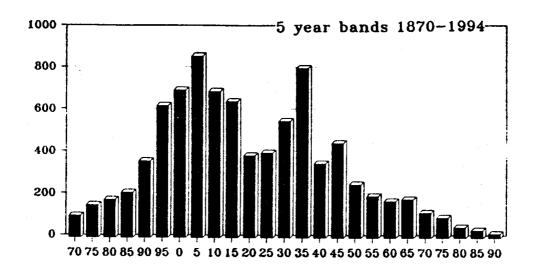
	No of	Dies	Avg	No. of	1d	1d	Dies	No.
Letter	Old	New	Life	Idents	Lilac	E7	with NO	Hand
	Cat	Cat	Yrs				Details	Drawn
I	352	348	8.0	156(45%)	63	75	36	2
K	304	325	11.1	159(49%)	81	80	13	4
0	280	286	8.6	104(36%)	47	41	23	4
0	39	45	8.1	20(44%)	8	8	5	0
\$	1564	1686	9.7	662(39%)	385	373	112	8
0	194	209	6.9	110(53%)	26	23	22	5
V	159	172	8.4	55(32%)	32	45	20	3
X	20	22	2.6	7(32%)	1	2	3	1
у	87	100	8.1	42(42%)	22	15	8	0
Z	16	16	4.5	7(44%)	1	3	2	0
Deo	84	78	10.3	35(45%)	19	21	6	4
Nos	63	62	6.6	26(42%)	8	6	14	0
Total	3162	3349	9.0	1383(41%)	693	692	264(8%)	31

The increase in the number of dies in the New Illustrated Catalogue compared to the Old Catalogue is currently 6%. Assuming this remains constant for the remaining sections, a total of 22,728 different perfin dies on GB stamps can be expected. Incidentally, the two-horse race for the title of "most frequently perfinned GB stamp" now has the 1d Lilac of Queen Victoria leading the 1d Red of Edward VII by a nostril.

SC U.L O.C. YK/C S.P/&C° KC/L O&N SB	1895-1990 1905-1992 1895-1975 1906-1979 1869-1940 1895-1965 1891-1960	95yrs 87yrs 80yrs 73yrs 71yrs 70yrs 69yrs
		-
	U.L O.C. YK/C S.P/&C° KC/L O&N SB	U.L 1905-1992 O.C. 1895-1975 YK/C 1906-1979 S.P/&C° 1869-1940 KC/L 1895-1965 O&N 1891-1960 SB 1891-1960

Although the average life of a die is 9 years, a growing number of long lived dies are coming to light. The table above shows "The Pensioners", i.e. dies with lives greater than 65 years.

One of the original objectives set for the New Illustrated Catalogue was to illustrate at least 99% of the dies with a photocopy showing the edge of the stamp rather than rely on inaccurate hand drawings. I am pleased to report that this is being met. However, the target of showing details (ie dates, issues, pinks etc.) for at least 95% of the dies is falling a little short at 92%. Inevitably, these 'missing' dies will be somewhat rare, but if you are lucky enough to have examples of any of them I would be very pleased to hear from you.



The bar chart above shows the number of dies in use at any one time. The pattern first shown last year with two distinct peaks is still very much in evidence, one during the Edwardian era and the other immediately preceding World War II. The trough between them no doubt accounts for the depression in the 1920's. On a pro rata basis, there may well have been as many as 5,500 - 6,000 different dies in use during each of these peak periods.

Finally, I would like to officially thank the team who helping me with the New Illustrated Catalogue - Harry Skinner & Arthur Smith (for access to their material), John Nelson company details), Rosemary Smith (for cover information), Stephen Steere (Sloper records information and for the arduous reading). Many help indirectly others task of proof providing me with details (and often material) from their own collections - Barry Pawson, Gerry Soutar, Robert Dedecker, John Donner, John Bonney, Kim Bjarnt, Alastair Walter, and over the years many, many more too numerous to mention. Thank you all!

PERFINS ON THE BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION STAMPS OF 1924 and 1925

Bulletins 258/259/261/265/269 By John Nelson.

This second update covers additional information concerning Wembley perfins which I have received from collectors since the last list appeared in Bulletin 269, April "95. The total number of different dies is now 60 and the number of stamps reported 468.

NEW DIE

CCW	C1800.03	1924 1½d pmkd. London FS - 1 Aug 1924
		*C.C.WAKEFIELD & CO. LIMITED
		Lubricant manufacturers,
		30-32 Cheapside, London E.C.2.
		Exhibitors in 1924 (P/E Ave 14, Bay 6-7)

L STAMPS A	ND COVERS
A0530.05	1925 1d (2) and 1½d.
B6850.01	1924 1d.
C0470.04	1924 1d on cover pmkd. London E.C.
	4 Sept 1924
D3110.03	1924 l ¹ / ₂ d on a postcard pmkd. London EC
	28 Apl 1924. Heading on card is
	Associated Newspapers Ltd. but
	refers to a subscription to the
	DAILY MAIL:confirms the identity.
F1590.01	1924 1d pmkd. London S.W.I. 24 SEP '24
H1680.03	1924 1d and 1½d.
I1928.01	1925 1d.
J6980.03	1924 1d and 1½d.
M4130.01	1924 1½d
M6020.02	1924 1d
O0480.01	1924 1½d
P0710.02	1924 1d
S6000.01	1924 l ¹ / ₂ d. Parts of further dies on
	either side suggest a multi-die.
T3600.02a	1924 1d
W1340.03a	1924 1d & 1½d on Regd.cover addressed
	to Hamburg pmkd. Fenchurch St.
	28 JUL 25 and with identity of
	WIGGLESWORTH & CO. LIMITED (Hemp
	Merchants,82 Fenchurch St., E.C.3
	A0530.05 B6850.01 C0470.04 D3110.03 F1590.01 H1680.03 I1928.01 J6980.03 M4130.01 M6020.02 O0480.01 P0710.02 S6000.01 T3600.02a

W&S W6680.07 1924 1½d (3): 2 on cover pmkd. London 6 JUN 24 and 25 JON 24.

