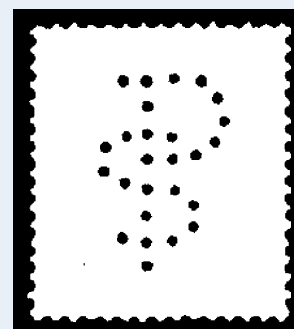


PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN



No. 393 - December 2014



Snark Island Cinderella labels with HM/SO perfin die - H5200.01M

SOCIETY NEWS

SECRETARY/TREASURER

My annual report is elsewhere in this Bulletin so I will keep it brief and hope you all enjoy Christmas and may the New Year bring you lots of Perfins.

Dates for your Diary

The Society Spring meeting will once again be held at Grosvenor Auctions Sale Room on Saturday 9th May 2015. More details will be given in the February issue of the Bulletin.

Between the 13th & 16th May 2015 Europex London 2015 is being held at the Business Design Centre in London, unfortunately we were unable to book a meeting room or hold our meeting on the 16th as Grosvenor staff are manning their stand on that day. We were considering having a table to advertise the Society, but the high cost and poor location left available the Society decided not to.

Closed Album

It is with great sadness that we must report that one of our Canadian members Michael Millar died unexpectedly in October. Michael joined the Society in 2004 and had been a regular contributor to the Bulletin and was a very active member. He was helping to publicise perfins in the philatelic world and entered competitions with them with his exhibits winning awards which we had intended to host on the Society web site. Michael formed a specialist collection of Stationery Office perfins and exhibited at ORAPEX in Ottawa and at the RSPC Convention in Halifax and at both exhibitions the display was awarded a silver medal. He will be greatly missed by many of us and condolences have been sent to his family. He would certainly have been intrigued by the Snark Island labels illustrated on this Bulletin cover.

SOCIETY AGM REPORT – November 1st 2014

Once again we had a very enjoyable London meeting with twenty members present. Five members brought displays to view as well as two perfin machines. Both of the machines are single headed, one produced the single letter S - S0010.27 and the other was a cheque canceller. During the official business it was announced that Sean Brady was taking over the vacancy of Auctioneer from John Donner following his resignation. Changes to the Auction will be notified in a later Bulletin and on the Society web site. We then had a lively room auction with seventy lots so everyone found something to take home.

Presidents Report – Rosemary Smith

On behalf of all members of the Perfin Society, my first duty, and said most sincerely, is to thank the officers of the Society for the unpaid work they do on our behalf. Stephen Steere as Secretary & Treasurer, Maurice Harp as Bulletin Editor, Roy Gault as Catalogue Editor, Alastair Walter as Webmaster, Terry Comper as Publications Officer and Margaret Harding as Bulletin postmistress. Hopefully the matter of librarian is being addressed.

All Societies are only successful if the officers are doing a good job. We have a very strong Society because of the hard work and dedication of the officers and I am sure all members appreciate this.

The only corner that has been weak is the Auction. I think the Secretary has more to say on this subject.

On a personal level, I must cut down on my stamp collecting. Maurice has taken over the future production of a booklet on the Perforated Postal Stationery. He has my full backing and is making an excellent job of it. Next year I shall be putting my P.P.S. collection for sale as a complete lot, not in bits and pieces. This will also go for my Sloper experimental Cancels collection. If anyone is interested let me have your telephone numbers etc.

Apart from the matter of the Auction this has been a very quiet year for me as President. As Chris Carr told me when I took over from him, "You are just the trouble shooter" and that's fine with me.

Bulletin Editors Report – Maurice Harp

It has been a steady year for the Bulletin with material still growing slightly, but of course there is never enough. I would like to thank everyone I have been in touch with this year and for all the support that has been given. I am very pleased to say that there are signs of more and more members contributing. I would also like to thank **Margaret Harding** for her sterling work in distributing the Bulletin.

During the year we have again had some problems with the spine of the Bulletin cracking. The August issue was particularly bad and we have addressed the issue with our printer. It is now thought that a change in the paper quality may have caused the problem and it is hoped that we can resolve the issue for the December Bulletin.

An increasing number of members now receive the Bulletin electronically and if any members would like to take up this service they only have to ask. In fact over 20% of the members are now receiving the Bulletin electronically.

Website Report – Alastair Walter

The content of the website has steadily expanded over the year, including the addition of more library material and articles from the Bulletin.

The latest addition is a new section "Great British Postage Stamps known with Perfins" which has been compiled by **Roy Gault** and once complete will give details of the number of perfin dies known on every issue of GB stamps, with lists of the dies known in some cases, together with illustrations and background to the stamp issues. Not all sections are yet complete, but hopefully all will be finished by the end of 2014. The information published so far can be viewed at www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/surveys/monarchs.html

A member alerted me to one instance of the site being unavailable. The problem, which I believe was with our web host Angelfire, rectified itself within a few hours, but I would be grateful if members could alert me if they find the site offline so that I can be aware if there is a recurring problem.

Library Report - Sean Brady

During the year the library was successfully transferred from Brian Morgan. This led to a few months when the library was not in operation but the Library should be up and operating by the time you read this. I'm grateful to **Alastair Walter** for the excellent Index & Guide he produced in May 2008 and generally wish to continue operating the library along the lines he set out, slightly amended. Briefly these are -

1. The library index and other details are posted on the website.
2. Most of the Library is available for loan to members who pay only the postage costs. Some photocopies can be provided at 5p per A4 sheet.
3. The Society's catalogues (and one or two others) are not loaned but can be bought.
4. Copyright on all material remains with it's author and/or The Perfin Society. It is expressly forbidden to copy, reproduce, republish, re-lend or otherwise use any item or part thereof other than for the member's own personal information.

The full version giving the latest details are available from me (stamped D6 sae, please) and will be published on the website shortly.

Publications Report – Terry Comper

During the year the Society issued the 2nd edition of section "W" of the New Illustrated catalogue. This was a large section of the catalogue and combined with general demand for Society publications, which remains strong, I have been kept very busy. The printer has now produced nearly 250,000 pages which has necessitated a major overhaul. With the catalogue now nearing completion it is expected that the amount of copying will decrease in the future. I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Stephen Steere** for all the help he has given me, and look forward to next year.

Catalogue Editor's Report – Roy Gault

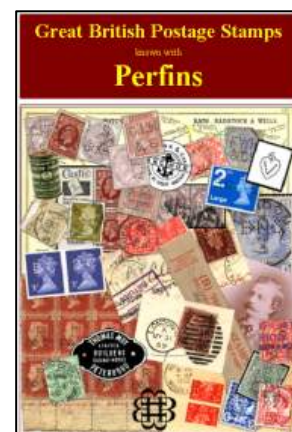
- Stamp information for the last batch of C's (CW-End) is currently being gathered for use in the New Catalogue. To date there are **1,993 DD** and **21,651 DDF** for the letter 'C' making it highly likely

to be the largest of all the letters {290+ pages for the Details, and 60 pages of Silhouettes}. Publication is planned for Spring 2015.

Overall GB Perfin Dies **24,079 DD** and **239,509 DDF**.

To waylay fears once the catalogue becomes fully electronic in 2018, a paper version will always be made available.

- The website catalogue project '*Great British Postage Stamps known with Perfins*' is now well under way, and approaching 85% complete. I hope to have everything in place by the end of the year, ready for a complete update on **1st January 2015** - or more likely, 31st March 2015. Our 'Webmaster', Alastair Walter, is to be congratulated for his work on the project as well as for providing scans of some rarer material along with Roger Wood and Stephen Steere.



To visit the website, go to www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc

Auctioneers Report – John Donner

This last year my workload has increased greatly and I have not been able to give 100 per cent to the Auction so I have decided to resign following the completion of Auction 2/ 2014. I have carried out the Auction for 12 years now, although it was only going to be part time, and I feel that it needs a fresh face to carry on and let the Auction continue to be a successful part of the Society. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Auctioneer and will greatly miss producing it.

All material will be passed to the new auctioneer and all unsold/unsuitable material returned back to vendors. I would like to sincerely thank all officers and members of the society for all the support they have given me over the years during my time as Auctioneer and I hope the new Auctioneer will enjoy his term as much as I have done.

[Ed:- Please note that no further auction lots are to be submitted until the changeover has been completed.]

Secretary/Treasurers Report – Steve Steere

The Society is remaining financially healthy and retaining a good membership as we continue to offer members what they want as

Perfin collectors. We are supported by many active members who make the hard work done by the Committee worthwhile and make the Society what it is today. A special thank you is due to **John Donner** who I've worked with for six years but who has devoted twenty-three years in Committee service to the Society and has just stepped down.

The number of members now using the email subscription has greatly increased and has helped to keep postal expenses down despite increased rates.

We are fortunate to be allowed to hold our London meetings at Grosvenor Auctions after the Chelsea Bridge Club was forced to move out of central London, as normal room hire would be more than double what we pay and also only for a few hours, and very difficult to find on a Saturday.

The accounts show a surplus but from this we were waiting on the August Bulletin & Auction Printers invoice, and the company that services our Xerox printer changed their accounting procedures and so we have yet to pay for excess copies above our contract for this past year, usually about £300.00, and so these amounts will be included in the 2014-2015 accounts next year. I have looked elsewhere for a cheaper service contract as they keep raising their prices but our Xerox Printer is too old for other companies to consider, and is not worth replacing with a new model.

I would like members to know more about the charge we make for PayPal, as some think we are making a vast profit from it. Last year there were ninety-six transactions where the Society was charged by PayPal. After deducting the charge from the fee members pay we were left with a surplus of £19.43, which works out about 20p per transaction, and that money is added to Society donations. PayPal do make their charges very complicated and they differ from where in the world you are paying from, so for some we pay more than for others, and occasionally pay more than we charged the member. If ever there is an excess of £1.00 or more then I refund that amount back to the member. For the purposes of simplicity we charge £1 on amounts up to £20.00 and 5% on amounts above that. If you pay by PayPal and want to know the actual charge for a transaction just ask.

THE PERFIN SOCIETY

Statement of Accounts 1 September 2013 - 31 August 2014

SOCIETY INCOME & EXPENSES

| | <u>INCOME</u> | <u>EXPENSES</u> | <u>2012-2013</u> |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| AUCTION ^[1] | £992.49 | | £1,059.91 |
| AUCTION (Printing) ^[2] | | (£220.50) | (£444.00) |
| BULLETIN (Printing) ^[3] | | (£1,167.00) | (£1,411.00) |
| CURRENT ACCOUNT | | (£0.00) | (£0.00) |
| DEPOSIT ACCOUNT | £323.96 | | £298.78 |
| POSTAGE (Auction & Bulletin) ^[4] | | (£1,501.90) | (£1,641.12) |
| LIBRARY ^[5] | | (£169.06) | (£50.97) |
| PUBLICATIONS | £2,116.48 | (£1,431.62) | £2,713.48 |
| SOCIETY CD | £30.00 | (£12.90) | £58.00 |
| SUBSCRIPTIONS | £3,734.00 | | £3,329.50 |
| WEB SITE | | (£73.86) | (£52.12) |
| OFFICERS EXPENSES | | (£246.62) | (£516.49) |
| SOCIETY EQUIPMENT | | £0.00 | (£37.20) |
| MEETINGS | | (£360.00) | (£353.80) |
| ADVERTISING | | (£60.00) | £0.00 |
| STATIONERY | | (£312.00) | £0.00 |
| LOSSES | | £0.00 | £0.00 |
| DONATIONS | £73.45 | | £60.85 |
| TOTALS | £7,270.38 | (£5,555.46) | £3,013.82 |
| TOTAL SURPLUS | £1,714.92 | | £3,013.82 |

Notes

[1] The auction income figures are for Auctions 2-2013, 3-2013 & 1-2014

[2] Costs are for printing two Auctions

[3] Cost of printing five Bulletins

[4] Costs are for six Bulletins and 3 Auctions

[5] Library moving costs, purchase of storage boxes and catalogues

[6] Amount mainly covers postage costs

THE PERFIN SOCIETY

Statement of Accounts 1 September 2013 - 31 August 2014

As of 31st August 2014

BANK ACCOUNTS

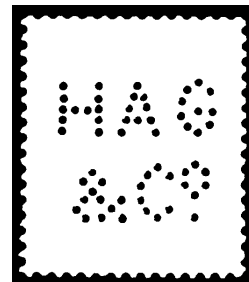
| <u>CREDIT</u> | 31 August 2014 | 31 August 2013 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| CURRENT ACCOUNT | £1,691.32 | £1,116.14 |
| DEPOSIT ACCOUNT: SOCIETY | £23,289.05 | £22,399.69 |
| MEMBERS CREDIT | £10,304.42 | £8,819.82 |
| PAYPAL INTERNET BANK (Transferred £3,400.00 into the Current Account during the year) | £169.11 | £296.91 |
| TOTAL CREDIT | £35,453.90 | £32,632.56 |
| TOTAL SOCIETY CREDIT | £25,149.48 | £23,812.74 |

ASSETS

- The Society owns:
- (1) A Xerox M20 Printer value about £200.00
 - (2) An Epson GT15000 A3 Scanner value about £400.00
 - (3) A Compaq laptop computer value about £60.00

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Jack Brandt has written requesting information on the cancellation he has found on a ½d vermilion with perfin die HAG/&Co. - H0210.01. The cancellation may be a rubber one and it seems to be a triangle in a circle although the circle may just be the edge of the rubber. The cut-out letters probably read as ?OS/SM or ?O5/SM. The die is often found with newspaper cancellations and maybe this is a variation on the more normal types. If anyone can provide any additional information on this cancel please contact the editor.



H0210.01

MEMBERS COMMENTS ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

Perforating Machine for Sale - Herts CC - Bulletin 391/11

Ron Mills purchased the perforating machine that was for sale and advertised in Bulletin 391. He has got in touch with the Hertfordshire County Council and reports: "I have had a reply from Hertfordshire Business Services, a part of Herts CC, which handled the original sale of the Sloper perforator. The relevant part of their reply is quoted below."

"The machine was purchased by a member of staff in our Contract Development Team who has since retired. The current members of the team do not have any knowledge of the machine but we assume that it must have been used in the opening of HCC contracts."

