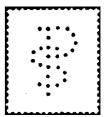


THE PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN

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BULLETIN No:- 323 Subscription £5 (UK); £7 (abroad/surface); £10 (abroad-air)

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SOCIETY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP CHANCES TO MARCH 2003 Total Members 360

New Members

WILHELM VERWOERD

GERRY BEANEY

DEREK WESTON

WALTER GREEN

RAY NORTHCOTT

MR DE PENN

Change of Address

TONY BATKIN

THOMAS MORKEBERG

JIM WESTON

Resigned PAUL REDMOND, STAN HERINGTON, SAM CHRISTIE

Died MARTIN KNIGHT

Lapsed EWING, DOUGLAS, HUGHES, MORT, PEARCE,

POLCHINSKI

Bulletin 323 (April 2003) Page 2

LONDON MEETING - SPRING 2003

This will take place on Saturday 17th May 2003 at Duchess House, 18-19 Warren Street, London Wl from 1:00pm onwards. Previously the entrance has been down the side of the building leading into the Mews but I understand that the entrance is now at the front on Warren Street itself.

In the February Bulletin it was suggested that we had a small competition during the meeting. This was to try to make the meeting more focused and more interesting. The relevant points from the February Bulletin are:-

- ❖ 1. Five A4 sheets (or similar size) per person to be used to illustrate a single theme, five single page themes or indeed any other combination making up a total of five pages.
- ❖ 2. Exhibits to be judged by those attending the Spring meeting.
- ❖ 3. The winner to receive a £20 credit with the Perfin Society.

I think the majority of members are members of town philatelic societies and will be used to putting up a few sheets on "Members' Night". If you intend to come to the meeting on May 17th, please try to find a few sheets to display.

It was also suggested at the November meeting that a mini-auction be held. We can try it out and see how it goes. John has some lots which have been sent for Society funds (not really suitable for the postal auction) and if any members present at the meeting have lots to sell, these too can go on the table. If at all possible send descriptions of lots and reserve price to John before the meeting and then he has a better idea of how long such an auction will take. He can also work out an auction list to verbally describe the lots at the meeting and so save time.

REGIONAL MEETING IN THE SOUTH WEST Dave Hill

As an experiment I have booked a table for the Society at SWIPEX to be held at the Peter Chalk Centre, Exeter University on 5th July 2003.

1 will be pleased to meet any members to have an informal chat. I will also have information about the Society and a small display for non-members. Please do come and make yourself known to me.

Perhaps other officers/members would consider similar meetings at nearby Stamp Exhibitions and Fairs, however small and informal. I would be pleased to provide a stock of sample Bulletins and Auction Lists and defray reasonable costs.

SEEN IN AUCTION ETC

From Dave Hill

West Cornwall Stamp Centre have the 1957 Scout set in u/m blocks of 4 perfin 'BP and scroll' for £40. I have not been tempted!

Universal Philatelic Auctions 9th post bid sale has some lots of Board of Trade perfins. Prices are quoted at about ¼ Michel. (I did not realise that Michel listed 'BT/Crown' perfins.) How do they list the supposed forgeries? Perhaps someone could photocopy the listing for me to pass on to our "expert" on these, John Nelson. UPA do progressively reduce estimates of unsold lots, perhaps a chance to pick up these cheaply.

In the same auction 'HMSO' perfins are grossly overpriced but there was a nice little lot of less common perfins like the Bell design and the 'FF' monogram which I would have bought, had I the money!

[Ed:- Laurance Black also sent in details of this auction.]

Not surprisingly you almost never see the Office of Works perfin. It was used for only about a year and, according to official documents, on only 12,000 stamps. B of T perfins were used for about 20 years. If I was a forger I know which one would get my attention!

LIBRARY REPORT

A big thank you this month to Gerald Soutar for donating a copy of the German catalogue *Katalog der Deutschen Firmenlochungen*.

The following are new items in the library:

- 2720: KGV Silver Jubilees (revised edition)
 George Greenhill. updated by Jeff Turnbull.
 Pub. The Perfin Society. 2002. (350g / 1 loz approx)
 A revised edition of the illustrated catalogue of perfins known used on the KGV 1935 Silver Jubilee issue, with identities where known.
- 2721: First with the News- The History of W.H. Smith 1792-1972 Charles Wilson Pub. Jonathan Cape. 1985. (900g / 21b approx)

 A history of W.H. Smith & Son Ltd. includes some details of the Company's arrangements for mailing newspapers etc.
- 2722: The Oxford University Press An Informal History Peter Sutcliffe
 Pub. Oxford University Press. 1978.
 (900g / 2½b approx)
 The history of the OUP, focusing mainly on the period 1860-1978.
- 2723: Katalog der Deutschen Firmenlochungen
 Hans D. Hillmann. Alfred Wirth. Klaus Hannemann.
 Pub. Arbeitgemeinschaft Loehungen 1995.

 A very large (and heavy!) illustrated catalogue of German perfins with identities and other information where known. (The general approach is similar to our own New Illustrated Catalogue).

 Includes an introduction in English.

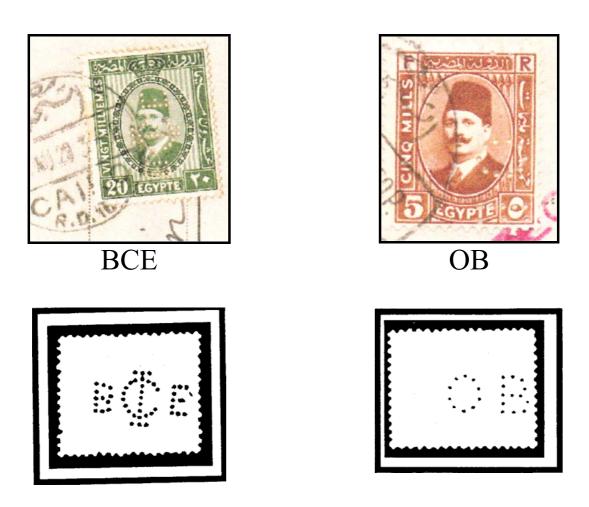
I picked up the two histories of perfin users (2721 and 2722) from my local library surplus sale for 25p each!

TWO DIFFERENT BANK PERFINS USED ON ONE COVER

Vahe Varjabedian

Recently, whilst looking through some perfin lots, I noticed and bought an unusual Ottoman cover franked with six 5Mills Fouad (SGI56) perfinned "OB", and a 20 Mills Fouad (SGI63) perfinned "BCE". The cover was sent from Cairo by Registered Post on the 30th August 1929 to Berlin. The CDS on arrival was dated 4th September 1929.

During the last 13 years, whilst making a particular study of perfinned Egyptian mail, I have never seen such a combination between two bank using perfins. The "OB" is from The Ottoman Bank and the BCE from Banco Commercile Italiana Per L'Egitto.





EDITOR'S COMMENTS Rosemary Smith

Apart from the usual contributions from Officers of the Society, I have had very little response from members for articles or ideas for the Bulletin. No one has sent in any queries about partial or blind perfins as mentioned on page 11-14 in the last Bulletin. It is not too late to do so should you come across anything of a similar nature in the future.

At the time of writing this, March 10th, I do not know how many pages of material will be available for the Bulletin. Apart from writing and researching the article about Pryce Jones', I have been enjoying going through two collections belonging to members who wish the material to go through the auction. I have therefore had no time to write up other items for the Bulletin and it has made me realise that, despite the enjoyment I had in producing the Bulletin, I need to feel that others are sharing the burden. Please put pen to paper or we will be reverting to a 12 page Bulletin as was the case many years ago.

ANSWERS TO NEW IDENTITIES QUERIES in Bulletin 322

<u>Page 213 N.I. Bull. 322</u> Dave Hill writes, "The user of perfin HH/NN quoted as J H Holmes & Co were electrical engineers, which does not tie up with 'Castle Brand Paint' quoted in Bulletin 319 Page 203 N.I. Is this an example of a borrowed perfin? It needs some on the spot research."

Ed.- Looking at my Trade Card for N2260.03 (NN), whose perfin was mentioned in Bulletin 319 Pg. 203 N.I., the name is **Nicholsons** (Newcastle-on-Tyne) Ltd., Heaton Junction, Newcastle-on-Tyne E. The card is asking for Sodium Bisulphate in barrels and the card is addressed to Dudley Hill Chemical Works. This would suggest to me 'paints & polishes' rather than 'electrical engineers'. I do not have a cover for H3420.01 (HH/NN) so cannot help with trade or address.

Not exactly the answer to a query but extra information to N0430.01 (N.B./T.C.) seen on N.I. Page 213 Bulletin 322. Dave Hill adds:-

"Members may have wondered what the initials NB/TC stood for in Brotherton Tubes & Conduits Ltd. My Register of Defunct Companies lists them as New Brotherton Tubes and Conduits Ltd although they had dropped the "New" many years before the date of this perfin.

MEMBERS' QUERIES

Du Barry Perfumery Co Ltd. is listed **as** a client in Sloper's "Through 5 Reigns" Booklet cl939. A 1930 Directory lists as perfumers, Dubarry et Cie, Brompton Road, SW3. Could the dies be the very similar ones D 1640.01 and .02 (DetC)? Which issues and dates and postmarks do you have? [You will find the dies illustrated after the Thomas Bray story}

BRITISH PERFINS IN THE TWENTY FIRST CENTURY

Derek Ransom Collation Date 5th March 2003

1st M is included by virtue of the issue date of 6th January 2000, other; from the postmark.

BC	B1110.03M	1 st M	Brent
CB/H	C0775.03	1st a (Jan 00)	Hartlepool
CLE/C	C4470.01M	1st a (Mar 01)	Cumbria, Dumfries & Galloway
EH/MC	E2020.01b	1stM	Haringey
HB	H0360.01	1stM	Hampstead
HH/MC	H3410.01	1stM(Sep 00)	Hereford & Worcester
K&C	K0285.01	1stM	Kensington & Chelsea
		1 st a (Apr 02)	
LB/C	L0340.06	1 st a (Nov 00)	Camden
		2 nd a (Nov 00)	
LB/G	L0390.01	1stM(Jun 00)	Greenwich
L.B./H.	L0440.01	1stM	Hammersmith
LC	L0960.02	1stM	Leeds or Lambeth
		2nda(Jul 00)	Leeds
RB/C	R0410.01	1stM	Rotherham
STH	S7390.02	2 nd a (Jan 02)	Lambeth (W) HA
W/HA	W3455.02	1stM	Wandsworth

Total of 14

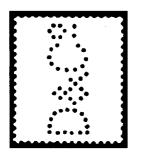
New Values to the original "Current Perfin" list.

18	#0130.02	2nd a
DT	D0710.01M	2nd
STH	S7390.02	2nd a (Jan 02)

"The Earliest Surviving and Longest Lived Dies."

A spin-off from the Elizabethan study is the interesting category of 'dies found on stamps of *all six monarchs*' The current total I have listed for this group is 73 dies, although I would guess the 'final' figure will lie somewhere between 75 and 100. Thus there is plenty of scope to find and collect dies appearing on stamps from *each of the six different reigns*. Of these though, *just three* have been found to extend from the Queen Victoria 1d Red era (i.e. pre 1880) all the way through to the Elizabethan Wilding/Machin issues. Brief details are given here (standard codes used for issues), but full details will be available in the published version of the 'Elizabethan' study.

"D&C°.." (D0850.01)



In use: 1875-1954. [Life of 79 years].

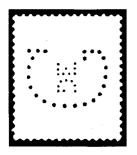
Dates: 3 June 1884- 18 Feb 1941.

Issues: 1d (SG43) - 18 plates 148-221

B, D, E, F, H, I, M, O, Q, R, T, U(TC)

Ident: Davies & Co, Advertising Agents, 1 Finch Lane, Cornhill, London EC. Later - 95 Bishopsgate, London EC2.

"deinG"(G1390.01)



In use: 1876-1968. [Life of 92 years].

Dates: 20 May 1878- 18 Nov 1960.

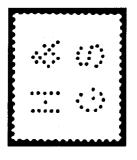
Issues: 1d (SG43)- 21 plates 150-222

B, E, F, H, I, M, O, Q, R, T, U, V, X, Y

Ident: Abraham de Gruchy & Co Ltd,

Drapers, St Helier, Jersey.

"H&/GS" (H2980.01)



In use: 1878-1962. [Life of 84 years].

Dates: 14 Aug 1886.

Issues: 1d (SG43) -2 plates 207 & 218 D, E, F, I, L, M, O, P, Q, R, T, U(MC), X

Ident: H & G Simmonds Ltd, wers, Bridge St, Reading.

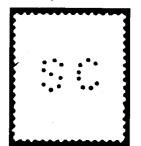
The other category of perfin highlighted by the Elizabethan study is the 'longest lived die' Although attempts have been made in the past to identify these, I present a short list here of seven thought to have been used for 90 or more years.

<u>Letters</u>	Cat No.	Die in use	<u>Life</u>	At Least
SC	S1210.04M	1890-1995	105	101 years
BC	B1110.05M	1895-1995	100	94
$P&O/C^{o}$.	P3500.02	1885-1985	100	92
M/C	M1060.02M	1890-1985	95	79
deinG	G1390.01	1876-1968	92	92
GE/C	G1540.01M	1905-1995	90	85
U.L	U1170.01M	1905-1995	90	??

With the exception of de Gruchy's "de in G", listed on the previous page, the die in use dates have been 'rounded' to increments of 5. This list will reduce to just four as the article progresses.

105 Years based on 'rounded' dates, but at least 1894 to 1995.

"SC"(S1210.04M)



In use: 1890-1995. [At least 101 years]

Dates: 17 May 1894 - 3 Oct 1995.

Issues: B. E, F, H, I, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S,

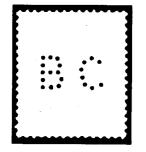
T, U, V, W, W(ell), X

Note: Refurbished c 1965?

Ident: Salford Corporation, Manchester.

100 Years based on 'rounded' dates, but at least 1899 to 1993.

"BC"(B1110.05M)



In use: 1895-1995. [At least 94 years]

Dates: 17 Oct 1897-26 Nov 1971.

Issues: B, E, F, H, I, M, O, P, Q, R, U, V,

W, W(ell), X

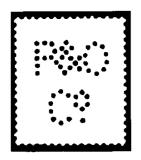
Note: Similar die used by Blackpool

Corporation is now Bl 110.05a.

Ident: Burnley Corporation, Lancashire.

100 Years based on 'rounded' dates, but at least 1889 to 1981.

"P&O/C°." (P3500.02)



In use: 1885-1985. [At least 92 years]

Dates: ... May 1889 - 27 Aug 1948.

Issues: B, C, E, F, H, I, L, M, N, O, P, Q,

R, T, U, W

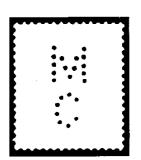
Ident: Peninsular & Oriental Steam

Navigation Co, 122 Leadenhall St,

London EC3.

95 Years based on 'rounded' dates, but at least 1895 to 1974.

"M/C"(M1060.02M)



In use: 1890-1985. [At least 79 years]

Dates: ... April 1895 - ... Oct 1974.

Issues: B, D, E, F, H, I(RC/BC)

[M, O, Q low values - none!]

Q, R, S, U, V, W, X

Note: Multi-headed die - 10 impressions.

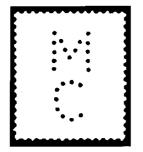
Ident: Manchester Corporation.

This die does *not* appear to have been used 1925-1945.

Latest date known *before* the gap is 7th July 1925. Earliest date known *after* the gap is ... 1945.

The gap may well have been filled by "M/C" (Ml060.03).

"M/C" (M1060.03)



In use: 1925-1945.

Dates: 6 Aug 1935 - 16 Feb 1938.

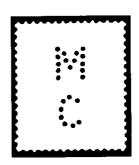
Issues: I(BC), M, O, Q, R

Ident: Manchester Corporation.

Please report any information (especially dates) that may help further refine the period of use for "M/C" (M1060.03), or improve the accuracy in the 'gap' dates for "M/C" (M1060.02M).

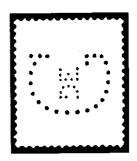
"M/C" (M1060.04)

For completion, the 'old' die "M/C" (M1060.02M) was probably replaced cl975 by "M/C" (M1060.04), known used only on early decimal Machins. Earliest and latest known dates for this die are 29 Nov 1975 and ... 1978.



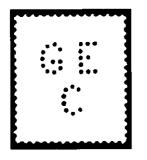
Thus, the anticipated life of 95 years for "M/C" (M1060.02M) has been reduced greatly to *at least 79 years*, and even then with a period of around 20 years in the middle when it wasn't used at all.

The de Gruchy die "de in G" (G1390.01) was made by Joseph Sloper (m/c N°. 5080, and completed 24th June 1876). It is known used on the 6d Machin (mint), introduced 5th February 1968, giving a life span of *at least 92 years*.



90 Years based on 'rounded' dates, but at least 1908 to 1993.

"GE/C"(G1540.01)



In use: 1905-1995. [At least 85 years]

Dates: 26Nov 1908-... 1989.

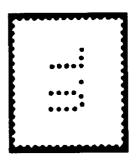
Issues: F, H, I, J, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S,

T, U, V, W, W(ell), X

Ident: The General Electric Co Ltd:-

Aberdeen, Belfast, Birmingham, Dublin, Dundee, Edinburgh, Liverpool, London.

There is one more die that might creep into the 'nonagenarian' category - the University of London's "U.L" (U1170.01M), known used 1905-1995 (90 years). However, I believe *more than one die* is represented in the details recorded in the New Illustrated Catalogue so this may take a while to resolve!

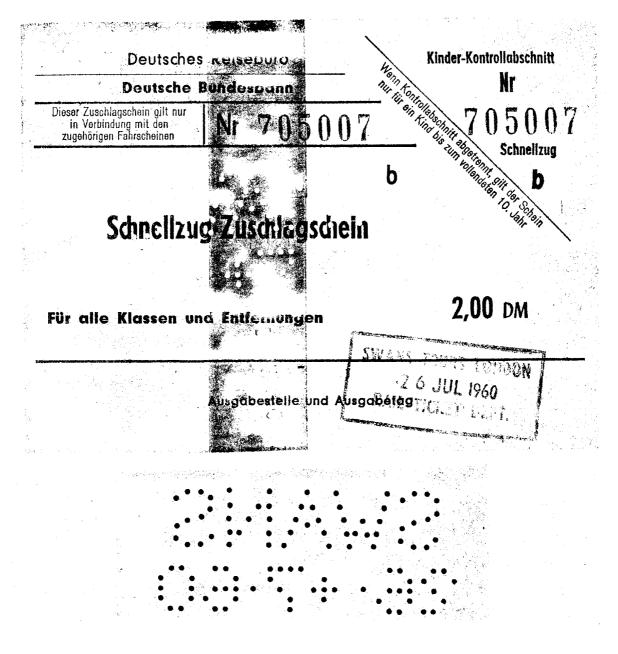


If anyone knows of any other dies that could have been used for 90 years or more, or can add any further details to the dies illustrated, I would be more than pleased to hear from you.

Non Philatelic Perfin/Perforator

Rosemary Smith

Whilst in France, **GARY SHAYLER** picked up a number of the tickets illustrated below. They are for rail travel in Germany but were issued in England by **SWANS TOURS LONDON, RAIL TICKET DEPT** and dated 26 July 1960. They are perforated with a large "SWANS" and the date of issue "26+7+60". I have looked through the "S" New Illustrated Catalogue with Details but I cannot find any perfin which may tie in with this company.



Bulletin 323 (April 2003) Page 14

THOMAS BRAY - Priest & Missionary

Founder of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

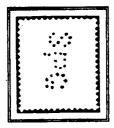
In 1696 Thomas Bray, an English country parson, was commissioned to report on the condition of the Church in the colony of Maryland. He spent only ten weeks in the colony, but he radically re-organised and renewed the Church there, providing for the instruction of children and the systematic examination of candidates for pastoral position. He founded 39 lending libraries and numerous schools. Both in Maryland and upon his return to England, he wrote and preached in defence of the rights of enslaved Africans, and of Indians deprived of their land.

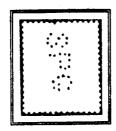
Back in England, he worked for the reform of prison conditions, and for the establishment of preaching missions to prisoners. He persuaded General Oglethorpe to found an American colony (Georgia) for the settlement of debtors as an alternative to debtor's prison. He founded a missionary society, the "S.P.G." (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts) and an educational and publishing society, the "SPCK" (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), both of which are still active today.

This article was found on the web by BILL SHIELDS in USA. It was not until he was looking for information about the particular "Saint" associated with February 15th, by the Episcopal Church, that he came to realise the link with the "SPG" perfins. Once again proving that the collecting of perfins can extend general knowledge and knowledge of history and geography. The following two pages are reductions of the pages in The Gault New Illustrated Catalogue.

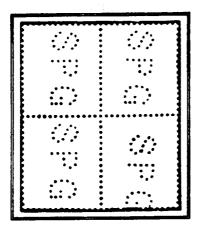
The following SPG perfins are all thought to have been used by The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, 19 Delahay St, Westminster, London SW.

The earliest perfins in the group (1895-1918) may be found in a wide variety of letter sizes and styles, often in combination with each other. Slight variations in the positioning of the letters indicate the use of individual letter dies 'clamped' together rather than conventional 'fixed' dies. The following two examples show the same characteristic 'P', but different spacings and different G's.





The irregular spacing seen in the block of four illustrated below, show that the 'made-up' die produced only one pattern at a time.

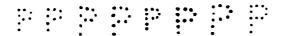


Many different sizes and styles are known, of which the following selection is typical.

The 'S' ranges from 9 to 13 pins.

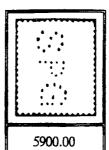


The 'P' ranges from 8 to 11 pins.



The 'G' ranges from 9 to 13 pins.





In use: 1895-1918.

Dates: 25 Nov 1896 - 27 Sep 1913.

Issues: Bld

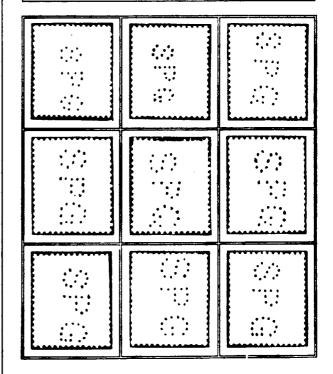
E 14d, 11/d 4d, 5d-9d, 1/-3d F 1/d-9d, 1/- H 1/d, 1d I(RC) 1/d, 1/d, 21/d, 3d

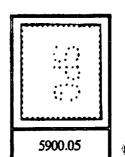
Ident: Ø Society for the Propagation

of the Gospel.

Pmks: London SW.

It is not practical to catalogue all possible combinations. Nine typical examples are illustrated below.





In use: 1918-1939.

Dates: ... 1921 - 17 Oct 1938. Issues: I 1/10 4 4 6 60, 90 L 1/10 1/10

M 14d-114d, 3d-5d 1/2 N 14d-114d

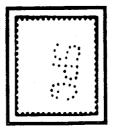
O 1/1d P 1/1/1d Q 1/1d-21/1d *Evidence for single headed die.

Note: *Evidence for single headed die. Pin often missing from tip of 'G'.

iv Ident: Society for the Propagation of the Gospel.

Pmks: London SW1.

Early & amples show much less damage to the top of the 'P', and one example (dated 1931) shows an extra pin in the 'P' - see below.





Note: Also related are SB (S0460.10) and SBC (S0580.05).

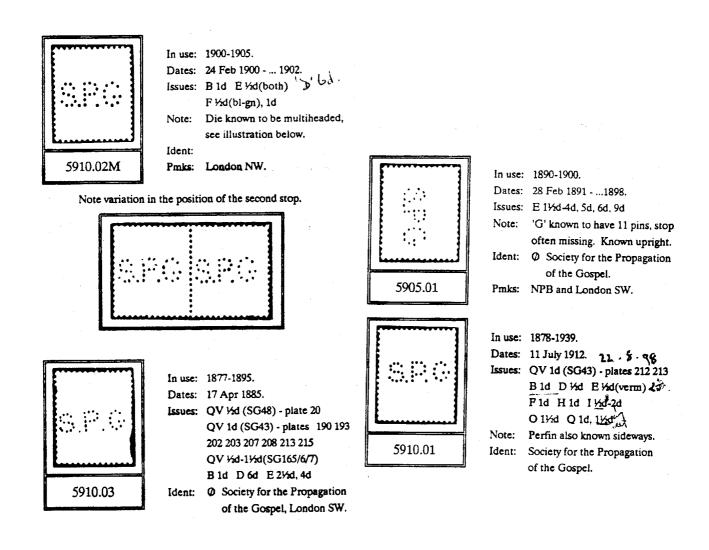
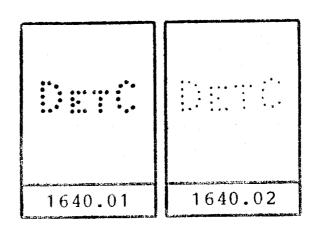


Illustration of "DetC" from Page 8.



OFFER Editor

When my Lexmark printer started misbehaving, I thought it could be the ink cartridge, as it was low. I bought a new one but after trying a couple of pieces, I knew I had to buy a new printer. If anyone needs a **Lexmark Black Ink number 13400HC**, used only the twice, get in touch. ½ price - the money will help the Society accounts.

On the death of King George VI at Sandringham on 6 February 1952, a new era began when his elder daughter Elizabeth succeeded to the throne. However, it was to be another 10 months before the first stamps of the young Queen (the 1½d and 2½d values of the 'Wilding' issue) were introduced on 5th December 1952. Although new values were issued on a progressive basis, almost three years would pass before all the stamps of the late King had been replaced, the last being the 2/6d and 5/- values on 23rd September 1955.





By coincidence, a Queen reigned when Perfins were first sanctioned in 1868, and a Queen now reigns at their demise some 135 years later. Throughout that time approaching 25,000 different perfin patterns are known to have been used on the postage stamps of Great Britain. Derek Ransom's study of perfins on the 'modern' issues with elliptical cuts shows that perhaps as few as 25 are still in commercial use in the U.K.

To celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Golden Jubilee from the Perfin point of view, I've analysed all the material and information I have to hand and recorded all the perfins known on the G.B. postage stamps of Queen Elizabeth II. The global table at the end of this article has been based on some 23,000 different perfin patterns, but as new dies are added and old dies deleted or consolidated, the eventual total is expected to reach the figure of 25,000 mentioned above.

Fifty years is a long time and many changes have taken place since the introduction of the first Wildings late in 1952. For example, the experiments with graphite lines, the introduction of phosphor bands, regionals, commemoratives, Machins, decimalization, elliptical cuts - all fascinating areas for collecting and studying perfins. In summary, some 2,119 different perfin dies are listed on the G.B. postage stamps of Queen Elizabeth II. Not surprisingly, 87% of which have known or suspected users. The great majority of these dies appear on the many 'Wilding' issues (1,729 - 82%), but a healthy number (974 - 46%) can be found on 'Machins'. The Machins have been further subdivided to show totals for the short lived sterling (£sd) issues (665 - 31%) and the longer lived decimal (£p) issues (738 -35%).

There follows *brief* details of half a dozen 'groups' of stamps, some of which have been listed in the past, but their totals have now been brought up to date. The details of the actual perfin dies involved along with illustrations will be formally published in due course.

Prior to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, commemorative issues were few and far between, but since 1960 there has been such an explosion that commemorative issues now greatly outnumber definitive issues. Only the first three Elizabethan commemorative issues have been listed, starting appropriately with the Coronation issue.

Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II - issued 3rd June 1953.

65 different perfin dies recorded.



2½d		48	(415,034,000)
4d	••	17	(19,816,000)
1/3d	••	7	(8,012,000)
1/6d	••	3	(5,987,200)

Figures in brackets are quantities sold.

World Scout Jubilee Jamboree - issued 1st August 1957.



26 different perfin dies recorded.

$2^{1/2}d$	17	(137,235,286)
4d	6	(9,318,477)
1/3d	6	(3,820,478)

Complete set noted on "K.B/B" (K0110.01M)..

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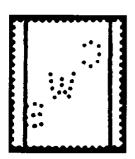
46th Inter Parliamentary Union Conference - 12th September 1957.



32 different perfin dies recorded on perhaps as few as 75 examples.

Quantity sold - 10,472,160

Graphite issues - Issued on various dates in 1957, 1958 and 1959.



46 different dies on 82 DDF.

St Edward's Crown 21 Multiple Crowns 36 Phosphor-graphite 1

Regional issues - Issued on various dates from 18th August 1958.



73 different dies on 302 DDF.

Guernsey ... 1
Isle of Man ... 1
Jersey ... 2
Northern Ireland ... 14
Scotland ... 42
Wales & Mon. ... 30

Elliptical cut issues - Various dates from 19th November 1991.



Commercial dies 85
Private dies 9
Commemoratives 2

Still in use 25 approx.

'Elliptical cut' figures are based on Derek Ransom's 'modern' list.

Note: This 'Elizabethan study' and associated table is intended as a 'living' document and is updated continuously.

Summary table of Dies found on the Postage Stamps of Queen Elizabeth II.

Correct to: 22nd February 2003.

	Dies	E2R	Idents	"U"	Uhv	46th	Graph	"V"	Vhv	"W"	Why	Mach	2-H	Ellip	"X"	"Y"	"Z"
A	1,103	84	72	70	11	2	3	23	0	20	1	31	1	1	10	4	0
В	1,939	172	156	143	12	3	5	59	0	63	4	81	2	5	2 6	7	3
C	1,966	167	149	140	22	6	7	51	1	57	2	75	8	16	2 2	7	2
D	902	87	7 3	77	8	2	2	27	4	26	1	37	2	5	15	2	0
E	889	89	82	7 0	5	1	1	30	1	33	2	45	2	2	13	2	0
F	824	59	47	48	4	1	2	19	0	17	0	25	0	0	6	1	0
G	1,014	58	45	48	4	2	0	20	0	15	0	24	0	3	4	9	2
H	1,553	113	99	101	11	2	1	35	0	36	3	46	6	8	- 15	1	2
I	354	36	30	25	3	0	0	13	. 3	16	3	20	0	0	3	0	0
. J	1,713	97	85	81	14	1	2	23	1	25	5	35	1	1	17	4	2
K	340	45	41	36	5	2	1	20	0	17	0	24	2	4	11	1	0
L	1,206	142	118	110	20	2	3	44	4	57	11	74	10	12	23	2	0
M	1,087	67	65	54	2	1	2	11	1	21	0	28	4	4	7	1	0
· N	590	96	83	68	12	1	2	36	1	45	8	59	6	6	17	1	1
0	305	39	30	35	5	0	0	15	0	13	2	18	1	0	2	1	0
P	1,015	106	101	91	17	0	3	37	2	44	3	52	6	2	19	3	1
• Q	48	4	3	3	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	3	0	0	. 0	0	0
R	1,086	125	106	94	15	1	1	32	- 1	46	3	59	6	5	18	6	0
S	1,757	200	163	149	34	3	3	69	4	75	13	103	6	11	2 5	6	2
T	892	89	81	81	10	. 1	1	28	0	29	2	37	5	4	19	1	0
U	216	32	26	25	5	0	0	10	0	11	1	13	1	1	3	1	0
V	181	11	10	9	1	0	0	2	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
W	1,728	161	134	141	18	1	6	51	5	52	8	65	2	3	26	3	0
X	23	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Y	97	11	11	7	2	0	0	3	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	1	0
Z	18	2	2	l	0	0	0	0	. 0		0	l I	0	0	. 0	0	0
Des	86	9	7	5	1	0	l	2	0	4	0	5	0	2	2	0	0
Nos	68	16	13	15	0	0	0	3	0	4	0	4	0	1	1	11	0
Totals	23,000	2,119	1,834	1,729	241	32	46	665	28	738	72	974	71	96	304	65	15
Predicted	25,000	2,303	1,993	1,879				723		802	·	1,059		_			

'Idents' - Identified, 'U' - Wildings, 'V' - £sd Machins, 'W' - £p Machins, 'hv' - High values, '46^{th'} - 46th Inter Parliamentary Union Conference 'Graph' - Graphites and Phospher-graphites, '2-H' - 150th Anniversary of 1d Black, 'Ellip' - Elliptical-cut Machins 'X' - QEII Commemoratives (Wilding & Machins), 'Y' - Wilding Regionals, 'Z' - Machin Regionals, 'E2R' - All Elizabethan issues.

HISTORY OF FIRMS USING PERFINS

PRYCE JONES' – NEWTOWN

Rosemary Smith.

This history was obtained from the archives of Pryce Jones' via Kate Richardson. Thanks are due to this lady for sending me a comprehensive history by Elwyn V Jones dated 1997; photocopies of pages from The Montgomeryshire Express & Radnor Times, Newtown, January 13th 1920 which had a life history and report of Pryce Jones funeral; plus a history of The Royal Welsh Warehouse.

In the early 1800's, Newtown (Wales) was the centre of the flannel industry, comparable to Leeds (Yorkshire). In 1859 there were forty five manufacturers of flannel in Newtown, four of which ran large mills.

Pryce Jones was born in 1834, was apprenticed to a draper, John Davies. Davies became bankrupt and Pryce Jones moved into his shop. From these humble beginnings, Pryce Jones founded and developed the world's first successful large scale mail order firm, known throughout the world as "Pryce Jones". He was the pioneer of "shopping by post" and helped start the present day Parcel Post in 1883.

From 1861 he had "Pryce Jones" stalls at all the leading national and international exhibitions in Europe, America and Australia. This advertising, and the distinctions his goods won, spread his name and fame throughout the world.

In 1866 Queen Victoria sent her first order to Pryce Jones' and afterwards twice yearly. One of the earliest and most popular patrons of Pryce Jones' was Florence Nightingale. In 1862 a special width of flannel was manufactured, which became known as 'The Florence Nightingale Flannel'. More famous still was a rug, shawl and inflatable pillow all in one - the "Euklisia Rug'. During the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, an old print reads that many a German soldier owed his life to it during that campaign. It was the first "sleeping bag".

His first warehouse was at the Cross but it was becoming too small for his expanding business and in 1879 he had a new "Royal Welsh Warehouse" built opposite the Railway which had been completed in 1864. His goods could now be carried to all parts of the country and to ports for transportation to all corners of the world. So important had his parcel trade become that both the Cambrian Railways Company and the London and North Western Railway Company ran two special vans daily from Newtown to Euston.

In 1882 Pryce Jones was chosen as a prospective Conservative Candidate for Montgomery Borough and at a party dinner he was seated next to the Post Master General. Pryce Jones seized the opportunity and asked why a Parcel Post System was not used on similar lines to the letter post system. The Post Master General was taken with the idea, had a further meeting with Pryce Jones, and the idea went into being.

In 1887 The Royal welsh Warehouse was extended by a flat roofed block but again, because of expanding business, the Warehouse was again extended in 1902. The immense trade generated by such large premises made it necessary to install a Post Office in this new block to accommodate the interests of the firm and the added business to the postal

authorities. For most of this period there was no less than a quarter of a million customers on the books of the firm.

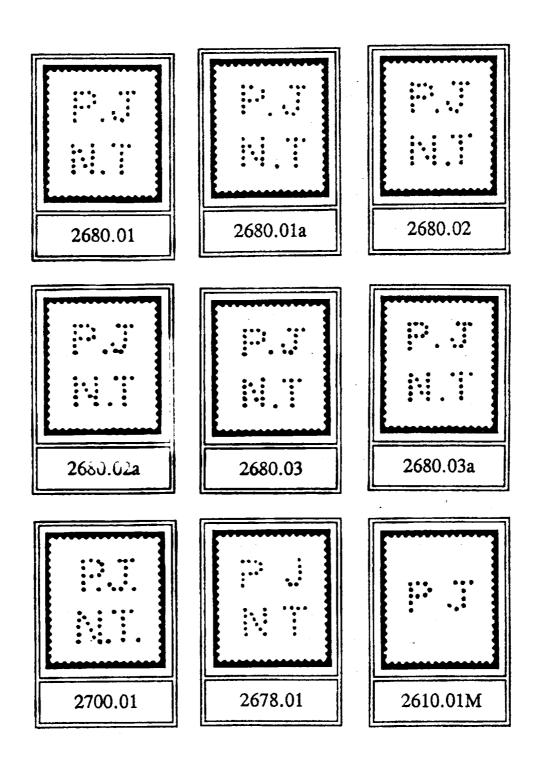
In 1892 Pryce Jones' became a Limited Company. They were the first firm to start "Free Post", so widely used today. In their catalogue of 1909, customers were allowed to post their requests and a stamp was not needed.

Sir Pryce Pryce-Jones, aged 85, died on January 11th 1920 and was buried at Llanllwchaiarn. Members of the family continued to run the business. In 1938, Lewis's of Liverpool took over the Pryce Jones Company when the remaining Pryce-Jones family resigned as Board of Directors. Lewis' had been printing Pryce-Jones Catalogues since 1933. In 1953, Great Universal Stores purchased Pryce Jones Limited and the Royal Welsh Warehouse. The Warehouse is now owned by Kay & Co. ltd, Worcester, who ran their mail order firm from the top floor of this building.

Pryce Jones' were one of the earlier users of perfins. The first die, P2700.01 (P.J./N.T.) was used from 1871 to 1879. About 60 1d Plate numbers are known as well as the 1½d, 2d, 2½d & 4d of that period. In 1880, six different dies, P2680.01 - .03a (P.J/N.T) were brought into use. At this time it has not been possible to establish if these represent 2 different multi-headed dies but P2680.01-.2a were in use until 1900 and P2680.03 & .03a were in use for 5 years until 1885. In 1883 to 1885 a different die, P2678.01, PJ/NT without stops is known.

The only one of these dies which has been identified with a proving cover is P2680.01. The other seven are almost certainly used by Pryce Jones because of the '568' Newtown Duplex number or Newtown Post town found on the stamps.

In 1895 anew machine die was purchased, P2610.01M. This was "PJ" (T with serif) and this continued to be used until 1975. This die is a 4 headed multidie and Kate Richardson sent me an A4 size paper on which she had perforated 7 rows of this multi-head. The machine must still be in their archives.



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PERSONAL THOUGHTS ABOUT PERFINS

From Mike Hempsall
Keep Putting Out The Worksheets/Postal Stationery

I thought I would write to let you know how the British Railway Perfins and other worksheets have reawakened my interest and brought me back to active perfins collecting. For some 20 years, whilst remaining a Society member and always reading the excellent Bulletins, I have been a "sleeper" perfin collector, simply putting away any perfins acquired into packets for safekeeping or occasionally into a stock book. During this period I did not lose interest in stamps as I continued to concentrate on my lifelong USA interests - which, incidentally, do not extend to USA perfins.

Being recently retired, the BR Perfins worksheets made me feel that I ought to look through my albums as I knew that I had several railway perfins hidden amongst them. Then, I started to feel guilty about what might also be lurking in my "safekeeping" packets - and then 1 was really surprised at how many packets and just how much material there was. Thus followed a lengthy, careful sorting, soaking off and salting away into my stock book - which has now become two stock books and which should be at least three - I'm sure all members know the feeling. From this it was a natural next step to put my railway sheets into good order and I have begun a letter by letter update of my whole collection which will take me a pleasurable but very long time. So, three cheers for those worksheets!

When I first became a member, the Society was known by the very much more august title of The Perfin and Security Endorsement Society of Great Britain and I collected more than perfins. Looking through my albums, I came across several items of GB postal stationery. I had collected these because they bore on their rear flaps the embossed printed names of the

owner/user and because I considered them attractive. Often, the owners' names were printed in the same colour as the stamps which were printed and embossed onto the envelopes. Certainly, I consider that these fit into the category of being security endorsements.

I do not have very many such examples as I did not go out of the way to collect these items and they are simply intermingled here and there - as light relief you might say - amongst my perfin pages.

As a printer's son, I often wondered how these were produced. Were the owners' names etc. printed at the same time as the envelopes themselves were prepared or was it a later operation? I didn't dig into the question at the time. However, 1 recently came across an A5 printer's sample sheet on which there are 15 monogrammed names and addresses printed / embossed, all in different colours, some of them quite delicate colours. From this I conclude that the printing was a later, separate operation. This sheet is quite unusual and, since the many delicate pastel colours probably won't be very good reproduced, I have enclosed both colour and B&W copies. [Obviously the following illustration is in B&W but if anyone would like their own coloured copy Mike is willing to supply. Let me, Editor, know and 1 will send a list of the names and addresses to Mike. He makes no mention of cost but I leave that to negotiation between you.]

It appears that the originator of this sheet was the central monogrammed firm - G E Oliver, Edinburgh. This seems to be borne out by the fact that of the 9 other addresses on the sheet, 7 are from Scotland, with 5 of these being in Edinburgh. The monogram design incorporates details of the firm's activities - the central activity being engraver with the details around the outside being arms, crests, monograms and addresses. It is unclear as to whether this firm also carried out the printing. However, the printing

operation used in producing this particular sample sheet would have been very labour intensive in the days when it was produced -1 guess this sheet is about 75 years old. It would have involved 15 separate printing operations - one for each colour with the printing machines' rollers and ink feed tray having to be cleaned each time. Each monogram would also have had to be set up individually in the printing press.



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