It has been suggested to me by several people that IOM (I1928.01) might have some connection with the Isle of Man. I am informed that the "Isle of Man Official Board of Advertising of Guides and Exhibition Pictures" had a stand at the Gate of Harmony entrance to the Palace of Industry in 1924 so that such an identity is possible but no way proven.

I would like to acknowledge information received from, and to thank, Dennis Bundy, Bill Tonkin, Alan Sabey, Rosemary Smith, Mike Oxley, John Grier and Ian Hamill. Keep sending new data.

* * * *

PERFINS STILL IN CURRENT USE George Dyke.

See Bulletins 273/11; 275/14; 278/9.

Thanks to Mr. Comper (a very new member), Mr. Ransom and Mr. Rowe we can add a few more perfins in current use to the list. The total now stands at 50, including the Society's perforator.

<u>PERFIN</u>	<u>CAT.NO.</u>	STAMP	<u>USER</u> -Where known
BH/A	B3275.0?	19p/25p	Various- Missing pin in cross bar of H
CLE/C	C4470.01M	19p	Carlisle Corporation.
DT	D4710.06M	19p/25p	Daily Telegraph Ltd.
E.C/D	E0640.01	19p	Education Committee - Durham.
EH/MC	E2020.01	19p/25p	Various.
HH/MC	H341O.01	19p/25p	Various.
KC	K0260.01M	25p	Various.
MB/W	M0820.03M	19p	Metropolitan Borough of Wigan.
MGN	M2755.01	19p/25p	Mirror Group of Newspapers Ltd.
SE/EB	S2480.01M	19p/25p	South Eastern Electricity Board.
		50p/£1	
W/HA	W3455.02	19p/25p	Wolverhampton HA - only one central
			hole in cross bar of H.

GERMAN PERFIN CATALOGUE

WILLEM SMETSERS, KASTANJESTR.39, 5922 CA VENLO, THE NETHERLANDS has sent the following information:

From the beginning of 1985 we have issued a German Perfin Catalogue letter by letter. The U.K. company GLASS SLIPPER of York had ordered these parts from the Perfin Club Germany (called ARGE-LOCHUNGEN) and sold them to collectors in the U.K. Two years ago Glass Slipper stopped this trading.

Up to now the ARGE-LOCHUNGENHAS has issued the letters: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I/J, K, L, M, N/O, P/Q, R, S, and T/U. In total 17 parts. Letter V will be issued at the end of 1995.

Any collectors who are interested in the German Catalogue can order it from Willem; £8 per part; he will accept E cheques.

* * * *

THE "MAXA" COLLECTION

Willem Smetsers is also looking for help. He writes:-

"During a visit to Czechoslovakia we visited a Czech perfin collector. During the meeting he told us that the perfin' collection of the late Mr. Vojtech MAXA was sold to the U.K.

"MAXA was a famous perfin collector and between 1975 and 1985 he issued a stack of catalogues of different countries. Of course with reference to his own collection.

"Since then collectors of different countries have worked on these catalogues to up-date them. They found that MAXA had made mistakes, or in his collection are perfins that are one of a kind and since then, never seen again.

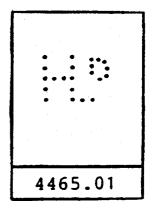
"We are working on several catalogues which will be issued next year. The question is:- Has somebody in the U.K. more information about the MAXA collection: or knows where it is?

"If anyone can help to verify Maxa's early catalogue details please write to me at the above address."

QUERIES

PERFIN HLD (Joined) H4465.01 from Dave Hill.

I purchased a picture postcard in a local antique shop on which was an early KEVII stamp with perfin HLD. I usually avoid such illegally used perfins but I saw this one was used locally, postmarked in HAYLE and sent by a 'Peter' to a lady friend in St. Austell.



I wonder if the perfin could have come from Harveys Ltd, engine builders, shipwrights and merchants as they were almost the only business in Hayle. Have other members this perfin with this postmark?

In 1799 John Harvey moved his forge to Hayle and set up the first foundry in Cornwall serving the Cornish tin mines. A daughter married Richard Trevethick who was to greatly improve Boulton and Watt steam engine. The impetus for this came not from the coal mines where fuel was plentiful but from the Cornish tin mines where coal had to be imported, often by pack animal.

In this century work dropped off until the firm became humble builders merchants. In the 1980"s the large works were demolished to leave much of Hayle derelict. Now they are talking of 'regeneration'!

* * * *

PERFIN M.D.D M2080.01 Originally from George Greenhill.

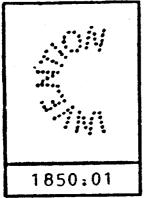
George sent this rather unusual pair to see if anyone had a logical explanation for the differing strikes. I sent the query to Roy for his views and this is his reply.

"At first glance it seems to be a case of presenting the side edge of the sheet to the perforating machine followed by the more usual perforation from the top, but now I'm not so sure! All I can say for sure is that the perforations were created by perforating the face of the stamps.

"Not having any examples of my own to look at, I turned to the old Van Lint and Tilles Catalogues and noted that both illustrate examples that show the perfin sideways on the stamp so I assume that the usual orientation is sideways. As far as I can tell, the die is not mentioned in any of the Sloper ledgers so I didn't know how many patterns there were in the perforating head. I have tried with a single pattern (upright, inverted, sideways reading up and sideways reading down) to see if I can logically create strikes while the stamps are still in sheet form and failed. I have also tried with multiple heads (1x2, 2x1, 2x2 etc), a gain with the four orientations mentioned above and still failed, so I am forced into the conclusion that the strikes were made (perhaps specially) when the stamps were in horizontal strips."

* * * * *

<u>INVENTION" PERFIN</u> I1850.01 from Dave Hill.



I noted in the ABPS Year Book and Directory that the Patent Office had a stamp club and wrote to the Treasurer hoping he could help with the identity of the user of this perfin. Our first president, Charles Jennings, thought it was used by the Patent Office but John Nelson queried this as long ago as 1975.

The Treasurer of the Patent Office stamp club also doubted this and eventually helped me to discover that G.A.Redfern & Co., patent agents, used the telegraphic address "INVENTION" but they could not confirm they had ever used a perfin. Redferns have offices in Worthing, West Sussex and High Holborn, London WC1. They previously had offices in Brighton, Sussex and Finsbury, London EC.

No firm evidence here but perhaps members would let me have the dates and postmarks of their copies of this perfin.

The Treasurer of The Patent Office stamp club, Michael Blackman, has joined the Society (see New Members). He is interested in "coat of arms" and MB perfins plus any connected with patents, inventions or trademarks. He may be able to help with queries on historical patents and trademarks. He would particularly like a copy of the INVENTION perfin.

NEARLY BUT NOT QUITE By Dave Hill.

I have hunted in recent years, in vain, for a perfin machine. I have come across many company seal or letterhead embossing machines in antique shops or car boot sales but never a perfin machine.

I thought my luck had changed when I turned up for my weekly duty at our town museum. Someone had brought in a machine about 12" wide and it had pins! It might have been a multi-die machine but it wasn't. The central lever brought down a line of pins in guillotine fashion and it would have been used for raffle tickets and the like.

I illustrate the pattern to show how easy it would be to

confuse it with some of our straight line design perfins (design 600.01 etc.). The machine was made by the distinctively named Harrild & Sons, London. From an old directory I find they made machinery for printers and this type of machine must have been fairly common.

* * * *

SEEN IN AUCTION

Phil Butcher was at an auction very recently when an unusual stamp failed to reach its reserve. It was a 2½d blue PUC with INVERTED WMK; V.F.U. parcel cancel; perfin PF of Peak Frean. The estimate was £58. If anyone is interested it may still be available from The New Raynes Stamp Co., 2A Corporation Street, Chesterfield S41 7TP.

Alastair Walter reports the following. (Ed.- note the realisation bids and then read Dr. Pocock's article.)

From A.B.C. Stamp Auctions - 12th August 1995.

AUSTRALIA

- Lot 72 S.G.060 1916-18 5d rough paper perf OS v.f.u. slightly off centre small crease Cat.£100; Est.£40; Real. £27.
- <u>Lot 73</u> S.G.071 1918-23 2d inv. wmk. perf OS f.u. well off centre. Cat. £35; Est.£6; Real.£4.

CANADA

<u>Lot 172</u> S.G.057 - 1938-9 10c - perf OHMS - f.u. - Cat.£32; Est.£16; Real.£11.

PAPUA

<u>Lot 220</u> S.G.01 - 1908 2/6d - perf OS - v.f.u. - Cat.£40+; Est.£24; Real.£16.

AUSTRALIA

- Lot 344 OFFICIALS 1915-28 10/- v.f.u. also showing misplaced 'roo variety S.G.O51 perf OS Cat.£60+; Est.£25; Real. £22.
- Lot 345 OFFICIALS 1915-28 5/ perf OS/NSW mounted mint—Est.£30; Real.£36.

From Richard Arundel Ltd List 122 July 1995.

Item X101 Great Western Railway perfins on penny plates - three different plates - f.u. on piece - Birmingham duplex. Price £13. (Why 3 different plates used together?)

From Embassy Philatelists Aug/Sept Retail List.

<u>PH21</u>	1875 6d deep grey S.G.146 Pl.14 - perfin "S.M&C°" -
	neatly tied on tidy entire from London Ap.1875 to Lyon,
	France. Fine colour. Price £20.

- 356 1880 2/- brown S.G.121 perfin "O&C°" f.u. Liverpool 1880 C.U.S. & duplex. Good filler. Cat.£1250; Price £165
- 454 8d S.G.156 perfin "I&R/M" v.f.u. London 1877 hexagonal C.D.S. Price £20.
- S.G.172 1d lilac 16 dots perfin B.T. (Board of Trade) good mounted mint scarce. Price £15.
- 539 ½d S.G.187 Board of Trade perfin good m/m. Price £10.

BP DESIGN PERFIN ON 1957 SCOUT STAMPS

I, Editor, decided to include this information from IAN BURNS after the "News from Auctions" because the stamps mentioned awre again on sale.

Letter from IAN BURNS dated 11-9-95:

"I see from the September edition of "British Philatelic Bulletin", that the BP perfin on the Scout stamps has appeared again. They are being advertised by AVON STAMPS on Pg.28 of the magazine. They do however, put a question mark after the 'BP'

I refer to Bulletin 263 Pg. 10-11 and can confirm that I also have been told that these perfins have nothing whatsoever to do with the Boy Scout movement.

"I am intending to write to both Avon Stamps and the editor of the "British Philatelic Bulletin" regarding this matter. I should not like to see any collector being caught by what appear to be bogus perfins."

Letter from IAN BURNS dated 20-9-95.

"Further to my letter of 11th Sept. I have had replies from both John Holman of the 'Philatelic Bulletin' and Avon Stamps. Mr. Holman says that he will publish my letter in the November issue of the said Bulletin. However, the letter from Avon Stamps is rather disquieting, and I quote:-

"Thank you for your letter 11-9-95 reed today. We ourselves have already conducted research on these via the specialist 'Scouts' Society. No-one has yet been able to throw any light upon these - but as the perfin BP + scroll insignia has appeared on a Scout issue of commemoratives it does not seem unreasonable to presume that there is a connection - which we have not been able to make yet (Prove or disprove)."

"The signature is indecipherable, but Avon Stamps appear to be part of Omniphil, P.O. Box 23, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 6SQ. Their response I find rather disturbing as I would think that, normally in the philatelic world, one would not assume anything but wait until it was conclusively proven. Surely it is up to the company to prove their claim and not make the statement - 'Prove or disprove'. They are obviously not going to take the word of the Perfin Society on the matter as it would certainly hit at their prospective sales (and presumably their profits!!)."

Ian hopes that a mention in our magazine may alert members to the possibility of these 'perfins' not being genuine.

My initial reaction was to ask why such distinctive perfins did not surface from a 1957 issue of stamps until the 1990's? I think I am correct in saying they have only been 'discovered' in the last few years.

PERFIN AUCTION COMMENTS Dr. D. A. Pocock (Australia)

This little snippet, offered for members' comments, is in no way a criticism of our tireless auctioneer.

For some time now I have been concerned at our club's auction prices. Not so much the prices realised as the estimates. Those of us from a distance who succeed in obtaining one of ten of our bids may well feel that the estimates are inaccurate over the entire range of lots with consequent difficulty in really achieving any realistic bid to put in.

With this impression in mind I did a quick analysis of a sample of the last auction and the prices realised comparing estimates and realisations. The following is a breakdown of the first 100 Lots from sale No. 5.

Unsold	2
Sold at estimate	4
Sold at 1½ x estimate	8
Sold at twice estimate	18
Sold at 2½ x estimate	6
Sold at 3 x estimate	26
Sold at 3½ x estimate	5
Sold at 4 x estimate	13
Sold at 5 x estimate	11
Sold at 6 x estimate	1
Sold at 8 x estimate	3
Sold at 9 or more x estimate	3
TOTAL	100

In other words 86% sold at more than twice the estimated price, 62% at more than 3 times the estimated price and 31% at 4 or more times the estimate.

Whilst this is very heartening to the vendors, it shows a significant and constant inaccuracy for any buyers who may well be discouraged by this trend. Perhaps this is a subtle way of discouraging those colonials!

I would also take this opportunity to compliment the Society for making sure that distant members now receive the auction lists in good time to take part in them.

MEMBERS' COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

<u>Perfins - Partials - or Rubbish</u> Bulletin 278 Pg.7-9. Rosemary Smith.

When I penned this article I was hoping to stir up a bee hive if not a hornet's nest. I have had a good response by letter phone and personal contact with members I met at three Northern Stamp Fairs. It is obvious that this subject is of concern to others as well as myself.

The majority would not go along ray route and destroy the "rubbish", as "rubbish" is a subjective term. The following are the points of view from some of our members - for the most part unedited.

PAUL DAVEY

"It may be true that a collector of the perfins of a country which issued vast numbers of perfins such as GB or the US does not want to be bothered trying to identify partials but I collect China with just 50 or so dies known. Some are known from a single example, at least one by a single partial, although the same die is more "common" on the stamps of Hong Kong. I paid well over 20p for it and was glad to do so!

"Surely the same "rules" should apply to perfins as stamps. No one is going to keep a torn 25p machin, but the world's most valuable stamp (the Br. Guiana lc black/magenta) is cut to shape, grubby and not a nice looking item at all. No one would seriously consider destroying it!

"The problem of a dealer's greed is common, but if you don't think it's worth it don't buy it. If you buy lots from dealers that are poorly described, complain and don't use them again. At best you may educate them as to what's a good perfin, at worst they will find their customer base getting smaller.

"Finally, if your dealer did have a customer who would pay 20p each, why was he offering them to you at the same price? Keep his regulars happy would be what I'd do!"

JON JOHNSON (Canada)

"I agree that partial perfins are of limited use to many collectors. There are usages for some of the partials if there is any chance of identifying the perfins. I collect perfin postmarks; the condition of the stamp and the perfin are unimportant if I can identify the perfin. Also as an issue collector I am not fussy about condition, if the stamp is a catalogue number that I don't presently have. Admittedly, I will replace a damaged stamp or incomplete perfin with a better copy when found. I have a number of damaged stamps that have yet to be replaced and I doubt if they ever will.

"In North America, with our individual perforators, it is not uncommon for missing pins as the machine aged. If the machines were not cared for, blind perfs were possible when the bolts loosened. The changing size of definitive and commemorative stamps frequently cause split or partial perfins. The result for issue collectors is that most of the later perfins would be classified as partials for one or more reasons so the quality of the perfin has to be overlooked or at least qualified.

"Where the partial perfin has no chance of being identified or can be identified and both the stamp and perfin are common plus there is no usable postmark then I do not have a problem with destroying the stamp. In different words, only partial perfins with no philatelic value to anyone, not just the owner, should be considered for destruction. If you are uncertain do not destroy the perfin. Remember, others have already destroyed stamps damaged with holes through the middle! Do not duplicate their errors. Only destroy stamps that realistically are philatelically valueless.

"Of the perfins you illustrated, I would only destroy about four if they were in my possession. Pg.7: top right and second row second from right; Pg.8: bottom right; Pg.9: bottom left.

"I should note that I collect Canada, Australia and U.S. so my perspective may be different from those who collect G.B."

BILL HAYMAN (U.S.A.)

"I completely agree that the "Bummers" should be culled out and destroyed. However, having been a collector of those little bits of paper with glue for more than 60 years I am loath to toss any in the bin. Although for years I didn't save any perfins, thought of them as damaged and gave them away. However, since becoming enthralled with perfins within the last two years I realize how much of the really useless stuff is circulating. It's time to deep six the junk. (A cricketing term from the US? Ed.)

"My solution: any stamp of QV and KEVII that do not measure up to standards is marked with a ball point pen with an "X" on the reverse and then given to a beginning collector, who is usually thrilled to have a stamp that is so old. To them it matters not that the stamp is perforated or heavily cancelled as long as they can recognise the portrait.

"This may not get such items completely eliminated, but if that stamp ever gets back into circulation at least I will know it is a 'junkie*. Now the other method of disposal is that I toss all damaged stamps into a box and when the grandchildren visit we can spend hours pasting stamps onto a box, bottle, can etc. and then coating it with clear polyurethane sealer and presto, a unique vase, pencil holder or a glory box. This gets the junk permanently stuck down so it won't circulate again.

"So I guess what I'm trying to get across is that if you don't have anything better to do with the rubbish perfins to keep them from surfacing again and again, DESTROY 'EM! Fortunately I have not had a great many of these items offered to me but enough of them do show up in mixtures to vex me."

*

ALASTAIR WALTER

"I was interested to read your article on partials - though I must say I disagree with you. Personally I accept any decipherable perfin in my collection, i.e.; any where I can be sure what die it is, which is sometimes possible with quite a lot missing.

"Also, any perfin for which it is possible to tell which die

it is may yield useful information, such as a new period of use, no matter how poor the strike or how badly damaged the stamp.

"It is worth looking at the stamp too before throwing it away - when I say look at the stamp, I mean look at what the stamp is, not the perfin. I would hate to think a Plate 225 1d Red has been destroyed because it had an undecipherable perfin.

"Finally, it was 'seconds', many of them partials, that got me started with perfins. I bought a bag of about 1000 for a couple of pounds, all poor strikes and/or damaged - although as my collection has grown, most of the badly damaged ones have been weeded out but many of the partials remain. I found it a great way to get started - that bag of "rubbish" got me hooked and I enjoyed the challenge of identifying many poor strikes (not always successfully of course).

"So I personally don't agree with burning stamps - perhaps they make unusual wallpaper!"

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BURKHART BEER (Germany)

"If you can not decipher the identity on a stamp because one letter is missing then get rid of the item. But if you have a missing pin or a double strike why not keep it (perhaps side by side with a normal) as a variety?

"I have several HUTH perfins on 2d Blues where you find these varieties and where I show that the perfin moves up and down. On one stamp HUTH has gone half "overboard" - over the lower end of the stamp. Shall I destroy this stamp? What about a perfin where the letters overlap? The sheet of stamps has not been repositioned correctly when the next perfin strike was done. Not collectable?

The answer is surely that everybody may collect what she or he likes. In my experience you are certainly right regarding dealers and "big bucks" "

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FROM "THE SOUTH PACIFIC PERFIN BULLETIN"

At a club meeting in Sydney this article was discussed. The write up is as follows:-

"Although there was some lively discussion, the general consensus was that even these very poor quality perfins should be rather than destroyed. Where a partial can provide useful postmark information, identifiable. it instance, on the date/place of usage. Similarly, missing or blind pins (which point to the deterioration of the die) can throw light demise of a particular perfin pattern. Split perfins (showing the separated halves of a die) can also be useful in throwing light on the spacing of heads in a multi-die perforator. There are also particular perfin patterns (e.g. L&L&GINSURANCECO.1) which do not fit on a single stamp and which will always appear as partial strikes. In short, members baulked at the prospect of destroying perfins, whatever their condition."

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JOHN NELSON

"I enjoyed your item in the last Bulletin about sub-standard perfin material and totally support your view that this kind of stuff should never be purchased or sold nor should our members who get landed with it allow it to circulate any further. I know Harry Skinner refuses to accept these junk lots for the Auction and in this he is quite right.

"Whether or not one immediately regards such stamps to be total rubbish depends on the type of collector you are. Those who insist on perfect condition or who collect only one nice example of each die will probably be inclined to destroy them straight away. This however may at the same time deprive all of us of valuable information such as a postmark which confirms an identity or a stamp which extends the known range of issues on which a die is to be found.

"Some of the typical examples you have reproduced in the Bulletin are quite beyond redemption but with a bit of experience and a good deal of patience I suggest it would be possible to assign a die number to something approaching half of them. My personal attitude as regards the latter is that if any stamp

contributes new information such as the kinds I have mentioned, I would add it to my collection. If not, it would, along with all the other hopeless cases, be irrecoverably destroyed."

* * * *

Q.E.II COMMEMORATIVES PERFINED Alastair Walter.

Alastair has made a list of all the <u>perfin dies</u> used on these commemoratives - at least all those reported. They are not on his computer as yet but his handwritten list runs to 4 sides of A4. If anyone wants a copy of this information, send a S.A.E. to Alastair, plus a mint 2nd class stamp to cover photocopying costs Remember too

that if you have commemoratives with perfin which are still unrecorded please let Alastair know.

* * * *

1993 NETHERLANDS XMAS STAMPS Bulletin 275/22-23: 276/8-9.

Reprinted from "The South Pacific Perfin Bulletin" No.33 October 1995. JOHN MATHEWS writes:-

"After the previous articles brought no response from other readers about the "snowflakes" on the 1993 Christmas mini-sheet stamps produced by The Netherlands, I decided to write to the authorities' in' The Netherlands and received the following reply from PTT POST FILATELIE in Haarlem:-

"With reference to your letter of 5 August 1995, I would like to provide you with some background information about the 1993 Xmas stamps." PTT Post ordered the designer to create 'cheerful' December stamps. He worked this feature into the design in three ways.

First of all, cheerfulness is reflected in the image, the cheery colours, the atmosphere associated with festivities & fireworks, and the hands of the clock which ring in the new year. In the second place, the shape added a festive character to the stamp - it was the first time in The Netherlands that a stamp had this shape, which provided the stamp with a special feature.

The third aspect concerned the pattern of holes. The underlying idea was to make the stamp appear more playful. By putting holes in the stamps, the colour of the envelope becomes part of the stamp. During the holiday season, envelopes of different

colours are used to send Christmas cards and New Year greetings, so the stamps take on a range of additional colours. The purpose of the holes was to contribute to the festive character of the stamps.""

(Ed:- and we had been looking for deep and significant meaning when the answer was so simple!)

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GREGORY, ROWCLIFFE & CO Bulletin 278 Pg.18-19.

From JOHN NELSON.

"I have spent some time having a close look at my Gregory Rowcliffe etc. perfins after reading the Dave Hill/Rosemary Smith article. I have never heard that country solicitors were not allowed to set up practice in London. The reason why they appoint London agents is so that they do not need to give up the time and have the expense of coming up to London whenever they are required to appear at preliminary Court proceedings or to carry out completions of property sales and other routine work.

"Solicitors always stored their correspondence and papers for as long as they could but with the closing down and amalgamation of small practices and the increased cost of storage space there has more recently been a tendency to clear these papers out and for the covers to find their way on to the stamp market. A good case in point is the firm of Greg & Procter of Kirby Lonsdale who used Gregory Rowcliffe as London agents and to whom quite a lot of the London firm's perfin covers now in the hands of collectors were addressed.

"I can contribute the following additional dates to those in the article but these are just on stamps and not covers:

G0970.05 - 30-11-94

G1005.01 - 13-07-87

G4290.01 - 2-10-64 (3d Forth Road Bridge with 2 strikes)

R1060.01 - 15-11-87

"In the mid 1960's I contacted Gregory Rowcliffe about their perforating press but they were very secretive. All I was able to get out of them was that it was very old, was round in shape and was operated by pressing a large circular knob at the end of a handle. I asked if I might be allowed to call in and

have a look at it but was told that this would not be possible as it was kept in the ladies lavatory (an excuse of convenience if ever there was one!!).

"Some years later when it came to my notice that they were using a franking machine I contacted the firm again but was told that the press was no longer there and no-one seemed to know what had become of it.

"The indication that the press was round in shape could mean that it was of a kind known to have been made by Sloper which was fitted with more than one die and by revolving the operating handle the die required could be selected."

* * * *

<u>"DUFF" PERFIN</u> Bulletin 277/2; 278/11.

TONY SWALES says that Whitaker's (1914) lists Duff (William) & Co. Merchant Bankers & Newspaper Proprietors, 113 Cannon St., E.C. Established 1793: staff about 100: specialities- Metal, Drugs and Chemicals, Textiles, Paper, Glass. The firm are proprietors of "The British Trade Review".

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MEMBERS' QUERY RE RBC/B - RANDALL Bulletin 276/16.

Again from the 1914 Whitaker's Red Book of Commerce, TONY SWALES found the following reference. Randall Brothers of 19, 21 & 23 Lichfield Road, Aston Cross, Birmingham. The firm was established in 1899 by W. Randall & F. Randall. By 1914 there was a staff of nearly 100. The firm's occupations were Letterpress Printers, Paper Bag Makers and Account Book Manufacturers.

Tony says Aston is not near Moseley so maybe this is not connected with Stephen Steere's postcard.

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PERFIN "St&C^o" Bulletin 271/18; 274/16; 275/5.

A summary of the information in the notes. Usually seen diagonal; is known on GB stamps from 1902 to 1918 with Manchester postmarks; found on an ARGENTINE stamp postmarked ROSARIO c.1897; known on a URUGUARY stamp of the 1899 Electricity issue; known on PARAGUAY issues. The Perfins Club 'World Perfins Catalogue' lists the user as STAUDT S CO. Can anyone research this company in Manchester?

NEW IDENTITIES submitted to the CATALOGUE EDITOR (Roy Gault) - 16 Contributors.

Note: Underlined Catalogue Numbers are also New Dies and have been illustrated at the end.

From Rosemary Smith				
G3220.01 GLOBE	10,7,10,14,10	5	The Globe (The Oldest Evening Newspaper), 367 Strand, London WC. Est 1803. Cover dated 16/10/1917.	I
Note: This is also likely t	o be the identity o	f GLOBE (1
K0010.04 K	10	5	Henry S King & Co, Cornhill and Pall Mall, London. (Reed 9/3/1916).	I
Note: The 'Kodak' identit	y for KOO10.04 i	n Tomkins i		1
<u>K0010.04a</u> K	10	5½	Kodak Ltd, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middx. Censored Cover - 2/6d stamp.	Q
Note: There is a slight bu	at distinct curve to	the lower le		
L0960.02aM LC Note: Identity suspected:	6,7 from Lancaster &	4½ Morecambe	3. Ø Lancaster Corporation. e postmark.	S
L1900.0IM LEP	6,9,8(12½ wide)	4½	2. LEP Insurance Brokers Ltd, Sunlight Wharf, Upper Thames St, London EC4.	
			Cover Pmk London, 18/2/1970.	V
L6060.01 LY/M	7,8/15	5	Leeds Mercury, Leeds, Yorkshire. Cover pmk Leeds, 20/12/1916.	I
R2080.01 RG/&S/F	12,10/13,10/8	4 I	Reuben Gaunt & Sons Ltd, Farsley, Yorks. Cover pmk Farsley, 30/10/14.	I
			s also likely to be the user of with Leeds postmarks.	1
S3570.01 S&H/Ld	10, 14,12/7,7	5 III Ø	Siddall & Hilton Ltd. Sowerby Bridge, Yorks.	E&F
Note: Identity suspected	from Sowerby Bri	dge (Duplex		
S3570.02 S&H/Ld	11,12,11/6,7 5	½/4 Ia	Siddall & Hilton Ltd, Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire. Cover dated 7/3/1924.	I
From John Nelson Sus	nected identities u	sing various	Trade Directories.	
K0695.01 KEN/NAN	1,10,13/13,10,13	Ø	Kennan & Sons, Engineers, Machinists, Hot Water Apparatus	
			and Agricultural Implement Mfrs, 13-21 Fishamble St, Dublin.	F&H
			ation on stamps with dates ranging as still at this address in 1957.	ræm
K1250.01 KL/Co	10,7/8,6	5 Ø	Kirkcaldy Linoleum Co Ltd, 151 Queen Victoria St, London EC,	
Note: Identity suspected	from London EC a	and Kirkcalo	and Kirkcaldy, Fife.	B&E
<u>K1350.01</u> K/McD	10/15,7,11	4½ Ø	Kenneth McDonald, Bootmaker,	
			2, 3, & 10 Strand Hotel Buildings, Holywell St, Strand, London WC.	В
Note: Identity suspected	trom Bedford St S	.O. (Londoi	n WC) postmark dated 10/10/1891.	
<u>K1477.01</u> K&P./C.C.	10,13,11/9,9	4 III Ø	Kingswood & Parkfield Collieries Co Ltd, Midland Rd, Bristol, and Kingswood (near Bristol)	Е
Note: Identity suspected	from Bristol postn	nark, dated 2	22/2/1896.	

From Terry Wood B2040.01 BD/CoLd	11,9/7,4,6,6	4½	Brooker, Dore & Co Ltd, (W F Sadler Esq), Abbotsford, Abbots Langley, Herts. Cover pmk Watford, 28/5/1941.	Q
C7770.01 CT/SIR	7,6/9,5,10	4½	Charles Tennant & Co of St Rollox Ltd, 217 West George St, Glasgow. Postal Invoice pmk Glasgow, 10/12/1887.	
J4720.01 JK/&S	6,10/12,10	4 IIIa	James Keiller & Son Ltd, Marmalade Manufacturers, Dundee.	R
identified as suc		Bulletin No	Wm O' Hanlon & Co Ltd, 49 & 51 Dale St, Manchester. Also London EC 1 and Glasgow. TC pmk Manchester, 4/11/1941. Wartime Provisional and .273, but now believed to be a la.	
From Kevin Parkhill. C2880.01 CG/&/S in a 1 8,10	,14/12(40) 4½(1	18½) III &/SI d in a	Charles Goodall & Son Ltd, mfrs of playing cards, printers and stationers 24 Gt College St, Camden Town, London NW. Also 17 St Bride St, EC and 60 Charing Cross Rd, London WC. Est 1820 and Ltd between 1895/1909. Cover pmk London NW, 16/2/1909. heart (C2885 01)	F
-			•	
L4510.04 L <u>P</u> /Ld	8,13/7,8	5	The Stern-Sonneborn Oil Co, (Wallach Brothers, General Managers), 57 Gracechurch St, London EC. Trade Card attached to unused reply carboth with perfinned stamp. Pmk London, 29/8/1905.	[.] d F
From Donald Farmborou	gh			
A5130.01 A.S./L	10,11/7	6	A Stedall Ltd, 2 Cannon St, London EC Piece pmk London EC, 5/6/1929.	L
H7740.02 HW/&Co	12,14/14,11	5 III	Hay's Wharf Cartage Co Ltd, Metropolitan House, Charterhouse St, London EC 1. Order office 66/67 Long Lane, EC 1. Piece dated 9/12/1929.	L
R4820.03 R&S/L	12,12,11/7	4½ IIIa	Rylands & Sons Ltd, London EC. Piece pmk London EC, 19/12/1929.	I
received in Brish known with Lon Hoffnung & Co	egistered cover to pane 18/3/1901. S don EC postmark	imilar SHC' s on issues (cted user. A	S Hoffnung & Co Ltd, Australian Merchants, London EC. in Brisbane (203 Charlotte St), s (S3430.02/02a/03 & 05) are C, E, F & G and warrant S ll five dies were probably made	В
oj viamping mu				

From A 10930.0	anne Taylor 12 I.F.O.	5,8,10	5½	Imperial Insurance Office, Midlands Branch, Birmingham. Cover postmark Birmingham, 23/9/81, on 1d Venetian.	A
		trated in the New of final stop not		s I.F.O (10920.02) without the	71
M3520	.03 M&K	15,12,10	5½ IIIa	Maxted & Knott Ltd, Engineers, Burnett Ave, High St, Hull. TC dated 22/12/1913.	Ι
	addy <u>Murphy</u> 05 A.W	10,17	5½	Abernethy (Photographic) Studios, 29 High St. Belfast. Cover pmk Belfast 20/9/1902.	F
B2920.	Dave Hill 01 B.G uspected identity	15,10 based on piece wi	5½ th Bethnal (2. Ø Bethnal Green (Council?). Green E2 postmark, dated 30/11/22.	Ι
	eter Tuckey .01 WCo./Ld./D	15,8,6/7,7/11	5½	The Walpamur Co Ltd, Hollins Paint Works, Darwen, Lancs. Postal invoice - Darwen, 28/7/1919.	Ι
	ill <u>Hanson</u> 08 B&P	13,12,10 5½,4	1½,5½ IIIa	Buckley & Prockter Ltd, Wholesale and Retail Drapers. Home Furnishers, Mumps, Oldham. Receipt dated 30/7/1920.	I
J0010.0	06 <u>J</u>	8	7	1. The Jaeger Co Ltd, 64 Bold St, Liverpool. (Additional address). Receipt dated 30/4/1929.	Ι
From N J6440.0	orman Hewerding 1 J&R/A	2 7,14,11/10	5 III	J & R Allan Ltd, Merchants, 77-86 South Bridge, Edinburgh. Cover pmk Edinburgh, 31/7/1924.	Ι
From B A576.0	rian <u>Dennis</u> 5 AW/&C°	10,14/14,8,4	5½ I	Anthony Ward & Co Ltd, Albion Mills, Leek, Staffordshire. TC dated 7/8/1929.	L
P4910.0		, 1/- & 2/- values)		Pim, Vaughan & Co, Stock & Share Brokers, 1 Draper's Gardens, Throgmorton St, London EC2. earing King George V Contract 1935. Perfin also known on	
	<u> </u>				

The following new identities are the result of Stephen Steere's article illustrating unreported Sloper dies (B276 p4-5). All dies single headed. Thanks go to Jack Brandt, Mike Hempsall, John Lardner-Coles, and Rosemary Smith.

<u>H4390.01a</u> H	I&L	10,12,7	4½ Ia		Hart & Levy, Wimbledon Works, Leicester. Previously at 252 Regent St, WI.	R
<u>H4860.02b</u> H	IM	10,11	4½		Holt & Moseley Ltd, 18/20 Creechurch Lane, London EC3, and 33 Brazennose St, Manchester.	R
<u>J4460.02a</u> J.	JT	6,6,6	4½		J J Tatham. Nanholme Mills, Todmorden.	R
<u>J5474.05</u> J	M/&S	6,11/12,9	4½	Ia	J Matthew & Son (London) Ltd, 12A Milk St, London EC2.	R
K0380.01a K	Z/&Co	9/12,7,4	4½	Ia	Kessler & Co Ltd, 6 Vicar Lane, Bradford.	R
<u>K0514.01c</u> K	KD (9,9	4½		Kellys Directories Ltd, 186 Strand, London WC2, and Neville House, Eden St, Kingston-upon-Thames.	R
<u>L0730.01b</u> L	LB/T	6,11/6	4½		Le Bas Tube Co Ltd, Cyclops Iron Works, West Ferry Rd, Millwall, E14.	R

NEW DIE/IDENTITY ILLUSTRATIONS.