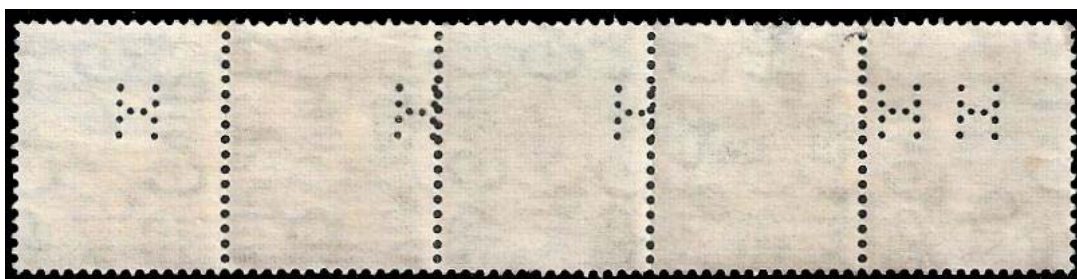
Curzon Brothers International Tailors - Bulletin 371/12

Bulletin 371 had a report of die C0460.06 - CB being found on British, Canadian and French stamps. The die was used by Curzon Brothers (Tailors). **Jim Graham** has received additional information on Curzon Brothers that indicated that they also had offices in Johannesburg, Antwerp and Berlin. Jim contacted **Pete Maybury** who has found a South African stamp with C0460.06 in his collection. So we now have the same die found used on the stamps of four countries. Can anyone report this die used on Belgium or German stamps?



Perfin Collector Beware

Peter Maybury sent in this strip of five stamps struck by a single headed die which acts as a warning against finding "new dies". The enthusiastic post boy/girl missed the fourth impression and struck twice on the fifth.



NEW IDENTITY FOR CL/P/AC - C4570.01?

Maurice Harp

Richard Smolnicki sent in the stamp illustrated below which he recently acquired in a small lot of Queen Victoria perfins. The King George VI 2d light orange is fiscally used with the overprint of Corporation of Liverpool and the perfin is CL/P/AC - C4570.01. This is a new identity - but what does CL/P/AC stand for. It desperately looks like it wants to be 'City of Liverpool, Public Accounts Committee', but alas there's nothing approaching it. All references to 'Public Accounts Committee' on the Internet point to a central government institution, with nothing specifically to do with Liverpool.



So if anyone can make a better guess as to what the letters stand for it would be great to hear from you.

SNARK ISLAND LABELS WITH HM/SO PERFIN

Maurice Harp

During October the Snark Island Cinderella "stamps" illustrated on the front cover appeared on the market. All of the labels are perfined with die H5200.01 - HM/SO and they sold in minutes for £20! Gerald King was responsible for the production of a vast number of fantasy labels (120) for Snark Island (presumably named after Lewis Carroll's - Hunting of the Snark) and other Lewis Carroll related items. These particular labels were produced in 1983. King had also produced an earlier set of 130 different "Wonderland" items in 1978 as a protest against the Post Office who had ignored Carroll's centenary.

These perfined labels were presumably produced after the Hurlin machine had been taken out of service and when it was being held by Tony Edwards prior to being sent to the British Postal Museum, where the machine is currently stored. There is no information as to the number of labels produced but maybe other members have examples sitting in their collection.

BRIDPORT NUMERALS - THE MISSING "0"

Roy Gault

Steve Netten, a regular contributor to the Catalogue Editor of material and information, has sent in for inspection a batch of the 'Bridport' numerals, including an un-reported "0", and a number of multiples, which shed more light onto this small group of 'Perfins'.



It turns out that all of the multiples involve se-tenant stamp values as can be seen from the 2 x 2 block and three pairs shown alongside.

The 2 x 2 block with "4" through both 1p stamps on the top row points to the possibility that the perforating machine was restricted to perforating only one row of stamps at a time.

Both this se-tenant 2 x 2 block, the se-tenant pair of 1p + 13p stamps with "1" and "0", and the 4p + 13p stamps, both perforated "2", is a stamp combination that can be found in the *50p Orchid booklet* issued on 3rd September 1984.

The postmark on the 2 x 2 block is smudged and incomplete, but 'SWINDON' can just be made out on the 13p stamp.

This next se-tenant pair is 3½p + 12½p, which also came from a 50p booklet, having two 1p stamps on the top row, plus three of the 3½p and 12½p pairs below. *Perhaps someone can tell me which 50p booklet these came from?*



And finally, a se-tenant pair of 2½p + 3p stamps which may also be found in a 50p booklet - Paxton's Tower, which was issued on the 1st February 1982. A typical booklet is shown below.



Up to now, everything is hunky-dory, except for the fact that you wouldn't normally expect a commercial concern to purchase booklets from the Post Office and tediously perforate the stamps they contain, as it's much more efficient to purchase sheets of stamps and perforate them. However, I do admit that they could have been using 'old' mint stamps purchased at less than face value from the philatelic market, but still valid for postage.

Everything reported to date has been on decimal Machins dating to the period 1980-1985, but what if a sterling Machin turns up? Well one has!



And not only that, but four Wildings as well!



Not a problem, do I hear, simply reduce the start date to c1960 to account for these new issues. Although the year date is off-stamp on the 4d Wilding, the postmark probably originally read (Por)t Ellen, which is on the Isle of Islay! Now, as it happens, there is another Scottish connection in that a 3d Scottish Regional has also been reported with a 'Bridport' numeral, as well as a 3d Welsh Regional!



These Regionals were originally introduced on 18th August 1958, although they appear to me to be from the 'White' paper production which came in during 1962. At least I don't have to move the start date to accommodate them, unless something else unexpected turns up!



There are three more stamps to bring to your attention, two of which date to the 1940's - one used in August 1946, and the other in September 1942. And finally, a QV 1d Lilac (16 dots) perforated with the number "4", which exactly matches the "4" found on decimal Machins, clearly postmarked Aylesbu(ry), 20th April, 1901. I'm afraid I'm beginning to 'smelt a rat' with this particular series! Of course that's my personal view, but I'd be interested to hear your thoughts.

HOW SIR WILLIAM B. AVERY MET C. J. PHILLIPS - THROUGH AN ADVERTISING RING

Brian J. Birch



Figure 1

Sir William B. Avery

William Beilby Avery (1854-1908) (Figure 1) was a prominent industrialist, heir to and later Chairman of the well-known **W. & T. Avery** scales & weighing machine business in Birmingham. Like so many boys at that time, **Avery** began collecting stamps at school at the age of about eight but sold this first collection in 1871. Seven years later, he acquired a **Lincoln** album and set about filling all of the spaces in it.

In those days, **Charles J. Phillips** (1863-1940) (Figure 2) was an important stamp dealer in Birmingham and Secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society. In some notes written shortly after **Avery's** death⁽¹⁾, **Phillips** recalled:

About the year 1884 I was secretary of the Birmingham Philatelic Society, which then met at the rooms of my father, in Colmore Row. At one of our meetings Mr. James Bottley, our chairman, produced one of the old penny embossed envelopes with an inscription around it lettered, "W. & T. Avery". I was requested to write to the firm and ask for a few of these envelopes for the members of the B. P. Society. Mr. Avery (as he was then) replied and asked me to call upon him, and on my doing so he showed me a fine general collection, and expressed surprise that there were any other collectors in Birmingham.

As a result of this meeting, **Avery** joined the Birmingham Philatelic Society and began to attend meetings. However this led to so much dissatisfaction with his own style of



Figure 2

Charles J. Phillips

collecting that he decided in about 1886 to dispose of it through **Phillips**, on commission. However, as he saw some of the rarer items being sold, he changed his mind and began his collection anew, but this time using **Senf** albums. He thereby became one of **Phillips**' and then following the latter's purchase of **Edward Stanley Gibbons**' business in 1890, one of **Stanley Gibbons Limited**'s best customers.



Figure 3 - 2½d red envelope with W & T Avery advertising ring

With the death of **Thomas K. Tapling** (1855-1891), **Avery** became the major buyer of rare items, such as the mint 1d and 2d *Post Office* Mauritius, purchased from **Stanley Gibbons** in 1893, and also many complete collections. With his retirement from business and this higher profile collection, he took a greater interest in philately. He became a member of the Council of the Philatelic Society, London (now the Royal) and exhibited parts of his collection to both the Society and at various international exhibitions in the 1890s. In his later years, he suffered from poor health and died at his London home on the 28th October 1908.

Phillips did not record whether **Avery** was able to provide him with any of the Advertising Rings, which the Company had probably long-since ceased to use.

1. **Charles J. Phillips:** *Topical notes – Death of Sir William Avery.*, *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 14th November 1908, Volume 8, Issue 20, pp.307-308

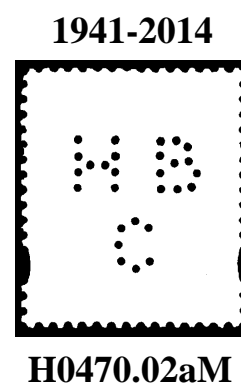
LAST COMMERCIAL GB COVER?

Roy Gault

Some time ago (B374 - Oct 2011) I asked GB Perfin Collectors to keep a look out for comparatively recent dates. At the time I suggested post 2005, but now a few years on, post 2010 would perhaps be more useful in documenting the Perfin 'End-game'. The article was followed by an article on PiP's (B375 - Dec 2011), which included a table of 25 commercial concerns still thought to be using Perfins.

If we now consider known use in the past *five* years, we're left with a much smaller list! Since the original articles *John Strange* has reported a July 2010 date on "TH" (T2060.06M), and *Stephen Steere* has sent in 17th Feb 2009 on "EH/MC" (E2020.01bM), and Sept 2010 on "KC" (K0260.01M) which was illustrated in B388 February 2014.

| | Cat No. | Letters | Die in Use |
|---|------------|---------|------------|
| 1 | E2020.01bM | EH/MC | 1985-2009 |
| 2 | H0470.02aM | HB/C | 1941-2014 |
| 3 | K0260.01M | KC | 1943-2010 |
| 4 | L0440.01M | L.B./H | 1965-2009 |
| 5 | T2060.06M | TH | 1965-2010 |



Notice there is a *2014* date in the list! *Derek Ransom* (the original compiler of the 'Modern Perfins' list) has sent me a 'Signed for' cover addresses to Henley-on-Thames dated 14th May 2014. Unfortunately the stamps weren't cancelled as the cover was placed in the automatic sorting machinery upside down! The three 'unfranked' stamps are W(ell) 1st (Red, 'Royal Mail' security slits), perfined "HB/C" (H0470.02aM). The cover was postmarked at the Tyneside Mail Centre, having been sent out from the Civic Centre, Hartlepool Borough Council, Hartlepool. Royal Mail records show the letter was 'signed for' the next day, on 15th May 2014.

Can anyone add any more information to this dwindling list, which may well have been whittled down to just one?

JEAN OSWALD SAUVEN

Stephen Steere

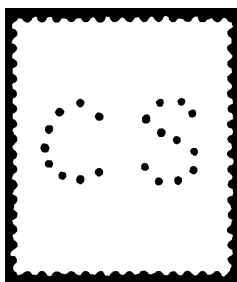


Jean Oswald Sauven (1876-1952)

In May 2014 I was invited by David Sauven to visit *Sauven Marking Ltd* in Byfleet, Surrey after previously discussing the company's involvement with Perfins. David is the present Managing Director and Grandson of Jean Oswald Sauven.

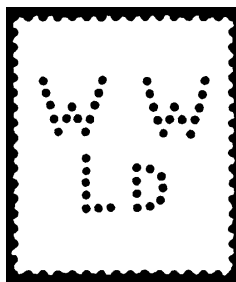
The company has been well covered in previous Newsletters/Bulletins but so far only three Perfins have been attributed to the company, "CS" (C6760.03M) in use 1942-1986, used by the *City of Sheffield*, "WW/L^d" (W8110.02M) in use from 1950-1957, used by *William Whitely Ltd*, and "W.W./&S." (W8230.01M) in use 1957-1975, used by *Williams & Son Ltd*, London, so all three are relatively modern dies seeing how the company were in business since c1919, so where are the others?

1942-1986



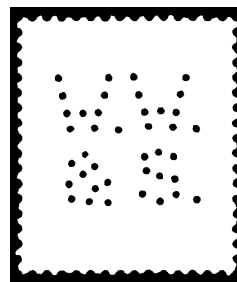
C6760.03M

1950-1957



W8110.02M

1957-1975



W8230.01M

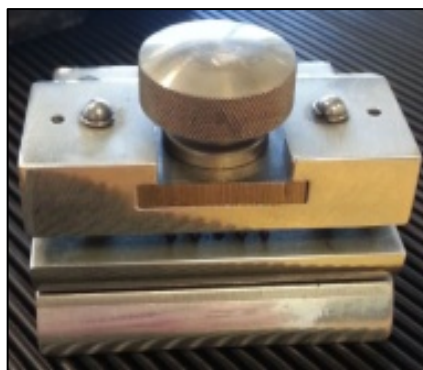
David told me that in 1921 the family were living in Chiswick and had an office in 195 Upper Thames St, London EC4, and that Jean Oswald gave his occupation as an Importer of Perforators trading under his own name. A museum in the Netherlands has a Sauven perforator that was made in the USA, and there is an example I saw (not Perfin) that was also USA made, so it would appear that in its early years the company sold perforators made and imported from the USA.



USA made machine

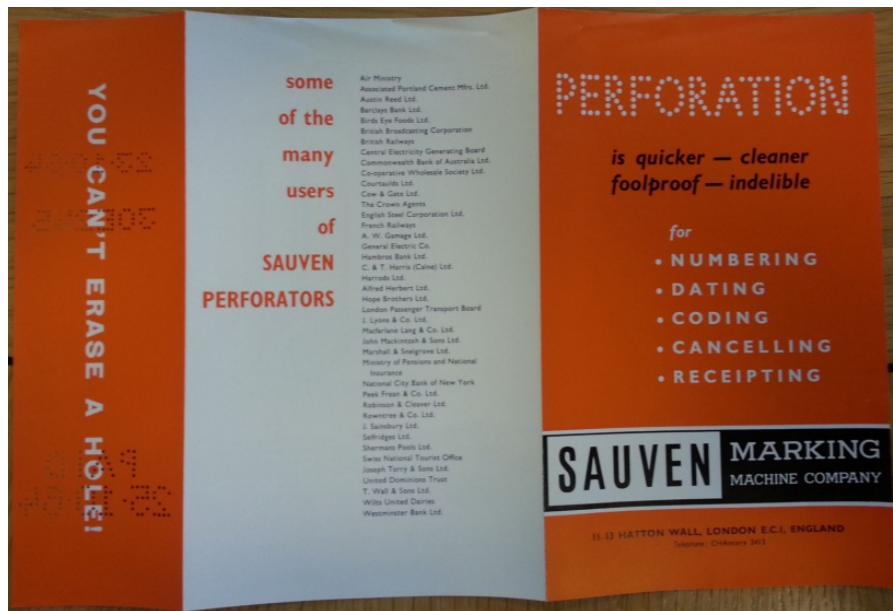
I am no expert on USA Perfins but believe they do have similar alphabets so any stamp perforator sold by Sauven and used on GB stamps c1919 to c1934 would look like those used in the USA. Perhaps some of our members in North America have information they can share with us.

By 1934 the company were advertising that they were Perforating Machine Manufacturers, though they were made under contract by Reed & Davies Ltd, type casting machine makers of London N16, a company that Sauven bought out in the 1970's.



Hand Perforating Tool seen at Sauven

The company changed name to *Sauven Perforating Company*, then in 1960, as they started to diversify, became known as *Sauven Marking Ltd*, and soon left the perforating business moving into carton coders and ink printers.



A Sauven Perforating Advertising Leaflet from 1964

David Sauven confirmed to me that the company records were not preserved and so we have no list of customers who purchased Perforating Machines for postage stamps. I was able to see a customer book from the 1960's but there was nothing recorded as to which were fiscal machines or otherwise, though most were for fiscal use.

From another leaflet that I copied I noted that the number alphabet is the same as some of those found on G.B coil stamps. There must be many companies who bought the Sauven perforators so who were they?

OHLSON & Co. Ltd.

Stellen Swenson

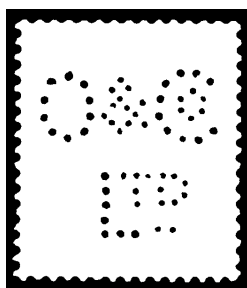
Sir Erik Ohlson, 1st Baronet (19th July 1873 - 20 March 1934) was a Swedish born British shipping Magnate and coal & timber merchant.

Ohlson was the son of a farmer in the village of Oppeby in Fellingsbro parish, Sweden. He spent ten years in the coal importing business in Sweden. In the early 1900's he emigrated to Hull, England. It appears that he first went into partnership with Nils Thestrup a fellow Swede to form a company Nils Thestrup & Co. This partnership was dissolved in 1902 and he established the firm of Ohlson & Co., ship owners and brokers, coal exporters and timber importers. He was knighted in 1915, and created Baronet, of Scarborough, in the 1920 New Year's Honours list for his efforts to bring Sweden into the British camp during the First World War.



Rather strangely Sir Erik Ohlson acted as Consuls of both Romania and Venezuela in Hull but apparently not for Sweden.

1920 - 1922

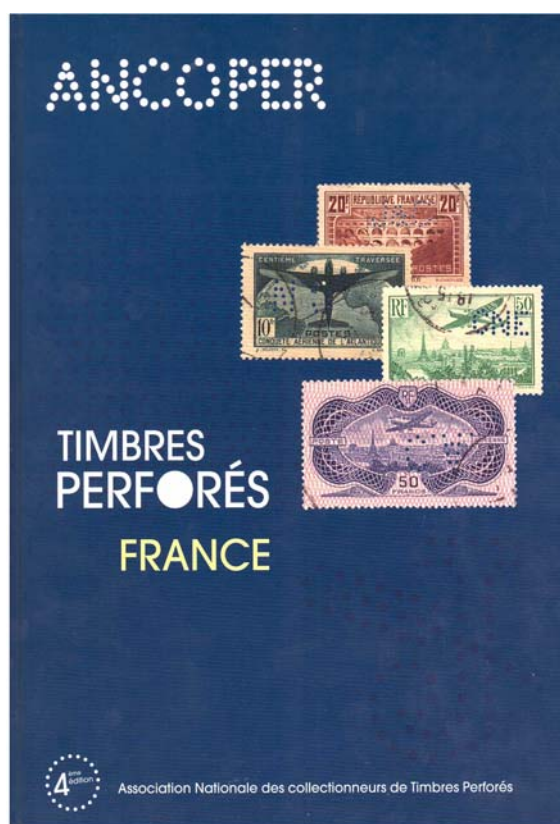


O0530.01

To date there is only one suspected die used by Ohlson & Co. Ltd. - O0530.01 - O&Co/Ltd.. This die has been found on an unidentified cover addressed to Ester Ohlson in Stockholm which is postmarked Hull, 5th August 1921. The die is fairly rare and is only recorded used over a very short period between 1920 and 1922. In March 1928 Sir Erik Ohlson bought back the company and its fleet of ships, and the company went into liquidation. Thus the perfin would certainly not have been used after this date.

4th EDITION OF FRENCH PERFIN CATALOGUE

Maurice Harp



Robert Dedecker has written to alert the Society and its members that ANCOPER has published a new edition of the French Perfin catalogue - *Timbres Perforés France*. The hard back catalogue runs to 300 pages with 100 pages in colour. In A4 format and with a weight of 1.6kg this is a substantial publication. The introduction of 20 pages is given in both French and English so the catalogue can be readily used by English speakers. This is the 4th edition of the French catalogue and since the last edition published in 2007 there have been 75 new dies discovered and also some revenue perfins.

The catalogue contains a great deal of new information and there has been an update on die rarity.

If you are interested in buying a copy please contact Robert directly. His address is Robert DEDECKER, 4 les Gérioles, 60520 PONTARME, FRANCE. The price of the catalogue is 40 euro with 14 euro for postage. Robert can also be contacted by email at dedeckerr@yahoo.fr

The easiest way to pay would be to credit my Society account with funds (via Stephen Steere) which would avoid Paypal charges.

| | | | | |
|------|---|--|--|-----|
| C.A. | CA 19 n: 7 11-13 | C. ALLAIN ELBELF SEINE-ENFERIEURE Imprimerie-Librairie | 1899 - 1928 6 E | CAO |
| C.A. | CA 20 n: 8,5 8-10 | COMMISSION D'ACQUISITION D'ARGENTINE 18, Avenue Foch PARIS SEINE | 138 - 430 A15 1900 - 1909 6 E | CAO |
| | CA 21 n: 18 33 | SAINT ETIENNE LOIRE | 121 - 288 A6 1931 - 1933 7 | CAO |
| | C.A.C 22 n: 8 16-14-14 | CHANTIERS ET ATELIERS DE LA CAPELETTE index F MAURIS s r l BOUCHES-DU-RHONE puis FORGES & ACIERIES DE LA SARRE | 130 - 175 8 1902 - 1924 8 | CAO |
| CAD | CAD 23 n: 7,5 8-10-10 | CORDERIE ALSACIENNE DOMMEL SARRE-UNION BAS-RHIN Cordes | 189 - 418 8 E | CAO |
| | CALOR 24 n: 11-8-10-5 14-13-7-10-18 | APPAREIL DE CHAUFFAGE CALOR 205, rue St-Jean LYON RHONE Chauffage | 111 - 236 8 E | CAO |
| CAR | CAR 25 n: 8,5 8-10-13 | Site les Affrètements Réunis 13 rue Scribe PARIS SEINE | 119 - 161 8 1920 - 1922 8 | CAO |
| CB | CB 26 n: 6,25 8-13 | ENTREPRISE DE TRAVAUX E GAZ C.BERLIE LYON RHONE | 71 - 272 8 F | CB |
| CB | CB 29 n: 6,5 8-13 p: 3,5 | C.B Paris Londres Bruxelles PARIS SEINE | 137 - 141 7 E | CB |
| CB | CB 30 n: 8,5 14-9 | CABEZ-BOURGEOIS CAMBRAI NORD Chaux | 111 - 288 8 F | CB |
| CB | C.B 31 n: 6,5 10-13 | CABEZ-BOURGEOIS CAMBRAI NORD Chaux | 75 - 237 8 F | CB |
| CB | C.B 32 n: 8 14-18 | LA COUR BATAVE PARIS SEINE | 1888 - 1926 8 F | CB |
| CB | C.B 32-6 n: 8,25 12-18 | CAMILLE BLOCH & Cie PARIS SEINE | 109 - 140 7 F 75 - 127 8 F | CB |

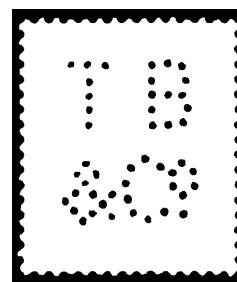
UMBRELLA MANUFACTURERS

Roy Gault

In a previous Bulletin the question was asked ‘are there any G.B. Perfins with an umbrella motif’, to which the simple answer is no, although we do know of **SIX** Umbrella makers who also used Perfins.

The earliest Perfin I know of used by an umbrella maker is “TB/∞C^o.” (T0460.01), in use 1881-1910 by **Thomas Berry & Co**, 24 Queen St, Glasgow. They produced a large array of umbrellas not only for general use by the public but also for use specifically by Artists and Photographers, and for use in the garden. They also made trunks, boxes, and portmanteau.

1881-1910

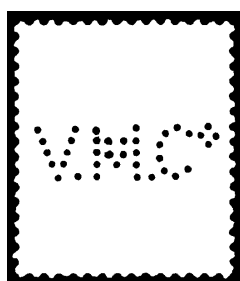


T0460.01

A meeting was held in Glasgow on 10th March 1931 for the creditors of ‘Thomas Berry & Co (Glasgow) Ltd’, but by then the company had long since stopped using Perfins. At this time they were operating from 191 Argyle St, Glasgow.

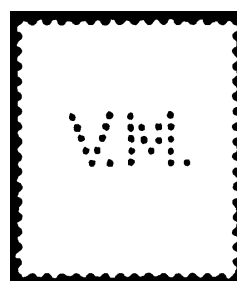
Chronologically the next user is **Virgoe, Middleton & Co**, Umbrella & Silk Manufacturers, and Warehousemen, 84, 84A, 85, & 86 Bartholomew Close, London EC. They used a machine fitted with “V.M.C^o” (V1170.01) from c1885 until c1910 when the “C^o” portion was removed to create “V.M.” (V1120.01). It is not known if this was due to damage, but it continued to be used in this state until c1920.

1885-1910



V1170.01

1910-1920

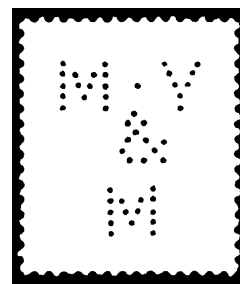


V1120.01

A meeting was held on 23rd March 1938 announcing the results of the winding up of the company!

Another umbrella manufacturer using Perfins in the Victorian era was *Muir, Young & Martin*, Umbrella & Waterproof Manufacturers, 24 Queen St, Glasgow, using “M.Y/&M” (M5625.01). This is an as yet unpublished suspected identity from *Maurice Harp*. Note that the address in Glasgow is the same as that for Thomas Berry & Co!

1895-1939

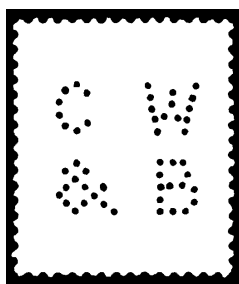


M6250.01

Nº. 24 Queen St was an imposing building with three floors, used as a manufactory, showroom, and warehouse. Thomas Berry originally set up his umbrella making business c1875 at 28 Miller St, but moved to larger premises at 24 Queen St around 1880. In 1893 he moved to 34 Argyle St, and 11 Virginia St, vacating the large premises in Queen St. In the meantime Muir & Young had set up business in 1892 making umbrellas, operating from 103 Glassford St, Glasgow. By 1894 the pair had been joined by a Mr Martin forming *Muir, Young & Martin*, operating from 24 Queen St, where they continued in business until at least the early 1940’s.

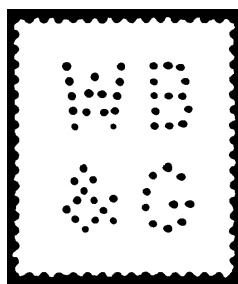
The last three umbrella makers who used Perfins take us from the turn of the century through to the start of WWII. We start off with *Carless, Whitaker & Bignold Ltd*, who were umbrella makers at 15, 16, 17 Addle St, London EC, and used “CW/&B” (C8320.01). They were still making umbrellas in the late 1940’s, but by then, not using Perfins.

1900-1915



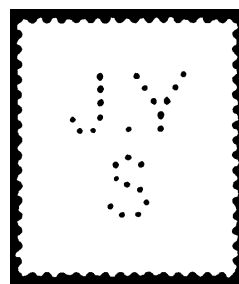
C8320.01

1903-1910



W0640.01

1905-1939



J8910.01

We finish the ‘mini’ study with *Wright, Bindley & Gell Ltd*, who manufactured Umbrella Components in Sheffield - they used “WB/&G” (W0640.01) 1903-1910 at their Don Saw Works in Penistone Rd, Sheffield - and *James Young, Sons & Co Ltd*, Umbrella Manufacturers, 49 Queen St, and later at Argyle St, Glasgow, who used “J.Y/S” (J8910.01) from c1905 through to c1939.

SUMMER HOLIDAY MEMORIES!

Roy Gault

As a result of a trawl through many hundreds of large format “CS” Perfins, *Gerry Soutar* sent in this 4d vermilion Machin clearly showing the large “CS” (C6760.03M) used by the City of Sheffield, but postmarked Llandudno!

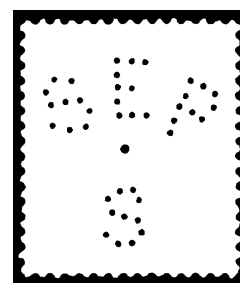


Again, this set my mind racing back to the late 1950's, and memories of happy summer holidays along the North Wales coast - Prestatyn, Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, and Llandudno. In those days the trains were steam hauled, so it's fitting that four of the LMS Patriot class bore their names - 45522, 45521, 45525, and 45520 - there's more, but I digress!

The “CS” above is indeed an unusual use and probably comes from an SAE sent out by Sheffield Corporation. But what other Perfins are known used along this particular piece of coastline?

For *Prestatyn* I can find no reference in the New Illustrated Catalogue of G.B Perfins, and for *Rhyl* just the one, that of the old “SEP/.S” perforator. Unfortunately, I haven't a record of the stamp that it was on, only the postmark, so if you're lucky enough to own it please let me know what stamp it is!

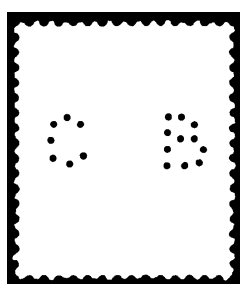
1964-1984



S2630.01

Fortunately there's more to report for Colwyn Bay, and Llandudno!

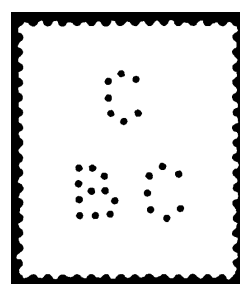
1944-1980



C0460.01M

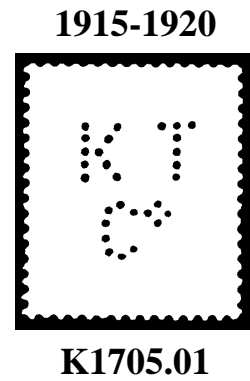
Conway Borough Council, which ceased 1st April 1974, used the die “CB” (C0460.01M), and *Colwyn Bay Corporation* used “C/BC” (C0580.01M). Both are Sloper 12x1 multiheaded dies, used by J Sloper & Co to initial stamps for a number of local authorities. Both are known with *Colwyn Bay* pmks.

1950-1980

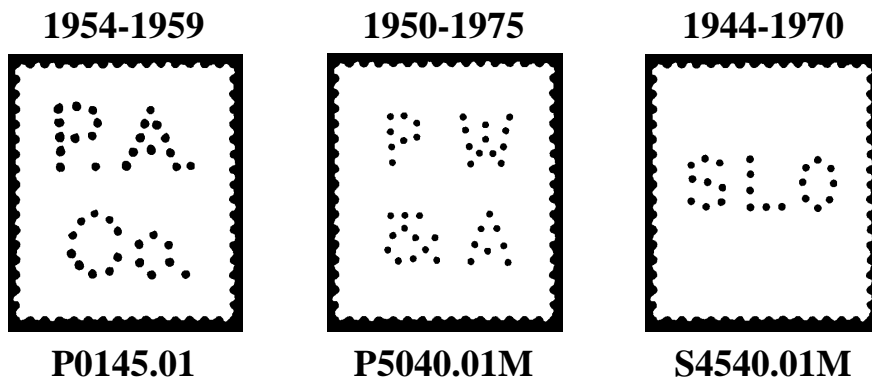


C0580.01M

Alphabetically, the next Perfin is “KT/C^o” (K1705.01), known from just one stamp postmarked *Colw(yn Bay)*, 20th August 1916. It’s possible that it’s not Colwyn Bay at all, but some other Colw.... *Does anyone have a copy that might reveal a bit more of the postmark?*



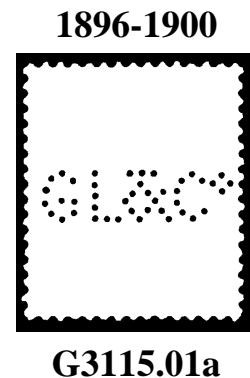
There’s no doubt with the next one “P.A./C^o.” (P0145.01), which was positively identified in 1983 by Rosemary Smith as having been used by the Pilot Assurance Co Ltd, Marine Rd, Colwyn Bay.



I’ve included “PW/&A” simply because the Birmingham based user, ‘Parker, Winder & Achurch Ltd’, Hardware Merchants, also had premises in Manchester, London, and *Colwyn Bay*. To date, no Colwyn Bay postmarks have been reported for this or any of the other “PW/&A” Perfin dies the company used, but useful to keep an eye on.

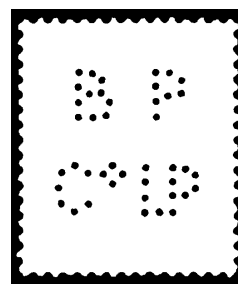
And finally, “SLO” (S4540.01M) - used by the Sun Life Assurance Society with their H/O in London EC - has also been reported with a *Colw(yn Bay)* postmark, but like “KT/C^o” above, it might be some other Colw...

Llandudno and *Llandudno Junction* postmarks are known on eleven different Perfin dies. The earliest of which is “GL&C^o” (G3115.01a) known used with a ‘B(47)’, (*Llan*)*dudno* postmark. The user, George Henry Lee & Co, was Liverpool based, so this is probably a ‘chance’ postmark on an SAE.



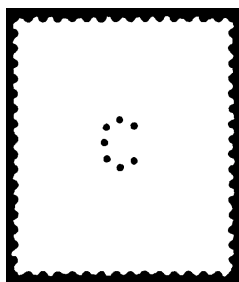
The British Petroleum Co Ltd, H/O Fenchurch St, London EC, used a number of “BP/C^oL^d” Perfins throughout the years, with many of them used on receipts etc., at their nationwide depots. B5730.02M is specifically known used at their *Llandudno* depot.

1924-1932



B5730.02M

1935-1990

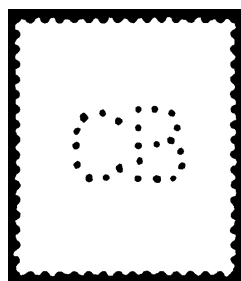


C0010.02M

The single letter “C” 7-pin (C0010.02M), a Sloper 12x1 multiheaded die, was used by Sloper’s to initial postage stamps for no less than nine, mainly London based, companies. One of the many postmarks recorded is *Llandudno*.

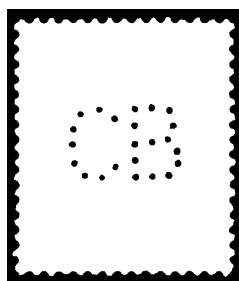
The next three are all known with *Llandudno/Llandudno Junction* postmarks, but known used by the City of Birmingham. I suspect they were not used by a Llandudno based company or Local Authority but may well be from SAE’s sent out by Birmingham Corporation asking for information. Until we find an entire, I guess we’ll never know.

1935-1940



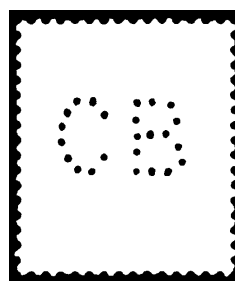
C0460.11

1935-1940



C0460.11A

1930-1937

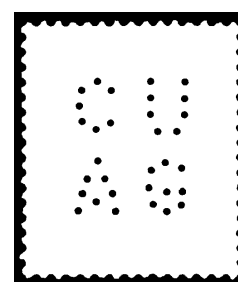


C0460.12a

It’s worth mentioning that another ‘similar’ “CB” (C0460.12) is known postmarked Conway, but also known with Birmingham postmarks, and positively identified as having been used by the City of Birmingham. Both Llandudno and Conway were in Caernarvonshire at the time, now part of modern day Clwyd.

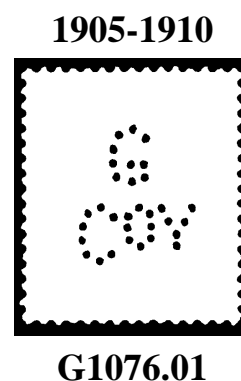
The Commercial Union Assurance Group, although based in London, would no doubt have had many ‘local’ offices. The Group only used one Perfin which is known with a variety of postmarks, including one from *Llandudno*.

1965-1985

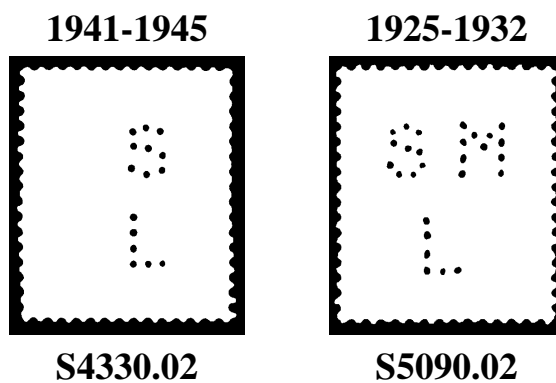


C7920.01

Of all the Perfins known with *Llandudno* postmarks, this is potentially the most interesting as it was probably used by a company based in the town! The die is known only from one stamp, a 1d 'F' postmarked (L)andudno, 28th June 1909. Oh for a 1910 North Wales Trade Directory!



There are two more Perfins to describe with Llandudno connections. The first is "S/L" (S4330.02), known used by The Solicitors' Law Stationery Society Ltd, based at 18 Trinity Square, *Llandudno*. The Perfin was used briefly during the war years, and presumably moved to North Wales to 'keep it out of harms way'.



The last Perfin is "SM/L" (S5090.02), known used specifically by Shell-Mex Ltd at their *Llandudno* depot, very much like the British petroleum example mentioned previously.

The last item to report on, although not a true Perfin as it would have been perforated through the stamp after affixing to the document, is this King George VI 5/- perforated with the initials "R.B.N."

The Registry of Business Names was relocated to *Llandudno* briefly, 1941-1945, during World War II. *Jeff Turnbull* has kindly provided this information along with an illustration of the stamp clearly cancelled:



(Gran)d Hotel, Llandudn(o), 1 Feb 1941.

The following table lists the dies described in the main body of text. Note that Town names in square brackets are not actual postmarks, but come from the identifying item, probably a receipt.

| | Cat No. | Letters | Die in use | Postmark | Stamp details |
|----|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1 | C0460.01M | CB | 1944-1980 | Colwyn Bay | --- |
| 2 | C0580.01M | C/BC | 1952-1975 | Colwyn Bay | --- |
| 3 | K1705.01 | KT/C ^o | 1915-1920 | Colw(yn Bay) | I(RC) ½d |
| 4 | P0145.01 | P.A./Co. | 1954-1959 | [Colwyn Bay] | U(SEC) 2d |
| 5 | <i>P5040.01M</i> | <i>PW/&A</i> | <i>1950-1975</i> | <i>Colwyn Bay</i> | --- |
| 6 | S4540.01M | SLO | 1944-1970 | Colw(yn Bay) | --- |
| 7 | B5730.02M | BP/C ^o L ^d | 1924-1932 | [Llandudno] | --- |
| 8 | C0010.02M | C | 1935-1990 | Llandudno | --- |
| 9 | C0460.11 | CB | 1935-1940 | Llandudno Junction | T 1d (SG480) |
| 10 | C0460.11A | CB | 1936-1940 | Llandudno | Q 1½d |
| 11 | C0460.12a | CB | 1930-1935 | Llandud(no) | M 1d |
| 12 | C6760.03M | CS | 1942-1987 | Llandudno | V 4d (v) |
| 13 | C7920.01 | CU/AG | 1965-1985 | Llandudno | --- |
| 14 | G1076.01 | G/C ^{oy} | 1905-1910 | (L)andudno | F 1d |
| 15 | G3115.01a | GL&C ^o | 1896-1900 | Llandudno | --- |
| 16 | S4330.02 | S/L | 1941-1945 | [Llandudno] | Q 2½d, R 2½d |
| 17 | S5090.02 | SM/L | 1925-1932 | [Llandudno] | --- |
| 18 | S2630.01 | SEP/.S | 1964-1984 | Rhyl | --- |

If you can add any more details to the table or know of any more Perfins postmarked Prestatyn, Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, or Llandudno, I'd be more than pleased to hear from you!

Footnote

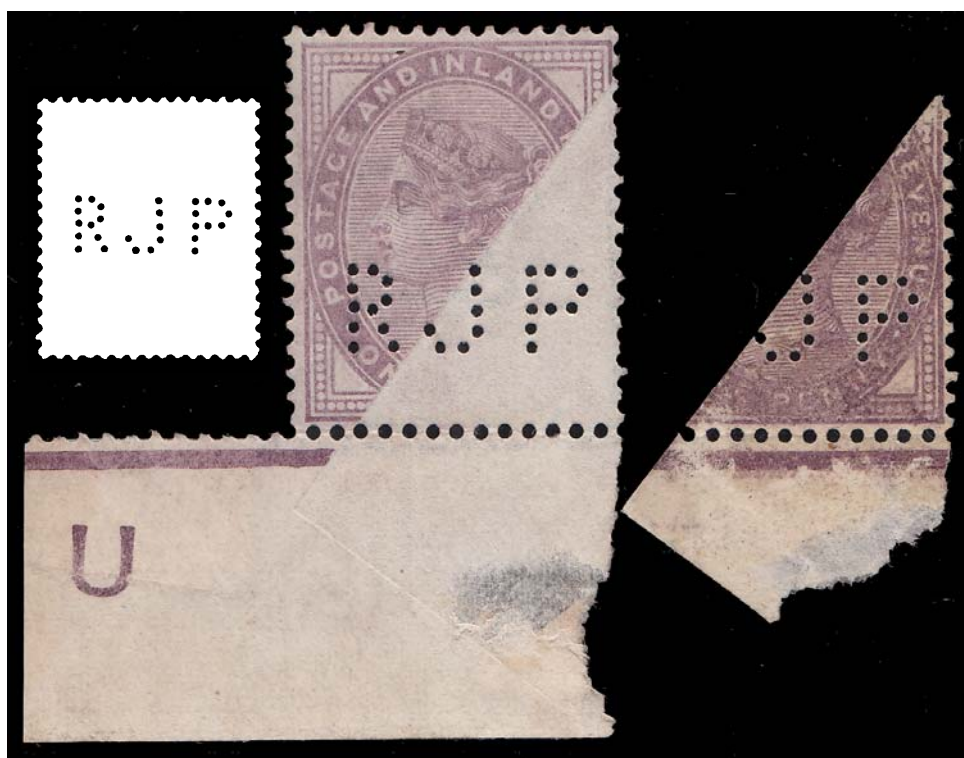
Yes, there are three more 'Patriots/Baby Scots' further down the line, Holyhead (45514), Caernarvon (45515), and Bangor (45523). I can find nothing for Holyhead, save five 'London-Holyhead' T.P.O's, just one Perfin for Caernarvon "AB/C" (A0540.02), which is also known postmarked Bangor, and three more Perfins for Bangor - "BC" (B1110.03M, B1110.03AM), and "EM" (E2880.04).

THE ULTIMATE PERFIN ERROR!

Maurice Harp

Roy Gault has written about perfin errors and perfins found on stamp errors in Bulletins 390 and 392. Now **John Marriner** has shown me a wonderful piece which trumps them all. Its a mint copy of a 1d lilac with perfin RJP - R3030.01M but as can be seen during printing a piece of paper was stuck on top causing a spectacular printing error. The sheet was then presumably bought at the Post Office and given to the post boy for the perfin to be applied

It's a wonder the extra bit of paper stayed with the sheet long enough for printing, perforation and finally being perfined. Seeing the error, I guess the office boy thought he would keep it as a souvenir thinking it might be worth something one day! The control 'U' puts the printing well into the late 1890's (Feb 1896 - Apr 1897).



Very little is known about this die and nothing about the user. It was used between 1890 and 1905 and is found with London EC cancellations. Minor variations have been reported in the die and patterns on a known pair point to a multi-headed die.

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The Bulletin of the Perfin Society is a bi-monthly journal.
Subscription is £12 (UK); £15 (Europe/abroad-surface); £18 (abroad-air);
£10 (electronic). For further details of the Perfin Society and
membership application please contact: