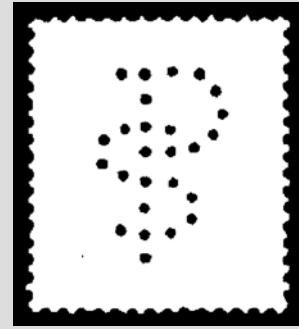
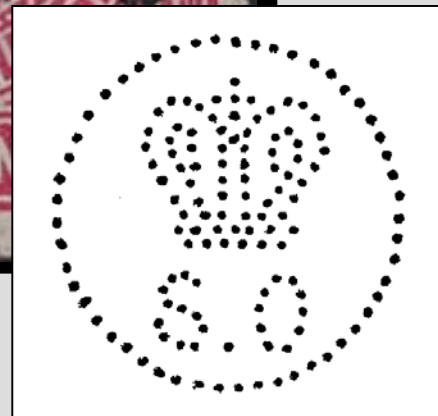


G.B. PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 359–April 2009



**Queen Victoria 5/- (SG180) with official perfin used by the Stationery Office.
The cancellation is the eight rayed star obliterator which was the fiscal
obliterator used by the office.**

SOCIETY NEWS

EDITORIAL

Many thanks for all the material that has been sent in during the last couple of months. Clearly the holidays did you all good and gave you the energy to put pen to paper. We have quite a mixed bag this month.

One quick reminder – particularly for new members. The Bulletin is available in electronic form sent to your PC – a free service. I also send out the auction at the same time so if you are an overseas member it means you can get the listing a bit earlier. You will still get your paper copy via snail mail. If you want your name added to the distribution list please let me know but remember that the files are large and broadband is a must for this service.

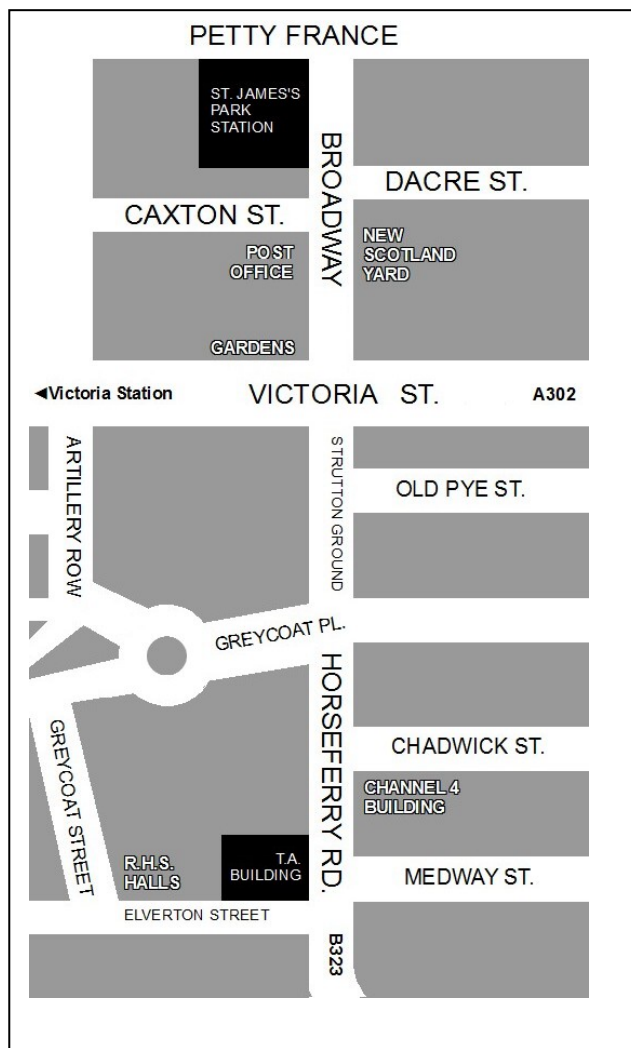
SECRETARY/TREASURER – STEPHEN STEERE

I have very little to report other than that many members are using the PayPal facility, surprisingly many of whom are in the UK. The bank interest rate for our community deposit account has dropped to 0.10%, with us receiving £1.17 in interest for February, however we are financially sound and I will not yet be asking for donations!

London Meeting Reminder

The Society Spring meeting will be on Saturday 23rd May between 12 noon and 5pm – with the formal meeting starting around 1pm. The new venue is: London & Scottish Regimental Headquarters, Horseferry Road Building, TA Centre, 95 Horseferry Rd, Westminster, London SW1P 2DY. We will be meeting in the Dining Room - Blue Room. Entry will be via intercom with the caretaker. A lift by the entrance takes you to the 2nd floor and the room is directly in front of you. Entry will be by a member acting as a doorman between 12pm and 2pm, any late arrivals will need to ring Stephen Steere on his mobile.

Local parking is free except on double yellow lines and resident parking bays. I would suggest that people park in Elverton Street at the side of the building on the single yellow line (in operation Monday to Friday only).



Sheffield Regional Meeting Reminder

The regional meeting will be held on Saturday 20th June 2009 at the Sheffield Wednesday Football Club, Hillsborough Conference Centre,

Sheffield, between 10am and 1.30pm. I look forward to seeing you at both meetings, and should anyone require directions to the Sheffield meeting then please contact me, as the different methods take up a whole page.

The Kent Federation of Philatelic Societies - Perfin Seminar

I have had a couple of volunteers to date; has no one any perfins they want to show off or talk about? Please contact me as soon as possible if you can help in this area. It will be a great chance to fly the perfin flag and maybe get a few more members.

London 2010 - Festival of Stamps: Date for your diary

The Society has booked a meeting room on Sunday 9th May 2010 between 2pm and 6pm, at the London 2010 - Festival of Stamps. We have been allocated a room in the next-door Hilton Hotel on the ground floor, a very short walk from the Islington Business Design Centre where the main International is taking place. We will have a few display boards (hint!). The meeting preceding ours will be the Cinderella Club should anyone be interested.

Future Auctions

As you will have noticed the last Bulletin didn't contain an auction. **John Donner** has been finding it very tough to run six auctions a year and to hold down a full time job. His job takes him away from home a lot and recently there have been layoffs, which has put additional work on the shoulders of those left. John though would like to continue the auction if at all possible. Few societies hold as many auctions as we do and none to my knowledge sell over 2000 lots per year. After discussion with the other officers it has been decided that a better way to run our auction would be to have fewer but larger auctions. This would give additional time for preparation of the auction and collection and distribution of the monies. So from now on the Society will be having three auctions a year. These will be contained in the April, August and December issues. He will try and include as much material as possible in each auction in order to minimise waiting time for sale of items. Please continue to send auction lots to John suitably lotted and described. More material is always required.

New Librarian Wanted

After over nine years in the job **Alastair Walter** has decided that it is time that someone else took over the role of librarian. So if you think this is a job that you could take on the Society officers would love to hear from you. Requirements for the job are enough space to hold the library – there is quite a bit of material, and some basic computer skills as the library index is held on a computer file. After that it is not too onerous a job, just a matter of filling the one or two requests a month for information that comes in. If you need more information about the post please give Alastair a call and he can explain all. Alastair plans to carry on the job of Webmaster for the Society so that's one thing you don't have to worry about.

MEMBERS COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

Mansion House Justice Room – Bulletin 358/11

A number of members have written regarding the piece on the Mansion House Justice Room perfin – **Richard Smolnicki, Jeff Turnbull, Jim Richardson** and **Dave Anderson**.

Richard highlights that the Barefoot catalogue has a detailed listing of this issue including values issued and that there is a brief description of the issue on the internet at:

<http://www.useless.connectfree.co.uk/revenue/justroom/justroom.htm>

He has a number of these fiscal stamps, including perfins. These are:

MH/JR	1871 issue	1/-, 1/6
	1888 issue	1/-, 1/6

The perfin can appear in a number of orientations, which is consistent with it being struck after the stamp is attached to a document.

G./J.R. 1/-

Jeff highlights that both MH/J.R and G./J/T. are not true perfins but should be considered as a cancelling device which was made after the stamp had been affixed to the documents. Because of this the strikes of both dies can be found in various positions on the stamps. He reports various values for:

MH/J.R on Barefoot Types 1, 2, 3, 12. with no value on the tablet of Type No. 1 (date range 1869-1890.)

G./J.R. on Barefoot Types 2, 5, 6, 14, 19, 21, (date range 1871-1900.) He also sent a scan of a Death Certificate with Barefoot 2 attached and cancelled through the document. The document is dated 30-5-1879, and clearly stamped **Guildhall Justice Room** London.

Jeff also sent a scan of a strip of three Perfined "SPECIMEN".



Both Jeff and Dave reported the MH/J.R perfin on the 1869 issue where the stamp is reddish brown with no value shown. These reports confirm that the perfin die must have been made by Slopers.

Jim reports a copy of Barefoot 3 1/- with the G./J.R. perfin cancel.

Joseph Sloper Death Certificate - Bulletin 358/9

John Mathews writes "As readers of the Bulletin will be aware, I have been researching Joseph Sloper's family for some time, and have had a copy of Joseph's death certificate as part of this. The location at which Joseph died, 2 Mercer Terrace, Archway Road, Islington, has had me puzzled since I received my copy of the certificate as there are no other references that I have so far been able to find which link Joseph to this address."

"At the 1881 Census, Joseph was living at 41 St. Julian's Road, Hampstead/Kilburn, along with children Kate, Percy and Eustace. In a previous article in Bulletin 295 (page 6), I did raise my doubts that they may not have actually been at home when the Census enumerator called, as their ages recorded were incorrect by many years and may have been provided by the 20-year-old house-servant. The enumerator had noted. At this Census, Sarah Sloper was living at 110 Ledbury

Road, Kensington, with daughter Ellen. Of the other children, Joseph jr, and Horace had both died previously, Fanny was married and living in Foleshill, Warwickshire, Alice was a living-in governess to a family in Stratford-on-Avon, and Frank was not recorded at all and may have been overseas (in Sarah's obituary in 1892, a request was made that it be copied by "Indian and Colonial papers" - he later was described as a "tea dealer"). From this, I wondered if Joseph and Sarah had separated some time after the 1871 Census, at which time they were all living together at St Julian's Road."

"Joseph Sloper continued to be listed at St. Julian's Road in the 1884 London Directory (Northern Suburbs), but in the 1888 London Directory (Northern Suburbs), Joseph Sloper is shown at 24 Dean Road, Willesden Green, and a Frederick William Murray was at 41 St. Julian's Road, Kilburn."

"Joseph died in the year before the 1891 Census. At that Census, the residents at 2 Mercer Terrace were a John H. Collier, his wife Eliza, an 18-year-old female servant, and two lodgers - 67-year-old Frances Wilson, unmarried, who had been born in the West Indies, and 65-year-old widow Sophia Slater who had been born in Tunbridge Wells. Directories from 1884 to 1892 show a "Henry Collier" at 2 Mercer Terrace. At the 1881 Census, the occupants of 2 Mercer Terrace were Marie Chisholm, a 39-year-old unmarried "Painter on porcelain", two female friends from Ireland and a teenager female servant."

"At the 1891 Census, Sarah Sloper was living at 38 Lancaster Road, Kensington, with children Ellen, Kate, Percy and Eustace. I have not been able to find Alice on this census but she married in Edgbaston in 1896."

"In summary, I cannot find a link between Joseph Sloper and the residents at 2 Mercer Terrace between 1881 and 1891. Joseph's death certificate does not give an address for him, other than the place of death. The question remains "was he a visitor at 2 Mercer Terrace?" If he had been in a coma for 5 days, presumably at that address, he must have known the residents there rather well for them not to have transferred him to a hospital??"

PHILATELIC TIP

Stephen Steere writes “Non-member Mike Behm told me this tip for removing glued paper on Austrian perfins, no doubt it would work on other glued stamps? "There is a solution to that glue problem: Pancreatin, a powdered enzyme formed from pig pancreas. It is sold as a digestive aid to people who have diminished pancreatic function; when Austrian stamps are soaked in it, the Pancreatin acts as a solvent that attacks the gum. The results are striking on 95% of the stamps I've tried. And no, I have no idea who first thought of digesting the gum from stamps.”"

[Ed: I publish this with a caution that this really might not be a good idea when used on stamps with fugitive inks (QV & EDVII). On the other hand I would have thought that a biological detergent might well do the same job – which ever be very careful!]

STILL MORE MODERN PERFINS

Derek Ransom

They still keep coming - these are supplied by **John Strange, Jeff Turnbull** and **Terry Woods**.

E2020.01bM	EH/MC	29, £1 mac
L0960.02M	LC	26 red
L2207.02	LF/CD	10
N2207.06	NR	6, 1st G
P2565.01M	PI/O	30
R2225.01M	R/HA	1st G
S1210.01M	SC	35 Sepia
S1257.02	S/C	1st and 2nd - NEW DIE, not yet identified
S3360.01M	SH	2nd p, 1st G
S7395.01	ST/HA	1
W3455.02M	W/HA	1st S

SEEN IN AUCTION

Peter Maybury alerted me to this cover that recently sold on e-bay for £54. The description given by the vendor was:- *Mixed franking (GB and Orange River Colony adhesives) 2½d rated cover to London - the GB ½d Jubilee is perfined 'TW/ & S' - cancelled 'Field Post Office B.O./ British Army, S. Africa' with a large '2', dated AP 7 01.*



Previously recorded (in the Boer War Study Circle Journal) on 26 AP 01, from Aliwal North, Cape. The perfin die is T5148.02, which has no identified user. This cover extends the known date of use of this die but raises the question as to how the perfined stamp got to South Africa.



FRONT COVER – (CROWN)/SO

The front cover illustrates a fine copy of a QV 5/- with the large “(crown)/SO” in circle perfin, which was used by the Stationery Office. The "(crown)/SO" in circle perfin used on Victorian issues was mostly for fiscal use and most examples are found with the eight rayed star obliterator which was the Stationery Office fiscal cancellation.

Edwards and Lucas record this design in The Catalogue of Official Perfins. It forms part of the unified series although it is only known on the 1883/4 high value postage stamps (SG 173 to 183). These issues were available for both fiscal and postal use but the appearance of this perfin on postally used stamps is very rare. The identifying initials used in this case were "S.O." Can any member report a confirmed postally used copy of this perfin?

The better-known S/crown/O and HM/SO perfins were in use for a considerable period and can be found bearing many postmarks. Many have London inland double and single circle types, London FS and London Parcel Post types. A smaller number can be found with provincial postmarks of Norwich, Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Bristol, Birmingham and Manchester. A few examples are known postmarked in towns which do not have HMSO establishments, presumably used by agents.

A change in usage is apparent from 1942. The Stationery Office introduced a post-paid parcel post label, which removed the necessity of using postage stamps on parcels for destinations inside the United Kingdom. From this date, as a general rule, these perfins should only be used on foreign mail and for the prepayment of registration fees.

BOOKS AVAILABLE

Dave Hill has no room for his eclectic collection of directories and reference books, contact him by email or snail mail if you want a list, most are not expensive but postage will be dear on the heavier items (or you could collect from Cornwall!)

EVERETT UNDERPRINT AND PERFIN

Maurice Harp

A number of articles have been presented in the Bulletin over the years on the W. H. Everett & Son Ltd private underprint. (**Mike Burrows** Bulletin 170, **Gordan Ward** Bulletin 260, **Dave Hill** Bulletin 310). To cut a long story short, Arthur Everett invented and patented an inking roller that could be used to print the initials of a company on the back of stamps – over the gum. They applied to the Post Office to use this device for the stamps used by the family company of W. H. Everett & Son Limited and finally in 1903 were

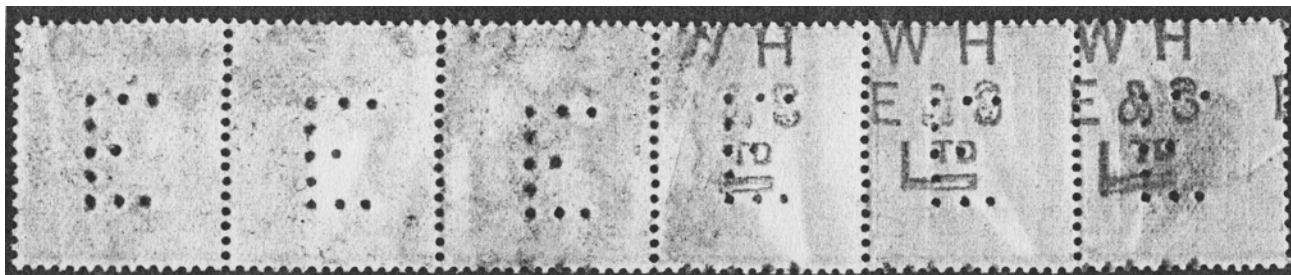


given permission to use it. They even tried marketing the device for £1 although there is no evidence that any other company used this method of security endorsing their stamps. By 1914 they had lost most of their staff to the war effort and were heavily dependant on casual staff. So in 1915 they decided they needed a more secure device and started to use perfin and are known to have used a capital “E” perfin although until now the exact die was not known.

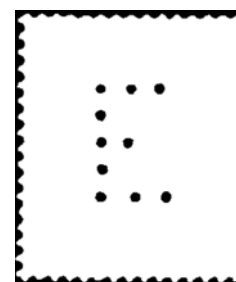
Last month a dealer sent me information on a major collection of private underprints and overprints – material that is rarely seen in any quantity. However the prices were way outside my league. The dealer had included photocopies of the backs of the stamps and included was the mint block shown above with the WH/E&S/Ltd underprint on George V 1912 1d – priced at £1750. Looking closely at the block it can be seen that it’s in fact a block of four with the last two imprints being made on the stamp sheet selvedge.

Also included was an even more interesting piece, a strip of six with both the underprint and perfin “E”. I contacted the dealer to find out what stamps these were struck on, as he had given no description for the item. He replied that the strip was actually an interpanneau strip

from an Edward VII 6d value sheet. The price for this item was £375. The King George V 6d was introduced in August 1913 so this strip cannot date from much later than early 1914 unless the company had some Edward VII stamps left over and this was a test strip of their new perfin machine.



As can be seen the die appears to be a multi-head with at least three patterns. There are only two 10-pin perfin dies that are likely contenders for this die. Measuring the base of the E on the photocopy gives 5.5mm, which is midway between the measurements given for E0010.09 (6mm) and E0010.10 (5mm). However most photocopiers are known to slightly reduce the size of the image. Looking at the dates of use of the two dies I think the die is E0010.09, which was used between 1915-1939 and is recorded with Ludgate Circus, London and NPB cancels. Inspection of a 1915 London directory shows that William Henry Everett & Son Ltd were wholesale newsvendors based at 11 St. Bride St, London EC, which ties in well with the recorded cancellations.



E0010.09

Die E0010.10 though appears to predate this die as its recorded used in Oct 1904. It is also recorded being used in Sheffield and London but I can find no link between Everett and any operation in Sheffield. So E0010.10 can clearly be eliminated.

"EVERETT"

THIEF-STAMP DETECTOR

"THE TIMES" says--
"THE PILFERING OF POSTAGE STAMPS."
 "Many big firms have suffered from the petty pilfering of postage stamps, and numerous devices have been formed with a view to checking the evil. By far the most salutary step in this direction has just been sanctioned by the Postmaster-General, who has given Messrs. W. H. Everett & Son, Ltd., permission to stamp their stamps on the back, and thus prevent them from being stolen. For fifteen years past, they write to a contemporary, 'we have been trying to obtain this, and have at length succeeded.' The passage in the letter from the General Post Office giving the necessary permission runs as follows:--'If . . . you still consider it necessary, in order to prevent pilfering, to adopt the practice of printing your initials on the back of your postage stamps, the Postmaster-General will not withhold his assent to your taking this course; and in the event of your doing so, instructions shall be given to the effect that stamps printed on the back are not to be re-purchased at Post-offices.'"
 To all who know the danger of allowing stamps to be in the hands of employees in such a state as to be negotiable and only to be identified if the thief is caught red-handed, this cheap and effective method will prove invaluable.

Price (complete) One Pound.
 * This is not one-tenth of the price of a safe, but is a hundred times more effective.

W. H. EVERETT & SON, LTD.,
 Bell's Buildings, Salisbury Square, London, E.C.

"THE NEWSAGENT AND BOOKSELLERS' REVIEW" says--
TO CHECK THE POSTAGE-STAMP THIEF.
 "Not satisfied with having done so much" (secured the consent of the Postmaster General to print on the backs of postage stamps). "Messrs. Everett have gone a step further, and made it possible for everyone to print his initials on the postage stamps himself. They have contrived a handy and clever little apparatus, which they call the 'Everett's Thief-stamp Detector, by means of which half a sheet of stamps can be printed in a few seconds. This they are prepared to supply at the extremely reasonable price of £1. Messrs. Everett will be pleased to furnish the 'trade' with particulars as to prices, &c."—*The Newsagent and Booksellers' Review.*

Price Complete One Pound.



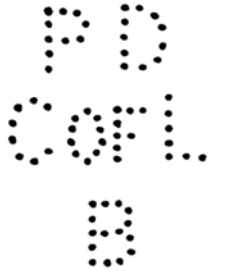

COUNTY PALATINATE OF LANCASTER CHANCERY

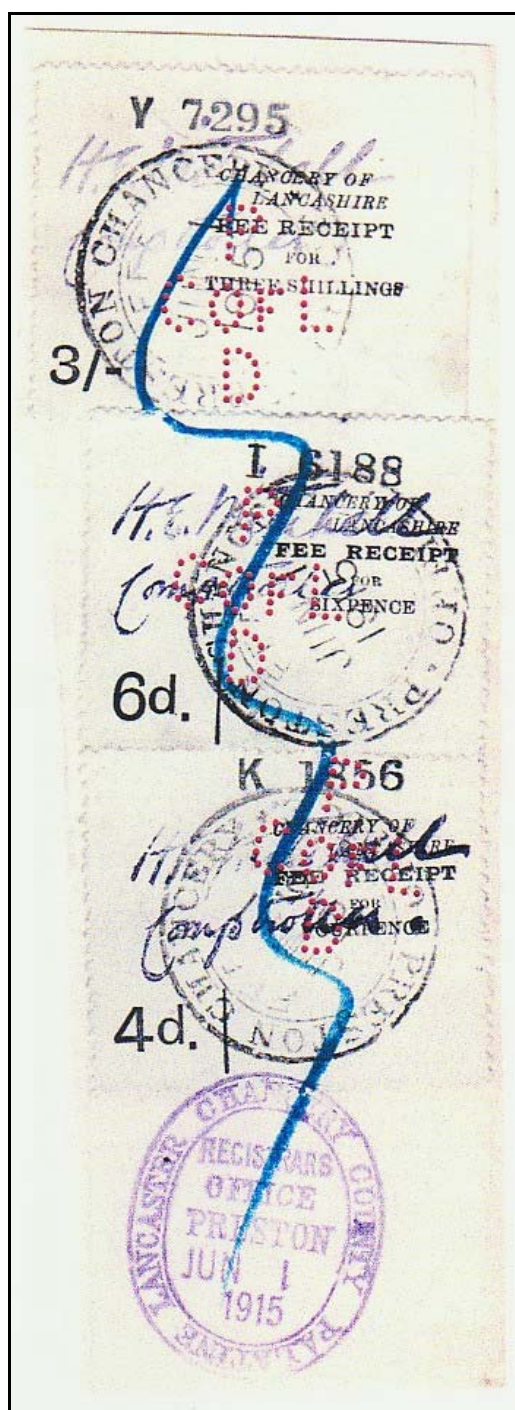
Mike Bavin / Jeff Turnbull

The Court of Chancery of the County Palatine of Lancaster issued receipt stamps for fees paid. A total of nineteen values between 1d and £5 were produced, the first being introduced in 1875. The receipt stamps were affixed to documents, cancelled and then in general perfinned through the stamp and the document. Four perfin die strikes are recorded P/C of L/D used in the Preston District, L/C of L/D used in Liverpool, PD/C of L/B used in the Preston District and Blackburn and M/C of L/D used in the Manchester district.

Disbursements.				
No. of Item.	Date when Paid or allowed.	Names of Persons to whom Paid or Allowed.	For what Purpose Paid or Allowed.	Amount Paid or Allowed.
	July 20	J. E. France	papering & painting	1 5 0 ✓
	Sept. 21	J. Stpinwall	altering doorway and	4 0 0 ✓
		Bricksetter	rebuilding division wall	
	Oct. 13	J. B. Cragg	do	2 10 0 ✓
		Joiner		5 8 0 ✓
	Oct. 20	J. E. France	painting outside	8 0 0 ✓
		do	painting and	2 16 6 ?
			papering inside	
		J. E. France	fixing iron rods and	1 5 0 ?
			stays to staircase	
	Sept. 28	J. Stpinwall	concreting and	2 5 0
			painting shop fronts	
			£	24 19 6

Receipt with 4d, 6d and 1/- values perfinned L/C of L/D

			
Type 1 Preston District	Type 2 Liverpool District	Type 3 Preston & Blackburn District	Type 4 Manchester District



Jeff records the following in the updated edition of the GB Officials Catalogue.

Type 1 - P/C of L/D

In use: 1886
Dates: 13-2-1933.
Perfin through the Document.
Numerous values. - 3d, 4d, 6d, 2/-, 3/-

Type 2 - L/C of L/D

In use: 1886
Dates: 16-8-1886 21-5-1942.
Perfin through the Document.
Numerous values. - 4d, 6d, 1/-, 3/-,

Type 3 - PD/C of L/B

In use: 1890s+
Dates: 11-12-1897 1-6-1915.
Perfin through the Document.
Numerous values. - 3/-

Type 4 - M/C of L/D

In use: 1875
Dates: 20-11-1886 6-7-1970.
Perfin through the Document.
Numerous values. - 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, 5/-,
Recorded on a 1970 document with perfin through stamp only.

A major study of the stamps themselves by A. F. Brown was published in the Cinderella Philatelist (October 1983 pp. 92-94), but little has been recorded on the use of the perfin types and the various values of fiscal that can be found.



[Ed:- The information for this piece has been provided by Mike Bavin and Jeff Turnbull with additional information from A F Brown of the Cinderella Stamp Club. A complete listing of these issues has been prepared by Jeff Turnbull and can be obtained from him. His address can be

found on page 2 of the Bulletin.]

NON-PERFINNED STAMPS: SURVEY CONTINUATION - Z

John Strange

Our catalogues provide a wealth of qualified information; but I am still interested to record that which is, so far, not seen perfinned on a specific stamp. As a follow-up to the survey on issue 'W', and to bring it into date line, I would like to find a lot of decimal Machin 'Regionals'.

I count that seventeen perfin dies have been recorded on issue 'Z'; and that another nine, whilst having used perfins on the previous issue 'Y' but also into 1971 and beyond, might have possibly used them too. Not many to look at!

The reason for the lack of commercially perfinned usage on issue 'Z' is unclear. Nearly 70% of them remain unreported – a lot to look for!

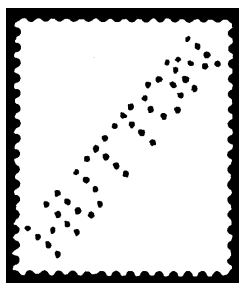
To those who kindly responded to the 'W' survey – look out – another request is on the way! Again it will be to a SG Concise catalogue standard; but due to 144 sheet stamps being sought it is too much to print in the Bulletin. However, if other members wish to participate, let me know and I shall be pleased to post a survey.

QUEEN VICTORIA 1d RED 20,000th DDF!

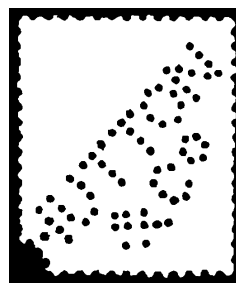
Roy Gault

Hard on the heels of John Strange's 'graphic' article analysing the Line Engraved issues in Bulletin N^o.358, I can report reaching the **20,000th** Different Die Face goal on the Queen Victoria 1d Red plates.

In January **Michael Millar** reported 35 previously unreported plates taking the tally to 19,991. However, after a trickle of new sightings, the tape was finally breasted by **Peter Maybury** mid-February when he reported just two plates, one of which was this New Die (H7510.01) on plate 145 with a London Chief Office (Diamond) cancel.



H7500.01



H7510.01

It matches in every respect the known die "HUTTON" (H7500.01), but has an additional "& Co" beneath. **Maurice Harp** has researched the company and come up with the following details:

1842 T Hutton, Lace & Worsted Mfr, 8 Newgate St, London EC.

1846 Founded as Thomas Hutton & Co.

1877 Hutton & Co, 6 Newgate St, London EC.

The entry in Tomkins, J Hutton & Son Ltd, must have come a little later on, but is clearly the same company.

Kelly's (1877) records their trade as "*warehousemen, haberdashery, stays, collars, dress trimmings, ribbon & piece velvet, furniture trimmings, upholsterers' sundries, umbrellas & sunshades, jewellery, jet & imitation, gilt & pearl goods, berlin wools, fleecies, worsted, & canvas, fancy cabinet, leather & papier maché goods, beads, bugles, working silks, english & foreign needleworks, embroideries & perfumery, fancy soaps, combs, brushes &c.*"

I've taken the opportunity to preserve a snap-shot showing the QV 1d Red status at 20,000 DDF to give an idea as to the quantities and distribution of the various plate numbers involved.

Queen Victoria Line Engraved Survey - 1d Red Plates - Results by Plate Numbers.															Correct to: 18-Feb-09	
3	1d Plates unknown.														Full House 62	
71	1	81	2	91	2	101	25	111	51	121	80	131	75	141	60	
72	1	82	1	92	11	102	38	112	54	122	175	132	35	142	69	
73	1	83	0	93	4	103	27	113	50	123	74	133	36	143	109	
74	3	84	0	94	2	104	24	114	37	124	172	134	243	144	56	
75	0	85	0	95	2	105	25	115	38	125	90	135	56	145	175	
76	6	86	3	96	5	106	52	116	52	126	0	136	63	146	204	
77	0	87	1	97	14	107	56	117	85	127	84	137	160	147	162	
78	6	88	1	98	2	108	31	118	77	128	0	138	183	148	178	
79	9	89	2	99	11	109	50	119	92	129	103	139	76	149	156	
80	2	90	3	100	22	110	51	120	162	130	112	140	287	150	233	
Max No. Dies: 377 on plate 171. Plates 171, 174, 184, 192, 193 will <i>probably</i> be most frequently encountered, followed by 170, 196 ...																
151	108	161	108	171	377	181	303	191	276	201	260	211	113	221	115	
152	97	162	144	172	218	182	163	192	324	202	251	212	206	222	87	
153	81	163	163	173	185	183	230	193	328	203	224	213	199	223	80	
154	185	164	170	174	372	184	321	194	222	204	293	214	159	224	57	
155	154	165	193	175	205	185	165	195	255	205	259	215	178	225	21	
156	172	166	181	176	220	186	222	196	316	206	240	216	208	???	7	
157	172	167	239	177	301	187	253	197	209	207	221	217	154			
158	208	168	175	178	156	188	181	198	301	208	221	218	156			
159	196	169	150	179	234	189	171	199	229	209	220	219	83			
160	230	170	317	180	146	190	297	200	302	210	202	220	161	Tota	20,000	

While I'm at it, I will also report the current split of the four Line Engraved denominations - 1/2d, 1d, 1 1/2d, and 2d - which still shows that the 1 1/2d value is more scarce than any of the others.

	1/2d	1d	1 1/2d	2d	Total DD
DD	344	1,221	208	317	1,307
DDF	729	20,000	244	471	---

The 'Full House' total (i.e. known on all four LE values) is currently 62, but Maurice is confident that this will rise once he has gone through his records in preparation for part 2 of the Line Engraved catalogue which is now underway (around 33% complete). Maurice also suggests that 20,500 DDF should be easily reached during the year, so a new target of 21,000 has been set.

Other LE ‘records’ to be broken include:

The earliest cover - currently dated **19th February 1869** with a 1d Red (plate illegible) with “C.D/&C^o” (C2087.01).

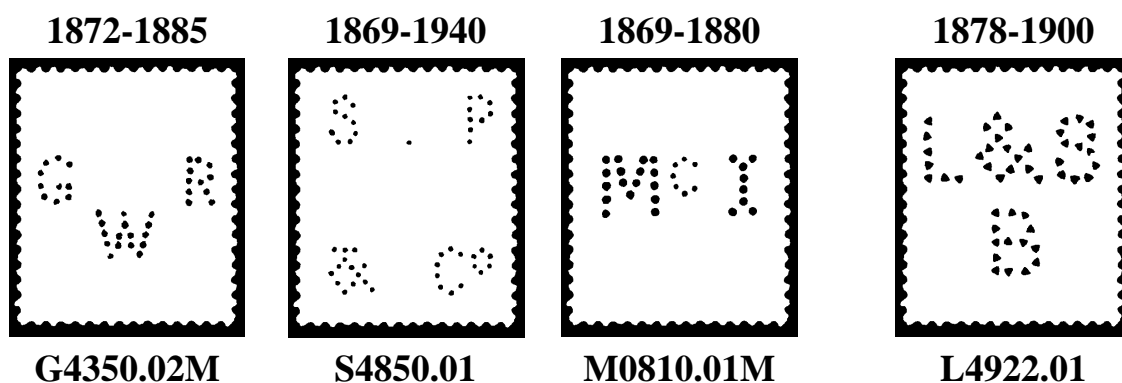
The earliest dated loose 1d Red - currently dated **26th June 1869** on plate 114 with “NN/NN” (N2290.01).

The latest dated loose 1d Red - currently dated **22nd August 1883** on plate 150 with “R&C^o..” (R1039.01).

The longest lived LE Die - currently “de in G” (G1390.01) in use by **A de Gruchy, Drapers, House Furnishers & Costumiers, St Helier, Jersey** from 1876 until c1972, an impressive 96 years. This is one of just three LE dies that survived in use into the Elizabethan era. The other two are “D&C^o..” (D0850.01M), and “H&/GS” (H2980.01).

If you’re lucky enough to ‘spot’ an unrecorded plate in your collection, or a ‘record breaker’, *please report it to me* so that it can be entered on the master list ready for inclusion in future catalogues.

And finally, inevitably some dies are ‘common’ on the LE issues, whereas others are quite scarce, and possibly unique. The top three performers are “GR/W”, “S.P/&C^o”, and “M^cT” with **111**, **101**, and **96** different plates respectively. However, at the other extreme, there are 163 dies for which only *one* plate number has been recorded.



The top three are illustrated above, along with a ‘token’ representative from the ‘unitary’ club. I’ve specifically chosen “L&S/B” (**L4922.01**) because it uniquely employs ‘triangular’ shaped pins - having seen one in the flesh, it’s a joy to behold!

WELL, WELL, WELL, LLANDRINDOD WELLS!

Roy Gault

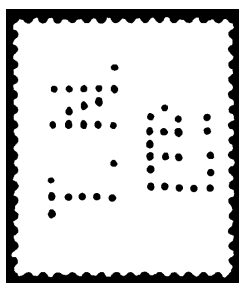
Although I haven't done the analysis yet, I would guess that well over 90% of G.B. perfins were used in the large commercial centres of the U.K., Birmingham, Cardiff, Belfast, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester etc., with the lion's share emanating from London. With that in mind, it's pleasing to chance upon a small group of perfins from a small town, in this case the Mid-Wales spa town of *Llandrindod Wells* in what was Radnorshire, but is now Powys. I know of just four perfins postmarked Llandrindod Wells, but there may well be others, so please tell me if you know of any more!

The earliest of the four is suspected to have been used by '*Tom Norton Ltd*' from c1905. Tom Norton was an early cycling enthusiast who opened up a retail cycle business in the High Street in 1898/9 selling cycles made by Premier, Raleigh, and Singer amongst others.



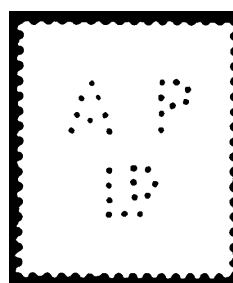
As the business prospered, he moved (c1906) to larger premises in Temple Street, where he subsequently branched out into selling motor cycles, motor cars, and even light aircraft! (Note the aircraft in the top left-hand corner of the letterhead on the next page). The earlier perfin dates to around the time of the move.

1905-1915



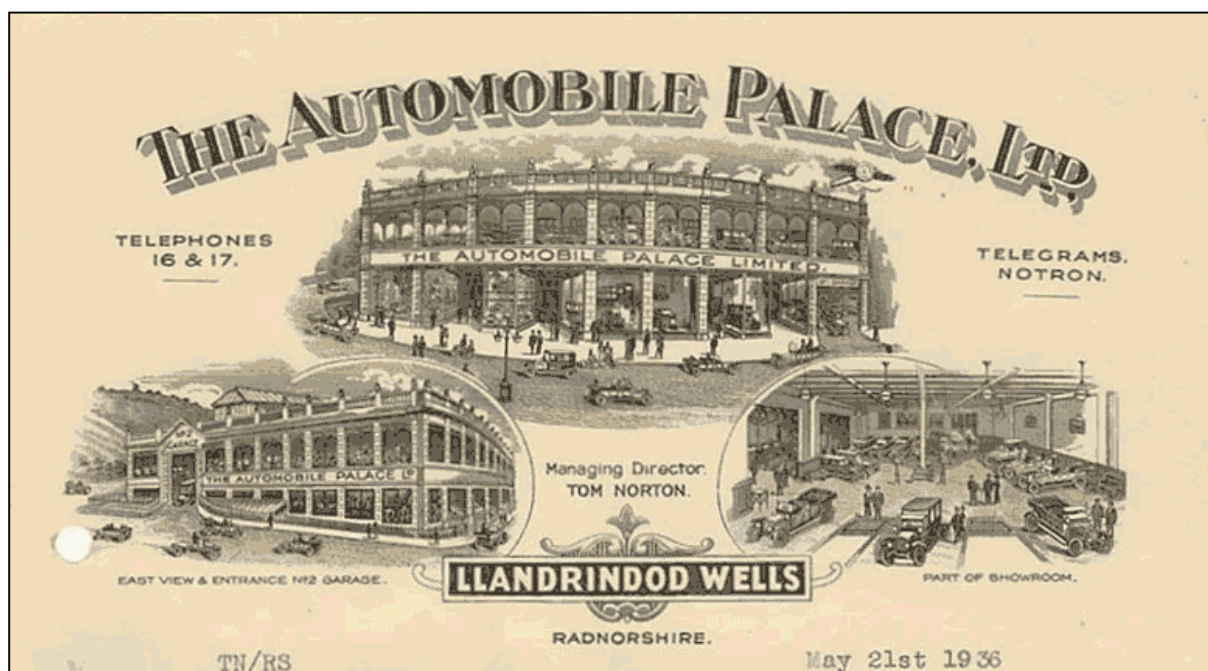
T3455.01a

c1945



A4590.01

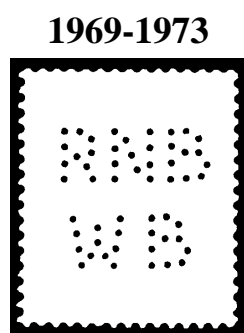
At some stage the premises in Temple Street were enlarged or rebuilt in the 'Art Deco' style, and around 1925 the name was changed to '*The Automobile Palace Ltd*'. Although there is a significant time gap, the 2nd perfin (a Sloper shd), recognises the 'new' name.



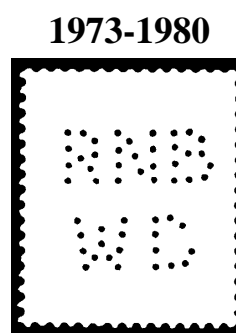
(Letterhead reproduced by kind permission of The National Library of Wales).

Sadly, Tom Norton died in 1955, but the building continued to be used as a car showroom until the 1990's. The 'Automobile Palace' is now a Grade II listed building and home to the National Cycle Museum, which fittingly houses many of the cycles collected by Tom Norton.

The remaining two 'Llandrindod Wells' perfins are 'Water Authority' related. The first, a Sloper single headed die, dates from c1969 and was used by the '*Radnorshire & Breconshire Water Board*'. In 1973 the Welsh National Water Development Authority was created and took over the responsibilities of the '*R&B WB*'. The name also changed around this time to the '*Radnorshire & Breconshire Water Division*', based in 'Ardwyn' house, Park Terrace, Llandrindod Wells.



R3685.01



R3686.01

Slopers simply removed two pins from the 2nd "B" to create the "D"! {LD for R3685.01 - 17th Jan 1972, ED for R3686.01 - 9th June 1976}.

THE "NZ" PERFINS

David Andersen

(Reprinted from South Pacific Perfin Bulletin January 2009)

The Office of the High Commissioner of New Zealand and other New Zealand Government organisations used perfins with the initials "NZ" from 1922 to the late 1960's. These were used by a number of organisations in a similar way to the "COFA" and "C/OF/A" perfins used by Australian Government officials in Britain. A good amount of information is published about these perfins - the two most up to date listings are in "Postage Stamps of New Zealand", volume 8, Chapter XV p.479-480, which was updated by Robert Samuel, and in the British catalogue "Perfins of Great Britain". The information below is based on these references and hopefully will encourage further information to be reported.

A range of patterns was used by J. Sloper & Co. Ltd to produce the "NZ" perfins. The first pattern, Type 1, with letters 5 holes in height, was produced from 1922 until around 1939, though copies are recorded postmarked into 1945 as stocks of stamps were used up. Presumably when stocks started to run down further stamps were ordered from J. Sloper & Co. but some from earlier batches would have remained in stock long after a perforator went out of service. Evidently some damage occurred to the perforator towards the end of this period, as missing holes are known.

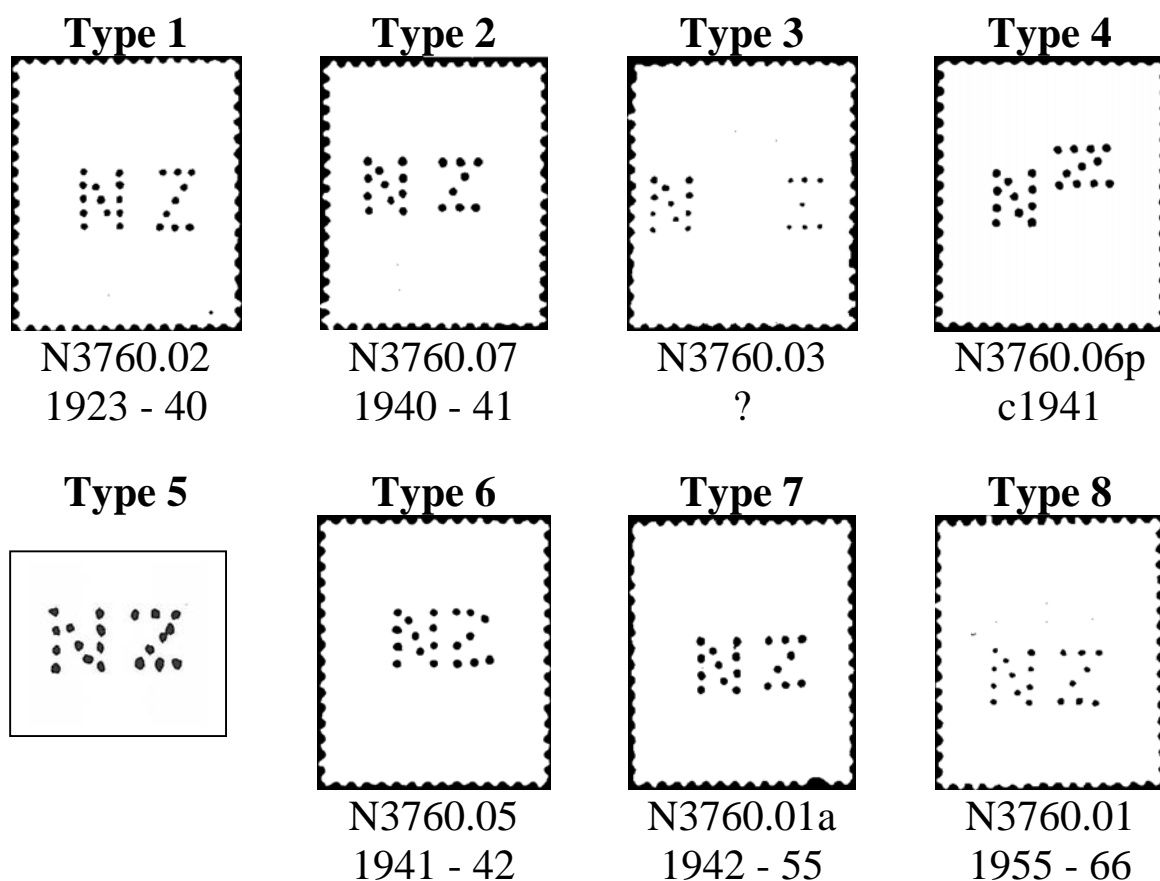
Type 2 with letters 4 holes in height (3mm between the two letters), which appears to have been used from 1939 till 1943, is a Sloper single head die probably destroyed in the London blitz during May 1941. Again usage would have continued for some time after the perforator was destroyed and the remaining stocks used.

Following the destruction of this machine/die a number of 'provisional' patterns are encountered which were presumably used by the New Zealand High Government offices.

Type 3 with letters 8mm apart and a single hole in the crossbar of the 'Z' was used for a short period. Type 4 appears to be an "NZ" created from passing sheets twice through the puncturing machine with the letter 'N', the second time at right angles to the first pass. A very rare

pattern Type 5 is recorded by Robert on three 1d red KGVI stamps, two with “NZ” and the last with just an ‘N’ and appears to have been produced in a similar manner to Type 4. The final provisional Type 6, often described as malformed, was soon introduced and is claimed to have been made from an earlier “NB/T” perforator. This pattern is recorded used from August 1941 until around 1945. Over the life of the perforator it appears that additional holes were added to the crossbar of the Z. Usage of the perforator itself may have ceased in 1941 or 1942 when the next machine was introduced.

The Type 7 pattern (2mm between the letters) was introduced in 1942 and continued in use possibly to 1969. Usage by the Prisoner of War Enquiry Office (Joint Council of the Order of St John and the New Zealand Red Cross Society) in 1944 is recorded with this pattern. The British catalogue also records an additional similar pattern Type 8 in which the foot of the ‘Z’ drops a little though Robert considered these two types one and the same. My view based on the block illustrated below with four identical designs all with the ‘dropping’ Z is that these are separate patterns, the latter being used from 1957. Double punctures of the 1/3 Queen Elizabeth II issue are known. This pattern is recorded used by the Inspector of New Zealand Dairy Products, London.



Series	Value	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	Type 5	Type 6	Type 7	Type 8
KGV 1912-26	1½d	X							
	2d	X							
	2½d	X							
	3d	X							
	4d	X							
	6d	X							
	1/-	X							
KGV 1934-36	1½d	X							
	2d	X							
	3d	X							
	4d	X							
	1/-	X							
	2/6	X							
KE VIII	½d	X							
	1d	X							
	1½d	X							
KGV 1937-47	½d	X					X		
	1d	X				X			
	1½d	X							
	2d	X					X		
	2½d	X	X * #	X					
	3d	X	X				X		
	4d	X	X						
	5d	X							
	6d	X	X	X			X	X	
	10d	X							
	1/-	X	X				X	X	
	2/6 brn	X	X			X	X *	X	
	2/6 grn						X	X	
	5/-	X				X	X	X	
10/-			X		X	X	X		
KGV 1941-42 Light colours	½d						X	X	
	1d		X				X	X	
	1½d							X	
	2d						X	X	
	2½d						X	X	
	3d			X			X	X	

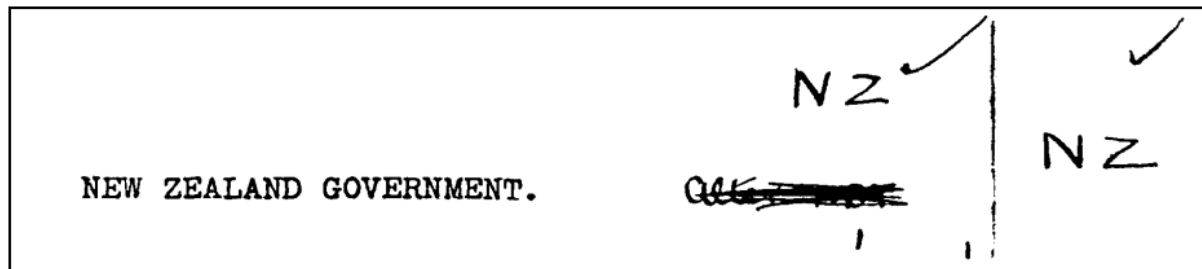
Series	Value	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	Type 5	Type 6	Type 7	Type 8
KGVI 1950-51 New colours	½d							X	
	1½d							X	
	2d								
	2½d							X	
	4d							X	
	2/6								
	5/-							X	
	10/-							X	
	£1								
QEII	2½d							X	
	4d							X	
	6d							X	X
	1/-							X	X
	1/3								X
	1/6							X	X
	2/6							X	
	5/-							X	X
	10/-							X	X

*-Inverted

#-Reversed

[Thanks to Richard Smolnicki & Geoff Kellow who provided copies of the original references]

Ed:- Note that N3760.03 may well be NE with missing pins and that Type 5 is currently not listed in our catalogue. David Andersen would like to hear of any additional values or additional information regarding these perfin dies so I would ask you all to check your holdings.



The illustration above is taken from the Sloper 'manuscript' ledger, and shows the instructions 'Alter NBT' crossed out once the replacement die 'NZ' (N3760.01), single headed as indicated by the '1', had been made. The earlier single headed 'NZ' die, presumed destroyed in the "Blitz", would have been N3760.07. The 'altered NBT' die is "NZ" (N3760.05).

BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS

Part 1 – Fancy Biscuits

Maurice Harp

Perfin collectors often collect along a theme, whether its railways, banks, councils or hospitals. One area that hasn't been tackled yet as far as I know is biscuit manufacturers. The early 20th century saw many local and national biscuit manufacturers for both fancy biscuits, ships biscuits and dog biscuits. Over the years companies fell away or were taken over with United Biscuits swallowing the fancy biscuit makers and Spillers the dog biscuit makers. Luckily for us many of the companies used perfins. Below is a short summary of some of the companies which may inspire someone to form a specialist collection.

Huntley and Palmers

In 1822 Joseph Huntley opened a small biscuit baker and confectioner shop in Reading. By 1830 Huntley's biscuits were moving by the canals all around the south of England. But in 1838 Joseph Huntley had to retire because of bad health, and Thomas did not have his father's good sense of business. In 1841, Thomas joined with George Palmer who had just finished his apprenticeship at milling and baking. George Palmer was a man of enterprise and skill, but as a Quaker could not go into the professions. He quickly doubled the size of the bakery and began to introduce machinery. By 1860 the company was the largest biscuit maker in England and produced over 100 different types of biscuits. At the turn of the century the firm employed over 5000 people. In 1951 Huntley and Palmers had merged with Peek Frean's to become Associated Biscuit Manufacturers Ltd. By 1961 the company had been joined by Jacobs. They are known to have used two die H5690.01 - H&P (1868-1885) and H5690.02 – H&P (1890-1969).



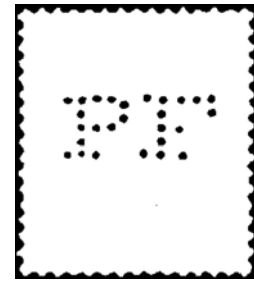
H5690.01

Peek Frean & Co

Based in Bermondsey from 1866 until 1989, Peek Frean & Co was the first mass producer of biscuits and invented household favourites such as Garibaldi and Bourbon. In more recent times the company created snacks such



as Cheeslets and Twiglets as well as making Queen Elizabeths II's wedding cake. The company used at least 26 different perfin dies with various variations of the initials PF. The earliest is P1910.07 introduced around 1882 and they continued to use perfin up to the start of the Second World War.



P1910.07

Associated Biscuit Manufacturers

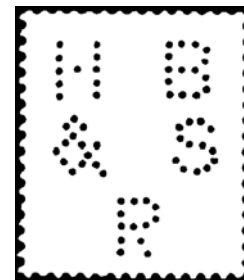


A0780.01

Associated Biscuit Manufacturers was formed by the amalgamation of the then ailing Quaker firm of Huntley & Palmer with Peek Frean and Jacobs. Associated Biscuit Manufacturers are known to have used perfin die ABM A0780.01 between 1925-41 and probably provisional A0790.01p between 1941-45. They may well have used other unidentified ABM dies.

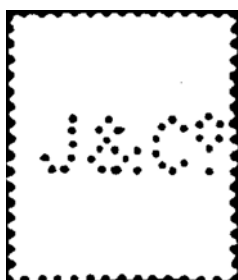
Huntley, Boorne & Stevens, Reading

Began in 1832 when Joseph Huntley started an ironmongers opposite his brother's bakery in London Street. This bakery was the beginnings of the Huntley & Palmer business. Joseph made airtight tin boxes for his brother Thomas, so biscuits could travel to distant customers while staying fresh & unbroken. Huntley & Palmers bought the business in 1918. The company stayed in Reading until 2001 when it moved to South Wales. They are known to have used perfin die H0910.01 HB/&S/R around 1895.



H0910.01

W & R Jacobs & Co Ltd, Dublin & Liverpool



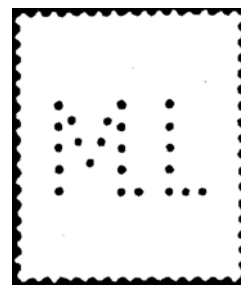
J1590.01

Jacobs are of course famous for their cream crackers. They had factories in Dublin and Liverpool. W & R Jacob's Ltd was founded by brothers William and Robert in 1851. But Jacob's Cream Crackers weren't developed until 1885, by William's son George. They became a part of United Biscuit and continue to be the top selling cracker in the UK. In 2005 the new Jacob's Essentials range was launched to add new flavours to the cracker range and broaden the appeal of the product range. The company are

known to have used perfin dies J1590.01(1903-1925) / J1590.02(1927-54) / J1590.03(1895-1923)

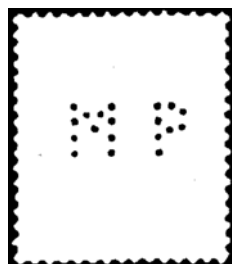
MacFarlane Lang & Co, Glasgow

James Lang opened a bakery in Gallowgate, Glasgow in 1817. His nephew, John Macfarlane, joined the business and took over when James died. A new bread factory was built in 1880 and the company decided to move into machine made biscuit manufacture in 1886. In 1903 they expanded by opening a London factory. Macfarlane Lang joined with other biscuit manufacturers to form United Biscuits in 1948. They are known to have used perfin dies M3620.03 and 03a.



M3620.03

McVitie Price



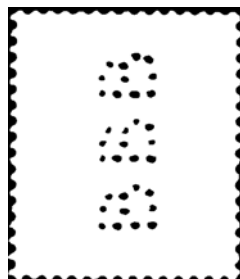
M4410.01M

McVitie's most popular chocolate biscuit bar Penguin is 75 years old. It was first produced in 1932 by William McDonald another Glasgow manufacturer and it became a McVitie's brand when McDonald joined with McVitie's and Price, MacFarlane Lang & Co and Crawford to form United Biscuits in 1946. M4410.01 / 01a M4440.01/1aM/02

Bee Bee Biscuits Ltd

Symbol Biscuits Ltd (Lyons Biscuits Ltd)

Bee Bee Biscuits originated in 1922 as the Blackpool Biscuit Co selling brandy snaps and Shrewsbury biscuits locally. Bee Bee became one of the pioneers of pre-packed biscuits, which until 1933 had been largely sold as loose or in tins.



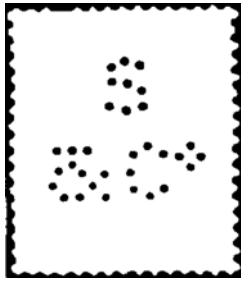
B0490.02

Lyons Biscuits Ltd secured 54% of the Bee Bee Biscuit Company in 1938. It became Symbol Biscuits in 1944 and used an elephant head logo. The company's name was changed back to Bee Bee Biscuits Ltd in 1950. Both trade names continued to be used. Symbol Biscuits Ltd used perfin SB/L S0800.01 and Bee Bee Biscuits B0490.02.



S0800.01

Serpells Ltd, Reading



S1670.02M

has not been seen in Reading for some years, broke out between half-past 12 and one o'clock on Saturday morning, as the result of which the biscuit manufactory of Messrs. H.O. Serpell and Co., has been almost completely destroyed".

Relations between

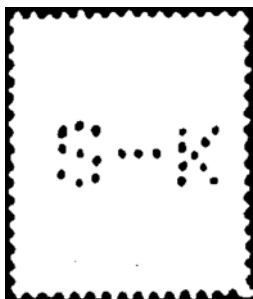
Serpell's and Huntley & Palmers had always been cordial, and in 1950s Serpell's carried out a small amount of production for Huntley & Palmers while their Huyton factory was built. In 1959 Serpell's company went into liquidation.

Serpell's began in 1851 initially making ships' biscuits at Plymouth. In 1899 Serpell's purchased a larger factory in South Street, Reading and transferred production to the town. In July 1904 the Huntley & Palmers Fire Brigade attended a major fire at Serpell's new factory. The Berkshire Chronicle reported that: "A fire, the like of which



Fire at Serpell's Biscuit Factory July 23rd 1904

Scribbans-Kemp (London) Ltd

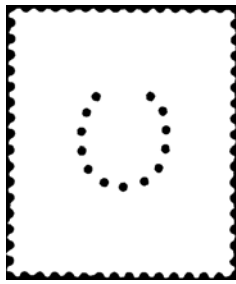


S4230.01

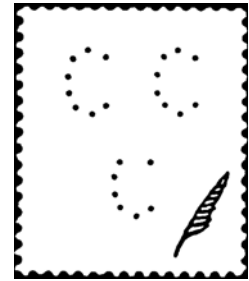
Kemps Biscuits began in 1835 as Watmough & Son Ltd making ship's biscuits. With the passing of regulations requiring shipowners to give fresh bread three days a week the ship's biscuit business faded. In 1926 the company introduced sweet biscuits and by World War II it was producing 300 tons a week. In 1948 the family sold Watmough to Scribbans-Kemp Ltd, which later became Kemps biscuits. A Sloper single headed die S4230.01 used around 1957 is the only die that has been reported used by Scribbens-Kemp.

Carr & Co Biscuits

Carr's Table Water biscuits first appeared in the late 19th Century as a refinement of the ship's biscuit when the company was founded by Jonathan Dodgson Carr. Water instead of fat was used to blend the dry ingredients in order to keep the biscuits fresh on long voyages. Carr's Cabin Biscuits proved extremely popular with seafarers. Word soon spread to every port and inevitably in 1908, these biscuits were made available to landlubbers too in the form of Carr's Table Water. In 1972, Carr's became part of United Biscuits. They are known to have used C0010.37, C1250.02a, C0280.01/2, C2570.01



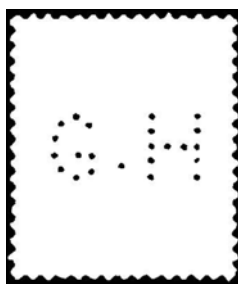
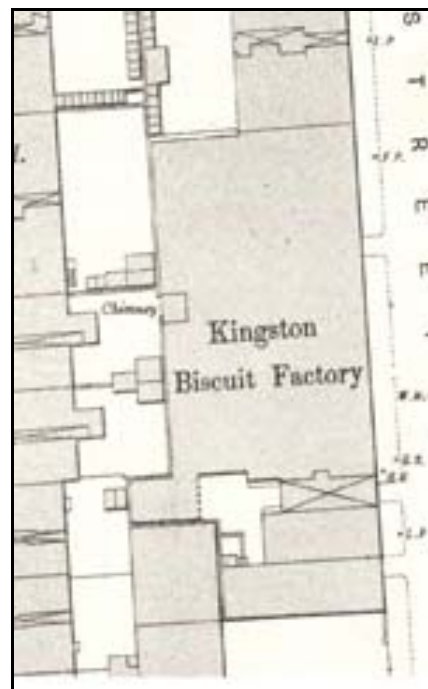
C0010.37



C1250.02a

George Herbert, Kingston Biscuit Factory, Glasgow

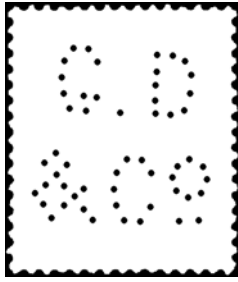
The factory was established in the early 1880s. In the 1884-5 Glasgow Post Office Directory the factory address is listed as 'G Herbert 58-74 Kinning Street Biscuit Manufacturers'. It is also mentioned in the 1887-8 Glasgow Post Office Directory as 'Kingston Biscuit Factory, 58 to 74 Kinning Street'. The factory building was modified and expanded between 1892-94 and 1913. The 1913-4 Glasgow



G2070.02

Post Office Directory has the factory address as '58 to 90 Kinning Street'. The last reference to the Kingston Biscuit Factory is in the 1915-6 Glasgow Post Office Directory. In the 1917-8 Glasgow Post Office Directory the factory is referred to as 'Kingston Cake Bakery – special K.C.B high class biscuits and cakes, 58-90 Kinning Street'. The last reference to the Kingston Cake Bakery occurs between 1927 and 1934, however the building is shown as a bakery on the 1952 OS map. It was demolished by 1960. George Herbert used the perfin die G2070.02 between 1895 and 1915.

Gray Dunn & Co, Glasgow



G1375.01

The company was founded in 1853 and received a Royal Warrant from Queen Victoria. The firm's factory was built in Stanley Street in Kinning Park, Glasgow in 1862 but destroyed by fire thirteen years later and it had to be rebuilt. In addition to biscuits, Gray, Dunn & Co baked cakes and bread at Kinning Park. Bilsland Brothers acquired the firm in 1912.

They became a limited Company in 1924 and are now a member of the Rowntree Macintosh Group. The company are known to have used perfin dies G1360.01 and G1375.01.

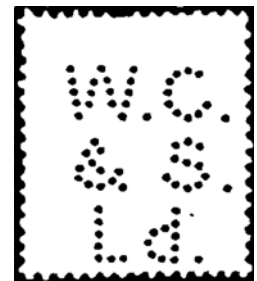
William Crawford & Sons



The company was founded in 1813 and became William Crawford & Sons in the 1860's. They opened the Liverpool factory in 1892 and became a limited company in

1904. The Edinburgh factory was opened in 1913 and they were absorbed into United Biscuits in 1962.

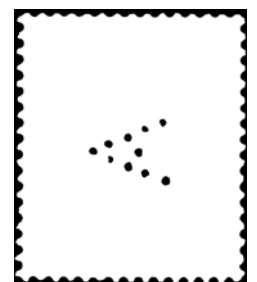
They used a number of perfin dies including C0010.40, W1530.01/02, W1580.01, W1590.01



W1590.01

Askeys Premier Biscuits Co Ltd

Askeys was founded in 1910 when Laurens Tedeschi set up the business in Kensal Road, London and brought the ice cream cornet to the UK! They continue to trade almost exclusively in the ice cream business.



A0010.12

United Biscuits

United Biscuits was founded in 1948 from the merger of two Scottish family businesses, McVitie & Price and McFarlane Lang. Crawford's Biscuits and MacDonald's Biscuits were added in 1960; the KP Nuts company, Kenyon Son & Craven, in 1968 and Carr's of Carlisle, famed for its Water Biscuits, in 1972. However this mighty conglomerate is not known to have used perfins.

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