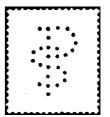


# THE PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN

### **Copyright The Perfin Society**



#### **THE SOCIETY'S OFFICERS**

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SECRETARY/ Dave Hill

TREASURER

PACKET SUPT.

AUCTIONEER John Donner

BULLETIN EDITOR Rosemary Smith

**CATALOGUE EDITOR Roy Gault** 

LIBRARIAN Alastair Walter

PUBLICATIONS Jeff Turnbull

BULLETIN No:- 333 Subscription £10 (UK); £12 (abroad/surface); £15 (abroad-air)

<u>CONTENTS</u>				
SocInfo:-Report from October A.G.M.; Me	embers' Queries; Members' Wants	2-6		
Membership Changes Secretary/Treasurer's	Notes	7-8		
Members' Comments on Previous Article	es:- Guinness Brewery; Perfin "GSC";			
What Is This?; S Crown O Perfin; HM/SO	Perfin Die IIA; 'X' Perfin on stamps of Crete;			
The Royal Niger Company		8-12		
Sloper Engravers	JOHN MATHEWS	13-15		
Bulletins on CD-ROM	ALASTAIR WALTER	16		
British Administration of Eritrea Telegrams TONY STANFORD				
Another Look at the Numbers 1 to 12	PETER MAYBURY	20-22		
Library Report	ALASTAIR WALTER	23		
Current Perfins	DEREK RANSOM	24-25		
More on the 1939 Sloper Plaque	DAVE HILL	25-26		
Sloper's Tower Royal Works	JOHN MATHEWS	27-29		
Additions to Revenue Catalogue	JEFF TURNBULL	29		
Another suggestion for displaying perfins	JOHN MATHEWS	30-31		
Rowntree & Company. York	GARYSHAYLER	32		

New Identities Pages Pages 257-264 8 Pages

Auction No.6 (2004) 12 page., - Bid Form

Bulletin 333 (Dec 2004) Page 1

#### **SOCIETY INFORMATION**

#### **Meeting Report from London October 30th 2004**

#### **Report of Secretary/Treasurer** Dave Hill

Bulletin:- The subs increase was opportune, costs have continued to rise. Stamps and printing amount to about £455/bulletin x 6 = £2730. The rest is Rosemary's and John Luft's expenses. In Rosemary's case it was computers again but a friendly local repair man did a rather major job for less than £100. My customary thanks to John Luft for collecting the Bulletins, "stuffing" in envelopes, stamping and posting. Trouble is John rarely stops to read this bit of the Bulletin!

Auction:- £2580 profit this year. (No printing or postage costs for the actual auction list as this is absorbed into the Bulletin expenses.) I said in my last report that the first auction profit this year was up, the trend seems to have continued. Some generous donations to the Society, notably from Capella Bolina's widow. No short auction this year. I received Auction 3 figures from John on 31st August. I have received some payments and I quickly took those from members' credit but there was no time to pay out. John needs to replace his copier.

<u>Publications:</u>- offset the auction profit with a £1298 deficit caused by £800 printing costs for the new Tomkins (of which we have a stock) and £771 for Roy to do the colour printing for the Stampshow 2000 display. The cheapest way of producing colour copies was for Roy to buy a colour copier and print a few at a time to cover sales. It is also a lengthy process. Sales are steady and should eventually cover costs or make a profit before the copier expires! Everyone who has a copy has said it is a truly informative book on all aspects of perfin collecting, professionally produced. I hope I have correctly separated Roy's costs for this from his others (under 'Officers' Expenses'). Sales have been good all round.

<u>Library:</u> Would have made a small profit but for the cost of printing the Library Index (280). One was sent to each member (and I trust members will use it to order from the Library) and I have a stock for new members.

I took £1000 from reserve to cover heavy expenses, the first time for years. Interest is added to the reserve account. If I understand it right we should no longer be liable for corporation tax. Computers and their protection are a problem. I wonder if my email is a good idea, I just seem to get viruses and spam. I have to spend valuable stamp time deleting these. I would prefer not to receive enclosures or scans, keep emails short.

As expected we have lost more members this year. With the increased sub some older members have decided to call it a day. However I fully expect that overall we will be better off. For instance, last year at 1st September I took 170 subs from members' credit, making £1050, this year it was 140 but raised £1600. Members who do renew should be the keen ones and it will be slightly less work for the officers.

A matter for next year's AGM. Our rules say that in the event of the dissolution of the Society, our assets would be distributed amongst 'members. This was fairly common when rules were written and I do not think there is any chance of our dissolution. But there have been instances of smaller societies being wound up just to get at their assets. I would propose therefore that our rules be changed so that the Society's assets are, in the event of our dissolution, given to a philatelic or other charity, decided by the members at the time of the dissolution. This is in line with modern thinking. I will publish a proposed rule in a proper form in a later Bulletin. What do members think?

#### **Report of Auctioneer** John Donner

Overseas members are still making a good proportion of bids. Prices are good but stamps are selling much better than covers,

# THE PERFIN SOCIETY - Statement of Accounts.

BULLETIN MEETINGS  PPS & OFFICERS EXPENSES LIBRARY BANK CHARGES CORPORATION TAX SURPLUS/DEFICIT	Plus OTHER INCOME SUBSCRIPTIONS INTEREST	AUCTION PUBLICATIONS  Les COST OF SALES  AUCTION PUBLICATIONS	INCOME & EXPENSES for year ended 31st August 2004.  2004 £ INCOME
2,921 320 1,040 205 149	1	10,970	ended 31s
-4,675 -1,172	1,992 229 3,503	13,550 1,102 14,652 -13,370 1,282	t August 20 2004 £
2,376 2,83 2,83 982 149 134 666 -3,990 -1,028	1,998 211 2,962	10,401 1,193 11,594 9,585 1,256 -10,841 753	04. 2003 £
* As at 1st September  Note: PPS = Printing/Postage/Stationery	REPRESENTED BY  ACCUMULATED FUND* SURPLUS/DEFICIT MEMBERS CREDIT	CASH IN HAND GIRO RESERVE a/c PREMIUM BONDS PUBLICATIONS a/c	BALANCE SHEET at 31st August 2004.  2004 £ CURRENT ASSETS
<b>Aery</b>	8,514 -1,172 9,695 17,037	100 1,269 13,768 150 1,750 17,037	gust 2004. 2004 £
	9,542 -1,028 7,890 16,404	193 1,131 14,539 150 391 16,404	2003 £

particularly more modem covers. Many are not reaching the reserve price and remain unsold. Keep reserves for more common covers as low as possible.

#### **Report of Bulletin Editor** Rosemary Smith.

Still no offers forthcoming to take over as editor. I feel I am being held to ransom. It has been suggested that I give a definite date by which I will relinquish the editorship. If I did this I would have to finish, I always (try!) to keep my word. This would mean there would be no way of putting members in touch with the Society, its publications, research and information about perfins. I am too committed to the collection of perfins, particularly research, to risk this happening.

There are more articles being sent in and comments on previous articles. I appreciate this Co-operation, especially if the illustrations have been increased. If you want the finished illustration to return to its actual size when the Bulletin is printed, increase your illustrations by 1.41.

All the catalogues and books on perfins belonging to the late Michael Rucklidge have been given to the Society by Jean Rucklidge. I gave Roy, Alastair and Jeff the first chance at these for catalogue research, copies not in the Library and copies for publications. The rest I brought to the meeting and put on the table for any member to take.

#### **Catalogue Editor's Report** Roy Gault

Roy hopes to speed up the new illustrated catalogue using information from collections of just a nucleus of members - not sending out any worksheets. Hopefully he can keep to the schedule of one letter per year. Roy has printed all the Stampshow 2000 display booklets: about 25 remaining to be sold: we should then be in profit. Roy mentioned that the website needs updating: once again it was agreed that any articles appearing in the Bulletin

could be put onto the website but not any catalogue material. Should these appear on the website, the Society would not get the revenue from catalogue sales to which the Society is entitled.

#### **A.O.B.**

<u>Railway Catalogue</u> - Roy/Terry Comper to list what information is still needed (could be in future Bulletin) and produce sample pages.

#### **Local Meetings**

John Marriner to investigate arranging a meeting in East Anglia.

#### **Room Auction**

This raised £54 for funds in commission and donations - thanks to all concerned - this is a popular item at the meetings.

## **MEMBERS' QUERIES**

Dave Hill has seen the full name BATTY/&Co postmarked Edgebaston Birmingham 2/11/1902. Can anyone find the identity of the user from these clues?

#### **MEMBERS' WANTS**

#### TONY STANFORD

would appreciate offers to purchase any British official perfins. He would also like to purchase any perfins on GB Overprints.

#### MEMBERSHIP CHANGES TO NOV 2004 Total Members 365

#### **New Members**

SUSAN OSBORN

**EDWARD MURPHY** 

**DAVID BEGIN** 

#### **Change of Address**

**DEREK IVE** 

NORMAN SMITH

HALLSTEIN KNOPH

#### Resigned

FISHER, GREEN, MONAGHAN, OXLADE, RUSKIN, SUMMERS, WILLIS.

# Secretary/Treasurer Dave Hill

Membership cards for those who have paid since the fast Bulletin are included with this one. If you have still not paid your sub the amount outstanding is shown in £'s on the address label of this Bulletin. If you do not pay this is the last Bulletin you will receive.

I was reading an article by Don Madden FRSPL in the GB Journal. He had been researching in the National Archives at Kew about waste paper from stamp production in the 1850's. Part of this was from perforations and he states that each day more than 55 million paper discs from the perforation holes accumulated. The young boys who worked the machines were delighted to share a bonus of

over £4 for the sale of 9cwt of this waste! This was one or two weeks wages. Unfortunately it was a one-off, the waste was considered unusable by the paper mill. The point of this anecdote is that when some of our members visited Sloper's Works a few years ago we noticed the perforations all over the floor - but not on this scale!

\* \* \* \*

#### **MEMBERS'COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES**

#### **Guinness Brewery** Bulletin 332 Pg.19/20

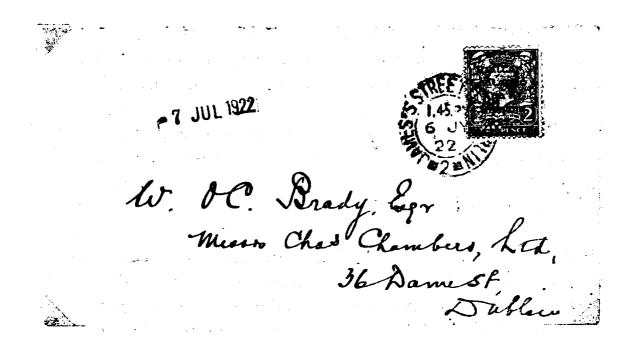
I was brought to task by **Ken Dee**, very rightly, for mis-spelling 'Guinness' all the way through the article. I am pleased that someone reads the Bulletin! Although a Methodist 1 never signed the pledge but neither did I fancy Guinness. I remember in my late teens the young men of our acquaintance thought they were very macho drinking 'Black and Tan'. Ken collects PPI's and sent me a photocopy of a wonderful array of Guinness PPI's. More that 20 different ones. He says that as a Londoner he was always aware that Guinness had a brewery at Park Royal but allegedly the product was not as good as that produced in Dublin. Anything to do with the water??

Tony Stanford has sent me photocopies of two Guinness covers from St James Gate Brewery Dublin with perfin G0010.48 - "G". The perfin dies are on the GB 1922 overprinted stamps for use in Ireland. I did not mention these dies in my article (an oversight) and he asks if this was because the die never appeared on unoverprinted stamps. I have looked in Tomkins and this die is down as a possible.

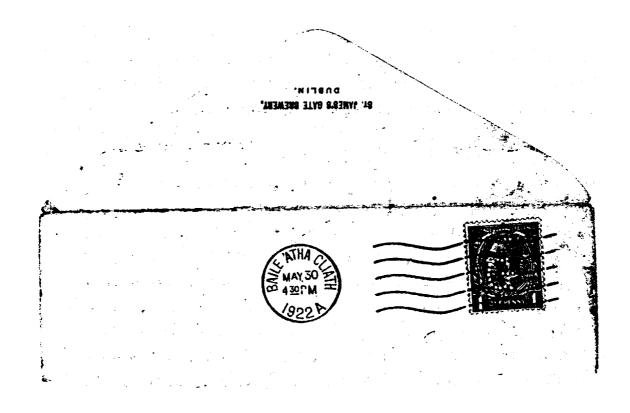
In my Irish worksheets from Roy it does show as being used by GB issues, GB overprinted issues and Eire issues and it is given a positive identity. Has anyone a GB cover from Guiness with this die?

0010.48

The cover from the St James's Gate Brewery of Arthur Guinness & Co Ltd franked with a 2d Type I, which has the June 1922 Thom overprint with 'G' perfin cancelled as JAMES'S STREET DUBLIN on 6 JY 22



Penny Scarlet with February 1922 Dollard Overprint and 'G' Perfin on torn window envelope with Dublin 'BAILE 'ATHA CLIATH' machine cancellation dated 30 May 1922.



Printed on the back of each envelope is St. James's Gate Brewery, Dublin

Bulletin 333 (Dec 2004) Page 9

#### New Identities Perfin GSC Bulletin 332 N.I.Pg 252

John Frost has sent a photocopy of a letterhead of this company, George Sefton Constable & Sons. Details on the bill include "Anchor Brewery and 1a Norfolk Road, Littlehampton". The date of the bill is 1904 but the firm was established in 1816. John points out the legend that they were sole agents in the district for Burgoyne's Australian Wines. So wines from Australia is not a modem phenomenon. I am sure Burgoynes used a perfin but without a deal of effort I cannot locate it.

#### What Is This? Bulletin 332 Pg 3

Jack Brandt has sent a tracing of R0010.13. If the tracing, is placed over the illustration, one 'R' is sideways and reversed and the second strike is the right way but upside down. Jack thought I would have had dozens of replies to this puzzle but his is the only one. Well done!

#### S Crown O Official Perfins Bulletin 332 Pg 14

Jack always thought the 1924/6 issue was quite common as he has it on 11 values. I am inclined to agree with this as I have 10 values of the 1922/4 Block Cypher issue with S Crown O perfin.

# **HM/SO Perfin Die IIA** Bulletin 3132 Pg.16

Jack would agree that the die IIA is much less common but it does show up from time to time. He has it on SG  $\underline{476a}$ , 485.  $\underline{486}$ , 488, 489 and 490. In total he has 11 stamps but is keeping them all as he notes the dies do have very slight differences. On his 11 stamps he notes 9 different dies so assumes there are 3 more to find for the complete multi-die. However, he will need more large stamps and multiples to be able to plate them. He finds the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d the most common . Only one having a date - London 2 Jun 49 - which fits the time span in the article. **Jeff Turnbull** has this die, IIA, on SG 485, 486, 487 and 490. So 3 new values reported.

#### **'X' Perfin on Stamps of Crete.** Bulletin 332 Pg.9

**Joe Coulbourne,** USA, sent details of the wording on the Crete cover by E-Mail to Jeff Turnbull.

Joe has a colleague from Crete working with him at the moment and the following is his translation.

The date line reads: "press" (typos) 14 January 1901

The top marking used to "cancel" the two perfins is a handstamp from a mortgage bureau (English equivalent) and reads: **Mortgage Bureau Kasteliou Pediados** (city in Crete)

The bottom marking is a notary stamp (the second is signed). The marking reads (English equivalent): **Paylos Sigelakis Kasteliou Pediadous.** Paylos S Sigelakis is the Notary's name.

The revenue document was used in the transfer or purchase of land or housing.

#### **The Royal Niger Company** Bulletin 159, 177 & 289 Pg 23

Dennis Collins spotted an auction lot in Cavendish Auctions this September. "AKASSA \_ VIOLETOVAL*HANDSTAMP* ONCOVER TO LONDON: 1893 (14 March) env. to London bearing QV  $2^{1/2}d$  purple on blue with "C.M.S" perfin tied by numeral cancellation and with a good strike of the violet oval "THE NIGER TERRITORIES/POST/OFFICE-AKASSA" of 14 March alongside plus datestamp circular red "PAID/LIVERPOOL/BR. PACKET" to lower left. Light vertical crease through "AKASSA" cache. SG.Zb. Res. £200.

Dennis says it realised £320 + buyers premium (inc. VAT) of £56-40p making a total of £376-40p.

This cover is dated a good two years earlier than any mentioned in the previous articles.

Increased illustration from the auction catalogue. Lot 2532 is the cover described



Est £200

Bulletin 333 (Dec 2004) Page 12

#### **SLOPER ENGRAVERS**

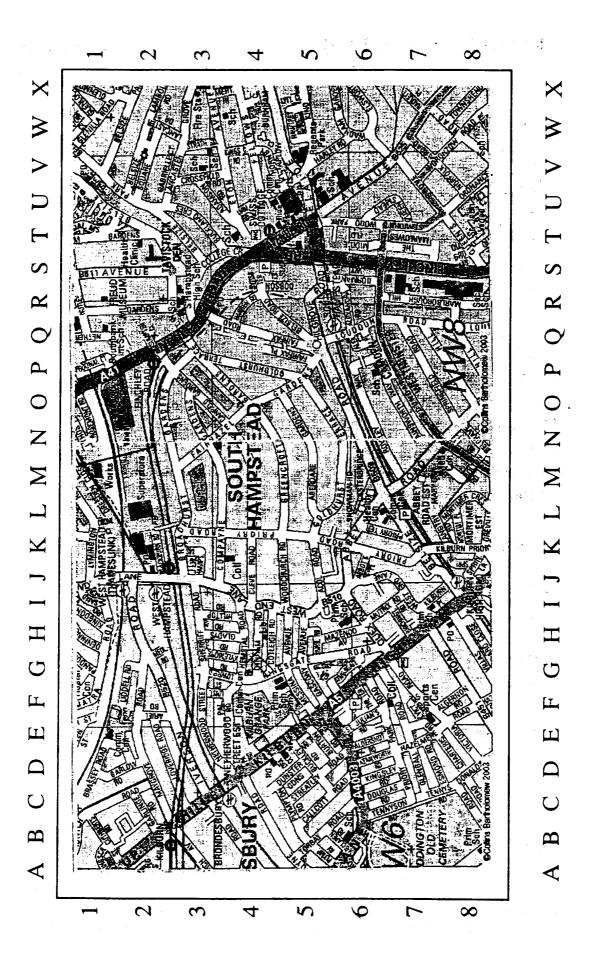
#### John Mathews

When I was in UK in 1993, I photocopied a few pages from the Sloper Workshop Impression Books which featured Australian perfins. From these pages I have since found several names of Sloper company employees who made various dies. I have now attempted to identify who these employees might be from the 1881 and 1901 Censuses of England and Wales, and I summarise the results of possible identities in the following table. The identities were mainly based on occupation (Percy and Eustace Sloper were described as "Engineer" and "Mechanical Engineer" respectively at the 1901 Census). I would be pleased to hear of any other known makers of Sloper dies, and also any additional information about this group of workers obtained by other researchers.

Name in	Year	Census entry/Possible Identity
Workbook	(approx)	
H.S.	1866	(Horace Sloper - He does not appear in the 1881 Census. I think he may have been the H. Sloper who died in October-December quarter 1876, even though this one is listed as "Herbert". GRO reference vol. 1 a. page 40 1)
H. Harborow	1866	1881 - Henry A. Harborow, 4ly, b. Waltham Cross, Essex, telegraph instrument maker, at Norwood, Middx. From 1872 London Directory onwards, Henry Harborow & Co., 4 Circus St., Marylebone Rd, Telegraph engineers & instrument makers.  1891 - Henry Harborow, 52y. electrical instrument maker. at Tonbridge, Kent.  1901 - Henry Harborow, 63y, telegraph & electrical instrument maker, at Tonbridge. Kent.
F. Collins	1870	
J. Jameson	1870s	
T. Bell	1877	1881 - Thomas Bell, 45y. b. Poplar, Middx, driller & fitter. at 67 Glengall Rd, Middx (within 1 mile of Sloper's Tower Royal Works, Blackburn Rd. Hampstead!) 1892 Directory - Thomas Bell. 91 Priory Park Road. Kilburn. (St. Julian's Road ran off Priory Park Road).

Miss Keen	1878	Possibly the Annie Keen who married William Walker, cabinet maker, at Hampstead in the second quarter of 1878, and was living at 3 Crossfield Road. South Hampstead, at the 1881 Census. Crossfield Road is about 1 mile east of Blackburn Road.  Annie Walker died at Hampstead in the last quarter of 1891. aged 38y.
A.J.F.	1885	
AB	1887	
Eyles	1888	1901 – Ralph Eyles, 5ly, b. London, mechanical engineer, at Islington, Middx.
Gilbert	1889	1881 - John Gilbert, 49y, b. Soho, London. engraver
		(general), at London. (also 69y at 1901 Census)
Jones	1890	
Moore	1890	
Barker	1880s(?)	
Wight	?	
Brown	1900	
Wickens	1900	1901 - Herbert Wickens. 2 1 y. b. Hampstead. mechanical engineer, at 9 Loveridge Road. Hampstead, London. 1881 Census - I y, eldest child of Charles and Matilda Wickens, 55 Netherwood Street. Hampstead - a bit more than ½ mile from Blackburn Road.
Pearson	1900	
Smart	1900	1901 – Frederick Smart, 21y, b. Islington, mechanical engineer, at Hammersmith. 1881 Census – 1 y. eldest child of James and Ellen Smart.
Nugus	1900	1901 – Percy Nugus. 17y. b. Middx. apprentice mechanical engineer, at 4 Johnston Terrace, Hendon. Middx. Second son of William and Elizabeth Nugus. Johnston Terrace is about 1.5 miles NW of Blackburn Road.

In the map of West Hampstead and surrounding areas, below, St Julians's Road (residence of Joseph Sloper at 1871 and 1881 Censuses) is at grid reference E6/F6, Netherwood Street is at D3/F3, Glengall Road and Priory Park Road are at D7/F7, Loveridge Road is at D3/E3, and Crossfield Road is at V3. The grid squares on the map are 500 metres on each side.



Bulletin 333 (Dec 2004) Page 15

#### **BULLETINS ON CD-ROM** Alastair Waiter

Thanks to the work of Maurice Harp, we now have all our Bulletins up to October 2003 on computer, as Adobe Acrobat' files.

Members can now order from me a CD-ROM containing the following, all in Adobe Acrobat format:

- Scans of Perfin Society Bulletins 1 326
- Bulletin Index 1957 2000
- Library Abstracts
- Library Index (November 2004)

To read Adobe Acrobat files, you need Acrobat Reader software, which can be downloaded free from www.adobe.com. Please see the Adobe website for system requirements.

The library abstracts are a list, in library number order, giving the title, author and publishing details for each item in the library. In most cases, a short description of the item is also given. This list is far too long to economically print.

To keep things simple, the price will be £2 including postage to all members worldwide. The CDs will be sent First Class to UK destinations and by Airmail Small Packet service abroad.

Please order by any of the usual library channels given on the front cover, and pay in advance in one of these ways:

- \* £2 cash
- \* US\$4 cash
- \* £2 mint (with gum) UK decimal stamps no CI or IOM
- \* Deduct from your existing Society credit.

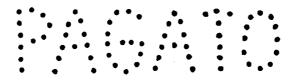
Please conceal cash in the post. NO CHEQUES PLEASE (to save bank charges and admin time).

#### **British Administration of Eritrea Telegrams**

Eritrea had been an Italian colony from 1889 until, in April 1941, the British Troops defeated the occupying Italian Army. Taking control of Eritrea was an essential part of the North African Campaign, in order to gain control of the Red Sea and hold Sudan.

The British Military Administration assumed responsibility for governing Eritrea and, in March 1942, opened up a postal service using the former Italian Post offices. The British KGV1 definitives and postal stationary were overprinted for use in Eritrea and other territories occupied by the Middle East Forces. Nevertheless, in Eritrea full use was made of the available Italian postal stationary and the Italian handstamps were adapted for use.

Following the end of World War II, a telegram service was established on 1st October 1945 from the head post office in Asmara. The completed telegram forms were accepted at all post offices and forwarded to the Asmara head office for dispatch. Initially the charges were paid in cash, but from 1st April the cost of the telegram was pre-paid by affixing the required value of overprinted GB stamps onto the telegram form. The stamps were cancelled by the receiving office and eventually defaced by means of a machine which punched holes forming the word 'PAGATO' measuring 16 by 70 mm. as illustrated below.



The normal practice was to retain the telegram forms for some months before destroying them. Fortunately, a number of telegram forms from the period October 1951 to January 1952 survived and found their way onto the philatelic market. During this late period of the British Administration, the machine used to punch the holes was either damaged or badly worn. At best only the upper half of **'PAGATO'** is punched, and often there is just a partial impression of **'PAGATO'** with a scattering of partly formed holes.

Most of the surviving forms were printed in Italian on buff paper by the British Government Press in Eritrea with Conditions of Usage (AVERTENZA) on the back. Some of the original Italian forms were also used during this period, as were some of the original forms printed in English by the Government Press when the service was first introduced. The stamps used on these surviving forms were the 'B.A. ERITREA' overprints introduced in February 1950, when the Military handed over to the British Administration under the control of the Foreign Office. When the Federation with Ethiopia was established in September 1952, the British postal services in Eritrea were closed.

Although the complete used telegram forms from the period of British Administration are rather scarce, the individual stamps showing some of the punched holes are more readily available, either loose or, more frequently, on a piece of a telegram form. Intriguingly many of these stamps are on parts of a blue-green telegram form that appears not to have survived in its entirety.

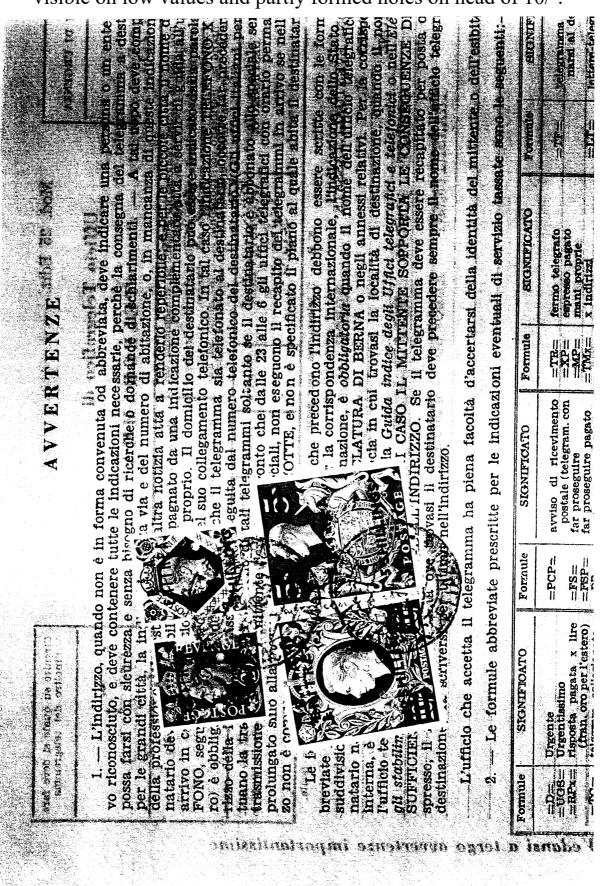
Over the years, many articles on these telegrams have been published in The Overprinter, the journal of the GB Overprints Society, gradually building up an as yet incomplete understanding of this telegram service. However, I have seen no reference to the machine (or machines) used to punch 'PAGATO', and would be very grateful if any member of the Perfin Society could provide some information.

Front of Telegram Form showing perfin holes at top left.

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The copyright to the whole article is retained by the author

Enlarged part back of a Telegram Form with perfin holes clearly visible on low values and partly formed holes on head of 10/-.



In October 2002 1 sent to Roy a possible partial identity on #0460.01 which had a hand stamped cancellation of

#### ....y to the O... / ....ican Expre...

suggesting "American Express" as the likely user. Since then I have not seen any further comments on this identity, other than it being published in Bulletin No. 320.

As this pattern shares the same regular grid as the others listed in the table below (updated by Roy using the standard Perfin Society 'issue' codes), now would be a good time for members to inspect their holdings to try and confirm an identity for a relatively large group of patterns at one go. Dies marked \* are all known used in Ipswich, but I wonder why Ipswich is the only plate reported.

Cat No.	Num	I(BC)	M	O	Q	R	U
0060.02	1					2½d	
0060.03	1			1½d	½d, 1d, 1½d	1d	
0160.01	2		½d, 1d		1½d		
0250.01	3		1d		½d, 1d, 1½d	2½d	
0250.01a	3					1d	
0340.01*	4	½d	½d		½d, 1d, 1½d	1d	
0400.01	5		1d		<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d, 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> d	1d	
0460.01	6 or 9		???		½d, 1d, 1½d, 2½d	1d	2d
0460.02	:6 or 9:				1d		
0550.01*	7		1d		½d, 1d, 1½d		
0555.01	.7					1d	
0600.01*	8		½d		½d, 1d, 4d		1½d, 2½d
0610.01	8.						1½d, 2½d
0065.01*	10		???		½d, 1d	1d	
0070.01	10.						
0090.01*	11		½d, 1d		½d, 1½d	1d	
0097.01 *	12	1½d	½d	M	½d	1d, 2½d	
0097.02	12					1d	

The long standing idea that the numbers relate to months of the year is not entirely supported by known dates - e.g. "2" (#0160.01) known used 21 Mar 1938; "6" (or "9") 23 Sep 1936 and 8 Oct 1936; "8" (#0600.01) 26 Nov 1955; and "11" (#0090.01) 2 Dec 1935.

However, if one looks at them in tabular form (see below), there is an interesting relationship in that in 3 out of the 4 instances the month number is the same as or precedes the month of usage by one month. '8' is the odd man out but it is not impossibly out of synchronization.

Cat No.	Perfin Pattern	Month used
0160.01	2	3
0460.01	6 or more likely 9?	9,10
0600.01	8	11
0090.01	11	12

A theory that would perhaps fit the dates is that a certain number of stamps were perfinned every month with that months date, and the residue used until exhausted. More information from members may help sort this out or does any member have any other ideas?

Other questions I am raising.

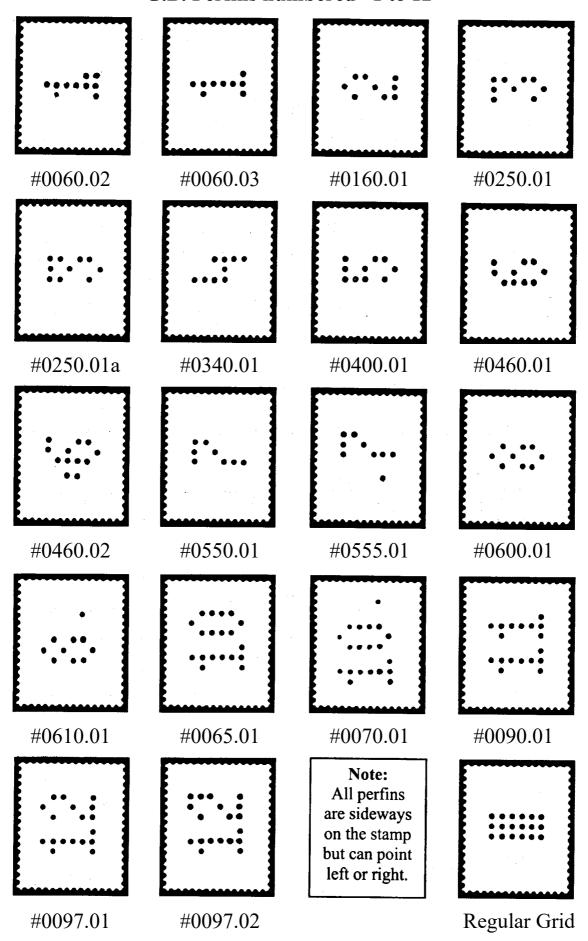
All values noted to date are low but not necessarily the relevant postage rate of that time, and the only possible identity was on a 2d (receipt) but no other 2d values appear. 2d in fact is noticeable by its absence and why no 'S' values, is that relevant?

Cat No.	Num	I(BC)	M	0	Q	R	U
0060.02	1					2½d	
0250.01a	3					1d	
0460.02	:6 or 9:				1d		
0555.01	.7					1d	
0610.01	8.						1½d, 2½d
0070.01	10.						
0097.02	12					1d	

Finally, those extra holes - those items with additional (remote) hole(s) being 6, 7, 8, and 10 appear to be among the rarest and obviously do not fit the regular grid. Was there another grid with the extra holes? Also, the three patterns with an extra (incorporated) hole (1, 3 and 12), are also in this extremely rare category, generally much later usage and no known postmarks.

Again, any theories/comments on these points?

G.B. Perfins numbered "1 to 12"



Bulletin 333 (Dec 2004) Page 22

#### **LIBRARY REPORT**

The following are new books in the library. Thanks go to Roger de Lacy-Spencer and Roy Reader for donating copies of their books.

2726: The Railway Letter Stamps of GB & Ireland 1891-1947

Edited by Roger de Lacy-Spencer

Published Moorside Publishing, 2000

An illustrated catalogue of GB railway letter stamps. Does not include any perfins, but does have lots of background to various railway companies, many of which were perfin users. Includes route maps. See Bulletin 330 for review. pp 112. (450g / 1lb)

2727: The Perfin Society Exhibit

An Illustrated History of Great British Perfins

Collated by Roy Gault

Pub. The Perfin Society. 2004.

Full colour, based on the Perlin Society's 64-sheet exhibit at Stamp Show 2000. (550g / 1lb 2oz)

2728-34: Edwards-Gault Catalogue of Great Britain Perfins

Edited by T. A. Edwards, B.C. Lucas & R. Gault

Pub. The Perfin Society 1986-1993.

Illustrated catalogue of all known (Letters from I onwards now superseded by the New Illustrated Catalogue). Split into spiral-bound sections as follows:

2728: Letters A-C 2729: Letters D-G 2730: Letters H-K 2731: Letters L-0

2732. Letters P-T

2733: Letters U-Z, Designs, Numbers, Monograms

2734: Catalogue Updates 1993

2735: Aleksander Stocki, Enigmatic Philatelist

Roy E. Reader & George K. Kay

Pub. Roy E. Reader, 2004

A survey of the life of Aleksander Stocki, who was involved in the production of WP perfins on French stamps, supposedly for the Polish War Office in Paris. See Bulletin 331 for review pp 64. (300g / 10oz)

# **CURRENT PERFINS**

#### Derek Ransom

Two '1st Gold' perfins have been seen. I have revised the heading on the new listing to provide a 'G' suffix for Gold and 'S' for Self-adhesive, should they make an appearance.

New entries from Sven Klitgard, Peter Peniket, Rosemary Smith, Stephen Steere and myself.

#0130.02	18	1st M
D1270.02	D/DC	2nd p
G0760.01	GC	1st M
H0470.02a	HB/C	2nd p, 1st p (one has May 200? pmk.)
H I 160.02M	HC	2nd
H 1710.01	HC/S	1
K0260.01	KC	1st G
L0430.02M	LB/H	25b
L0460.01	LB/I	1st p
L0960.02	LC	1st G
L1310.01	LCS	2nd p
L2207.02	LF/CD	25b
M0820.05M	MB/W	1st M
N0510.02	NC	2nd p
N 1674.02	NH/HD	2nd p
N2710.06	NR	25b
R2225.01	R/HA	10

### Latest dates

SWS	14 SEPT 2004
R/HA	19 JULY 2003
HH/MC	MAY 2003
L.B./H	MAY 2003

Identities - there are still a number of 'Modern' perfins whose owners are not identitied. Does anybody know who has used the following since 1993?

C/I	C3577.01M	Clue -blurred postcode UB6 0GG
CW	C8260.02M	
DC	D0560.02M	
D/DC	D1270.02	
HB	H0360.01	
HB/C	H0470.02a	
HC/S	H1710.01	Clue - postmarks from Glasgow
HS	H6310.01 a	
LB/B	L0315.01 a	
LB/H	L0430.01	
NC	N0510.02M	
RHA	R2210.01c	
SB/C	S0590.01Dm	
SC	S1210.01	Clue -postmarks SE 1 -Southwark?
SP	S5710.06	
		ala ala ala ala ala

# MORE ON THE SLOPERPLAQUE DaveHill

Or more correctly - a consolidation of known facts.

In Bulletin 248 12/13, Rosemary lists the perfins on the card in her possession. These are in the old system of numbering but it is easy to convert them to the new. Of the unidentified perfins, 1 has since been positively identified and 4 have been possibly identified leaving only 2 unidentified - but see later. Of course we can be sure that all these dies were Sloper. I noted that some were these stamps were perfined singly. multidies: I did think that Those of you with the Stampshow 2000 display can see this plaque in colour. The first of the unidentified perfins is a bit of a puzzle, postmarked all over London, known on ld reds. yet unidentified.

[Ed..- Dave did not give the number for this perfin but I am assuming it is the J530 – J.M/&Co. This is the only one used with different London postmarks. This die was the "one-off" which was perfined through a ld black and therefore not a true perfin.] The second one unidentified, Rosemary lists as a new die [RTF] - but Roy has, rightly, not allocated it a number.

In a later Bulletin, 260/18, Rosemary shows a cut down card that was offered in auction. This had some different perfins and stamps, 3 of which were UPU stamps. It also had 2 "new" dies. RTF as on the other plaque but with stops, R.T.F., and an M.M.F.

In a still later Bulletin 266/6 Rosemary gives information on Slopers management after Percy Sloper (Joseph's son) died c1930. Apparently a Mrs M (M?) Firminger and her husband R T Firminger became directors of the company. It is assumed that these dies were the initials of the Firminger's but were only used on the stamps appearing on the plaques. They have never surfaced for postal use which is why Roy has never listed them.

Finally, as the plaques were almost certainly done at the same time as the Sloper Five Reigns booklet, the remainders of which were given to the Society by Bill Cokayne who was a director of Slopers at the time of their closing, I wonder if F H Vallancey had a hand in the content of the booklet. His history of perfins, and Slopers, was researched in the works and his first edition, *British Stamps Perforated with Firm's Initials*, was published in 1933. I think Sloper's would have remembered his interest and used his knowledge. After all, they knew little about philately.

[Ed..- in 1971 I wrote to Slopers expressing an interest in perfins and asking for information. They gave me the address of Michael Rucklidge but sent me the 1939 '5 Reigns Booklet' but also one of the 1933 Vallancey booklets. So Slopers did have copies of Vallancey's booklet.]

#### **SLOPER'S TOWER ROYAL WORKS**

#### John Mathews

In Bulletin number 322 (February 2003), pages 10-11, Dave Hill gave a chronological list of Joseph Sloper's City premises, and added that the Tower Royal Works existed at West Hampstead from 1872-1991.

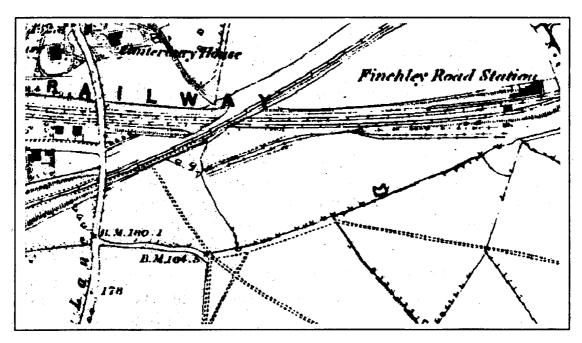
On going though the London Directories (actually trying to find Sloper employees), 1 found that the 1875 edition gives the company address as (only) Walbrook House, EC. The following year, the entry shows addresses as 6 & 7 King William Street, EC, and a manufactory as Tower Royal Works, NW. 1 wonder if the move to 6 & 7 King William Street coincided with the move of the manufacturing operations to West Hampstead, as a means of reducing the cost of rental of premises in the city (and to allow expansion of the business). This would be consistent with Dave's reporting that Joseph Sloper was upset at having to move from 6 & 7 King William Street only 3 years later because the Post Office did not consider it an appropriate position for a Sub-Post-Office.

The date for the establishment of the manufactory at West Hampstead could be further indicated by the Internet web site <a href="www.old-maps.co.uk">www.old-maps.co.uk</a> which contains 19th Century Ordnance Survey maps. The maps for the West Hampstead area are dated 1873-1874, and show no buildings on the east side of West End Lane, and no Blackburn Road, south of the Midland Railway and London and North-Western Railway lines.

Some of the editions of the London Directories include sections for "Northern Suburbs" and "Southern Suburbs". In the 1876 edition Northern Suburbs section, there is an entry for "Tower Royal Works for Sloper's Patents, West End, Hampstead". In the same section, Joseph Sloper is shown as living at 41, St. Julian's Road, Kilburn. There was no entry for Tower Royal Works in the 1872 edition Northern Suburbs section although Joseph Sloper was listed at St Julian's Road at this time.

In the 1888 Northern Suburbs section, the address of Tower Royal Works is changed to 'West End Lane, Hampstead", and in 1892 it is first shown as

"Blackburn Road". From 1894, the name of the premises changes to "J. Sloper & Co., engineers".



Section of 1873-1874 Ordnance Survey map of West Hampstead area. Blackburn Road now runs off east side of West End Lane, between "B.M. 180.1" and the lower railway line.

On reflection, it would seem that the memo written by J.L.L. Sloper (Joseph Lavell Leete Sloper - Joseph's eldest son) to (his brother) Horace in 1869 (see Dave Scott's article in Bulletin number 264, June 1993, page 7) was a purely internal one within Walbrook House.

#### Footnote on Joseph's family.

It has previously been reported that Horace was Joseph's eldest son, born 1844. Joseph Lavell Leete Sloper was born in the first quarter of 1841 and died on 1 January, 1877. His death notice appeared in "The Times" two days later, and describes him as the eldest son of Joseph Sloper of St. Julian's Road, Kilburn.

Recently, I have also gained access to part of the 1871 Census of England and Wales. At this census, Joseph Sloper was living at 41 St. Julian's Road, Kilbum, along with his wife Sarah, and children Fanny, Kate, Frank (!), Percy and Eustace. Joseph's two eldest sons, Joseph Lavell Leete and Horace must have been living separately. Daughter Ellen at the 1871 Census

governess to the family of Thomas W.D. Brooks, vicar must Bedfordshire. Alice living Flitwick. have been in Warwickshire, where she was christened in 1872. Frank was previously unknown (to me) son of Joseph. Percy was described as Joseph's fouth son in his obituary. ' The children were thus Joseph Lavell Leete, Fanny, Horace, Ellen, Alice, Frank, Kate, Percy and Eustace. Frank appears not to have been involved in the family business. He may be the Frank Sloper (born Marylebone 1853) listed in the 1901 Census as a Commission agent (tea) living at Camberwell, South London.

\* \* \* \* \*

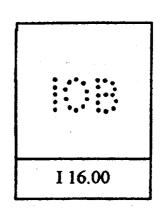
#### Additions to Revenue Catalogue Jeff Turnbull

All the additions which appear in Bulletins are included as up-dates in the original Revenue Catalogue which can be obtained from the Publications Officer - Jeff Turnbull.

In use: 1921-1930 Dates: 19-12-1922

Issues: GV, £1,

Ident: Imperial Ottoman Bank 26 Throgmorton St, London EC2.



Illustrated Cat No I1910.01

In use:

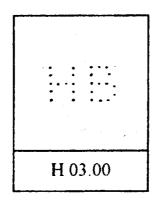
Dates:

Issues: EDVII, 1/-

Ident:

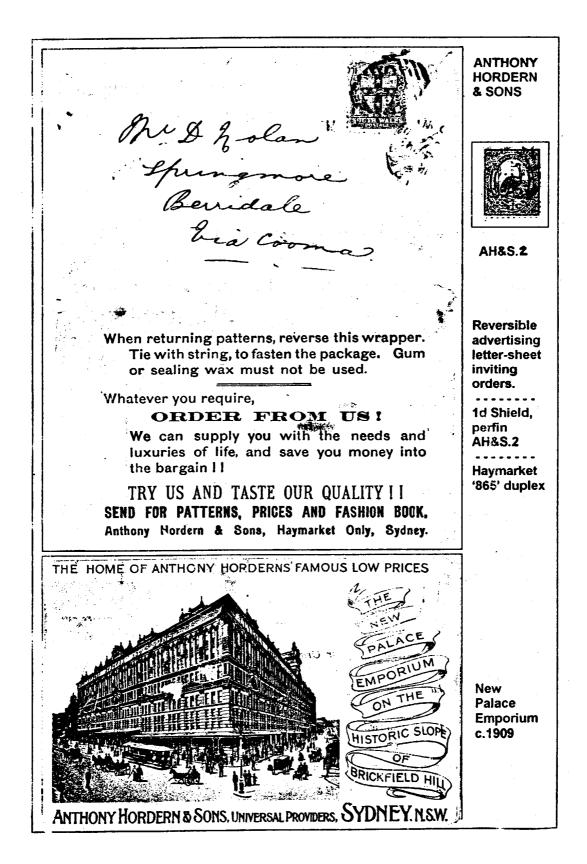
New Illustrated

Cat No

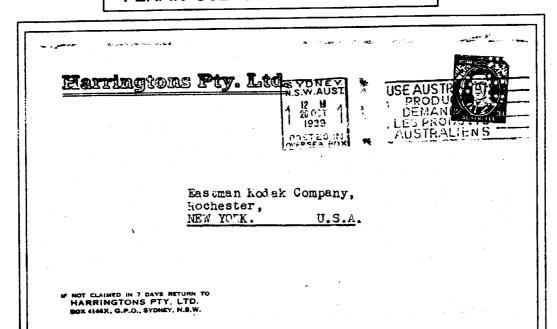


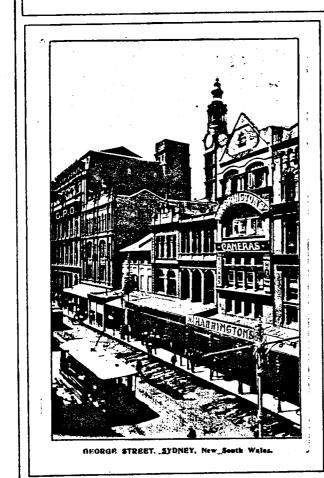
#### Another suggestion for displaying-perfins.

**JOHN MATHEWS** sent in 5 pages of "Perfin Users and their Premises". All are Australian companies but it is a valid idea for our GB users. I am showing just two of the sheets this month.



# PERFIN USERS & THEIR PREMISES





Perfin HLTD.1

HARRINGTON'S LIMITED



HLTD.2

1906 postcard Harrington's Ltd., 386 George Street, SYDNEY

# **ROWNTREE & COMPANY, YORK**

Gary Shayler came across this mint block of 12 x 5d Wilding stamps perfined R&C°/Y (R110.01). Such a large block is quite unusual either mint or used.

