

THE PERFIN SOCIETY

BULLETIN

THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Chris Carr
SECRETARY/ TREASURER/ PACKET SUPT. AUCTIONEER	Dave Hill Tony Llewellyn-Edwards
BULLETIN EDITOR	Rosemary Smith
CATALOGUE EDITOR	Roy Gault
LIBRARIAN/ PUBLICATIONS	John Donner

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**8 New Identities Pages - N.I. 101 to 108;
Auction No.1 (1999) 12 Pages.**

SOCIETY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES to December 31 st. Total Members 367

New Members

JOHN FOSBERY

GEORGE McGOWAN

VOJTO BENKO

Change of Address

RICHARD FRANKLIN

J GLERUM

G.H.ROONEY

TERRY WOOD

Resigned

ALAN LEE VICTOR VENITE

Death

CAPELA BOLINA

* * * * *

TREASURER'S COMMENTS Dave Hill.

As at 1st January about 50 subscriptions were still outstanding. Average for this time of year but please check and if you have not paid send your subs. It is wasteful of time and money if I have to write individual reminders.

Auction Payments

If you have credit, I will deduct auction payments (plus subs and publications) from your credit. There is no need to write and tell me each time.

However, if you pay for yours as you get them, please send me the correct amount, including post and packing, shown at the bottom of the invoice. Lately a number of members have sent the wrong amount.

* * * * *

The Society Auction

by Tony Llewellyn-Edwards

Enclosed with this issue of the Bulletin you will have found, as usual, the list for the Society's Auction. This auction is a special one as it is the last one that Harry Skinner is preparing for us. Harry has for longer than many of us would want to remember been supplying us with auction catalogues, and through the auction, with a convenient method of both buying and selling perfins and similar items. As announced in the last issue of the Bulletin, I will be taking over the running of the auction from this point. Certainly Harry will be a hard act to follow, but I hope to take up the baton and to aspire to continue as he has done.

To all those who have been regular vendors or bidders at these auctions I will promise to do my best to continue with the same good service, but equally to those who are not regulars I would also wish to serve them and to introduce them to the use of the auction for both buying and selling. There is nothing special about our auction and it runs just like any other auction, but if any member has any questions - just ask.

I do not intend to make any significant changes in the auction, and I hope it will be a seamless change over and that the auction will look just the same in the future as it has in the past. However, if you have any ideas for improvement do put them forward to me or to one of the other officers of the Society.

After this Auction No. 1 (1999), all correspondence, together with all bids and items for sale should now be posted to me at the address on the front cover, or you can contact me . There are bound to be some outstanding matters from previous auctions to be cleared up, but please address them to me too and I will work with Harry to tie up any loose ends.

* * * * *

GERMAN PERFIN COVERS FOR SALE

As this spot is after the auction item, it is appropriate to include this piece of news on this page. This type of offer is not intended to be a regular occurrence but a *'one-off'*.

One of our members, Kevin Parkhill, died last year. Norman Hewerdine has the task of selling his quite substantial collection on behalf of Kevin's widow. The GB covers have gone, some I brought down to the London meeting and many went to members there, but there is a great deal left.

One section is the German cover collection. I (Ed.) have had a word with the old and new Auctioneer and it is agreed that the collection will be better left intact, and not split into individual covers, the whole lot can be offered for sale via the Bulletin. As this is the G.B. Perfin Society we do not want half an auction taken up with German covers.

There are 119 covers, most, if not all, identified on cover. They range from 1900 to 1939 with just one 'modern' cover. There is a considerable range of stamps and postmarks on the covers with, Norman has been told, some quite scarce items amongst them.

An estimate of £500 has been put on this collection and if anyone is interested in bidding for this lot, please get in touch with Norman Hewerdine

. Remember, Norman is doing this as a favour to Pat Parkhill so if you require any answer, please enclose a S.A.E. with your query

Letter to All Members from your editor - Rosemary Smith - 21st Jan

After typing that heading it looks rather pretentious - sounds like *Letter From America - by Alastair Cook*. I just wish I had his talent.

First I would like to thank those members who sent me cards and seasonal good wishes for Christmas or the New Year. It was much appreciated and gave me the feeling that my efforts are not altogether ignored. In return I wish them, and you all, a very peaceful, happy and healthy 1999.

This Bulletin is likely to be later than usual. Since the beginning of November, when I prepared the December Bulletin, I seem to have been playing Catch-Up with all my various activities and tasks. If anyone is still waiting for a reply from me, I will get round to you after this February Bulletin is at the printer. From December 27th to January 4th I wrote 27 letters, only 4 of which were not concerning perfins.

I have spent quite some time since Christmas researching the 'W' perfins and covers in my collection and filling in the Worksheets for Roy. This has also entailed looking through collections from three other members for their 'W' material. I consider this just as important as getting out the Bulletin. I pushed myself very hard in early November to get the Bulletin ready for the printer before we went on holiday on the 20th, but despite it being out of my hands by November 13th the Bulletin still did not drop through my letter box until December 8th. So it has been a conscious decision to finish other work before seeing to this Bulletin.

I have also had letters from members who have changed address and wish to register this change for the Bulletin. Could I please ask anyone who is changing address to send the details to Dave Hill, our Secretary. I have to relay the new address to him as Dave provides the address labels for the envelopes for the Bulletin. Once the master copy of the Bulletin has left my hands on its way to the printer, I have no control over it and I do not see a copy until it is delivered to me, like your copy, via the postman.

Before I close this letter, I have to make an apology to a South African member, Peter Maybury, who attended our London meeting in October. At the meeting I failed to realise that he was there and cannot remember hearing his name. So, besides two European members at that particular meeting we had someone from much further away and it was not noted in the 'minutes' of the meeting which were in the December (No. 297) Bulletin.

If any members attend the meetings for the first time, please do make yourselves known to the officers. We, the officers, are often so busy catching up with Society business that we do not have time to get round to speak to every one. The October meeting was a particularly busy meeting because of the change of officers and the discussion about Stampshow 2000.

I do not know whether I am getting slower in my old age or if I am doing more things and therefore never seem to find time to do everything which needs doing. One task which is getting left each time the Bulletin comes out is the **INDEX FROM BULLETIN 279 - FEBRUARY 1996 - TO DATE.**

I am now asking if there is anyone who can take on this job? If so, please drop me a line and I will outline what is required if you have not done anything similar before. Obviously you need a set of the Bulletins from February 1996 and a copy of the Previous Index would be useful. As Editor I would not be as organised without the Cumulative Index and I find it most annoying to have to go through many of the Bulletins from 1995 to find what I know is there - somewhere!!

London Meeting - Spring 1999

The Spring Meeting has been arranged for Saturday April 10 at Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate, SW7, just off the Cromwell Road, next to the Natural History museum and between South Kensington and Gloucester Road Tube Stations. The time is also as usual – 1pm to 5pm. There is a restaurant in the building and we have tea and coffee provided during the meeting. Old and new members are most welcome.

THE PRIVATE PERFIN OF SWITZERLAND

A New Perfin Catalogue

Through the good offices of Philip E Robinson, who lives quite near to me, and who translated the German Introduction into English, I have a copy of this new Swiss Catalogue. I am grateful to Philip for giving me one of his complimentary copies.

The catalogue is publication No.4 of the SGSV (Schweizerischen Ganzsachen Sammler Verein) [Swiss Postal Stationery Collectors Society] and is the product of the Perfin Research Group of that Society. The author is MARTIN BAER.

It has 240 pages: has the same size pages as this Bulletin; the introduction, text and symbol explanation are in German, French and English. There is an introduction to the early use of perfins, Sloper's invention and some other private perforator machines and stamp-affixing machines. The catalogue gives pictures of 800 different dies and information about more than 600 users.

The catalogue can be bought from Martin Baer

* * * * *

SNIPPETS FROM YOUR SECRETARY Dave Hill

Following my article on the P. O. Archives, since the closure of King Edward Building. The P. O. Archive has the 'Phillips Collection' but parts can only be viewed by appointment: so much for Phillips gift to the nation - which included, I'm sure, money for the building. I do not see any philatelic magazines so can anyone say if there have been any complaints from philatelists?

Since I wrote my piece on Early Ads for Perforators in the last Bulletin, 'RH/&/JP has been possibly identified as Robert Henry and John Pearson Ltd, ironmongers of Notting Hill and Kensington.

For collectors of Railway Philately there is **TRAINS 1999** at Wembley 15th to 18th April, organised by Francis Kiddle, with I think, backing by the BPT. It is a pity our Railways Perfin Catalogue is not up-dated for the event.

MIKE RUCKLIDGE'S HISTORY
OF THE PERFIN SOCIETY

By

Brian J Birch

17 January 1999

Although I had read that it was in preparation, it was a pleasant surprise to find a copy of Mike Rucklidge's "A Brief History of the Perfin Society" accompanying the August 1998 issue of the Bulletin (No.295). Reading it brought back many happy memories of my active years in the Society, from 1971-84.

Late in 1983, the Company for which I worked was taken over by its greatest competitor and I was advised that once the factory at which I worked had been closed down, my services would no longer be required. That dire prediction did not come to pass and I am in fact still employed by the Group that took me over but now in a senior position. The effect on me at the time however was quite marked, for example, my children are a year or two younger than they would otherwise have been. Owing to my expected straightened circumstances, I decided to curtail my philatelic activities drastically and accordingly, resigned the majority of my philatelic society memberships and at the same time gave up my offices with the Perfin Society. My purchases of stamps also ceased since those were seriously recessionary times and I could expect to be out of work for a considerable period of time. Although the worst did not come to pass, I sought alternative employment for nearly two years before resigning myself to my fate with my current employer. I never returned to collecting stamps.

In reality therefore, I haven't collected perfins for 15 years or so, but I have kept my Perfin Society membership up for reasons of nostalgia and the fact that I enjoy reading Rosemary's Bulletins.

The stresses and strains imposed by the ever-increasing pace of business these days need to be alleviated on a regular basis and philately is still my preferred therapy. My philatelic pursuit nowadays is the bibliography and indexing of philatelic literature. It has the great advantage that I can leave it when I am busy and return to it as time and circumstances allow. In addition, as opposed to stamps, I need not consider new issues or completeness. Nonetheless, the hunt for the elusive and rare publication (literature is much rarer than stamps, a fact that is not generally reflected in the price) and the mental challenge of compiling data for publication (as opposed to exhibition) remain.

As a collector of philatelic literature, which is really all about people - what they did, what they owned and what they published - I always grieve when a society's published history, however brief, has no index to the persons who shaped that society. Accordingly, I have produced an index of people mentioned by Mike in his history.

The Missing Librarian

Virtually all of my files relating to perfins and the Society went with the Society's Library when I passed it on to Maurice Hankin. Accordingly, I cannot give an exact date in 1971 when I took over the Library. However, I remember clearly Ron Bowman, who virtually ran the Society single-handed at that time, telling me about the Librarian I took over from and whose name now eludes me. It would appear that when Frank Summers gave up the position of Librarian in 1970, another member volunteered and was given the post.

At that time, Ron edited the Bulletin and recorded therein the change of Librarian. Within a short time however, he received a letter from the new Librarian pointing out that Ron had got his name wrong. Needless to say, Ron published a correction in the very next issue; unfortunately got the name wrong again. Thus, publicly slighted twice in rapid succession, the new Librarian resigned forthwith from both the Library and the Society and yours truly took up the vacant post. One can only assume that Mike, not surprisingly, missed this fleeting incumbent when digging out the Librarian's names.

Index to Persons Mentioned in the History

Where a person has been mentioned more than once on a page, the number of times is recorded in brackets after the page number. I presume that much of Mike's information was gleaned from the Society's Bulletin since many names are shortened or incomplete. Wherever my files allowed, I have augmented or completed names. However, information that I have inserted, which was not in the original, is shown in square brackets, just in case I have made a mistake.

Bartleson, A.S.	5
Bein, Charles	4
Birch, Brian [John]	11, 12
Blyth, J.G.	5
Bowman, Ron J.	5(2), 9(2), 10, 11, 12, 14
Carr, Chris J.T.	5, 10, 11
Clarkson, H.	5
Davidson, D.	5
Day, Peter	11,15
Donner, John	11,12
Fades, E.	5
Edwards, Dr.T.A.	See Llewellyn-Edwards
Fosbery, J.	5
Francombe, Ted	11
Gault, Roy	10,14(4)
Hamill, I[an]	14
Hankin, Maurice	12
Harp, Maurice	12
Higgs, Ron	11
Hill, Dave [T.]	9(2), 11
Hoggett, R.A.	5
Holden, ?	12
Husband, Richard	9
Jennings, Charles	5(2), 6, 8
[Llewellyn-Edwards, Dr. Tony [A.]	10(2), 11, 14(3)
Longbottom, [E.] Geoff	11, 12
Lucas, Mrs. Betty [C]	5,14
Luft, John	11,12
McKee, Robert	13
Millet, P.J.	5

Muggleton, D[erek]	5
Nelson, John [S.]	5, 8, 9, 11
Newman, Mrs. J.	5
Parkhill, K[evin]	14
Rendall. Dr.	4
Rucklidge, [J.] Michael	8, 9(2), 11
Scott, David [N.]	11
Skinner, Harry	11
Sloper	4
Smith, F.H.B.	5
Smith, Mrs [Margaret] Rosemary	10
Steere, S[tephen]	14
Summers, Frank	12
Terry, Vic	10
Thornton, Mary	14
Tilles, Harvey	13(2)
Tomkins, Basil C.	5, 10, 13, 14
Tully, Frank	10
Vallency, Hugh	4
Van Lint, [Victor J.]	13
Welch. M.O.	5
West, W.	5, 11
Young, K[eith] Rymer	5.8

Footnote from your Editor

I am always pleased to hear from Brian. Since he resigned as Librarian in 1984, (after completely reorganising and cataloguing the Library so that it was very easy to pin point exactly the reference article you required) I have had infrequent letters from him. These have always added something to the current research of the time; proof of his lasting interest in perfins.

As a new-comer to the Society in 1971, with only a fleeting interest in perfins, it was due to Brian's help in finding me the articles I wanted from the Library (and suggesting other allied articles) and his enthusiasm for the subject and encouraging me in my quest for knowledge on the subject, that has brought me to my present love for the subject. If it were not for Brian my bank balance would have been more but my pleasure less.

EARLIEST PERFIN ON COVER?

from John Hewson

In Bulletin 285 pg. 6 the then earliest known perfin cover was noted as March 6th 1869. The perfin on one cover was C.D/ & C^o (C2087.01) of C. Devaux & Co. Now JOHN HEWSON has sent a photocopy of a very similar cover, from the same firm using the same perfin but on a 1d plate, dated FEBRUARY 19th 1869. Anything earlier?



* * * * *

UNUSUAL POSTCARD

from David Scott.

I was at a loss to find a suitable title for the postcard illustrated on the next page. It must be the first time that a perfin has been illustrated on a postcard. These free postcards are distributed nation-wide, I think, by Boomerang. I picked this one up in the Odeon Cinema in Birmingham, in a rack of free postcards

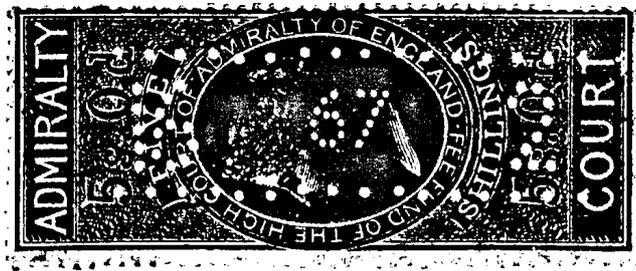


DATE PERFORATION

by David Scott

Stephen Steere's article in Bulletin No.296 page 10 set me wondering what is the earliest known date for a date perforation on a document, or on a stamp.

In my collection I have a 5/- Admiralty Court revenue stamp, which instead of having the usual manuscript cancellation on the face, has a perforated date cancellation 16 67 2, between two perforated horizontal lines.



It surprises me that these two lines are so uneven, although they do seem to be similar in their undulations. Like the examples in Stephen's article, this early perforation must have been done on a machine supplied by Sloper.

Admiralty Court stamps were in use from 1855 up to 1875 when they were superseded by Judicature Fee stamps.

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MEMBER'S WANTS

Stellan Swenson
is looking for Bulletins from No. 1 up to, and including 241.

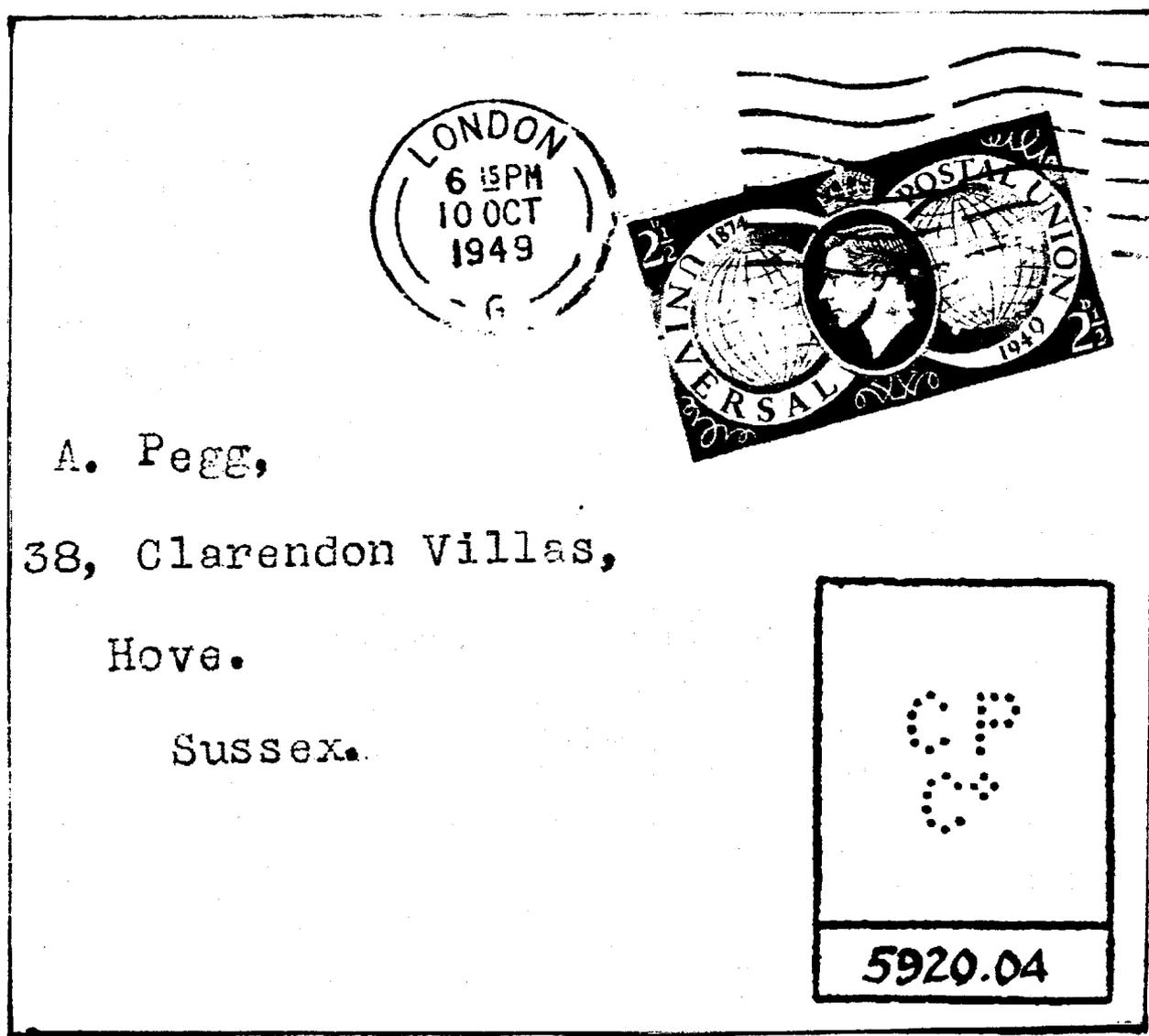
"Dick Scheper
is looking for collectors of Swiss perfins who would be willing to exchange duplicates to their mutual satisfaction.

PERFIN ON FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

JOHN MARRINER has sent this illustration of another stamp, posted on first day of issue, and having been perfined. The die is C5920.04 (CP/C°) and although the cover is not identified with users name we know from the Tomkins Catalogue that it was used by The Caxton Publishing Company Limited, London WC2 and also at Leeds.

John points out that the time of posting was 6.15pm so the "office boy" would have had time to go to the Post Office during the day and perforate them. This would suggest that they had their own perforating machine.

The Tomkins Catalogue gives the latest date of use for this perfin as 1935 so this pushes that date forward to 1949.



A. Pegg,

38, Clarendon Villas,

Hove.

Sussex.

PERFINS ON KGV SILVER JUBILEE STAMPS

George Greenhill

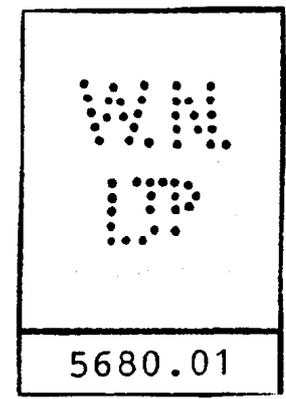
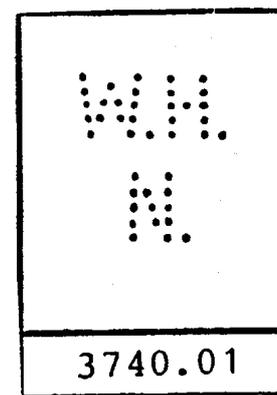
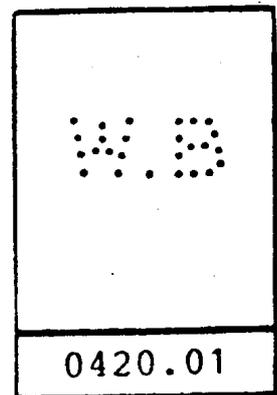
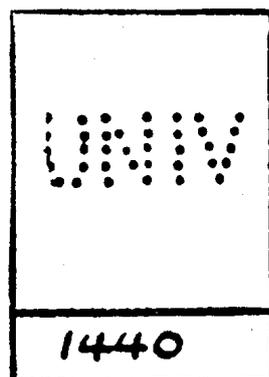
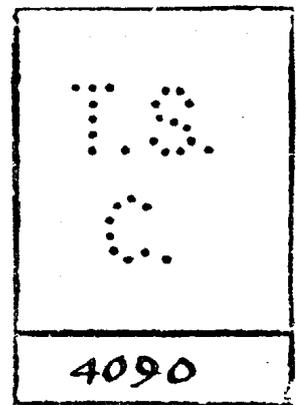
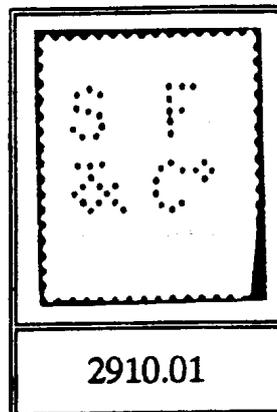
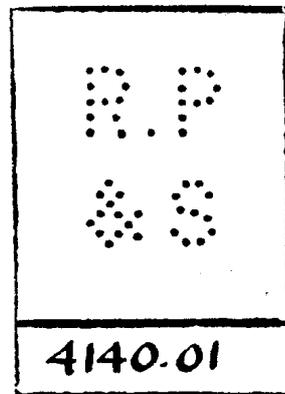
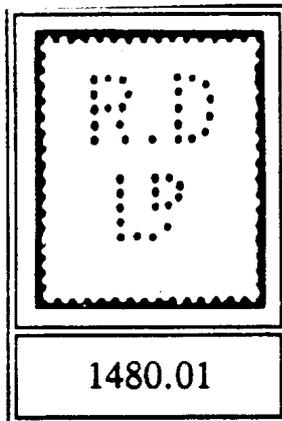
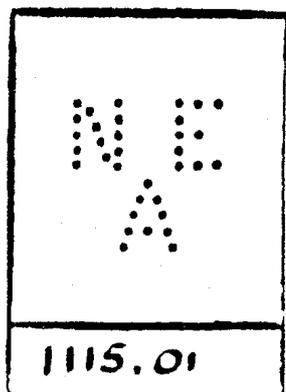
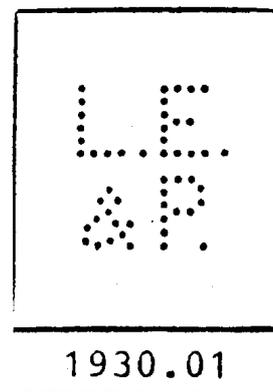
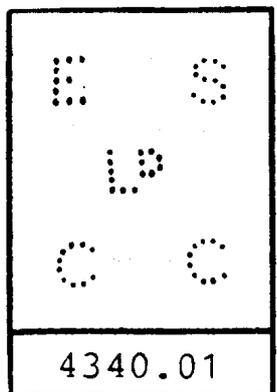
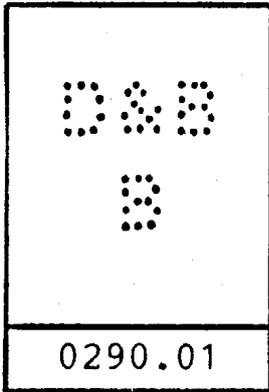
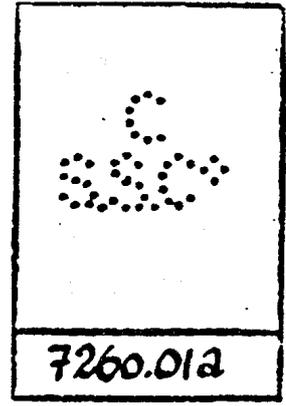
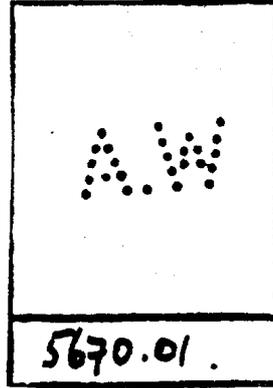
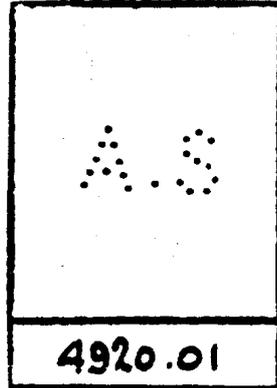
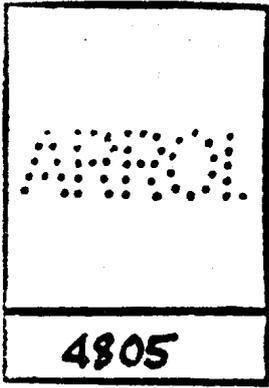
Since the up-date of these dies in the last Bulletin, I have had reports of quite a number of new values and new dies on these Jubilee issues. IAN HAMILL (New Zealand), TERRY COMPER (Horsham, Sussex), JEFF TURNBULL (Anglesey) and PETER THORNELOE (Brixham) - the latter two being fairly new members.

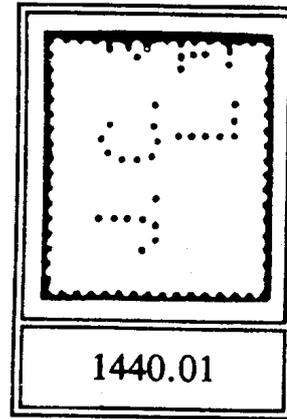
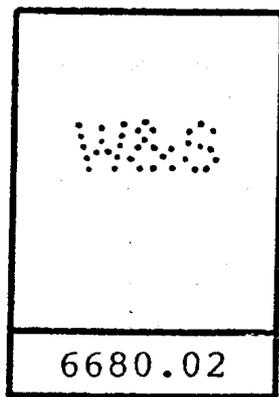
The following are new values to be added to the existing recorded dies in the booklet.

<u>CAT.NO.</u>	<u>DIE</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>CAT.NO.</u>	<u>DIE</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
A0060.03	AU	½d	B0570.01	BB/CF	1½d
B1410.02	BC/L ^d	1½d	B6430.06	B&S	1½d
C0010.37	C	1½d	C0875.01	C.B/L ^d	½d
C5530.02	C/of/W	1½d	G5420.03	GW/A	2½d
J6860.03	J&S	1½d	K1370.01	K.M./&C ^o ./M	1½d
L0010.18	L	½d	L4600.01	L.P./WL ^d	1½d
M4550.02	MP/P	1d	P0160.01	PAGE	1d
R4620.01	R.S./&C	½d	T3910.02	TR&S/R	½d

The following are new dies to those illustrated in the booklet and therefore are illustrated here. There are blank spaces in the booklet so these can be photocopied and stuck in the appropriate page.

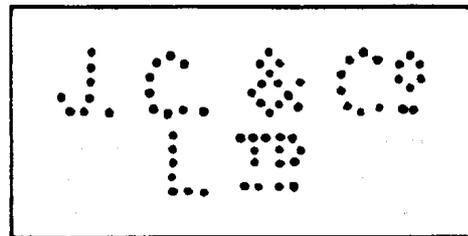
<u>CAT.NO.</u>	<u>DIE</u>	<u>VALUE</u>	<u>CAT.NO.</u>	<u>DIE</u>	<u>VALUE</u>
A4805	ARROL (Diag)	1½d	A4920.01	A.S	2½d
A5670.01	A.W	1d	C7260.01a	C/S.S.C ⁰	1d
D0290.01	D&B/B	1½d	E4340.01	ES/L ^d /CC	½d
J1440.01	J.C.&C ^o ../L ^{td} .. (Carpet Die)	1½d	L1930.01	L.E./&P.	1½d
N1115.01	NE/A	1½d	R1480.01	R.D/Ld.	1½d
R4140.01	R.P/&S	2½d	S2910.01	SF/&C ⁰	1½d
T4090.01	T.S./C.	1½d	U1440.01	UNIV	1d
W0420.01	W.B	1½d	W3740.01	W.H./N.	½d
W5680.01	W.N./Lt ^d ..	1½d	W6680.02	W&S	1d





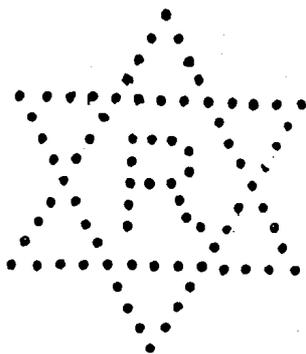
In Bulletin 297 (Dec'98) Page 18 D4050.01 (DRAY in diagonal format) was noted as a possible correction to the illustration of D4050.01a (DRAY in horizontal format) which was illustrated in the original book. This is a correct assumption. 4 members reported the DRAY in diagonal format. Does it appear in horizontal format? New information to George please.

The above die is a 'carpet' die covering more than one definitive sized sump, a reconstruction of the full strike is shown below



* * * * *

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND



from Ian Burns

A friend who worked in the bank has some contacts in their archives section and I quote from a letter he received after his enquiry.

"We do not have any examples of the Star of David with the R in the archives. However I have consulted the office manuals from 1878. It would seem that the 'R' probably means received rather than anything else since there were stringent procedures for documenting all items received or dispatched in the office. Other stamps - 'L', 'C', 'D', 'P' etc were also used for specific transactions and each branch or office had their own individual stamps. "

SEEN IN AUCTION

JEFF TURNBULL saw this item in White House Postal Stamp Auction 34

Lot 140 1873 (Dec 1) STAMPED POSTCARD with SLOPER
PERFORATION IN THE SHAPE OF AN ARROW.
Very Fine. Est.£70.

PHIL BUTCHER saw the French 'EIPA' perfin for sale - again. This was
in Cambridge Philatelic Auctions.

Lot 690 FRANCE 1930 1/50 blue & red Air stamps perforated EIPA 30
The red stamp has a Calves cert. Yv 6c, 6d. Cat 31,000ff
Est. £800 and price realised.

JOHN MATHEWS from Australia saw these two G.B. items in two local
auctions out there.

Lot 773 Used 1891 £1 green, has P.S/N.C Perfin, light cancel. SG212
Cat.£400. Est \$300
(From the illustration sent by John, the date is Dec -3-91)

No lot No. 1891 (Sept) envelope for Italian Opera, Covent Gardens,
London to Melbourne, bearing ½d (3) & 1d perfins: "A.H." for
Augustus Harris, manager of the Opera; Melbourne arrival
duplex where '2d/MORE TO PAY' in oval was applied & re-
addressed to Sydney. Fabulous music item. Est. \$80 - \$100.

In the December Bulletin, Page 13 there was an auction lot from Corbitt's
List No. 102. It would appear that the lot did not sell and were "shuffled
on" to another auction.

RICHARD TARRANT attended one of Linsac Philatelic Auctions at the
beginning of December and Lot 18 was "Box containing 1950/1960's
Director of Education Sheffield forms bearing 3d Wilding. All perfin
"CS"used. (1834 forms/letters)." Res.£90. They did not sell. I saw my
dealer friend at York mid January, showed him the piece in the December
Bulletin and Richard's letter: "at least it's good publicity" he said!!

THE PERFIN OF THE SALVATION ARMY

Perfin Details by Dave Hill: Historical Notes by Rosemary Smith

The Salvation Army is a Christian organisation with a semi-military organisational structure. Today, the S.A. works in more than 85 countries, operating an effective service to provide help for the poor and needy.

The organisation developed in 1865 from the work of William Booth, a Methodist minister, in the poorer parts of London's East End, where it was first known as *The Christian Mission* until it changed its name to *The Salvation Army* in 1878. Within a decade the group had spread outside Britain and also became well established in North America.

The Salvation Army numbers many musicians in its ranks, and music is widely used as a way to spread the gospel.

The earliest perfin is postmarked 13 March 1882 - 'S.A' (**S0070.01**) – and is known used on a cover with the "SA" crest on the reverse. Confirmation of this is sought. It is uncommon. In the Gault Catalogue there are no known issues or dates of use. **Please report if you have this perfin.**

There are a number of S.A. dies, some may be part of multidiets:-

S0080.01 is known used from 1895 to 1905 with London EC postmarks but has not been confirmed as used by the Salvation Army.

S0080.0a is known used from 1885 with late usage on the 1940 Centenary stamps. This has been identified as used by both SA International HQ in London and the HQ for Women's Work at Hackney in East London.

S0080.01b is known used from 1890 to 1905 at International HQ, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4.

S0080.01c is a rare die and has not been seen on cover. In Gault it is noted as used c1905 and on the KEVII ½d. It has a 'displaced' pin in the 'A'.

S0080.02 is known used from 1905 to 1939 by The International HQ in Queen Victoria Street, London EC4.

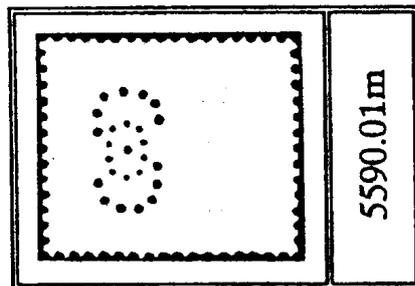
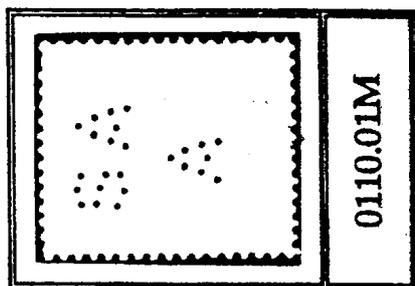
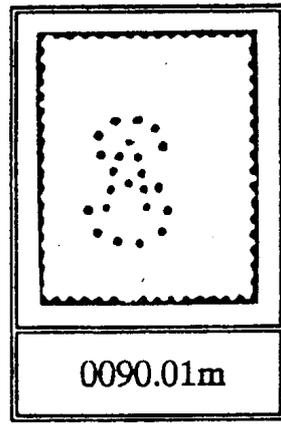
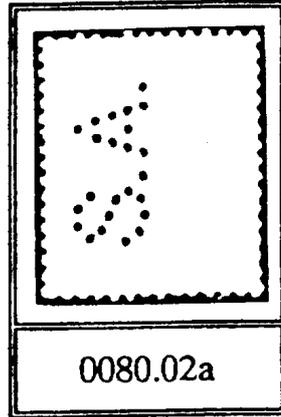
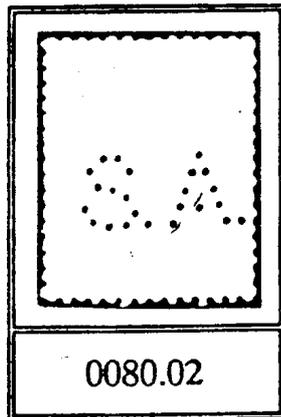
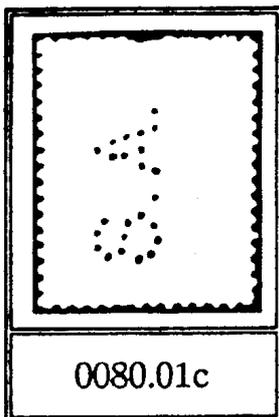
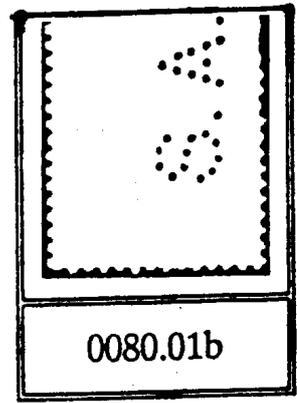
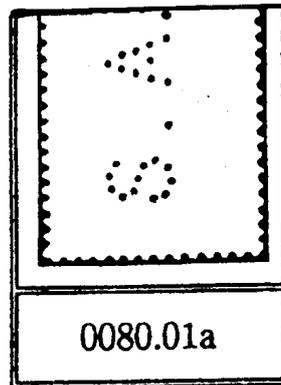
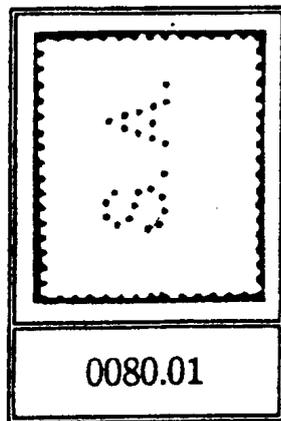
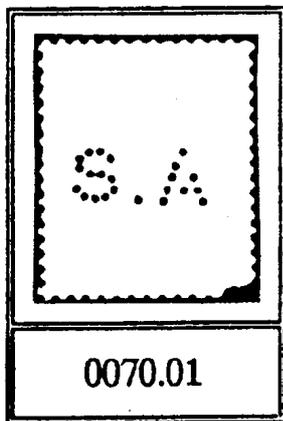
S0080.02a known used from 1905 to 1912 but has not been proved used by The Salvation Army.

S0090.01m is a monogram and was used by The Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Limited between 1895 and 1957. First from Clerkenwell until October 1886, then at Kentish Town until 1911 and finally at Kings Cross until 1957.

S0110.01M (SA/A) was used between 1945 and 1975 by the Salvation Army Assurance Society Limited from Tottenham Court Road, London W1.

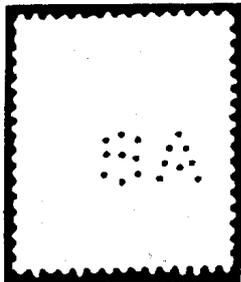
S5590.01m is another monogram used by The Salvation Army, this time at their International HQ in Queen Victoria Street from 1889 to 1905. These dates are contemporary with the 'SA' monogram. This die is in the Sloper machine records as m/c No.7041 (cl889).

If you have any identifying covers for any of these dies, please report to Roy, Dave or Rosemary.



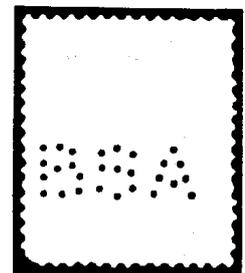
MORE FROM MULTIPLES & LARGE FORMAT STAMPS.

By Roy Gault



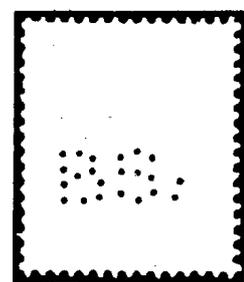
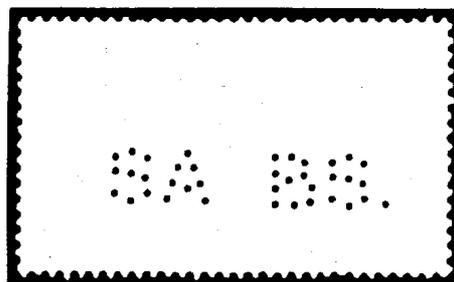
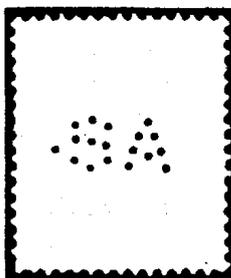
S0060.05

When viewed in isolation, the G.B. perfin SA (S0060.05) as shown in the New Illustrated Catalogue looks convincing enough. Perhaps a little offset to the right, but perfins cannot always be found perfectly centred.



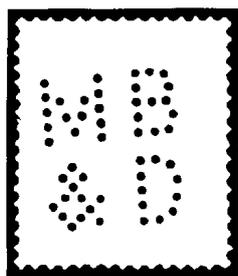
B6490.01M

However, the following examples sent in by Chris Carr allow us to view this perfin in a different light. From left to right they are ".SA" on 3d issue 'R', pmk Birmingham, 195?; "SA" and "BS." on QEII 2½d Freedom From Hunger commemorative (issue dates to 1963); and "BS:" on 3d U(MC). This is just a representative selection, many more are known to exist.



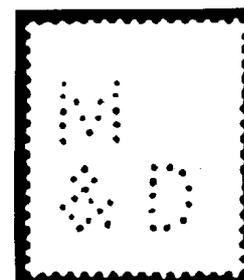
The full strike is "BSA" (B6490.01M), a perfin known to have been used by the Birmingham Small Arms Co Ltd between 1939 and 1969. This die life of 30 years is well above the 10 year average, but problems seem to have been encountered fairly early on judging by the number of pins missing in the issue 'R' illustrated above. The two patterns on the large format stamp is proof enough that SA (S0060.05) is a partial and can be deleted from the catalogue.

Note: The Birmingham Small Arms company was established in 1863 by the amalgamation of fourteen Birmingham gunsmiths who had made weapons for the Crimean War. Much later they diversified into other activities, notably the manufacture of Motor Cycles.



M0600.02M

Again when viewed in isolation, the two perfin MB/&D and M/&D can be seen to match. No doubt they were given separate catalogue numbers on the grounds that the loss of the letter "B" probably reflected a change in company name.



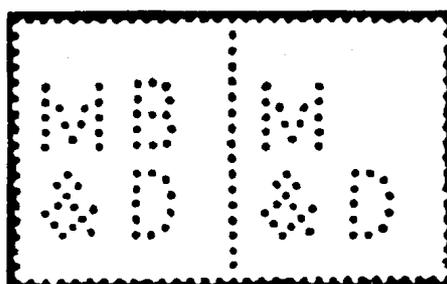
M2035.01

John Mathews reported the user of perfin MB/&D (M2035.01M) in Bulletin No.274 (Feb '95) as Mirrlees, Bickerton & Day Ltd, Hazel Grove, Near Stockport, Cheshire. By coincidence, it is also John who reports this joined pair of 2V2d issue 'R' showing both patterns and postmarked Hazel Grove, 1945. This multiple clearly establishes that the die was multi-headed and so receives the suffix 'M'.

ED: None

Q 2½d
R 2½d

LD:1945



ED: 9/5/1944

Q ½d
R 1d, 2½d

LD: 5/2/1946

Based on issue and postmark information, the die was in use from 1939 to 1946, probably with the "B" missing from quite early on. The perfin M/&D (M2035.001) is technically a partial and can be deleted from the catalogue.

Finally, Peter Maybury reports two joined pairs which also prove multiheaded die status. He has "JA/E" (J0160.01 and J0160.01a) on 1/- issue 'Q' which allows J0160.01 to become J0160.01M and J0160.01a to be deleted. The die was somewhat short lived as it was only in use 1939-1941, and probably destroyed during an air raid on London. The second pair has "OP/L" (01540.01 and 01540.01a) on ½d issue 'O' producing O1540.01M and the loss of 01540.01a. This die was in use 1930 to 1937.

Has anyone any similar multiples or large format stamps to report?

Update to Recent GB Perfins

Derek Ransom

The majority of these are from RICHARD TARRANT

<u>Perfin</u>	<u>Cat No.</u>	<u>Value</u>	
BC	B1110.03	2 nd	
C/HA	C3085.03	1st	
C/I	C3577.01M	2nd	New Die
COV/HA	C5647.01	19	
D/DC	D1270.02	19	
DT	D4710.06M	1st	
HB/C	H0470.02a	25	
LB/C	L0340.06	1st	
LB/G	L0390.01	1	
LC	L0960.02	5	Leeds Postmark
NC	N0510.08	20c, 26a, 26b	
RBC	R1410.01M	5	
RH/A	R2223.01	1 st	
SC	S1210.01	50	
SE/EB	S2480.01M	20a	
S/Ltd	S4630.01	25	
ST/HA	S7395.01	25	New Die
TM/BC	T3610.01	1st	
TW	T4910.04M	2nd	

All further new dies or new values of perfins seen on current elliptical stamps, please report to Derek Ransom

Keeping Members' Interest

Rosemary Smith

Some years ago, in corresponding with Jack Brandt in Canada, I put the question to him, "*What is it that maintains the interest of overseas members in the GB Perfin Society?* " This was at the time when it was agreed at the London meeting that I would only include items about 'foreign' perfins if I had not enough GB material to fill the Bulletin.

As Editor of this Society, I receive a copy of the American '*Perfins Bulletin*' and although I can see that the contents have much value to collectors of USA perfins, there was limited interest to myself as a collector of GB perfins. Again as Editor, I was asking myself if there was anything I could do to increase the interest of overseas members without 'foreign' perfins becoming a fixture to my content.

Here is Jack's answer and perhaps you could add to the subject.

"I think the people who have limited interest (country-wise) will join and stay with societies which give them value. Since I collect all perfins, and other things too, I belong to both GB and US groups. There are however several other groups that are one country only and I do not belong to them.

"I see the Bulletin as the main value to a collector, and next the auction, so if either becomes very restricted members are likely to drop out.

"Some feel catalogues are most important, but I have a large collection and could live without them. I buy most of them but have had several here for some years and not checked my collection against them.

"There are also many people on this side of the Atlantic who collect NO GB perfins because there are so many.

"Is it the goal of a club to grow; to fill a specific slot; can it live with a certain number of members?

"Most societies go out of existence when the 'keen' members become aged."

'LOST' IDENTIFYING COVERS

Dave Hill

Apart from one identification from Rosemary, I have not heard if any of the other 'lost' covers I mentioned in Bulletin 296 and 297 have been 'found'. I am therefore wondering if I am taking up valuable pages in the Bulletin to no avail. There is no compulsion to report new identities but it is one of the aims of the Society. The following are details of covers sold through the auction but not identified to the Catalogue Editor.

C (10 pins) and identity of Walter Carson & Sons London SW1 on KGVI

C/C/C with identity of Clarkes College (Chelsea?) circa 1908.

EMC and identity of Evans Medical

FAD and identity of Furniture and Fine Art Depositories Ltd.

In a 1995 auction there was a 1908 KEVII cover with identity of Gramophone & Typewriter Ltd. It bore the known perfin **G&T/Ld** (G5140.02) and a perfin **GC^oLd** - but which G1030.0?? The company was founded as Gramophone Co in 1899 and was very shortly changed to Gramophone & Typewriter Co Ltd. In November 1907 they reverted to the name Gramophone Co Ltd. My uncles worked at the Hayes Middlesex factory, which became EMI (Electrical and Musical Industries).

H with identity of Hurst.

K with identity of Keevil & Keevil Ltd, London EC1 on KGV cover.

Large seriffed M and identity of Marley Tile (Holdings) Co Ltd, London SW1 on KGVI cover.

R&S which I think must be R4530.08c on a QV cover 1d lilac 1888. On the flap was embossed "Stewards Office, Hackwood Park, Basingstoke ". Is this a steward as in a racecourse? Or a steward as in a large country estate?

Auction Lists - Research - Directory of Directors

By Dave Hill

Perfin H4680.04 (H/L^{td}), according to Tomkins, was used by Houghtons Ltd and British Photo Industries Ltd, both at 88-89 High Holborn, WC1 between 1905 and 1925.

From an old auction list I noted it was also used by the Houghton/Butcher Manufacturing Company of London NE.

My 1919 Directory of Directors tells me that E W Houghton was a director of all the above and the following:-

Anglo Russian Photo Co Ld
Austin Edwards Ltd
Butchers Film Services Ltd
Fordham & Co Ltd
Houghtons India Ltd
W Butcher & Sons Ltd

In my 1938 Directory of Directors, E S Houghton was a director of some of the above and:-

Elliot & Sons Ltd
Ensign Ltd
Novelty Sales Services Ltd
Photo Supplies Ltd

They had stopped using their perfin by then but I wonder how many of these firms used it. It is interesting to note that it was not used from just one address.

The firm is not quoted in my modern Stock Exchange Official Year Book or my 1938 Johnson & Sanderson Stock Exchange Investment Handbook. Perhaps a member could tell us, (in simple terms if possible) what is the difference between a company that is Limited and one that is not, and between one that is quoted on the Stock Exchange and one that is not. Perhaps a member can say why *J Sloper & Co Ltd* does not appear.

"S&S" Perfin - Shaw & Sons from Ken Dee

There are 4 'S&S' dies known used by Shaw & Sons. All are recorded in Tomkins as used from Fetter Lane, London EC4 (and two of them from Crane Court as well as Fetter Lane).

Ken came across a cover from "Shaw & Sons" - no perfin just Royal Mail franking - with a different address to the one in our catalogue. He wrote to the company and asked if the two concerns were one and the same. The following is the reply.

"This is indeed the same company which for many years had premises in Fetter Lane, London and would certainly have used the stamps perforated as you describe.

We also supplied (and still supply, though not manufacture) embossing and perforating presses, the latter being used mainly for making the official mark on ballot papers at elections, for security purposes. The presses are now made for us by a company called Bolsons Ltd, who are based in Stratford, East London.

We are due to celebrate our 250th anniversary as publishers, printers and stationers in the year 2000. "

In Bulletin 296 pg.6, the perfin machine found by Tony Llewellyn-Edwards was manufactured by Shaw & Sons and, for once I am not going to waste time finding the references, I am sure there have been many mentions of this firm in relation to perforating machines in past Bulletins.

Incidentally I have a perfin cover from Shaw & Sons dated 1958 with address of 2 Bell Green Lane, Lower Sydenham, London SE26.

