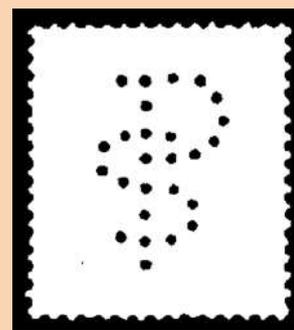


# G.B. PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 370 – February 2011



**A dramatic cover sent from W. T. Henley's telegraphic works at Holborn Viaduct to their offices in Buenos Aires. The sixteen 2/6d seahorses and the four 1/- values all bear the perfin H7280.01M - H.T/W**

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**

This time of year sees members being lapsed for non-payment of their subscription that was due on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010. I have written or sent an email to all of them and it is still possible that some do not intend to leave us. If you know anyone on the Lapsed list please jog their memory!

There are occasions when I have queries or wish to reply to letters from overseas members, much more quickly than the postal service allows. If members can advise me of their telephone number then I can ring them from my computer using Skype. A call to Australia, NZ or the USA only costs 1½p a minute, or free if you already use Skype on your own computer.

**Closed Albums**

I am sorry to report that **Eric Whitehead** passed away a few months ago. He joined the Society in 1968 and apart from a six year break in membership, had always been an active contributing member, he will be greatly missed. I have also just found out that **Judith Sidaway** of New Zealand passed away last summer, she was also the Editor for The New Zealand Stamp Collectors Club. The Society passes it's condolences to their families.

**Date for the Diary - AGM**

The spring meeting for the Society will be held on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 and as usual will be held at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club. More details and a map will be included in the April Bulletin. Please start sorting something out to bring along and show the other members.

**MEMBERS WANTS – No. 1**

**Bob Allard** writes “I have perfin stamps from many countries (European, USA, Australia & others) to exchange for GB perfins (Q.V. to George VI), Mauritius and Straits Settlement perfins. If you

are interested in exchanging material please contact me

## **MEMBERS WANTS – No. 2**

Paul Green writes “I collect commercial overprints and I am finding it difficult to track down sources of these stamps. I am willing to buy any suitable material available. If anybody has good quality scans of stamps they would also be gratefully received as I have been doing some research on the companies (in much the same way the perfin guys are doing).

### **THE END OF GUMMED STAMPS?**

**Alastair Walter**

I recently got a copy of the Royal Mail brochure detailing the new postage rates that will be introduced on April 4th. Having got over the shock of the size of price increases my eye was caught by a note on page 16. There it says that all conventionally gummed definitives are going to be phased out and replaced by self adhesives. The end of an era. It made me wonder what the consequences will be for the few remaining commercial perfin users.

My own perforator works perfectly well on self adhesives, but multi-headed machines will not be set up for the sheet format with the stamps set further apart. I suspect that this change will could finally spell the death knell of commercial perfins.

Judging from the Royal Mail website, gummed 1st and 2nd class stamps have already been phased out, so to a large extent the problem already exists. I can't recall seeing self adhesives with commercial perfins, have any members seen any? There are a couple of glimmers of hope in that stamp rolls are still available in gummed format and the “country” definitives are still in gummed sheets but I suspect that these won't last for long.

**Royal Insurance Co Ltd – Bulletin 369/24**

**John Mathews** writes in relation to Roy Gault’s piece on the Royal Insurance Co. Ltd. “I was interested to read Roy’s article on the Royal Insurance Company’s perfins. In Australia, they used a similar “RI/Co/Ld” perfin in each State capital, plus earlier “RI/Co” in a couple of States. In our catalogue, we did not list each State pattern separately even though we realized that they must have been individual devices, partly because we (editors) could not easily identify differences in the patterns, and were sure the collectors would not be able to either! Added to this difficulty, once franking of letters was done by machine rather than by hand in the 1920s, the date/place part of the postmark no longer fell on the stamp so it was impossible to get a clue from the place where the letter was posted in the case of loose stamps. Since the catalogue was published I have done some searching among copies with readable postmarks and the differences are still almost undetectable to my naked eye – a tribute to Sloper (or whoever else produced them – they look like Sloper style of letters).”

“I had noticed that the Australian ones were “identical” to the GB ones, of which there were several listed in the GB catalogue. I don’t know how Roy separates them, apart from the 6-pin and 7-pin “D”, although I recognize that there are visible differences in the shapes of the letter “D”, and small positional differences in the letters of the different rows.”

**Joseph Sloper Bike Seller – Bulletin 366/26**

As has been shown in a couple of articles recently Sloper was for ever turning his hand to new businesses. This extract from the London Trade Directory for 1899 clearly shows he was prepared to turn his hand to almost anything.

*Builders Smiths, Die Sinkers, Brewers Engineers, Civil Engineers, Mechanical Engineers, Laundry Engineers, Machinists, Millwrights, Perforating Machine Manufacturers, Perforators, Postage Stamp Perforators, Railway Ticket Dating Machine Manufacturers,*

## Great Britain Pre-cancelled Perfins – Bulletin368/27, 369/12

Following Mike Burrows article in the October Bulletin (No. 368) **Bob Schwerdt** has written reporting more pre-cancelled perfins. These are shown in the list below. As can be seen although most are printers and publishers one odd one has again crept into the list. I am keeping a consolidated list if anyone should want a copy and in case more are found. The presence of these pre-cancels may also be used to provide provisional identity for some of the dies. For instance OP/L on the list below was probably used by Odhams Press, London

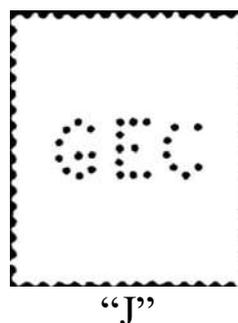
Die	Lettering	User
A0100.01M	AA/B	Anglo-Austrian Colonial & Overseas Bank, Bishopsgate, London EC
E1970.01M	E.H/&Co/Ltd	E. Hulton & Co Ltd, Printers, Withy Grove, Manchester
H1160.05aM	HC	Horace Cox, Publisher, Windsor House, Chancery Lane, London EC
M0017.07	M	Horace Marshall & Sons (publishers), Farringdon St, London EC
O1540.03b	OP/L	User not known
S4210.01	SK	User not known
S6027.01	S/P/L	User not known
S7100.01	S.&T	User not known

## Help Wanted – GEC – G1530.01 – Bulletin 367/10

**Don Donovan** has sent in a little more on saga of broken pins found on perfin GEC G1530.01. Surprisingly there are two new broken pin varieties. Type “I” was found on a ½d QV Jubilee and type “J” on a ½d KEVII green. Clearly a major study of these broken pin varieties could be carried out with sufficient material and energy.



“I”

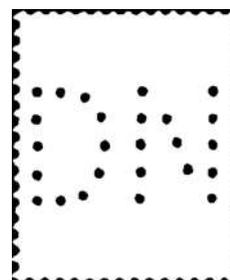


“J”

## SMALL CLUES – THE DAILY NEWS

Dave Hill

So small they're too small to illustrate! I found, somewhere, a copy of perfin D3410.03 DN on small piece. On the back it had a partial identity of The Daily N....., Bouverie Street, London. Looking on the web I think this must be The Daily News, Bouverie Street which is off Fleet Street, which was the home of London's newspapers.



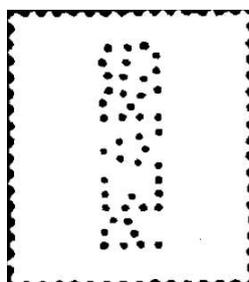
D3410.03M

The Daily News was founded by Charles Dickens in 1846 and he was it's first editor. It became a leading Liberal newspaper in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and attracted articles from many Liberal figures like authors G. K. Chesterton, H. G. Wells, George Bernard Shaw and Arthur Ransome. It promoted many what we would now call socialist causes like a minimum wage and state welfare system. Like its leading Liberal competitor, The Daily Chronicle, it reduced its price to ½d in 1904.

It merged with the Morning Leader to become The Morning News & Leader in 1912. It then merged with its competitor The Daily Chronicle in 1930 and was finally absorbed by the Daily Mail in 1960.

## NOT A NEW IDENTITY

Dave Hill



P1770.01

On an Internet auction site I saw what at first I thought was a new identity. It was an advertising postcard with a reproduction on the picture side of a painting by W Russell Flint entitled "The Bloom of Youth". On the other side it bore a ½d George V stamp with the perfin "PEARS" – maybe P1770.01. So presumably it was basically an advertising card for A. & F. Pears, the soap manufacturers, like their famous "Bubbles" advert. It was also postmarked 1931 from Isleworth, which was Pears base.

But the “message” was a printed advert for Timothy White’s dispensing service which made me think they were the new identity for the PEARS perfin at first. However I cannot find that there was any tie up between Pears and Timothy Whites. Pears still exist as part of Unilever whilst Timothy White’s (who anyway were based in Portsmouth and used various TW perfins) were absorbed by Boots in 1968.

So presumably Pears provided and mailed the cards, perhaps even printed the advertising for Timothy Whites - an oddity, but unfortunately not a new identity.

**FRANK BRAHAM ADVERT**

**Maurice Harp**

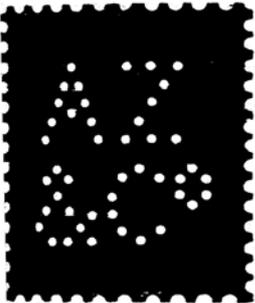
Below is a Frank Braham advert dating from 1885. I am not sure where the advert came from but I recently found it in my files. As far as I can ascertain this particular advert has not been published in the Bulletin before. The perfin illustration AZ/&Co was used by Braham on a number of his fliers and adverts but has never been recorded on an actual stamp. The ampersand is Type IIIa which appears to be characteristic but maybe not unique to Braham perfins.

**FRAUD AND EMBEZZLEMENT PREVENTED.**

**THE POSTMASTER OF TABERNACLE SQUARE, LONDON, E.C.,**  
**F. BRAHAM,**

**BY HIS NEW SYSTEM AND IMPROVED MACHINERY ENABLED**  
**TO PERFORATE THE INITIALS OF FIRMS AND OTHERS ON ALL KINDS OF**  
**REVENUE AND POSTAGE STAMPS,**

of every value for ONE PENNY per Sheet, as issued by Somerset House, assuring to  
all users security from misappropriation (Post Office Guide, p. 16).



**THE ONLY ABSOLUTE SECURITY**  
**FROM THEFT.**

**STAMPS PERFORATED WITH ANY**  
**INITIALS WITHIN 24 HOURS**  
**FOR 1D. PER SHEET.**

**NO CHARGES WHATEVER FOR DIE.**

Orders must not be for less than £5 worth, and accompanied by Draft (London)  
or Cash. Particulars Post Free.

## NATAL PERFIN COLLECTORS BEWARE!

Wilhelm J. Verwoerd

Someone out there wants to defraud you. In July 2010 the stamp illustrated here was offered for sale at a starting price of USD 75 on the Delcampe.net site. It was the most expensive item among several early individual Natal stamps, suggesting to the author that it may have been lurking in the dark for many years, unappreciated. It appeared to have an unrecorded perfin design E & C or E & O which could perhaps be the earliest for Natal, since the author had never seen a perfined Natal Chalon head before. The postmark was smudged and the perfin holes were all blind, but this did not seem to be unusual. The vendor in California provided no details, but the asking price indicated that it was considered a valuable item.

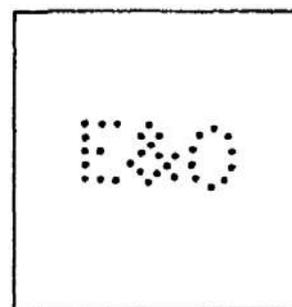
I was a bit wary, but to all appearances the stamp was genuine. The “Postage” overprint of 1875 (SG83) was 14½ mm long (not 13 mm as in the known forgery), and some perfin holes had ink stains showing that they apparently predated the postmark. I wondered whether it would have been a Natal stamp used in England, but my copy of the Illustrated Catalogue (2005 reprint) showed no such pattern.

Shortly before closing time I submitted the minimum bid (there were no other bids!) and secured the item. I gave the vendor a positive feedback. At our next club meeting I proudly exhibited my latest acquisition. My fellow perfin collector and society member Brian Dennis then offered to have a closer look. The first thing that he noticed was that the perforations should have gauged 12½ mm not 14 and are unusually regular for a Natal Chalon head stamp. Secondly, the blind holes on the back of the stamp showed no corresponding relief on the front. Thirdly, the paper felt a bit thick



Using strong light, magnifying glass and tweezer, he then succeeded in lifting a corner to reveal that the stamp is a fake and a doublet. The used Natal stamp had been cut very neatly along the design margins and pasted on to a (bleached?) E & O perfin stamp of India (probably KGV SG235 of 1932!).

So beware. I returned the stamp to the vendor following a lengthy correspondence and got my money back after about five months (without apology). It was too late to change the feedback.



E 25 a

*Ed:- For the record I illustrate above the perfin die (E25a) taken from The Perfins of India by Magnus Werner. However it is unlikely that such a forgery combination would ever be repeated.*

### SEEN FOR SALE

An OHMS cover was on offer at Stampex last year with 1d lilac O.W. Official and ½d Vermilion with perfin HM/OW. The cover was used in Southampton, dated 28<sup>th</sup> September 1896, and addressed to Somerset. The item could have been yours for only £2,500. This is an interesting combination as the perfin is used after the introduction of overprints. Only 2,400 copies of the HM/OW perfin on the ½d value and 3,600 on the 1d lilac were produced.



## AXES OF SYMMETRY ON PERFINS

**Roy Gault**

In the majority of cases, the intended ‘reading’ of the Perfin letter(s) appearing on a Stamp is straight forward. However, due to symmetry, some perfins can be ambiguous. The 3 axes of symmetry are:

- A vertical axis through the centre of the letter, such as the letter “A”. Spin it 180° about the vertical axis passing through it’s apex and it still reads “A”.
- A horizontal axis through the centre of the letter, such as the letter “K”. Spin it 180° about the horizontal axis passing through it’s centre and it still reads “K”.
- An axis through the centre of the letter, perpendicular to the surface of the stamp, such as the letter “N”. Spin it 180° about this axis and it still reads “N”.

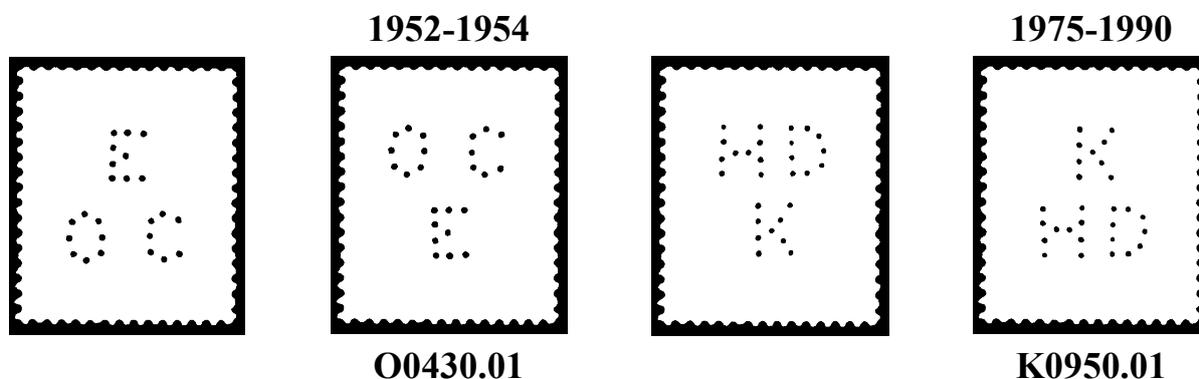
Some letters have more than one axis of symmetry, whereas others have none at all - see the table below. For simplicity, letters such as “B” and “S” are assumed to have the same sized top and bottom, but in reality they are often asymmetric i.e. the top of a “B” is often bigger than it’s bottom, and so on.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Vert	A							H	I						O					T	U	V	W	X	Y	
Horiz		B	C	D	E			H	I		K				O											
Perp								H	I						N	O				S					X	Z

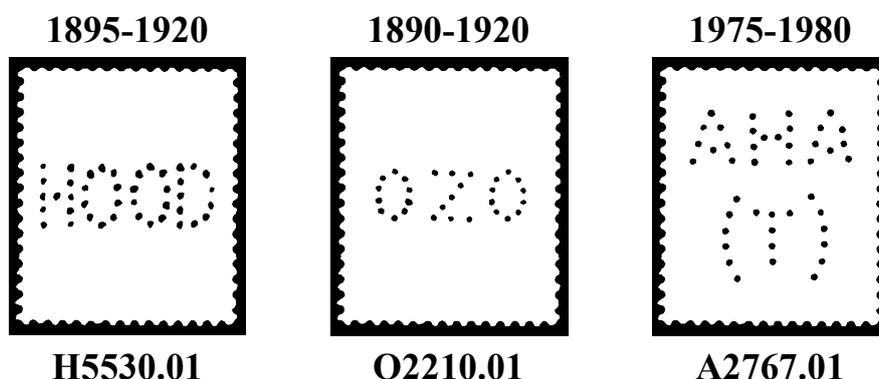
The letter “H” is extremely difficult to catalogue accurately as the letter has all three axes of symmetry. Thus, any test for a fit has to be carried out four times to cover all the possibilities.

But where’s this all leading to, do I hear? Well, it’s just a bit of observational fun so that collectors are aware that other options can be tried if a fit can’t be found for an ‘ambiguous’ Perfin.

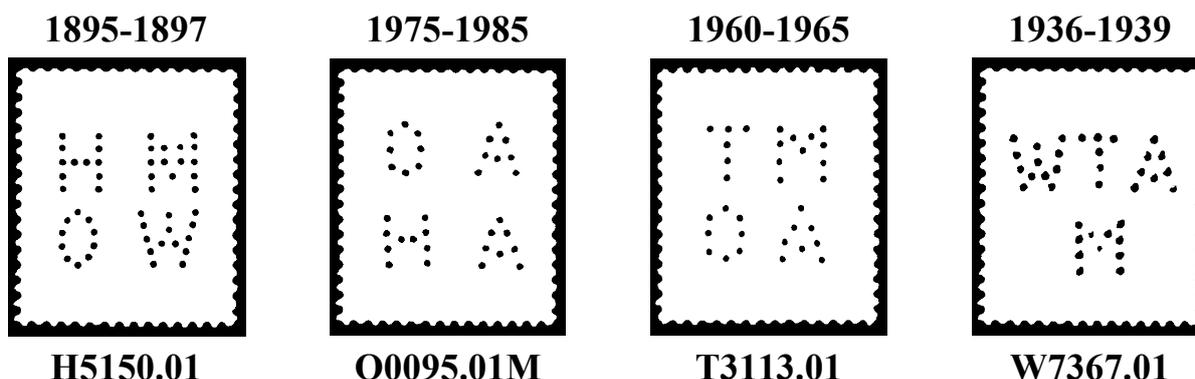
For example, you may be looking at the Perfin “E/OC” or “HD/K”, neither of which appear in the E’s or H’s. They are not ‘New Dies’. Simply rotate them round their horizontal axes and you have “OC/E” (O0430.01) and “K/HD” (K0950.01) respectively.



Examples with more than three letters are less easy to find, but “HOOD” (H5530.01) is a good example as it also reads “HOOD” if rotated about it’s horizontal axis of symmetry. {A Perfin palindrome?} “OZO” (O2210.01) is also ‘palindromic’ if spun about an axis perpendicular to the plane of the stamp.



Examples with vertical axes of symmetry with more than three letters can also be found. Four are shown here in their intended orientation. The vertical axis ‘palindrome’ “AHA/(T)” (A2767.01) is shown above.

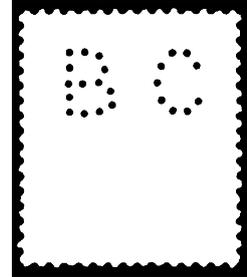


## MISSING LETTERS

Roy Gault

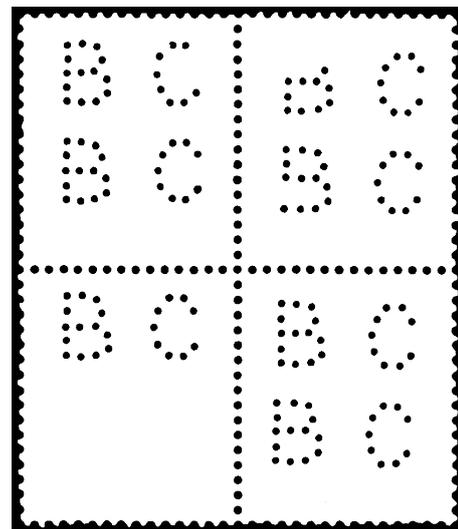
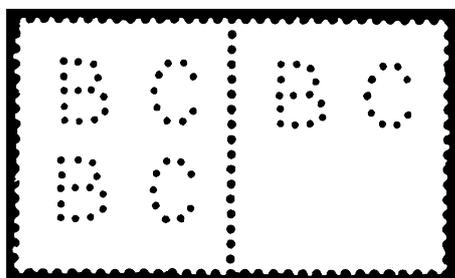
Way back in 1990, as a fledgling Catalogue Editor, I received a 'new' die lettered "BC" from *Bill Turney* on a 2½d QEII Wilding (Tudor Crown wmk). Another was reported to me in March 1991 by the late *Bert Johnson*, this time on a 3d Wilding (wmk n/k). Unfortunately neither had any legible postmark so it was announced to the world in March 1993 as B1110.26 {B-Update No.2 page B2.2}.

1954-1960



B1110.26

**Steve Netten** in Holland, a regular contributor of information for the GB Perfins Catalogue, has now shown me evidence for what it really is! In preparation for the new section of the catalogue, Letter B, Steve has sent in a number of potentially new dies and interesting pieces, including the following pair and block. The horizontal pair of 6d Wildings is dated 28<sup>th</sup> August 1957, and the 2x2 block on 2½d Wildings is dated 8<sup>th</sup> August 1957. Both bear Bury, Lancs., postmarks.

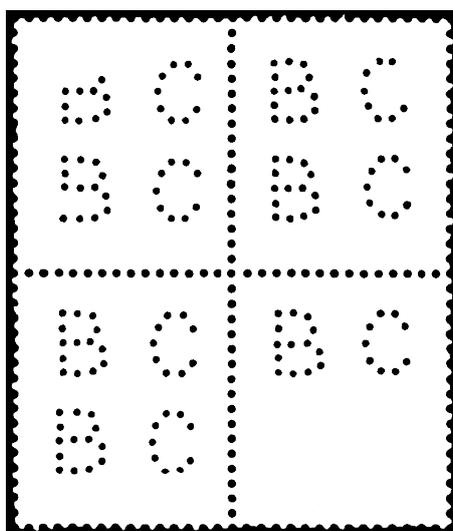


Clearly the "BC" pattern I allocated B1110.26 to is an *extreme* missing pins example of "BC/BC" (B1200.02M), in that both letters from the bottom line of one of the patterns are completely missing!

The Councils Catalogue (1965) states for **Bury CB**:

*Perfins have been in use for approximately 30 years and are produced on a four die hand machine of unknown make in the Borough Treasurer's Department.*

Based on this we can loosely say the die was in use 1935-1965, and that all four patterns are shown in Steve's 2x2 block. By measuring the horizontal and vertical displacements from one pattern to another, we can re-construct the probable layout of the original (see below).



To help further refine the die in use date range, I can report a fiscally used example dated 25th June 1934, and an identified cover from the *Borough Surveyor, Bury* postmarked Bury 15th Nov 1960. The latest known use of the pattern "BC/BC" (B1200.02M) is on 1½d, 2d and 3d Wildings (Multiple Crown Watermark). None have yet been reported on phosphor stamps (in use from 1959/1960), so I have provisionally allocated a date range of 1934-1960 for the die.

Could I ask you all to inspect your holdings of "BC" (B1110.26) and "BC/BC" (B1200.02M) and report any new information, especially any phosphor stamps, and if possible, any postmark dates for the "BC" variety to pin-point quite when the pins went missing or were removed.

And one final plea! Please, please fight the temptation to split multiples like these. Once broken down and dispersed to the four winds, any information locked into the block/strip will inevitably be lost forever.

## MORE INFORMATION ON THE “CofA” PERFORATOR

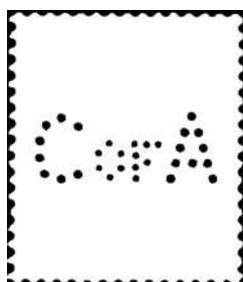
John Mathews

A cover of the Australian High Commission in London (Official Secretary) which sold on eBay in October 2010 has provided some more information about the “CofA” perforator (C5510.01) used by the High Commission.

The illustration shows the top right corner of the envelope in detail. The postage of 1/3d was paid using a joined pair of 6d KGV (watermark unknown, but probably 1926 issue) and a joined pair of 1½d brown KGV (photogravure issue of 1934).



The strikes of “CofA” on the 6d stamps are positions 6 and 4, and on the 1½d stamps positions 2 and 8. In each case, this means that the stamps were turned over horizontally (relative to the upright orientation of the stamps) between strikes. If the “CofA” die was



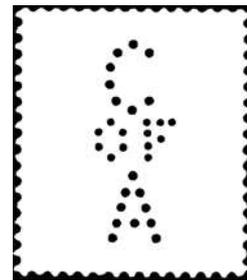
C5510.01

arranged sideways on the perforator, and the sheet of stamps torn into rows, this would not have been necessary, as the row of stamps could have been slid through under the head without having to be turned over. So the conclusion is that the “CofA” die was arranged in the upright position (the top of the strikes is the same distance from the “free” edge of the stamp in each case, so not “inverted”), and in these cases columns (at least 2) of stamps were torn from the sheets and slid through the perforator sideways, the stamps being turned over to perforate the second column of stamps.

Supporting evidence that the sheets of stamps had been separated into columns, not rows, and the stamps perforated in the sideways position, comes from the different positions vertically of the strikes on the different stamps.

On the large “Seahorse” issues, there are no known strikes of “CofA” in a sideways position, and the top of the pattern is nearly always the same distance from the edge of the stamps as on the stamps shown above. This is consistent with the die being arranged horizontally on the perforator.

Collectors of the “CofA” (C5510.01) and “C/of/A” (C5520.01) patterns will be aware that many of the “C/of/A” strikes are sideways (often resulting in part of the pattern being off the stamps), indicating that the staff had torn these sheets into columns when using this perforator despite that fact that the spacing of the two “C/of/A” punch heads clearly indicates that it was designed for the sheets to be torn into rows!

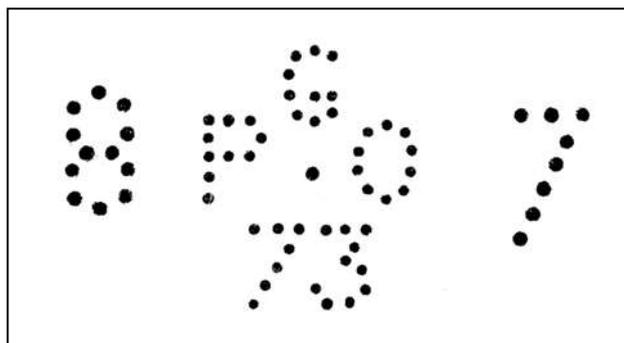


C5520.01

### INFORMATION WANTED

**Jeff Turnbull**

I have recently acquired this £1 Foreign Bill stamp with a perforin which is new to me. As can be seen it consists of the date 8/7/73 with the letters G/P.O - it could be that the letters are for the General Post Office, but I am uncertain, If the members can give me any information on this item and suggest any other meaning for the initials I would be very grateful. (Illustration below is enlarged for clarity).



## CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

Mike J. Burrows

*[Ed:- Another piece from Mike Burrows that never saw the light of day in our Bulletin. Originally published in the US Perfins Bulletin in August 1979 it highlights the joy of the detective in all perfin collectors.]*

The reasons why something is odd but not impossible have more than once turned out to have an interesting history. The facts may lie just below the surface and need only a few hours of reading and research to make the curious happy. Sometimes, of course, it just serves to make the curious, to use the words of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, "curiouser and curiouser."

A good example of this type of problem was the arrival of an exchange packet one Saturday morning, which started off a chain of thought that just grew and grew.



Mounted on a page in one of the booklets was the item I shall call Clue 1. Not much to look at, just a damaged Great Western Railway prepaid newspaper parcel stamp. What caught the eye was the fact that it was a Perfin: WG 16,10 6mm. Upon removal, it was about to be placed in the pending tray (in reality, the never-find-the-time-to-get-around-to tray) when a chord was struck.

Checking my collection, it yielded up another example of the same Perfin, but this time on a Midland Railway prepaid newspaper parcel stamp, Clue 2. To be confronted with the same Perfin on rival railway companies' prepaid newspaper parcel stamps was somewhat surprising, to say the least. Further digging brought to light a QV ½d. vermilion of the Jubilee issue, Clue 3. This postage stamp had been cancelled with one of the many undated Newspaper Branch killers.

The next item found was a KGV ½d. from the 1924 issue, which had been cancelled with a machine slogan postmark. This stamp had come from a collection where the previous owner had removed the stamp from its original backing paper and then cut out the name printed on the original envelope and mounted it alongside the Perfin. This is a practice that is not very wise to follow. It is fine for the person that cuts the identifying piece and mounts it with the Perfin. Only that person knows for sure the correct identity. When the collection passes into another enthusiast's hands, these items can only be regarded with suspicion. The piece gave the user of the Perfin as a newspaper company, Westminster Gazette, of G.P.O. Box No. 672, London E.C. 4. Also there was a portion of a date stamp from a Hey & Dolphin machine. Checking this with the portion on the stamp, the slogan catalog gave the period of use as November 1927 to March 1928. So there were Clues 4 and 5. All that remained was to put them into the correct order against the known facts.

Where to begin - well it all started with the brilliant writer, Charles Dickens. Like several other great writers, he did seem to have had his odd moments. Possibly during one of his off days he agreed to put his name to the prospectus for a new London daily newspaper the Daily News, not exactly an awe-inspiring title, but then the Victorians were a pretty staid bunch. Nevertheless, sufficient investment was forthcoming for Charles Dickens to exercise his editorship. Under his literary guidance, the paper hit the street in January 1846. Due to his

other literary commitments - trying to edit a newspaper and keeping others happy by attending dinners and other functions is a very punishing life style - the combination of his social life and a not-too-robust health caused Charles to quit the paper on the 9th February, before three weeks were up. At the time of his leaving, the circulation was a mere 4,000.

Having lost such an illustrious personage - he had by this time produced something like ten of his major works - one would think that the paper would have folded. Not so, for one reason or another, it went on and on, until it started buying up its competitors.

One of these was the Westminster Gazette of 104 Shoe Lane, London. This was a fairly young newspaper, having been started by George Newnes in 1893. This organ of the Liberal party came about with the change of ownership, politics and the availability of the staff of the Pall Mall Gazette, which were promptly hired by George Newnes. From early directories the location of the Westminster Gazette is given as Tudor Street, Blackfriars, London, S.E. Although Sir George - he was created a Baron in 1895 - started other magazines which were successful, he did not seem to have the same success with the Westminster Gazette. By the time it came under the control of the Daily News Ltd., in 1928, it had become known as Lord Cowdray's costly failure.

The title of the Daily News was changed in 1930 to the News Chronicle, upon the absorption of the Daily Chronicle. The News Chronicle ceased publication in October 1960, when it was taken over by Associated Newspapers Ltd.

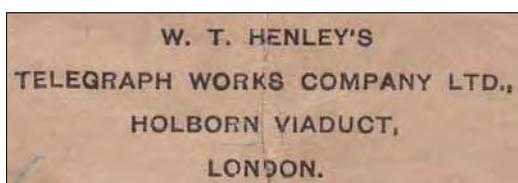
Prior to the grouping of the railways under the Act of 1921, which is more commonly known as the 1923 grouping, it would be necessary for a newspaper company to hold stocks of prepaid newspaper parcel stamps to facilitate the transmission of their products over the lines of the various railway companies then in existence. Of course, there were the exceptions where some of the railway companies allowed the parcels of other companies over their metals by agreement.

So there are the facts and one must admit they do fit the clues. Oh by the way! Most of the facts presented were taken from books that once formed part of the News Chronicle Library.

## W. T. HENLEY'S TELGRAPH WORKS

**Maurice Harp**

The front cover of the Bulletin this month has a stunning cover sent from W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works, High Holborn to their offices in Buenos Aires. The cover bears sixteen 2/6d seahorses and three 1/- each bearing perfin H.T/W - H7280.01M. As will be seen Henley's were a major user of perfins covering five reigns.



The history of W.T. Henley, who founded the company that bore his name, began in a workshop in London, 1837, with the manufacture of covered wires. Henley progressed

at an impressive rate and pioneered the submarine cable field with the dream of seeing all of civilisation linked together telegraphically. In 1859 he spent £8,000 building a factory at North Woolwich beside the Thames. His name would soon be synonymous with the development of submarine telegraph cables, a success story that culminated in 1863 with the laying of the Persian Gulf telegraph cable, 1615 miles long, for the Indian Government. By the end of 1873, the Henley site had spread to cover some 16 acres and Henley owned three cable laying ships and a 400 foot wharf to allow 500 ton ships to load and unload. Henley died in 1882, but the company he formed went from strength to strength with branches throughout the country. The firm continued making submarine cables until the turn of the century when they more or less ceased production. Shortly after World War II the company became part of Associated Electrical Industries Ltd., (AEI) and the North Woolwich factory closed.

Telegraphic Address:  
"HENLEY'S WORKS, LONDON."

**W. T. HENLEY'S Telegraph Works Company, Limited**

Telegraph Cables, Electric Light Cables,  
**TORPEDO CABLES, TELEPHONE CABLES,**  
AND EVERY OTHER DESCRIPTION OF INSULATED WIRE AND CABLE.  
PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. A LARGE STOCK KEPT.  
NEW PATENT METAL BRAIDING, Strong, Flexible, Vermin Proof.  
Thoroughly Protects the Insulation.

**NOTICE OF REMOVAL.**

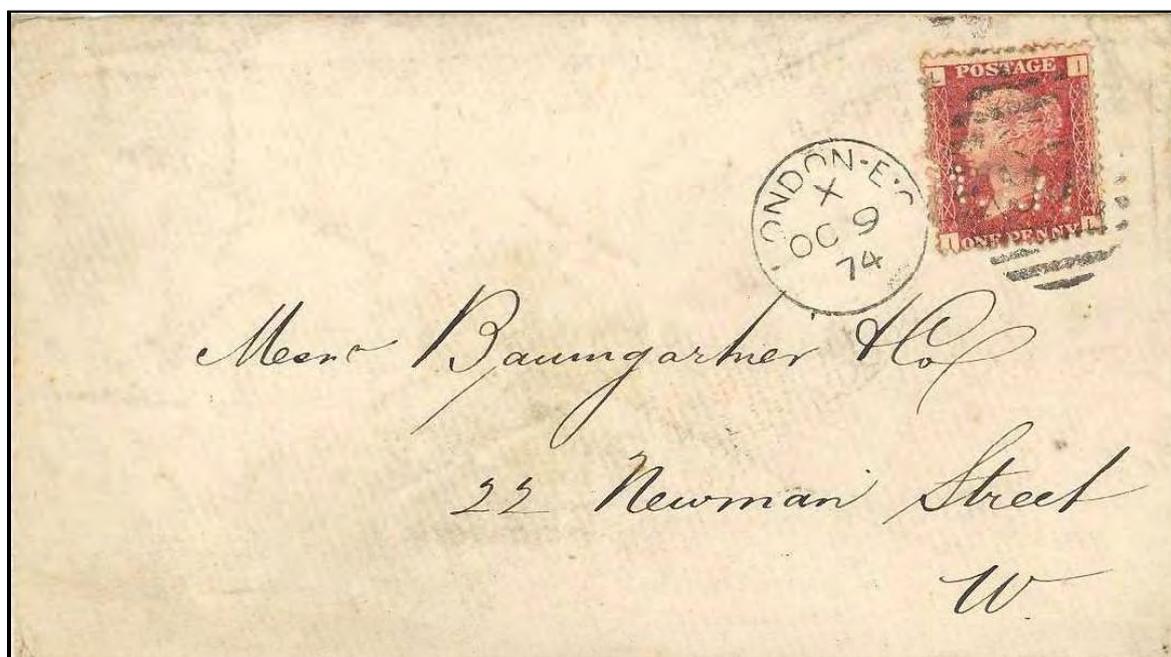
The Company's offices have been removed to  
**27, Martin's-lane,**  
**Cannon-street.**  
**London, E.C.**

We take this opportunity of informing our Customers that we have just made considerable additions to our Machinery for the manufacture of Silk and Cotton Covered Wires, Flexible Cords, Bell Wires, &c., &c. Prices to be obtained on application.

We also desire specially to draw attention to our Gutta Percha and India Rubber Insulated Wires. The whole of the manufacture being executed by ourselves from the raw materials, good quality at the lowest possible prices is complete guaranteed. [t

In 1959 Henley's was acquired by AEI. Along with SIEMENS brothers and The Liverpool Electric Cables Company, they formed the AEI Cable division. In 1967, The General Electric Company (headed by the late Lord Weinstock) took over AEI Cables and the Henley name was reborn as GEC Henley Limited. The final change was in March 1997 when the company was acquired by TT electronics plc. TT electronics is a UK based FTSE Corporation who has manufacturing facilities in more than 18 countries around the globe.

Henley was a prolific user of perfins with six confirmed dies at this time and another six which they may well have used. The earliest die known to have been used by Henley is W7503.01 – W.T.H. This is a very scarce die known only from a couple of examples. The cover below, used October 9<sup>th</sup> 1874, bears an embossed imprint of W T Henley, telegraphic engineer.



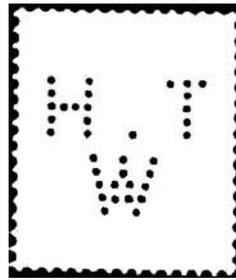
W7503.01 seems to be the only one where Henley used his initials. By 1895 a new die H7280.01M – H.T/W had been introduced where H.T/W stood for Henley's Telegraph Works. The Henley dies which cover all five reigns also encapsulate the history of perfins. H7270.01 shows the standard Sloper alphabet and H7270.02 and 02a are POKO's. The new illustrated catalogue shows a couple of interesting dies which at present are not attributed to Henley but may well have been used by the company. H7270.01p, used between 1941-1945 could well be a provisional used by Henley and H7270.04 used between 1928-1930 is used on sideways delivery coils with sideways watermarks.

1875-1885



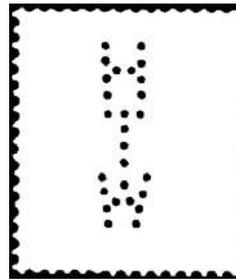
W7503.01

1895-1939



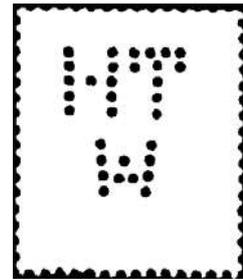
H7280.01M

1915-1920



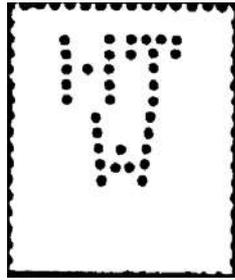
H7300.01

1932-1934



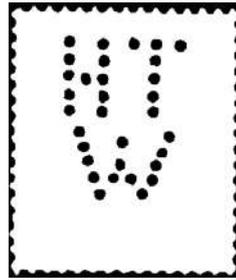
H7270.02aØ

1934-1945



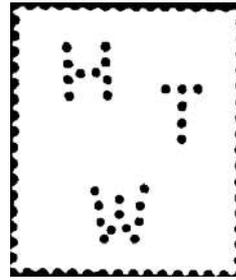
H7270.02

1939-1945



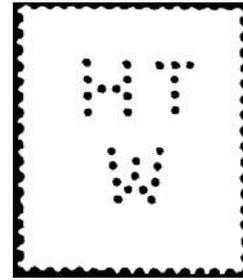
H7270.03Ø

1941-1945



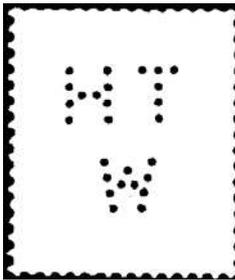
H7270.01p

1943-1945



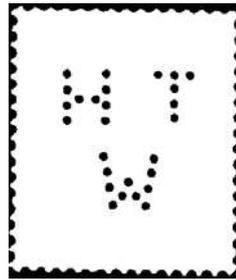
H7270.01a

c1945



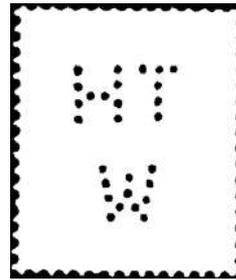
H7270.04

c1945



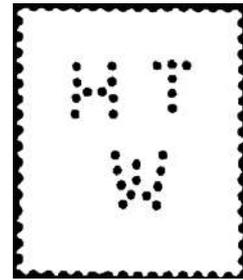
H7270.05Ø

1945-1955

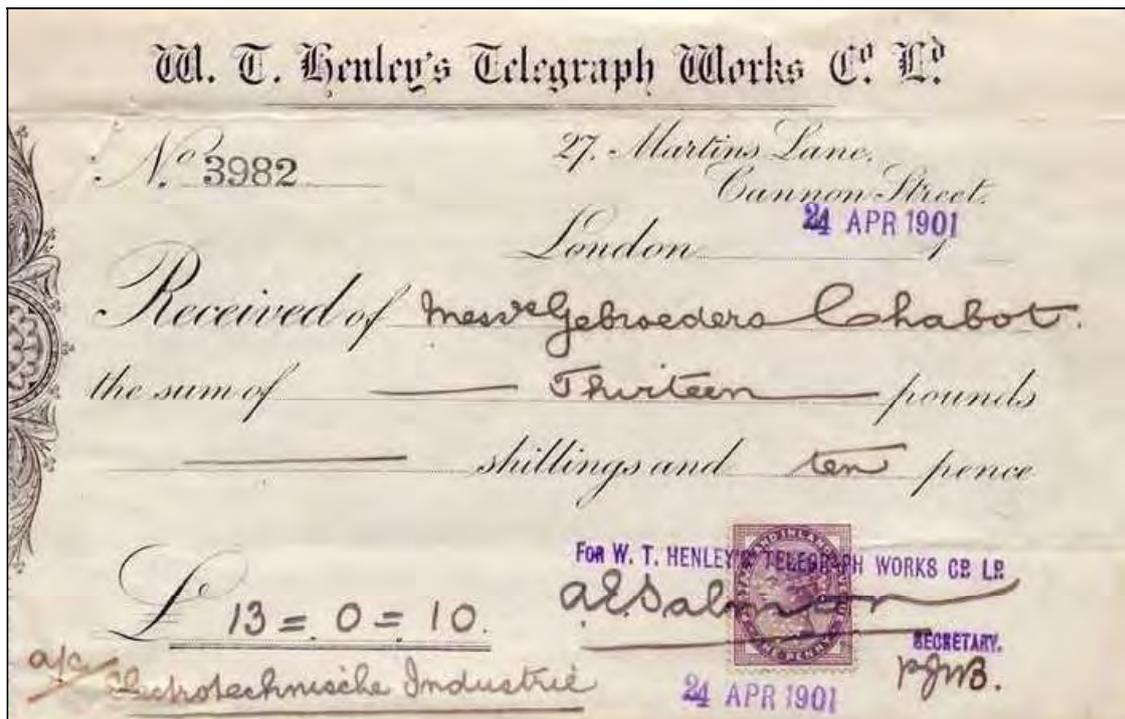


H7270.01b

1950-1957



H7270.01



## **PERFINNED COMMERCIALY OVERPRINTED STAMPS**

**Maurice Harp**

Over the last few issues of the Bulletin much has been written on official overprinted stamps with perfins. All of these have turned out to be forgeries made of the overprints using previously perfinned stamps. However there are instances of commercially overprinted stamps with perfins. Little has been written on these, probably because they are relatively scarce. Many of the perfins that turn up are parts of larger carpet dies such as “PAID WITH THANKS” struck over the receipt stamp and these I have not included in the listings below. However some of the overprinted stamps have been found with perfin dies used for normal postage stamps. In 1986 (Bulletin 223) Arthur Smith recorded two such items:

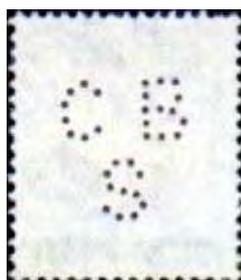
<b>Stamp</b>	<b>Overprint</b>	<b>Perfin</b>
KGVI 2d	“Received for General Electric Co Ltd”	GE/C
QEII 2d Wilding	“Corporation of Sheffield”	CS

Unfortunately the exact perfin dies were not recorded. Both items were as would be expected fiscally used. In 1990 Tony Llewellyn-Edwards wrote an article for the British Commercial Overprint Study Circle and there he also recorded and illustrated the Corporation of Sheffield item listed by Arthur Smith.

Michael Behm recorded two more commercial overprints with perfins in the COSGB Bulletin of July 2005 and these are illustrated on the next page. The first is a Stockport Corporation overprint with a CB/S perfin (County Borough of Stockport). He suggests that one department of the Stockport Corporation perforated its commercial overprints to prevent them from being used by other departments. The second is a copy of a 2d King George VI light orange with General Electric Co Ltd overprint with a GE/C perfin. This may well be the same stamp as recorded by Arthur Smith.

Lastly our own New Illustrated copy records a further two examples. The first is perfin H0450.01M HBB/&S which was used by Hy B Barnett & So, Birmingham Stockbrokers. A copy of a King Edward VII 1d has been reported with “H.B.B./&S.” overprint in black. The

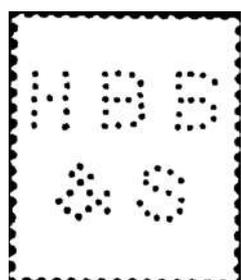
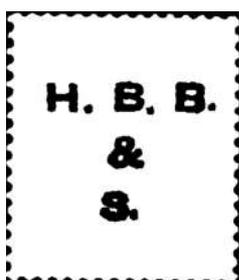
second example is S2120.01a SD/ & Co on a King George VI 2d Dark Orange with the overprint “Surridge/Dawson/ & Co.Ltd.”



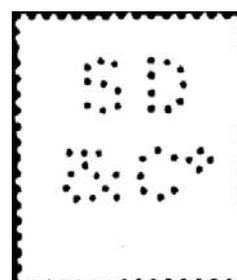
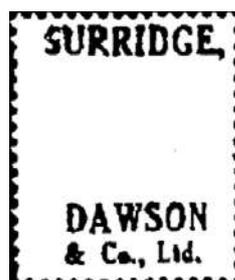
C0920.01



G1540.01M



H0450.01M



S2120.01a

So having completed this survey I have come up with just five examples. It really begs the questions as to how or why they should ever have come about. You would have expected the mail room, where perfins were used, to be separate from Accounting, where commercial overprints would be used. At the moment no copies seem to have been postally used, although it should be noted that some commercially overprinted stamps did find their way through the postal system. So the only conclusion left is that in house perfin machines were occasionally used as a cancelling device on the revenue stamp. Much in the same way as a “PAID WITH THANKS” perforator might have been used.



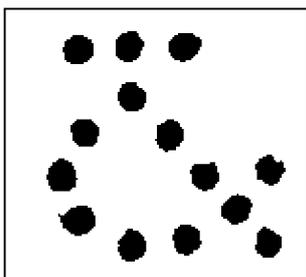
QEII 6d pair with HU/DC (Hinckly Urban District Council) overprint postally used and 3d with HU/DC perfin H7450.01aM

If any members can add to the five examples listed here or give an example that has been postally used I would be very grateful.

## 14-PIN TYPE Ia AMPERSANDS (1890-1945)

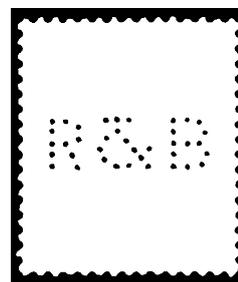
Roy Gault

In preparing the draft for a 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of the letter “R”, I noticed a couple of characteristic 14-pin Type Ia &’s in quick succession (“R&B” and “RB/&S”). My mind immediately turned to John Strange’s ‘Ampersand’ article in Bulletin No. 351 (Dec 2007).



John’s table of Types shows the Type Ia as appearing on a huge 980 dies, but doesn’t break it down any further.

1900-1910



R0350.01

Now I had a feeling that the 14-pin variety wasn’t that common, but I would only know for sure after a trawl through the catalogues. The anticipation was that there would only be a small number found, well less than 50, and that they would all come from the same period in time, and probably from a tightly knit locality.

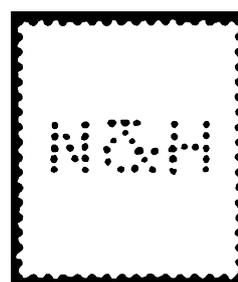
It turns out that I was correct on the first point as I could only find **25**, but I was well off target with the other two points! The table at the end of the article shows the basic details for all the dies I managed to find, but *feel free to let me know if you spot any I’ve missed out, or can add any more additional information.*

As for the ‘tightly knit locality’, I couldn’t have been more wrong as there are representatives from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales!

There are also **two** basic groupings, not one.

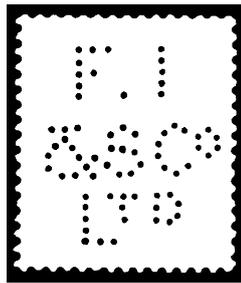
- **Early group.** Accounts for almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the dies starting from as early as c1890, with an earliest actual date from a perfined stamp of **13<sup>th</sup> March 1892** on “N&H” (N1615.01).

1890-1900



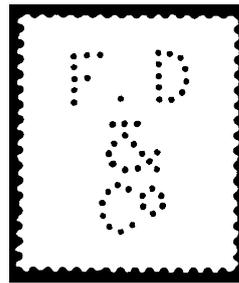
N1615.01

1920-1930



F2060.01

1905-1945



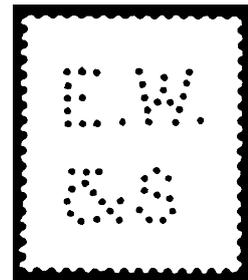
F1120.01

- **Late group.** There appears to have been a revival in the use of the 14-pin ampersand Type Ia in the early 1920's with "F.I./&SC°/L<sup>td</sup>" (F2060.01), known used **11<sup>th</sup> August 1921**.

The latest known date for either of the two groups is **20<sup>th</sup> December 1941** on "F.D./&C°" (F1120.01).

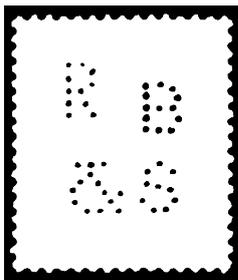
It would appear that the overwhelming majority of the dies were single headed as just one is thought to have been multiheaded - "E.W./&S" (E5090.02M).

1903-1940



E5090.02M

c1930

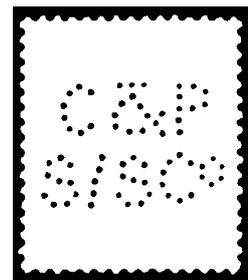


R0610.03v

Another 'unusual' feature worth highlighting is the possible 'variable' nature of "R.B./&S" (R0610.03v). However, as only one stamp has ever been reported, a 1½d I(BC), it's difficult to be sure.

The table also shows that many still do not have an identified user, but there is one which is suspected of having been used by the Constantine & Pickering Steamship Co, Middlesbrough, for which I have no details - "C&P/S(/)C°" (C6175.01).

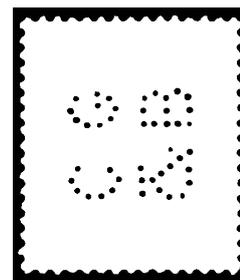
???



C6175.01

There is also another die for which I have no details whatsoever. “CG/∆B” (C2755.01) was illustrated in Tilles in the mid 1970’s as C275A, and since then nothing has been reported.

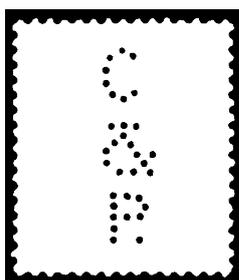
???



C2755.01

*Can you help by reporting any new details, stamp values, postmarks?*

c1935

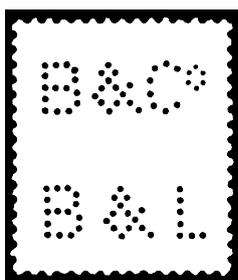


C5830.01

Another die clearly showing the characteristic ampersand is “C/∆P.” (C5830.01). The bottom letter has always been catalogued as a “P”, but could the “P.” be an “R” with a missing pin? The die dates to c1935, but are you lucky enough to have an earlier example, *perhaps showing an “R”*?

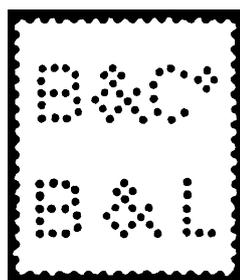
While searching through the catalogues I also noticed a very small number of *double ampersands*, and an even smaller number of *double Co’s* - illustrated here purely for future reference. Please note this list is not exhaustive!

c1876



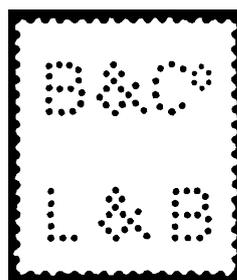
B1540.01

1896-1965



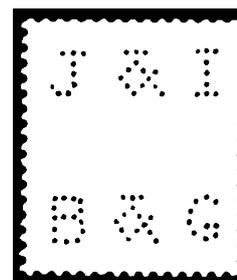
B1540.02

1908-1945



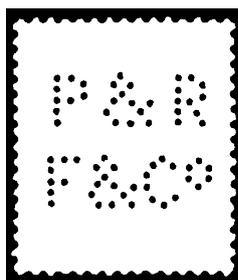
B1560.01

1870-1880



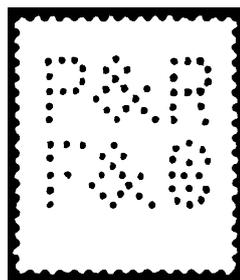
J4090.01

c1876



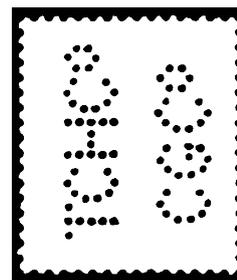
P3880.01

1896-1965



P3880.02

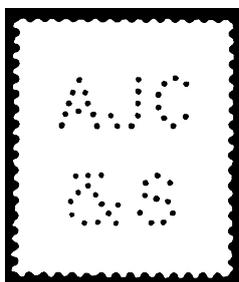
1905-1915



T0920.01

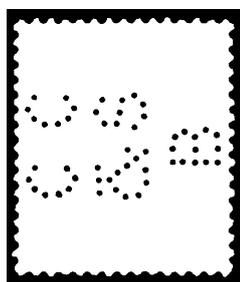
The following illustrations complete the round-up with the remaining sixteen dies not previously ‘mentioned in dispatches’.

**1895-1908**



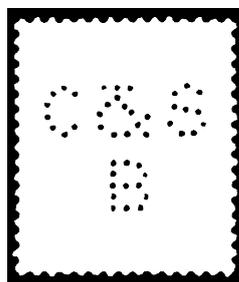
**A3230.01**

**1900-1905**



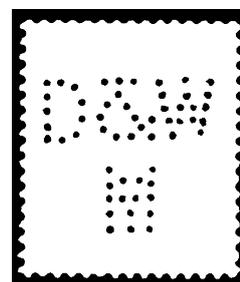
**C1735.01**

**1900-1905**



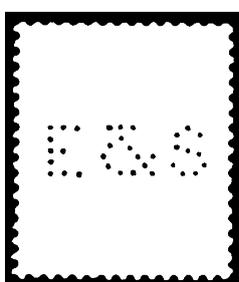
**C6840.01**

**1902-1915**



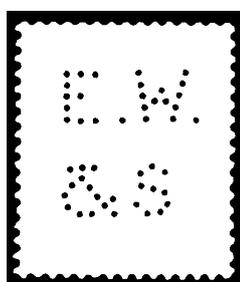
**D5260.01**

**1903-1945**



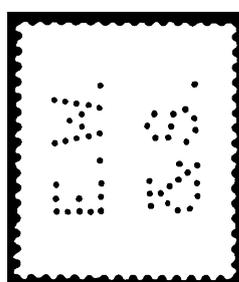
**E4130.02**

**1895-1903**



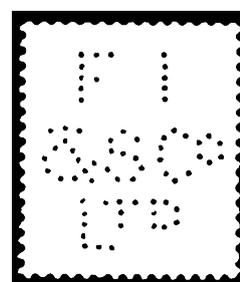
**E5090.03**

**1900-1910**



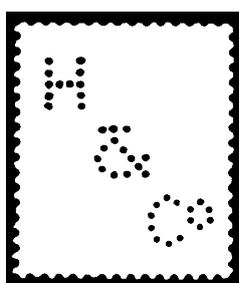
**E5100.02**

**1930-1936**



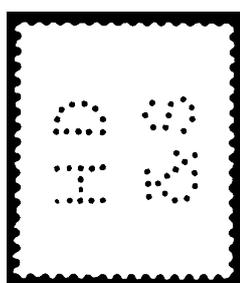
**F2055.01**

**1900-1912**



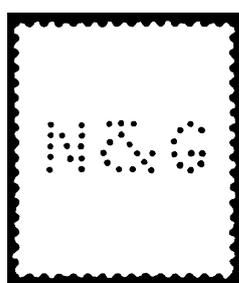
**H1555.01**

**1905-1925**



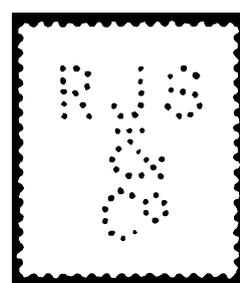
**H2080.02**

**1895-1937**



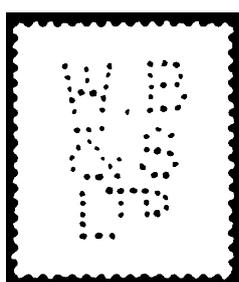
**N1540.01**

**1900-1905**



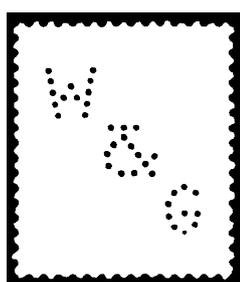
**R3075.01**

**1928-1937**



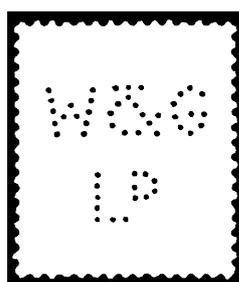
**W0793.01**

**1895-1910**



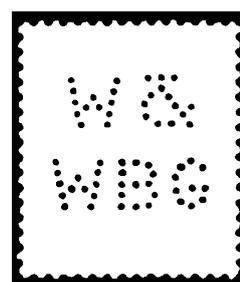
**W2950.04**

**1900-1915**



**W3180.01**

**c1890**



**W7993.01**

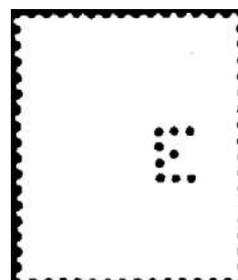
### G.B. Perfins using a characteristic 14-pin Type Ia Ampersand.

			ED	LD	Actual ED	Actual LD	Postmarks	Identified	Group
1	A3230.01	AJ\&S	1895	1908	16-Oct-1898	20-Oct-08	Norwich	Yes	Early
2	C1735.01	CC/\&S/B	1900	1905	09-Apr-01		Cardiff (162)	No	Early
3	C2755.01	CG/\&B							
4	C6175.01	C&P/S(/slash)SCo						Suspected	
5	C5830.01	C/\&P. or R	1935	1935				No	Late
6	C6840.01	C&S/B	1900	1905	... 1900	29-Aug-02	Sunderland	No	Early
7	D5260.01	D&W/M	1902	1915	17-Jul-02	11-Dec-12	Manchester	Yes	Early
8	E4130.02	E&S	1903	1945	01-Oct-04	31-Jul-29	Glasgow	Yes	Early
9	E5090.02M	E.W./\&S	1903	1940	18-Apr-04	... 1940	Stourbridge (750)	Yes	Early
10	E5090.03	E.W./\&S	1895	1903	7-Dec-1895	... 1901	Stourbridge (750)	Yes	Early
11	E5100.02	E.W./\&S.	1900	1910	30-Jul-01	... 1902	Stourbridge (750)	Suspected	Early
12	F1120.01	F.D/\&/Co	1905	1945	22-Aug-07	<b>20-Dec-41</b>	Bristol	Yes	Early
13	F2055.01	F1/\&SCo/Ltd	1930	1936	27-May-36		Scunthorpe	Suspected	Late
14	F2060.01	F.1/\&SCo/Ltd	1920	1930	<b>11-Aug-21</b>	06-Aug-29	Scunthorpe	Yes	Late
15	H1555.01	H\&S	1900	1912	27-Mar-00	25-Jan-12	London NW	No	Early
16	H2080.02	HD/\&S	1905	1925	02-Jan-08	02-Sep-13	Limerick, London	Suspected	Early
17	N1540.01	N&G	1895	1937	1-Jan-1896	... Jun-16	London EC	No	Early
18	N1615.01	N&H	1890	1900	<b>13-Mar-1892</b>	05-Apr-00		No	Early
19	R0350.01	R&B	1900	1910	31-Oct-00	17-Sep-08	Glasgow & Dublin	No	Early
20	R0610.03v	RB/\&S	1930	1930				No	Late
21	R3075.01	RJS/\&/Co	1900	1905			London WC	No	Early
22	W0793.01	W.B/\&S/Ltd	1928	1937	25-Jun-29	09-Aug-37	Glasgow, Dumfries, Stranraer	Yes	Late
23	W2950.04	W\&G	1895	1910	26-Nov-08		London NW	No	Early
24	W3180.01	W&G/Ld	1900	1915	12-Oct-01	05-Apr-10	Glasgow	No	Early
25	W7993.01	W&/WG	1890	1890			Glasgow	Suspected	Early

## A PERFIN CONNECTION TO ENID BLYTON

Rosemary Smith

At a recent stamp fair, I came across a postcard, stamp-signed by End Blyton. The postage stamp was a sideways delivery coil KGVI 1d dark red, with perfin E (E0009.01aM), dated December 1940. The price was a bit steep but I deemed it to be genuine, even without the perfin. The die is known used between 1935 and 1975 and is confirmed as being used by J. A. Ewing & Co, Finsbury Pavement, London EC who were export buying agents – clearly nothing to do with Enid Blyton.



E0009.01aM

As can be seen from the illustration below, the postcard is to a fan about her “BOOK OF A YEAR” which was expected to be ready in January 1941. I assumed the “E” perfin was owned and used by Enid Blyton’s publisher and used on her correspondence, via her publisher.

Green Hedges,  
Beaconsfield,  
Bucks.

Dear Colleague,

Thank you so much for ordering my BOOK OF THE YEAR.

There has been a tremendous demand for it, but your name is down as one of the first subscribers, and I shall see that a copy is reserved for you. If any of your friends want a copy, do please ask them to order it now.

We expect the book to be ready in January.

Yours sincerely,

*Enid Blyton*

December, 1940,

The only publisher mentioned in the “Gault Illustrated Catalogue With Details” is Evans Bros Ltd but this was only a provisional identity. Thanks to Maurice Harp and his research on the internet, we have found out that Enid Blyton’s “Book of the Year” was indeed published by Evans Brothers in 1941.

So another cover for my collection and another confirmed identity for the catalogue.

## NON-PERFINNED STAMPS – SURVEY UPDATE

John Strange

It is now over two years since recording the unseen perfined stamps (Bulletin 357) on issue 'W' (decimal Machins) – tempus fugit! A few more have now been reported and can be removed from that listing:

SG 953	17½p	pale chestnut	D2895.01M	DLP
SG 974	27p	violet	N3700.02M	NY/CC
SG 980	30p	deep olive-grey	C0010.02M	C
			L0960.02M	LC
SG 1028	£5	(large format – parcel)	H6730.02	HS/Ld
		Salmon/chalky blue	H5200.01M	HM/SO

New sightings on issue 'Z' (decimal regionals) are still elusive, but for the record they are:

SG N139	14p	deep blue	N0510.08M	NC
SG N144	17p	deep blue	N0510.08M	NC
SG N147	18p	brt green (CB, p15x14)	N0510.08M	NC
SG N155	22p	bright orange-red	N0510.08M	NC
SG S26	8p	rosine	C1250.02M	CC/C
SG S33	12p	yellowish green	G0011.10M	G
SG S58	17p	deep blue	N0510.08M	NC
SG S62	19p	bright orange red (PP)	N0510.08M	NC
SG W38Ea	13p	pale chestnut (type 2)	C1110.01M	CC
SG W44Ea	17p	grey-blue (type 2)	C1110.01M	CC
SG W59	24p	chestnut (PP, p15x14)	B5820.01	BP/M

(With acknowledgement to Barrie Williamson for information from his on-going survey).

## ALSO SEEN FOR SALE



A fine copy of the Stamp Distribution Company perfin SDC - S2060.01 was put up for sale on ebay in December at a very fine starting price of £49.99. Needless to say it didn't get any bids – surprise, surprise! Clearly pricing at a 1d less than £50 didn't persuade anyone it was a bargain.

## CONTENTS

### PAGE

#### **Society News:-**

Membership Changes; Secretary/Treasurer; Closed Albums; Date for the Diary; Members Wants	2 - 4
--	-------

#### **Members' Comments:-**

Royal Insurance Co Ltd; Joseph Sloper Bike Seller Great Britain Pre-cancelled Perfins Help Wanted – GEC – G1530.01	5 - 6
--	-------

#### **Articles**

The End of Gummed Stamps?	<b>Alastair Walter</b>	4
Small Clues - The Daily News	<b>Dave Hill</b>	7
Not a New Identity	<b>Dave Hill</b>	7
Frank Braham Advert	<b>Maurice Harp</b>	8
Natal Perfin Collector Beware	<b>Wilhelm Verwoerd</b>	8 - 9
Seen for Sale		10
Axes of Symmetry on Perfins	<b>Roy Gault</b>	11 - 12
Missing Letters	<b>Roy Gault</b>	13 - 14
More Information on the "CofA" Perforator	<b>John Mathews</b>	15 - 16
Information Wanted	<b>Jeff Turnbull</b>	16
Circumstantial Evidence	<b>Mike J. Burrows</b>	17 - 19
W.T. Henley's Telegraph Works	<b>Maurice Harp</b>	20 - 22
Perfined Commercially Overprinted Stamps	<b>Maurice Harp</b>	23 - 24
14 pin Type 1a Ampersands (1890-1945)	<b>Roy Gault</b>	25 - 29
A Perfin Connection to Enid Blyton	<b>Rosemary Smith</b>	30
Non-Perfined Stamps – A Survey Update	<b>John Strange</b>	31
Also Seen for Sale		31

New Identities Pages 409 - 412                      4 Pages

Auction No. 1 (2011)                                      12 Pages

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For further details of the G.B. Perfin Society and membership application  
please contact: