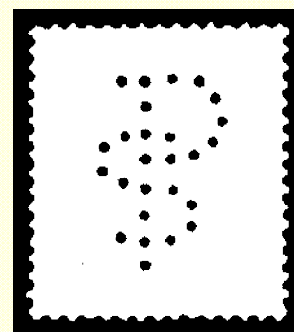


PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 386 – October 2013



Foreign 1¼d postcard bearing added 2 x 1d SG43 plate 187.
The stamps and the card both have the perfin H.R./&Co.
The stamps have die H6150.02 and the postcard H6150.02a.
The card was posted to Germany from London in January 29th 1879.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

A big thank you to all of you who paid your subscriptions in July, August & September, it saves me so much administrative work and is greatly appreciated. **Subscriptions were due on 1st September** so if you have yet to pay please do so without delay. Some of you make out cheques to the GB Perfin Society but the account name is just The Perfin Society. As yet, none have been bounced back by the bank but they could, so please keep to 'The Perfin Society'.

Bob Schwerdt Collections

Bob Schwerdt, a perfin collector since 1960 and a Society member since 1974 is now downsizing the number of his collections and so reluctantly resigns from the Society. His collections are being sold through Bob Szymanski's perfin auctions that only members of the various perfin clubs & societies around the World have access to, (contact me if you require further details). Bob is continuing to collect GB Regionals, Bavaria, Bosnia & Netherlands perfins. We wish him and his family all the best for the future and thank him for his contributions to perfin collecting on both sides of the Atlantic.

Final Reminder for the AGM

The AGM will be held on Saturday 26th October 2013 between 12 noon and 5pm at Grosvenor Auctions, 399-401 Strand, London. WC2R 0LT, above Stanley Gibbons. Access is by a door to the left of Stanley Gibbons shop, (see picture and under no circumstances go into SG unless as a customer). After entering the first door you will have an entry-phone pad to the right, and there will be a label with Perfin Society next to the bell to press. On entering the second door turn to the right where there is a lift to take you to the 3rd floor saleroom. On exit turn right and the meeting room is in front of you, and as you walk forward a passageway to the left takes you to the

kitchen where tea, coffee & biscuits are available as well as the conveniences.

We will have display boards available in a large room so don't forget to bring something along from your collection to show the meeting.



Perfin Society at MIDPEX - A Report

The Society took a stand at Midpex, which was held on 6th July. Over the page is a photo of our stand, which as you can see was ably manned by **Roy Gault, Terry Comper, Stephen Steere** and **Maurice Harp** (avoiding the camera by taking the photo). A display of part of the material shown at the Stamp Show 2000 was on view and we gave out back copies of the Bulletin to anyone who showed interest. A short Society meeting was held and we were able to meet a number of

members who normally cannot make the London meetings. Hopefully we raised the profile of the Society a bit, despite the gathering being held in a metal box, with no air conditioning, on one of the hottest days of the year.



Society Stand at Midpex -
(l-r) Society Officers Roy Gault, Terry Comper and Stephen Steere

SEEN IN AUCTION

The 2½d Rosy Mauve plate 17, with orb watermark and perfin W5160.01 - WM, may not seem such a gem at first glance and you might be surprised that the stamp was sold at Grosvenor Auctions in 2009 for £260. The reason that this perfin fetched such a high price was that it has an inverted watermark.

1873-1939



W5160.01

How many perfin collectors look at the watermark on their stamps? As the 2½d was printed in sheets of 192 there may be another 191 copies of this stamp out there somewhere - maybe it's worth having a quick a look in your collection.

MEMBERS COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

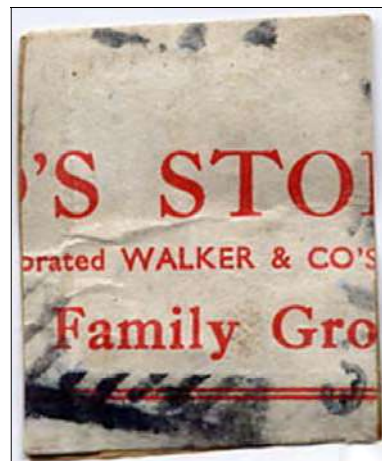
Update and Wants List for H.M.S.O. Survey - Bulletin 385/7

Diederik Viljoen has written to report two Stationery Office items for **Michael Miller's** survey. The first is 2½d S(crown)O - S5630.01M perfin on the KGV 1935 Silver Jubilee issue. The postmark is dated 25 September 1935. The other is a 1971 10p machin with HM/SO - H5200.02. **John Donner** has also very kindly contributed some Stationery Office material for the ongoing study, which has yielded new information. First a new value - issue O 2½d, which gives all four values for King Edward VIII. It also had an issue W ½p with a partial date of Dec 199? This discovery puts perfin usage at the S. O. to at least the end of 1990 and how much beyond that is anyone's guess.

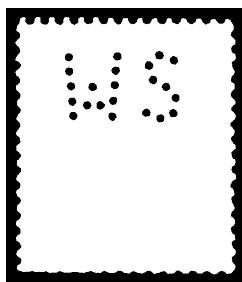
CAN ANYONE COMPLETE THIS PARTIAL IDENTITY?

Stephen Steere

While soaking off some perfins I spotted that the backing paper on a KGV 3d Poko die WS - W6660.04, had a part identity. The die is unidentified so it looked to be an easy task as postmarks reported for this die are London SE as well as Borough High St which is south of London Bridge, the name should begin with W and be Stores and connected with Walker & Co.



1935 - 1939



W6660.04

However Walker's Stores are not shown in the relevant trade directories nor are they or Walker & Co in the 1935 London telephone directory in London SE, or a W... Stores in the Grocer's section of the directories.

If anyone can supply the answer please let me know.

'U' IS NOW IN THE SIXTIES

John Strange

That is not intended as an ungrammatical personal ageism remark, but a small reminder that the stamps perfined and known as issue 'U', were first published back in December 1952 - over 60 years ago! In that austere, post-war era (food rationing was still imposed, for example) a young Princess Elizabeth had unexpectedly come to the throne, and new stamp designs were required to mark her reign. A portrait by Dorothy Wilding Ltd. was chosen as a common theme for them, with various detailed surroundings, and having face values from ½d to 1/6d in small format, and (September 1955) from 2/6 to £1 in larger format and portraying castles. They continued in production until the arrival of the Machin design in June 1967.

During those nearly 15 years, several rapid technical changes evolved which makes the Wilding and Castle's issues fairly complex to differentiate, yet fascinating to collect as stamps. Watermarks change from the Tudor Crown (1952), St. Edward's Crown (1955), to multiple crowns (1958), and eventually without watermarks on a high value set (1968). The introduction of a first and second-class postal service needed a two-tier tariff. Experimental mechanisation of letter sorting was done by using graphite bands on the back of stamps (1957), then with the overprinting on the face of them with phosphor bands (1959), and with phosphor bands only (1960).

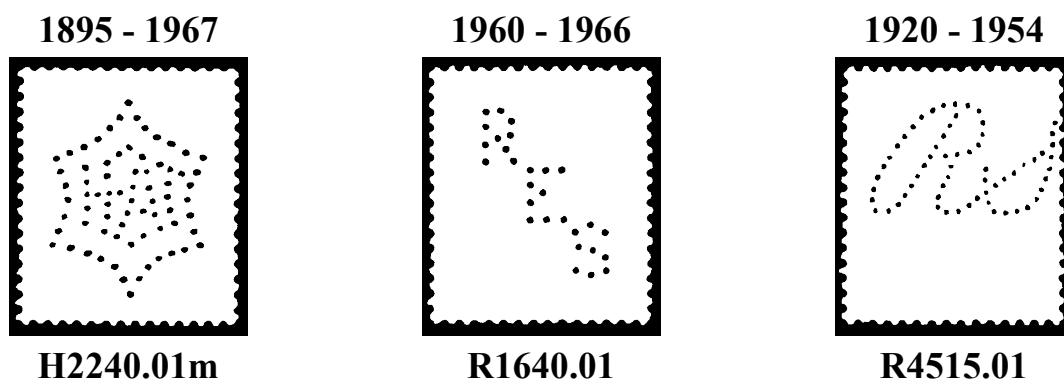


Mint block of eight, 2½d Wildings with perfin RW/P - R5810.01

Although by now declining in usage, there are many perfins on the Wildings; as an estimate, 8% (or about 2000) of all dies can be found on them, covering the range of varieties and face values. The majority of the designs are unspectacular, coming mainly from J. Sloper & Co. Ltd., although a couple do catch the eye. One is a 68 pin, script *RS* (R4515.01); it's user is unknown, but the die seems to have survived since 1891, and is reported on just one issue 'U'. Another is a monogram of HEAT within a curved hexagon (H2240.01m), again a 70 pin survivor from the 1890's, and used by Jones & Attwood Ltd., Engineers, of Stourbridge, Worcestershire. A few dies had short 'lives' and are reported only on Wildings; R/E/S (R1640.01), used by Remington Electric Shavers Ltd., is such an example. Also some, like PAC (P0120.01b) and B/B^K (B0740.05/a/b) were used just for the large format/high face value stamps.

Perfin users reflect social and economic changes. 1948 had seen, under the Attlee government, the introduction of the National Health Service, and individual Hospital Management Committees were now large users of perfinned Wildings. In the same year, came the nationalisation of the power and rail industries, and many dies of the utility boards for the supply of gas, electricity and water appear on this issue. Administrative changes to what was the old London County Council, in 1965 under the Wilson government, saw the emergence of new London boroughs, and several new perfins were produced for them.

The commemorative stamps issued during this period, with very few exceptions, have all been reported as perfinned too. On a timely note, with Brazil 2014 not long away, this includes the England's World Cup Football Victory stamp of 1966 - but that does seem to be a long time ago!



DESIGN 0850.01 - "A TALE OF TWO S's"

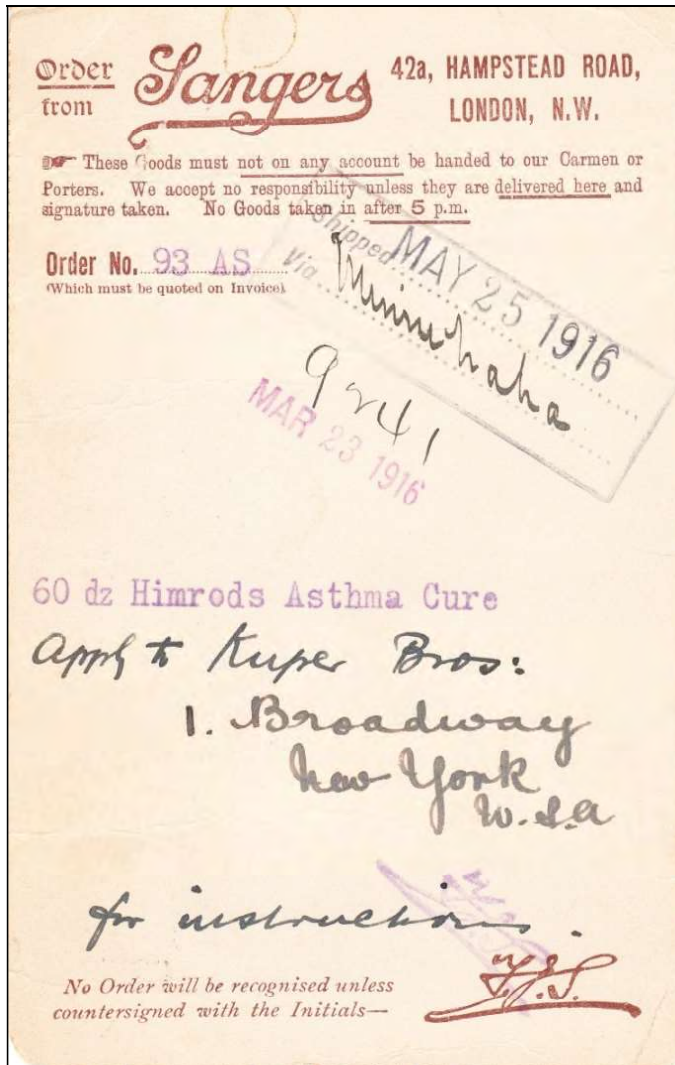
Joe Coulbourne

I bought this trade card from a dealer-member of the Springfield Stamp Club for 10 cents as part of a large grouping of covers in June 2013.



When I went to *The Perfin Society's New Illustrated Catalogue of Great British Perfins*, Design Section, 2nd Edition, 2007, I learned that the pattern had not yet had the user identified (figure 1). The card was used March 13th 1916, which also extended the known use of the die. I got that satisfied feeling as I sent the information to **Roy Gault**, our catalogue editor for his verification and use for future revisions.

So as I looked at the pattern in the catalogue and then compared the trade card information (figures 2 and 3), it struck me. Maybe, just maybe, this is NOT a design pattern. Here's my theory. The user of the patter is Sangers of 42a Hampstead Road in London, NW. What if, instead of a pinwheel, the pattern is actually two overlapping "S's"? "Sangers" seems to be plural and could indicate this was a family business. The more I thought about it, the more probable this



assumption became. The trade card gives us a clue as to the profession of the Sangers, that of a pharmaceutical distributor of some sort. The card indicates that 60 dozen of Himrods Asthma Cure were being sent to Kupe Brothers in New York. A pinwheel would make no sense being associated with that profession, not that it could not be some sort of trademark, but rather it just seems unlikely. Roy will make the ultimate determination but I thought I would present my theory and see what others think?

Editor:- When Joe sent me this piece I decided to see if

I could find out a little bit more about Sangers. The company was founded in 1780 and in an 1841 directory John Sanger is listed as a patent medicine warehouse in Oxford Street. By the 1870's his sons have joined the company and the company is listed as John Sanger & Sons. It appears that the name of the company changed to Sangers when the company moved out of central London to Hampstead Road around 1910, which corresponds to the introduction of the "double S" die. In 1928 the company was registered and became known as Sangers Ltd. The company went from strength to strength but like many UK companies it struggled in the modern world and went into liquidation in 1990. I also found an advert from 1976 which showed that they used the "double S" symbol as a trademark for a period. The company used numerous perfins, at least nine dies, between 1890 and the mid 1960's.



PERFORATED POSTAL STATIONERY - UPDATE

Rosemary Smith

It is many months ago since I brought the new items of Perforated Postal Stationery to your attention. I hope that **Keith Kimber**, **Maurice Harp**, **Jeff Turnbull** and **Richard Smolnicki** have not been too impatiently looking for their contributed item to be acknowledged in the Bulletin. The following, which came in, one at a time, over quite a long period, now make up a good-sized article.

Perforated Postal Stationery Postal Cards

Queen Victoria ½d Brown - Type 2

C1110.03 CC Mint self-addressed to Town Hall, Croydon.
In Bulletin 356 (Oct. 2008) this die was reported in Alan Huggin's collection but on a QV ½d green card. The brown card is far more common than the green.

Queen Victoria 1¼d Brown

H6150.02a H.R/&Co 29-01-79
Known used by Hayn, Roman & Co.

This is the first time this design of postcard has been reported in this study. Postcards were only available for transmission Inland until 1875, when a special card for foreign postage, at 1¼d, was introduced. This particular card is illustrated on the front cover of the Bulletin.

Perforated Postal Stationery Wrappers

Queen Victoria ½d Brown - Type 2

H1210.06b H&C Cut-out. New die to that in Bulletin 355
K1690.02v K&T Cut-out. 14-06-95 - new date
S6070.01 SP/&S Cut-out. New die to the study
T5170.02 TWS/&Co.. Cut-out. New die to the study. 31-12-87

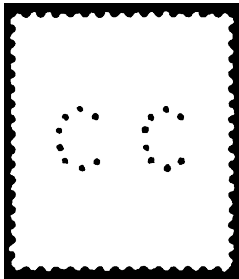
King Edward VII - ½d Green

R2990.01 R&J/H Cut-out. 24-05-05. New die to study

King George V - ½d Green

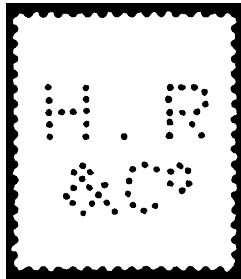
J6270.01 J.P./S&M Cut-out. New die to study.

1890-1905



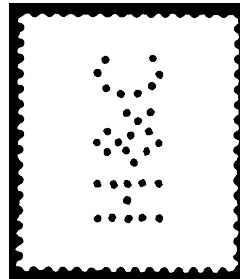
C1110.03

1877-1895



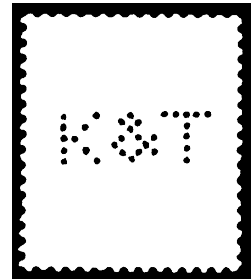
H6150.02a

1885-1912



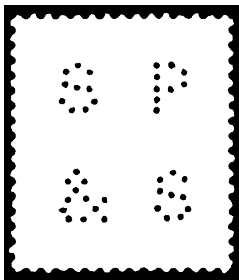
H1210.06b

1888-1895



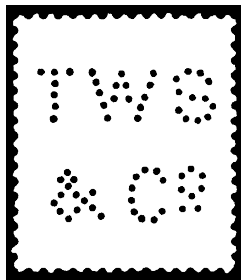
K1690.02v

1890-1903



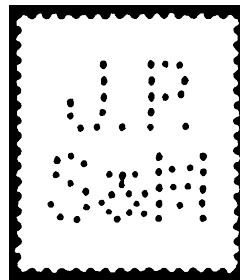
S6070.01

1881-1890



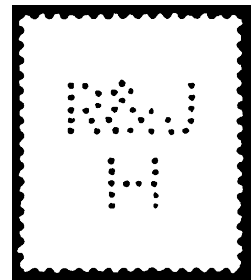
T5170.02

1915-1920

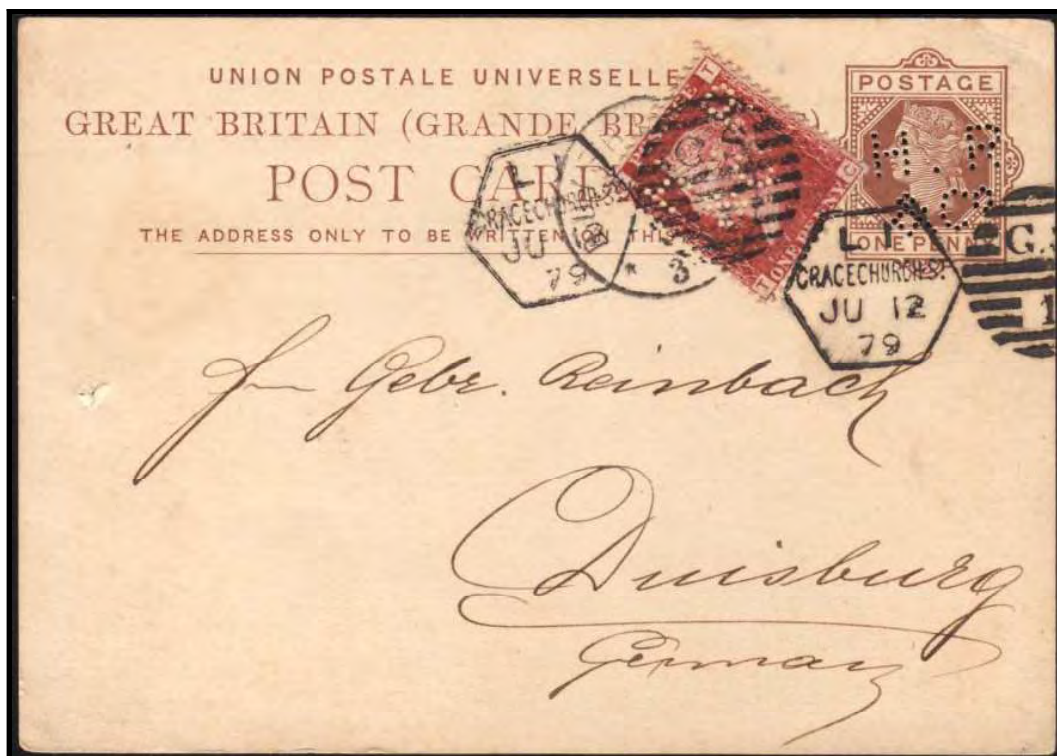


J6270.01

1903-1936



R2990.01



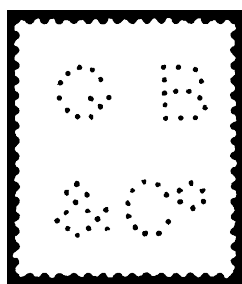
Postcard bearing 1d plate 200 with perfin die H6150.02 - H.R./&Co, used London June 12th 1879. The postcard is perfinned with die H6150.02a.

MISSING PINS MAKE A “G” INTO A “C”

Roy Gault

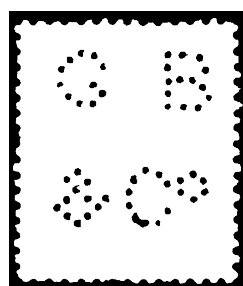
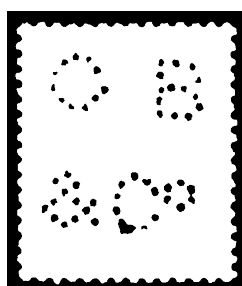
In providing stamp information for the first Edition C’s, **Gerry Soutar** has pointed me to the possibility that a long-standing “CB/∆C^o” (C0650.03) is probably related to the early die “GB/∆C^o” (G0470.01).

1870-1890



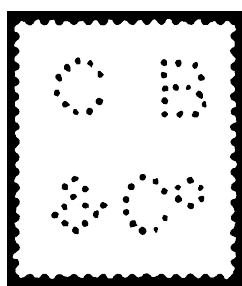
G0470.01

Not surprisingly, strikes are complete during the early years but almost exclusively from 1d Red plate 181 onwards (say c1875) a pin goes missing from the top of the “o”. The pin is still missing on a 1d Venetian Red I’ve seen, and an undated copy of a 16-dot 1d Lilac which takes us up to c1885. This ‘constant’ missing pin points to a single headed die.



Gerry reports a QV 2½d ‘Jubilee’ that shows the “o” has been repaired, but a pin has now gone missing from the serif of the “G”. I also have a copy of this same stamp, but with the ‘other’ serif pin missing (rightmost silhouette).

1890-1895



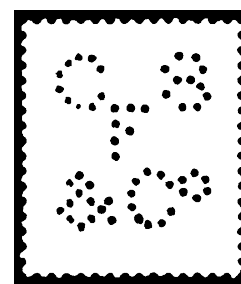
C0650.03

As can be seen from the above two examples, the “G” is now well on it’s way to becoming a “C”, and what we know as “CB/∆C^o” (C0650.03). I have a single date for the die in this state of September 1893, giving it a date-range of 1890-1895. The “o” is complete, but the “∆” has a pin missing as in the illustration alongside.

But the final twist is the appearance of the die on a copy of a 16-dot 1d Lilac dated 25th February 1887, clearly showing an “F” in the centre, and pins missing from the “B” (making it look a bit like an “S”).

Can anyone help solve the puzzle by reporting any suggestions or dated copies to me?

c1887



C0745.01

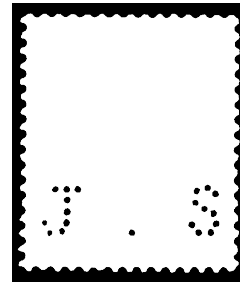
PERFIN MISPERF RARITY

James Norris

I have always had a keen interest in the Line Engraved stamps of Queen Victoria, especially Perfins and 'Misperfs' (misperforated stamps). To find the two on one stamp is a rare event. I recently acquired the stamp below, which was illustrated on the back cover of Bulletin number 375 from a member who spotted it on an auction site.



1869 - 1878



J6820.01

The stamp, which is a 1d Red SG43 from plate 127, is quite striking in its appearance as it is imperforate on all four sides, and so has been cut from the original sheet of stamps because the perforations are so severely misplaced.

The Perfin J.S is completely intersected by the horizontal and vertical perforations, so it seems amazing that anyone would go to the trouble of putting a perfin on a stamp that had been so badly perforated. Had the office clerk not cut around the design of the stamp the check letters KB & BK would have been divided amongst neighbouring stamps and the perfin would not have been discernible.

'Misperfs' of this kind occur for several reasons; during the line engraved printing process the sheets of paper are dampened to allow the ink to be absorbed into the paper whilst in the printing press under great pressure. After printing, the sheets would often dry at different rates, some shrinking more than others, so creating short and long sheets, which had to be graded before the perforating process could commence.

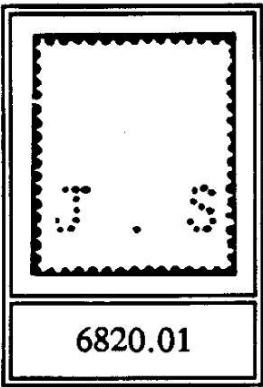
If short sheets were mixed with long sheets, (and at least five sheets were fed into the perforating machine at one time), the perforations on

one or the other would be significantly misplaced without the operating realising. This made it very difficult to achieve precise spacing of the impression on the sheet.

The perforating 'comb' as it was called, was made up of a horizontal row, and thirteen vertical rows of hardened steel pins to puncture the paper, in a similar manner to perfin production, and the machine would index one row at a time from the first 'A' row, where the stamps bore check letters AA, AB etc to AL, then vertically through the alphabet to the final 'T' row TA, TB and so on to TL (20 rows of 12 stamps, 240 stamps to a sheet).

Other reasons for misalignment were sometimes due to the sheets of stamps being fed into the perforator upside down, or inadvertently folded. Also the printing plates were often poorly laid down with irregular spacing between the impressions. This kind of error is most often found on the earlier 1d & 2d issues around the period 1850-58, when stamp perforation was in its infancy, with stamps bearing 'stars' in top corners of the design, rather than check letters in all four corners. What makes my stamp more unusual is the fact that the misalignment is not just confined to length but width as well. Plate 127 was first put to press in June 1869 and was in use until around 1878.

Below is the entry in the latest catalogue for J.S - J6820.01. Although we are not certain of the user, it was a very early Sloper die - probably the second die he made for stamps (see Bulletin 289). **Maurice Harp** speculated in Bulletin 361 that it could have been used by Sloper himself - but the lack of perfins used by Sloper is a mystery that seems to go on and on.

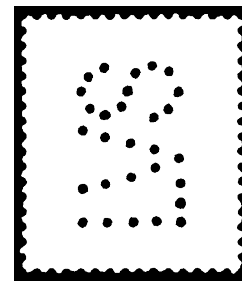
	<p>In use: 1869-1878. Dates: 28 July 1875. Issues: QV 1d (SG43) - See list below. QV 3d (pl 15) Note: Early Sloper m/c N° 2609, completed May 1869. Ident: Pmks: London.</p>
	<p>The following 1d Red plates are known:</p> <p>97 105 117 118 127 129 140 145 159 165 170 171 174 183 184 185 191 199 203 210</p>

PROBABLE USER FOR L5700.01 - LVS

Maurice Harp

The front cover of Bulletin 368 - October 2010 illustrated a 1d red cover bearing the perfin die L5700.01 - LVS. The cover bears the inprint on the flap of the "Western Mail" and based on this it has been assumed that they were the user of this die. However it seemed odd that the "Western Mail" newspaper should use the initials LVS so I thought I would do a bit more digging to see if I could work out what was going on.

1877 - 1879



L5700.01

The cover bears few clues. On the left side there is an inscription in pencil "Gone to Swansea - back around 4 p.m." but that was hardly helpful. The cancellation is Cardiff - 21st Feb. 1877 - and that was it. The addressee is Mr (William) Paddison, Land Agents, (20 Queen St), Neath - an odd addressee for a newspaper, but not impossible.

I first turned to an 1880 Cardiff Directory and went searching for an "LVS". I found one (and only one) - Lewis Vincent Sherley, a solicitor living at Plasnewydd, Roath. After a Google search I found:-

Lewis Vincent Sherley was a partner in Luard and Sherley solicitors at Castle Street, Cardiff in 1871. By 1882, Luard and Sherley had moved to new offices in Albert Chambers, 26 High Street, Cardiff. By the 1890s, the firm appears to have changed its name to Shirley and Sons. The firm finally disappears from local trade directories by the 1920s. [Note the change in the spelling of Sherley to Shirley]

His partner in the firm was William Charles Luard. All well and good but no link with the "Western Mail". The "Western Mail" was founded in Cardiff in 1869 by John Crichton-Stuart, 3rd Marquis of Bute as a penny daily paper. Lascelles Carr (1841-1902), editor since 1869, bought the paper with Daniel Owen in 1877. From newspapers of the time I found that Luard & Sherley were the solicitors for the Marquess of Bute and would have acted for the Western Mail prior to 1878 and probably afterwards. A link was established! So I would propose that the LVS on L5700.01 stands for Lewis Vincent Sherley.

COTTON CLEARING HOUSE PERFIN.

Roy Gault

From as early as the mid to late 18th century, Liverpool was the most important port in Great Britain for the importation of cotton. By the end of the Georgian era, the trade had become sufficiently organised so that in 1832 current market information and prices were being published in a 'general circular' produced by the local cotton brokers.

An official trade association called the '*Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association*' was founded on 2nd April 1841 to '*deal with matters of common interest to its members*', with enforceable trading rules introduced in 1863. A 'Clearing House' was established in the 1870's which is where we enter the story with regard to the use of 'Perfins'.

From around 1875 a series of 'stamps' were progressively introduced through to the 1890's, presumably for the prepayment of fees for the issuing of contracts or for services rendered. Over time, six different values were produced, although most are also known with variations in colour, die, and stamp edge perforation.

6d; 1s 0d; £1; £1 1s 0d; £2 2s 0d, and £3.

All values are known with 'Clearing House' cancellations, but only the 6d and 1/- stamps have the "C.H" Clearing House Perfin. The purpose of this article is to look in detail at the use of the "C.H" Perfin, and not study in any depth the various stamps involved. Anyone specifically interested in the stamps themselves may wish to consult the article by Chris Tennant that appeared in the Cinderella Philatelist in July 1979.



It should be pointed out that the "C.H" Perfin does not appear on postage stamps, only the low value 6d & 1/- L.C.B.A stamps.

They were not made available to the general public

Observations.

The Perfin only appears sideways on the stamp aligned parallel to the stamp edges, reading either up or down the stamp, ‘normal or ‘reversed’ - i.e. 4 variations. This points to the sheet or pane of stamps being folded prior to initialling, and prior to applying to the document.

To affix a stamp to a document and then ‘cancel’ it with the “C.H” Perfin such that it always appears sideways and aligned with the stamp sides would be difficult to achieve. To produce a reversed Perfin as well would entail the document being initialled from the back, losing sight of the stamp, and nigh on impossible to achieve consistently!



Some stamps also show straight cut edges (see above), which suggests the sheet consisted of at least 9 stamps, arranged 3x3. From an accounting point of view, stamps are printed in formats that make it easy to ‘stock-take’. For example, the 1840 1d black was printed in sheets of **12x20** which means that a horizontal strip of 12 stamps would cost 1/-, and a complete sheet of 240 would cost £1.

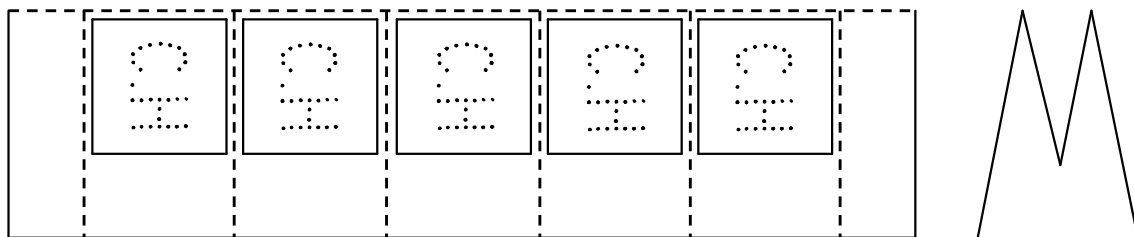


4415	4410	4405	4400
4416	4411	4406	4401
4417	4412	4407	4402
4418	4413	4408	4403
4419	4414	4409	4404

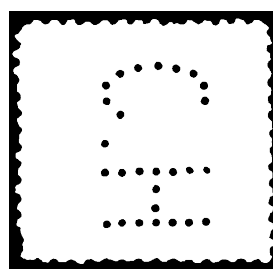
Another example to support the layout theory would be the **4x5** format used by Waterlow & Sons for the 3d Great Western Railway Air Mail stamp. In this case, a horizontal strip would cost 1/-, and a complete sheet 5/-. The Westland Wessex aircraft **G-AAGW** but I digress!

6D	6D	6D	6D	6D
6D	6D	6D	6D	6D
6D	6D	6D	6D	6D
6D	6D	6D	6D	6D

Now my suggestion, and it's no more than that, is that both the 6d and the 1/- 'Cotton House' stamps were printed in sheets of **5x4**, such that a row of five 1/- stamps would be worth 5/- and a complete sheet a £1. The sheet of 6d stamps would be pro rata, i.e. 2/6d and 10/-.



Also note that a **5x4** layout for the low value Cotton House stamps would mean that the complete sheet could be folded horizontally as shown above in a 'concertina' fashion (in one of two ways) prior to offering up to the initialling machine (in one of two ways) and so keep the selvedge away from the perforating head. This would also account for all four of the positional variations reported.



The perforating head almost certainly consisted of a *single* pattern. This can be deduced from the fact that a pin goes missing from the tip of the "C", and never seems to have been repaired. Dated examples pin-point the loss to sometime between late 1880 and mid 1881, so probably early on in 1881.

Latest date reported complete - 30th October 1880.
 Earliest date showing the pin loss - 17th June 1881.

The 'Clearing House' cancel (in mauve or purple) noted on many of these low value stamps consists of two concentric ovals with the words 'LIVERPOOL C.B.A.' contained above and 'CLEARING HOUSE' below, with a date in the centre.



Additionally, stamps may also be found with portions of firms names showing, such as ...lins & Co, ... Sons & Co, ...(& S)ons.

The 6d and 1/- stamps involved.



Both the 6d and 1/- Die I stamps have more closely spaced lines than their correspond Die II versions. Additionally, the 6d Die II has an apostrophe after the word BROKERS.

Value		Stamp Perf	Colour
6d	Die I	12½	Orange
			Carmin
	Die II	12½	Carmin
			11
1/-	Die I	11	Grey
	Die II	11	Grey
	Re-designed	11	Blue



But the story doesn't end there!

After a number of cotton brokers/merchants had tried unsuccessfully to join the '*Liverpool Cotton Broker's Association*', a rival organisation was set up in 1881 called the '*Liverpool Cotton Exchange*' to look after their own interests. However, this venture was short lived as from the 4th September 1882 they amalgamated with the 'Liverpool Cotton Broker's Association' to form the '*Liverpool Cotton Association Ltd*'.

Various stamps bearing the new title were issued, but only the 6d blue 'Clearing House' stamp {unfortunately no colour illustration available} and the green 'Arbitration' stamp are known with the "C.H" Perfin. Predictably, the pin is missing from the tip of the "C".



A similar series of stamps (½d, 1d, 2d, 4d, and 6d) were used by the '*Cotton Brokers Bank Ltd*' in Liverpool, although the only cancellation seen on loose stamps is either a 3-digit number, or "CBB" over "78" flanked either side by a number, presumably the date in 1878. The title changed in 1883 to '*The Liverpool Cotton Bank*' after the amalgamation of the two rival cotton associations amalgamated to form the '*Liverpool Cotton Association Ltd*'.



My sincere thanks go to **Jeff Turnbull** and **John Donner** for providing scans of Cotton Clearing House stamps from their collections, and to **Dave Hill** for introducing the topic to the Perfin Society in 2002. I also acknowledge the pioneer work carried out by **Chris Tennant** in 1979.

BRITISH THEFTS OF PERFINNED STAMPS - PART 2

Maurice Harp

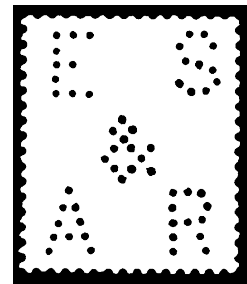
This is the second part of the article published in Bulletin 385.

From "**The Bristol Mercury & Daily Post**" of May 5th 1900:-

Alfred Harper, 32 and Ernest Harper, 25 brothers were charged with stealing postage stamps from their former employers E. S & A Robinson Ltd, of Redcliff Street. (Alfred Harper) produced altogether 39 penny stamps perforated with the initials of the prosecuting firm.

E S & A Robinson Ltd were stationers and printers of Redcliff St and Victoria St, Bristol. They used E4170.02 M - ES/&/AR which was a long lived die. The company was founded in 1844 and survived until 1966 when it merged with John Dickinson Stationery to form Dickinson Robinson Group. Interestingly they continued to use ES/&/AR perfins after the merger.

1885 - 1940

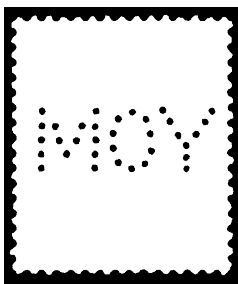


E4170.02M

From "**The Ipswich Journal**" of July 6th 1895:-

William Robison, brickmaker was brought up on remand and charged with burglary ... (and) was further charged with breaking into the counting house of Thomas Moy Limited, at Great Blakenham, near Claydon Station ... and stealing 22 penny postage stamps, perforated with the word "MOY"

1890 - 1935



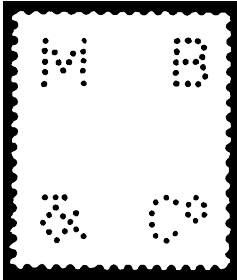
M4340.01

Thomas Moy Ltd was a prolific user of perfins with various dies being used from 1890 right up to the 1970's. The die referred to in the newspaper report is certainly M4340.01. Thomas Moy Ltd were a coke and coal merchants trading in eastern England whose business came to an end as coal was phased out from people's homes.

From "**The Standard**" of November 19th 1877:-

Extensive Robbery - Thomas William Knight of 79 Brownlow Row, Dalston was charge with stealing a large quantity of goods from his employer Munt, Brown & Co, of Wood Street. (They) searched him and found on him a purse, thirteen receipt stamps perforated "Munt, Brown & Co."

1869 - 1880



M0520.06

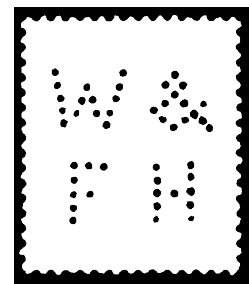
It turned out that he was not only stealing stamps but ladies' underwear to supply to ladies of the district. Munt, Brown was one of the earliest of Sloper's customers. From the Sloper ledgers we know that Horace Sloper was requested by his brother Joseph to prepare a die MB/&Co for perforating embossed envelopes. The newspaper report above also mentions that "a packet of stamped envelopes" was found in the stolen goods which may also have been perforated. However to date no record of this perforated stationery has come to light.

From "**Birmingham Daily Post**" of Nov 5th 1887:-

The Clever Capture of an Office Thief - John Davis, 32 labourer was charged with stealing a bag containing £322. (On searching his room and) opening a small black bag belonging to the prisoner, (they) came across a number of stamps perforated with the initials "W. & F. H."

c1885

Our New Illustrated catalogue only lists one die that could fit the description of these perforated stamps. Unfortunately little or nothing is known about the die, including cancellations. If anyone can confirm a Birmingham cancellation on this die I would be glad to hear from them.



W2673.01

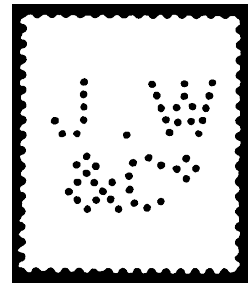
From "**Birmingham Daily Post**" of December 16th 1895:-

Forgery & Burglary - William Wooley (23) , labourer, was indicted for forging orders for the delivery of goods. (He) was further charged with breaking into the warehouse and

counting house of John Wright & Co, 116 New Street on August 29th and stealing 240 perforated postage stamps.

John Wright & Co were heating apparatus manufacturers and later became John Wright & Eagle Range Ltd. We know that they used W2340.01 - WER between 1913 and 1930. Dave Hill in Bulletin 298 suggested that John Wright and Eagle Range are the provisional user of J8490.01 - JW/ER which was used 1900-1930. He also suggested that J8430.01 - JW/&Co which was used between 1890 and 1900 was used by John Wright & Co.

1890 - 1900

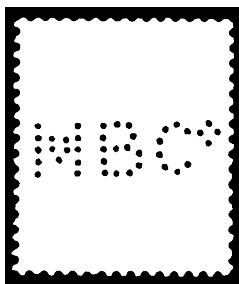


J8430.01

From "**The Standard**" of December 15th 1899:-

Frederick Mannakel, 15 of Osman Road, South Tottenham, office boy at Morris Beef Company's 64 West Smithfield was charged before Mr Alderman Bell with stealing a letter containing a cheque for £10.19s.1d, postal orders etc. ... when (arrested) a large quantity of postage stamps perforated with the letters "M.B.C." were found upon him. .. he was charged with stealing a number of sixpenny stamps and other stamps belonging to the company.

1895 - 1920



M0480.01M

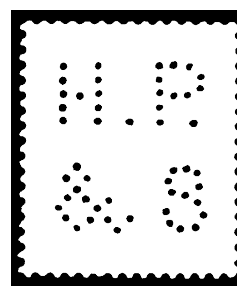
The die referred to here is M0480.01M - MBCo - rather than MBC. The Morris Beef Co. Ltd was based in Liverpool and London. Their main business seems to have been in canned meat products. The company were sole agent with the Fairbank Canning Co & Nelson Morris & Co of Chicago.

From "**The Morning Post**" of January 1st 1887:-

Frederick Chum, porter was charged with stealing a pair of gloves, value 15s, property of Messrs Halling Pierce & Co., drapers. the prisoner had made up a parcel with the gloves ... and forwarded it by post using three of the firm's perforated stamps for the purpose of postage.

It seems that the reporter got the name of the company a bit wrong in this report - it should have been, Halling, Pearce & Stone - drapers Cockspur St, London. The company is believed to be the user of H5890.01 - H.P./&S.

1875 - 1885

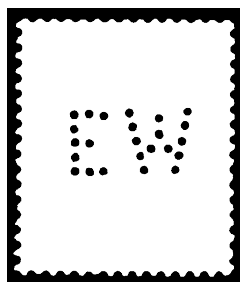


H5890.01

From "**The Northern Echo**" of August 31st 1897:-

The Middlesbrough Burglaries - John Taylor, alias Samuel Mannel, alias Samuel White and Robert Gray, alias Robert McEvory, alias Robert Ferguson were charged ... with having broken into the offices of Linthorpe Ironworks. (They stole) £3 10s worth of stamps perforated with the letters "E. W."

1895 - 1903



E4960.04

Again this needed a bit of detective work. From a Middlesbrough directory of 1890 I discovered Edward Williams, Ironmaster - Linthorpe Ironworks. From the New Illustrated catalogue I found E4960.04 which is known with a cancelbrough I proposed this as a provisional identity to our catalogue editor and it has been accepted.

From "**Bristol Mercury & Daily Post**" of December 2nd 1899:-

Charles Nicholls, 28 was charged ... with breaking and entering the Sanitary Authority's offices ... and stealing 20 halfpenny stamps. A window was forced open and the office entered and 20 stamps perforated with the letters B.S.A. were stolen.

Here we run into a die that doesn't seem to have been reported. There are a number of BSA dies associated with B.S.A Cycles, the Boy Scouts Association and The British South Africa Co - but none for the Bristol Sanitary Authority and none reported with Bristol cancellations. To add to the mystery, directories of the period make no reference to a "Bristol Sanitary Authority" - so this die has to remain a mystery. This is not the only newspaper report of this period that refers to the theft of stamps from the Bristol Sanitary Authority and the Authority is often mentioned in newspaper of the period.

(To be concluded)

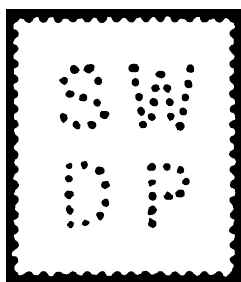
G.W.R NEWSPAPER STAMP WITH PERFIN

Fred Taylor

[Reprinted from *Railway Philately* Vol. 47 No. 3 June 2013]

Careful examination of the G.W.R. 1d newspaper stamp shown here reveals it has an inverted security perforation with some pins missing. Luckily the letters of the perfin can be identified as SW/DP, which is believed to

1895 - 1903



S8087.01

be the initials of the South Wales Daily Post, which was based at 211 High Street, Swansea during this period.

The newspaper later became

the South Wales Evening Post in 1932 and was then based in Cardiff. This later company is not known to have used perfins.



The die is S8087.01, which was only used for a limited period and has only been recorded on ½d vermilion (E) and ½d blue-green (F) as well as on a Midland Railway Parcel Stamp.

Newspaper firms were not surprisingly the main users of these stamps with low values such as this 1d for small quantities of newspapers in the package. Most railway companies issued halfpenny stamps for single newspapers.

SOUTH WALES DAILY POST,

— FIVE EDITIONS DAILY. —

The Largest Circulation and most influential Paper published in Swansea and West Wales.

For Advertisement Terms, apply The Manager, "Daily Post" (Head) Office, 211, High St., Swansea.

THE SOUTH WALES WEEKLY POST,

The most popular Family Paper in a populous District.

PERFIN & RAILWAY LETTER STAMP COMBINATION

Maurice Harp / Fred Taylor

John Mathews alerted me to the piece shown below which was on sale on ebay during July. The piece has a Southern Railway letter stamp combined with a KGV 1½d brown which bears the perfin WILLS - W4370.03M. He was intrigued as to how such a combination came about and as to why. The cancellation is Herne Bay and so I too was curious as to how such a combination came about when WILLS perfins had previously only been recorded with London cancellations. Whenever I have questions on railway matters I turn to **Fred Taylor** - a fount of all wisdom in railway matters - and I reproduce his extensive reply, which had many areas of interest.



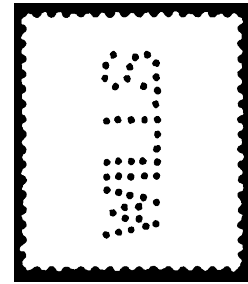
"This piece is from a 'railway letter', i.e. a letter posted at a railway station and carried for most of the journey by train. The GPO, who had a monopoly on the carrying of mail, decided in 1891 to allow letters to be carried by rail on condition they bore a GPO issued 1d postage stamp as well as a 2d railway stamp (*i.e. twice the value of the postage stamp*)."

"Normally railway letters were posted on arrival of a train at a station which passed the letter to the GPO. Even letters carried entirely by rail and marked 'to be collected at a railway station' still had to bear a 1d

postage stamp. When the basic postage rate was increased to three halfpence in 1918 the railway stamps became 3d stamps and similarly in 1920 when standard postage rose to 2d the railway letter stamp rate doubled to 4d. When the rate was reduced to three halfpence in 1922 the railway rate should have dropped to 3d but some railway companies were slow to be apply the reduction. This particular piece with the Southern Railway 4d stamp must have been used after 1923 and before 1929 when the SR reduced the rate to 3d."

"Although the Southern Railway was formed in 1923 the railway letter stamps which were issued were 4d and the SR did not reduce the values from 4d to 3d until 1929. Railway clerks were instructed to cancel both the GPO and the railway stamps and many were simply pen cancelled with a cross, if the letter was passed to the GPO the postage stamp was again stamped with a post office date stamp. Hand stamps issued by the GPO for telegraphic use were generally pressed into use by Southern Region station clerks to cancel stamps on railway letters."

1905 - 1941



W4370.03M

"Railway letters were never put in a post-box at a station. They were essentially a form of express letter and were handed to a station clerk who after cancelling the stamps sent it by the next passenger train to a station nearest to the destination address. In some instances this required passing from one Railway Company to another before being passed to the GPO."

"The use of a WILLS perfin in Herne Bay is easily explained - a Wills representative sent a letter to the firm's headquarters, probably with an urgent order, and handed it in at Herne Bay station where it would be quickly forwarded as a railway letter."

"Curiously newspaper correspondents used the railways in a similar way but without the GPO penny stamps. They carried envelopes prepaid with railway company 2d stamps addressed to the station nearest their premises from where they were collected as soon as the train arrived. Sometimes letters were handed to a driver of a goods train in some remote stations just to get urgent news to the offices as quickly as possible. The GPO were unable to suppress this infringement of their monopoly and it continued until quite recently."

N3760.06p (NZ.4) MULTIPLE FOUND

Bill Register

(Reprinted from South Pacific Perfin Bulletin No. 102 July 2013)

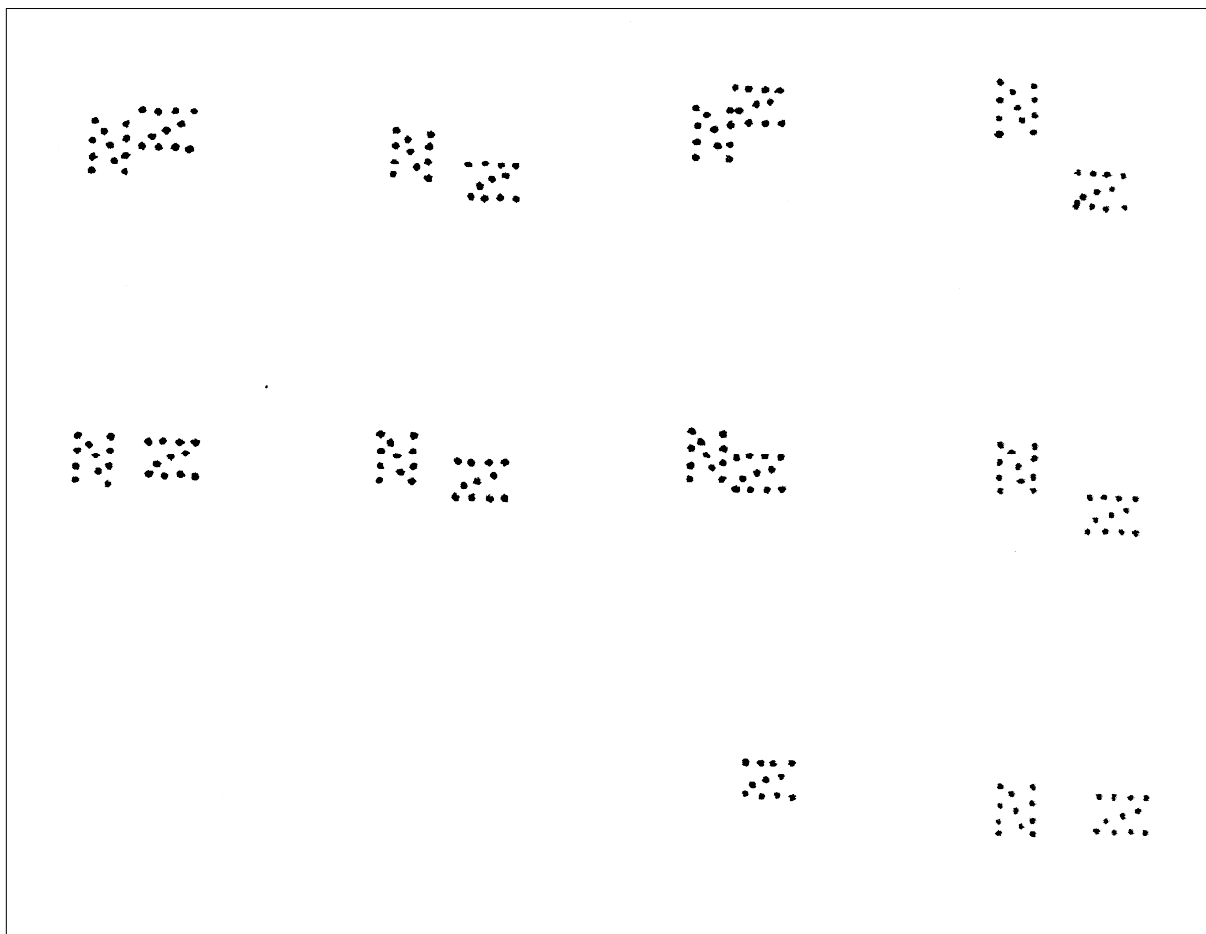
Bill Register (non member) sent in this rare multiple of a Samuel NZ.4 (New Illustrated Catalogue N3760.06p). As you may be able to see from the postmark it was used in London EC on 25th July 1941. NZ.4 was one of three provisional issues ⁽¹⁾ of NZ that were made following the damage to the Sloper works during the London Blitz on 10th May 1941.



(Image not to scale)

As Samuel observed the pattern was made with 2 strikes of an N, the first strike of the N in Position 1 and the second in Position 4 to give

the appearance of a Z. The pattern is clearly made with a single headed die device and this is confirmed by the inconsistent relationship between the various "N" and "Z" strikes.



(Image not to scale)

Editor:- The R D Samuel catalogue recognises three provisional "NZ" dies whereas our Society catalogue only recognises two dies - N3760.03p and N3760.06p. Neither of these dies are confirmed to have been used by the New Zealand High Commission although N3760.06p is given provisional status. The die has only been reported on the 5/- and 10/- KGV1 values. The High Commission was based in the Strand, London WC during this period although N3760.06p is only recorded with EC cancellations.

The stamps were issued in sheets of 40 and as can be seen from these random strikes each stamp was struck individually, the sheet was rotated and then they were struck again.

Reference: New Zealand Stamps with Perforated Initials -
R.D. Samuel - 2nd Edition 2010. Pages 62 - 67

JOINING YOUR LOCAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Richard Husband

Why do many collectors take the decision not to join their local philatelic society?

Speaking to fellow collectors at specialist society meetings, I frequently ask them which local philatelic society they belong to. Sometimes they reply that they don't "because I am a specialist", at which point I do my best to talk them into joining one.

Another reply is "None of the displays interested me, so I resigned" at which point I do my best to convince them they should re-join.

The main features of the local philatelic society are set out below:-

- 90 per cent of local society members are specialists too.
- Many of the displays given by visiting speakers are of a very high standard and members can learn from the way the material has been written up and presented even if they don't collect the material itself.
- There is an opportunity to display on Members' Evenings and as a team member on away "Society Visits". From there, the next goal is to go solo and display for a whole evening.
- Philatelic material can be bought and sold.
- And then there are the friendships. . .

Each and every one of us will be looking for something a little different. The buying and selling of stamps, covers etc in auctions, bourses and in the exchange packet can be a strong reason for joining a local society. Even nice perfin items do turn up from time to time. And we might have a desire to show our fellow members how interesting perfins really are. Others might be particularly interested in borrowing philatelic books from the library or the opportunity to display parts of their collection. But for me, it is the friendships, receiving encouragement and learning how best to write up my collection, which are the main benefits I have had from local philatelic society membership.

The writer is Hon. Secretary of Cambridge Philatelic Society and first joined a local philatelic society in January 1964, as a specialist.

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The Bulletin of the G.B. Perfin Society is a bi-monthly journal.
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£10 (electronic). For further details of the G.B. Perfin Society and
membership application please contact: