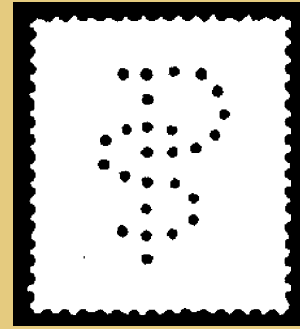


# ***PERFIN SOCIETY BULLETIN***



No. 394 - February 2015



Some of the 119 Braham Proofs recently uncovered in the "Acle Hoard"

### SECRETARY/TREASURER

A big thank you to the members who have donated perfins to Society stock for new members who receive some perfins when they join, I now have plenty of QEII to last many years. I have nothing else to report so with it being quiet I will spend some time sorting through my own perfins for a nice change.

### Exhibit Section Added to Website

A new section has been added to the Society website which is showing exhibits made by various members. So far there is material from **John Marriner, Richard Husband, Roy Gault and Maurice Harp**. Hopefully all material shown at the Society meetings in future can be shown on the website to allow all members the chance to see this material. We are also being sent a copy of the late Michael Millar's award winning exhibition of HMSO perfins which will also be posted on the website in due course. If any members have exhibits which could be added to the website please get in touch with one of the officers so that it can be organised.

### US Perfin Auction open to Society Members

For your information **Bob Szymanski**, a Society member and a past US Perfins Club President, regularly holds auctions of worldwide perfins that belonged to late members or from those giving up collecting in North America. The Auction runs for one month before closing, and is open to members of Perfin clubs and societies around the world. While there are many US & Canadian perfins there are lots from many other countries including GB. It has no connection with the US Perfin Club Auction. If you would like to view an auction list please contact Bob. Payment is in US currency but PayPal is accepted with a 10% charge.

### Last Reminder - Spring Meeting

The next Society meeting is Saturday May 9, 2015 at Grosvenor Auctions, 399 - 401 Strand, London WC2R 0LT, in their 3rd Floor Auction & Sale Room between 12 and 5pm. Access is by a door to the left of Stanley Gibbons shop.

We are relying on members to bring something along from their collection to show the meeting and fill the boards. It doesn't matter however basic or advanced and you do not have to give a talk about them.

### **FIRST AUCTION - Sean Brady**

As you know I have now taken over the running of the Society's auction. Now that a computer program is being used for our auctions, some changes are inevitable, even though the program has been adapted somewhat to meet the specific needs of members. Running the auctions takes quite a lot of time and effort which is why a computer is being used. However, members can also help to 'spread the load' by preparing their lots so that it's easier to compile the auction catalogues and handle the lots.

The revised 'rules' will set out what's needed and these will be available shortly - although most are printed in the current catalogue. If you don't participate in the auctions, maybe it's time you did. At least, let me know if there's something that can be done to make the auctions more attractive to you and to gain your support. A new venture will always takes a little time to 'iron out the wrinkles' so please accept that my first auction will be far from ideal. However, I look forward to any comments and suggestions for improvement. I really need to know how you feel about the auction in general and the changes I am making in particular.

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

#### **New Identity for CL/P/AC - C4570.01 - Bulletin 393/12**

A request went out in the last Bulletin for a suggestion as to what the letters CL/P/AC stood for. **Stephen Steere** has come to the rescue. He has a cover used with perfin CL/P/AC as well as an overprinted Corporation of Liverpool stamp. The cover was sent in 1946 with the Liverpool Coat of Arms on its rear flap. He writes:-

"I believe the identity to be the Corporation of Liverpool, Public Assistance Committee, who had their offices at Broughton Terrace, Anfield, Liverpool. I obtained this from a 1944 telephone directory

viewed on Ancestry.co.uk (a subscription site), and it was the only department name to fit. Public Assistance Committees were the bodies created after the abolition of the Board of Guardians in 1930 when workhouses were abolished. They inherited responsibility for the administration of poor relief, and were replaced in 1948."

### **Eugène Rimmel - Perfumer - Bulletin 390/8**

**David Coath** has made contact to report that a second copy of the Eugène Rimmel perfin E3930.01 used on a Victoria 2d stamp and again its in unused condition. This seems to support the theory that the perfin was never used in Australia but that the two stamps may well have been produced as a "souvenir" by a visitor to Rimmel's London office.



### **Request for Information - Bulletin 393/10**

**Joel Weiner** writes in response to **Jack Brandt's** request on an unusual cancellation. "This is an albino triangular cancel used on 2nd class mail at the St Martins le Grand headquarters. The outer ring noted on the stamp is caused when the triangle hub is inserted into the standard circular hub and pushed in a bit too far so that ink is picked up by the outer ring that normally hold the circular hub. These albino cancels were made from rubber or felt resulting in poor impressions. I am not sure how many numbers exist. It was thought for some time that only up to 50 but I attach a scan of a perfined cover with number 79 and it looks like the stamp pictured in the bulletin would be number 105. These albino cancels did not see much use and are quite scarce in comparison to the normal SM triangles that are very common."

### **Jean Oswald Sauven - Bulletin 393/19**

**Richard Husband** has highlighted that an article in "Stamp Collecting" of 16 November 1978 - page 1413, gives some further information on Sauven machines. "Of particular interest is the reference to 'D&J' sample perfins made on yellow glazed paper in the 1930's. It is probably wholly and completely wrong, but perfin die D2580.05M (1920-45) is larger than a normal size UK perfin and so might have been perforated by a Sauven supplied SU perforating

machine." He wonders if any member has one of these yellow sample labels that may match perfin die D2580.05M.

*[This particular article is available from our librarian - just quote abstract 2531 if making a request.]*

### **Summer Holiday Memories! - Bulletin 393/26**

**Fred Taylor** writes in relation to part of **Roy Gault's** article in the last Bulletin. "On receiving the latest issue of the Perfin Bulletin I was delighted to see the short item on the GVI 5/- stamp with the '**R.B.N.**' perfin and '**GRAND HOTEL LLANDUDNO**' cancellation on page 29."

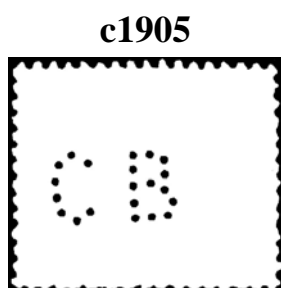
"One of the many specialist areas of interest of Max Melrose, a friend of mine has, is the '**Register of Business Names**' and he has a excellent selection of the various cancellations (mostly on King George V 5s stamps) displaying the different addresses used by the registry over the years and their period of use."

"I have reported Jeff Turnbull's item to him and he was delighted and very interested in it for more than one reason - it gives the location of the office during the war years - it illustrates the oval hand-stamp used at the '**GRAND HOTEL LLANDUDNO**' and - also bears the '**R.B.N.**' perfin which Max has not seen used on any of his collection of King George V 5/- stamps."

"I have reconstructed all of the various examples recorded so far for Max - as you will appreciate the oval hand-stamps are much bigger than the stamps and it is necessary to collect many different examples to be able to fully recreate each complete cancellation."

### **Curzon Brothers International Tailors - Bulletin 371/12, 393/11**

**Jeff Turnbull** writes to report that Curzon Brothers perfins can indeed



C19

be found on Belgium stamps. "In previous Bulletins Curzon Brothers perfins have been reported on British, Canadian, French and South African stamps. Regarding Belgium it does appear in the Belgium Perfin catalogue as **C19** (see attached scans) it does not give a user identity but it is a perfect match for the GB die **C0460.06**."

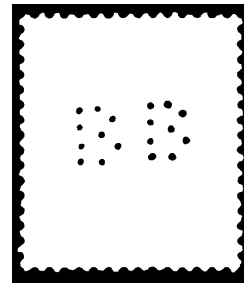


## £1 Seahorse and a New Catalogue - Bulletin 393/11

Illustrated on the back page of Bulletin 393 was the first reported £1 Seahorse with a perfin. Like buses after waiting 50 years for the first a second copy has turned up and been sold on ebay for £472. The item attracted a lot of attention with eight bidders - hopefully the item went to a member of the Society.



1906 - 1920



B0410.03Av

## More Errors - Bulletin 390/30

Another copy of the OP/PC error with GLYN perfin - G3260.01 has appeared on the market and was offered on ebay with a starting reserve of £389. It is believed that this copy came from **Mike Oxley's** perfin material that has recently been auctioned by Corbitts. The item did not sell.



## New Discovery - Royal Silver Wedding £1

**Roy Gault's** listing of "Great Britain Postage Stamps known with Perfins" (available on the Society website), lists just one die recorded on the £1 Royal Silver Wedding. **Margaret Harding** has now reported a second die - this time RM/L - R3490.01 used by Royal Mail Lines. Interestingly at present this die has still not been reported on the 2½d value.



## Ohlson & Co. Ltd. - Bulletin 393/22

**Stellen Swenson** has sent in a copy of a King George V 1d with the Ohlson & Co Ltd. perfin O0530.01 - O&Co/Ltd., with a date cancellation of 1918 - significantly earlier than previously reported.

## LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD - JOHN DONNER

Rosemary Smith - President

The rules of our Society permit the honour of conferring life membership for long and valued service to our Society. So we have the pleasure in conferring this award to **JOHN DONNER** who has just stepped down from the Committee after twenty three years' service.



John joined the Society early in 1988 and soon became involved in Society affairs by submitting new identities and researching perfins. In 1991 John volunteered to become Publications Officer, a post he held until 1999. He attended all the London meetings I think and when new publications started to appear he would drive from Hampshire with a car full of Society publications in numerous boxes aided by his wife, Sandra. The presence of the publications enhanced the meetings and introduced the New Illustrated Catalogue to the members present, which was greatly appreciated. In 1993, with the Society suddenly short of a Librarian, he took on that task too so that members could continue to enjoy the benefits of the Library.

In 1999 John handed over the Publications and the Library and took over as Auctioneer. His predecessor, having taken over from Harry Skinner, was finding it was too much to do. John has run the Auction successfully since, spending an enormous amount of time and effort in preparing the auction and then packing up the lots to successful bidders. He also assisted the families of late members by breaking up their collections into auction lots and allowing the family to obtain maximum benefit. All this was done whilst in full time employment which was quite an achievement. With the change of employer and increased demands to travel and long working hours John reluctantly found he could no longer give the Auction the attention necessary and has stood down. All of us in the Society thank him for his dedication and service and hope the future will bring back more free time to enjoy his Perfin collection.

## NUNNERY COLLIERY - PIT ACCIDENT.

Roy Gault

In Perfin Society Bulletin N<sup>o</sup>. 287 (April 1997) I illustrated, amongst others, a fancy-framed *overprint* used by the *Nunnery Colliery Co* in the article 'Scanners help sort the Wood from the Trees'. The item itself (from Auction N<sup>o</sup>. 5 - 1989) was a 2d KGV Typograph (Block Cypher watermark) dating to c1930. By chance, a similar item has recently come up (in Auction N<sup>o</sup>. 2 - 2014), but this time on a QV 1d Inland Revenue (Die 4, small anchor watermark) dating to c1880. With the passage of around 50 years it's reasonable to expect differences. As can be seen below, the earlier overprint is a little smaller and sits more comfortably on the stamp, but essentially both are in the same style.

c1880



c1930



Nunnery Colliery was situated to the east of Sheffield, with coal mining having started on the site in 1868. It closed some 85 years later in August 1953 when its coal reserves were eventually exhausted. At its peak it is rumoured to have supplied coal for half the households in Sheffield!



Mining has always been a dangerous occupation. The Silkstone pit owned by the Nunnery Colliery Co, witnessed a major disaster on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 1923, when the steel rope hauling a 44 tub 'paddy mail' loaded with 140 miners, snapped. The run-away train reached speeds of 60mph before dashing into some crossing points, derailing a tub in the middle of the train, into which smashed the following tubs. Sadly, nine men lost their lives in the accident.



## DICKINS & JONES – DEPARTMENT STORE

**Richard Husband**

The store was founded in 1803 when Thomas Dickins and William Smith opened a linen drapery known as Dickins & Smith at 54 Oxford Street. They were joined by Joseph Stevens in 1827 and in 1830 the business was renamed Dickins, Sons & Stevens. The business moved to 232 & 234 Regent St in 1835. Following the death of Thomas Dickins in 1856, the shop was taken over by his sons, Charles and Henry. The 1860 edition of Kelly's London Post Office Directory gives the name of the business as Dickins & Jones. John Jones (1841-1917), who by the end of his life had become Sir John Prichard-Jones Bt. (JP-J), was apprenticed to a draper in Caernarvon when he was 14 years old and came to London at the age of 19 in 1860.

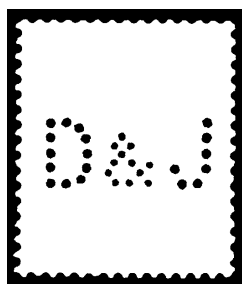
The store prospered and went up-market during the years that followed. Kelly's Directory describes the firm as haberdashers in the 1860's, linen drapers in the 1870's and silk mercers in the 1880's. By 1890, the company had become extremely successful. The 1890's saw the growth of the store's traditional linen lines to include lace, dresses, furs and a wide range of other clothing and giftware. With a remarkable reputation for the quality of its goods and services, the store supplied royalty and the aristocracy. It also operated one of the largest mail order businesses in London.

The year 1900 also saw the incorporation of the business into a limited company with JP-J and Dickins family members holding most of the share capital. The picture of the Dickins & Jones store on the right has been taken from a post card advertising their 1904 Summer Sale.



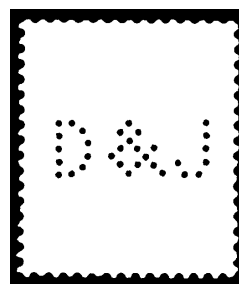
The perfin dies used by Dickins & Jones are set out below:-

1874 - 1885



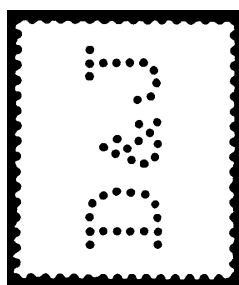
D2580.04\*

1880 - 1900



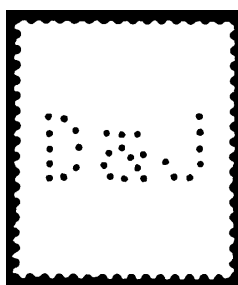
D2580.03

1895 - 1939



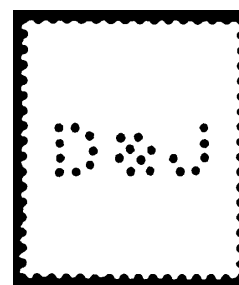
D2580.06

1920 - 1945



D2580.05M

c1956



D2580.01

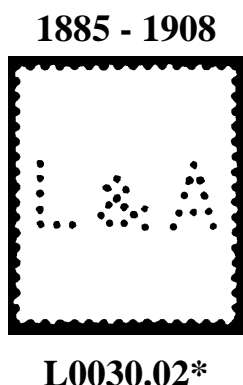
\* = provisional identity

At this juncture, it is probably worth mentioning Joseph Allison & Co, whose business was exactly the same as that of Dickins & Jones. Its predecessor was a partnership, Allison & Edwards, which had traded for some years before being dissolved on 31 May 1841. The business was carried on by Joseph Allison and continued to trade from 238 & 240 Regent Street. The use of "D & J" perfins by Joseph Allison & Co. has been recorded by Roy Gault.

It may be assumed that Joseph Allison & Co used "D & J" perfin D2580.03 following its acquisition by Dickins & Jones. In 1890, the two firms occupied premises next door to each other but the trading name of Joseph Allison disappeared in the 1890's so that by 1901, Dickins & Jones were now trading from 232 to 242 Regent Street which included numbers 238 to 242 which had hitherto traded under the Joseph Allison & Co. name.

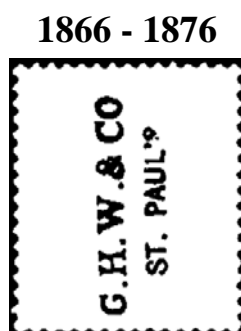
The 1900's saw a new kind of growth as Dickins & Jones Ltd began to take over other successful London firms such as Lewis & Allenby,

silk mercers who had exhibited at the Great Exhibition in 1851. Their perfin die is shown below:-



\* = provisional identity

But of greater interest to the perfin collector was their purchase of George Hitchcock, Williams & Co, silk mercers of 72 St Paul's Churchyard, London EC, whose underprint (SG Type 65) is illustrated below:-

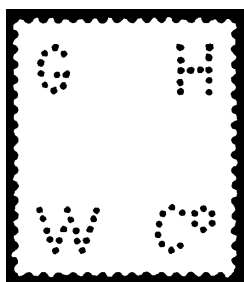


The firm's claim to perfin fame arises from being credited with purchasing the very first stamp initialling machine made by Sloper which was completed on 3 April 1868, approximately three weeks after the Post Office had granted approval for perforating stamps. Machine No. 2607 had a 1 x 2 multi-headed die (G2410.01M) and is known used between 1868 and 1908 on a wide range of different stamps. Images of the upper and lower perfin dies are illustrated on the next page.

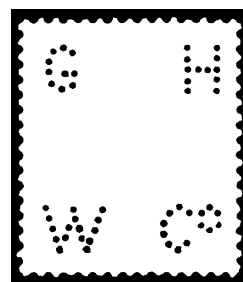
After George Hitchcock's death in 1863, his sons entered the business and the name changed from George Hitchcock & Co to George Hitchcock Williams & Co in 1864 or 1865. The name "George" does

not appear to have been dropped from the name until 1868 when Kelly's Post Office London Directory gives the name "Hitchcock, Williams & Co" for the first time.

1868 - 1908



Upper Pattern



Lower Pattern

G2410.01M\*

Therefore if "George" has been dropped from the firm's name by 1868, should the "GH/W Co" perfin G2410.01M be provisionally identified as having been used by the firm? Nobody can be sure. Either a receipt or cover with both perfin and identity needs to be seen as proof.

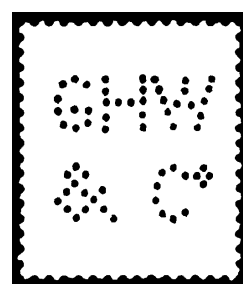
So this leads to two more perfins starting with "G" which are illustrated below :-

1872 - 1877



G2400.01

1890 - 1939



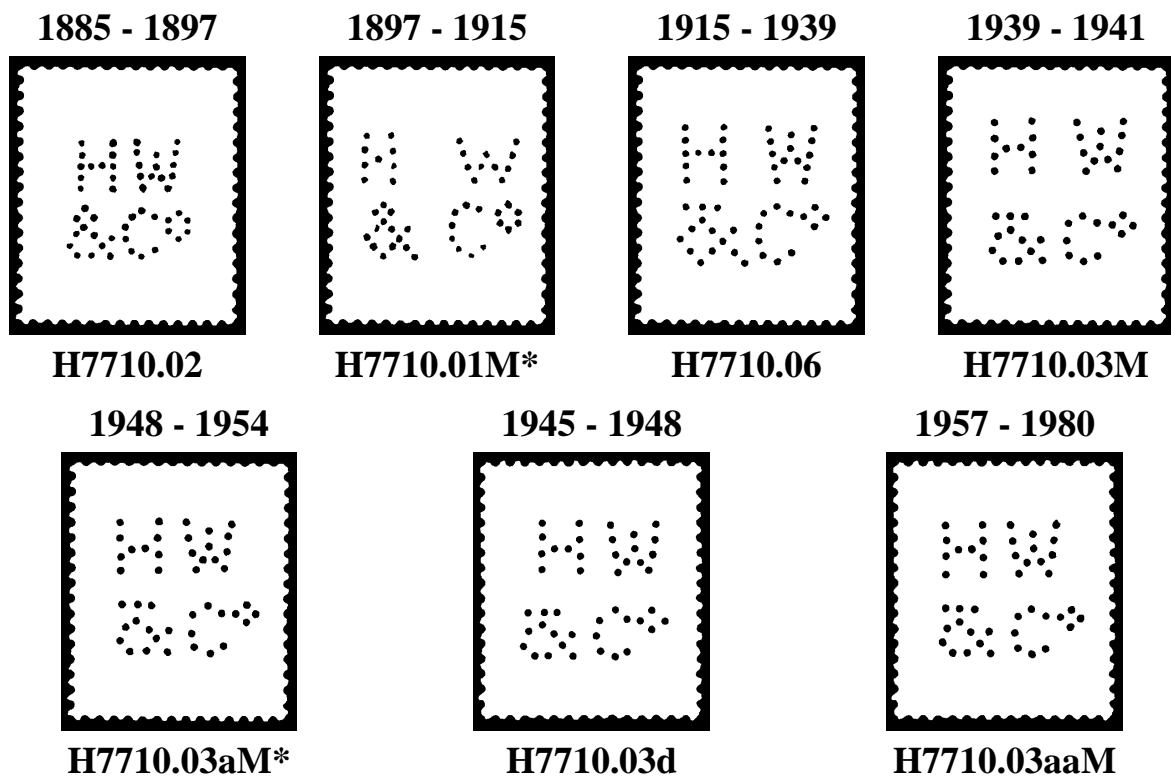
G2420.01\*

\* = provisional identity

Neither perfin die has yet been positively identified although we know G2410.01M and G2420.01 are known to have been used on different stamps on the same cover postmarked 1 November 1893. So, the user of the first perforator supplied to a customer by Slopers in April 1868 was still using perfins perforated "GHW/&Co" in 1939. That would be for a period of approximately 71 years after a name change resulting in the "G" for George being dropped. For this reason, I

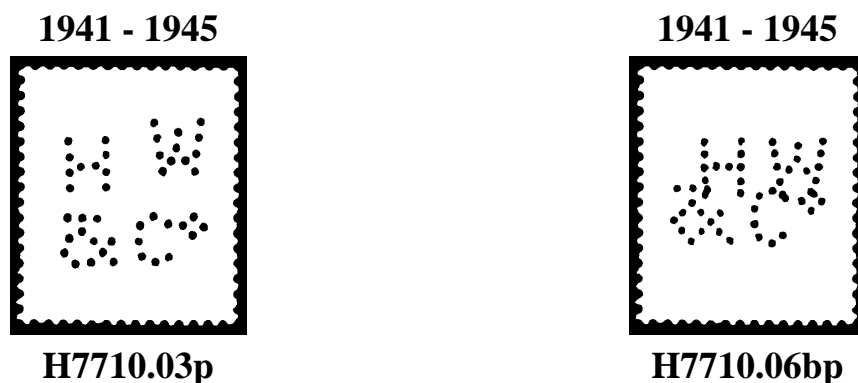
personally doubt whether G2410.01M and G2420.01 were ever used by either Hitchcock, Williams & Co or its predecessor in name. It is probably unlikely too that G2400.01 was used by the firm. But which firm could it be? All these perfins are known with London Chief Office postmarks.

Just as Dickins & Jones retained the use of its 'D&J' perfins long after the takeover by Harrods (and House of Fraser in 1959), so the 'HW/&Co' perfins continued to be used between 1885 and 1980. These perfin dies are illustrated below:-



\* = provisional identity

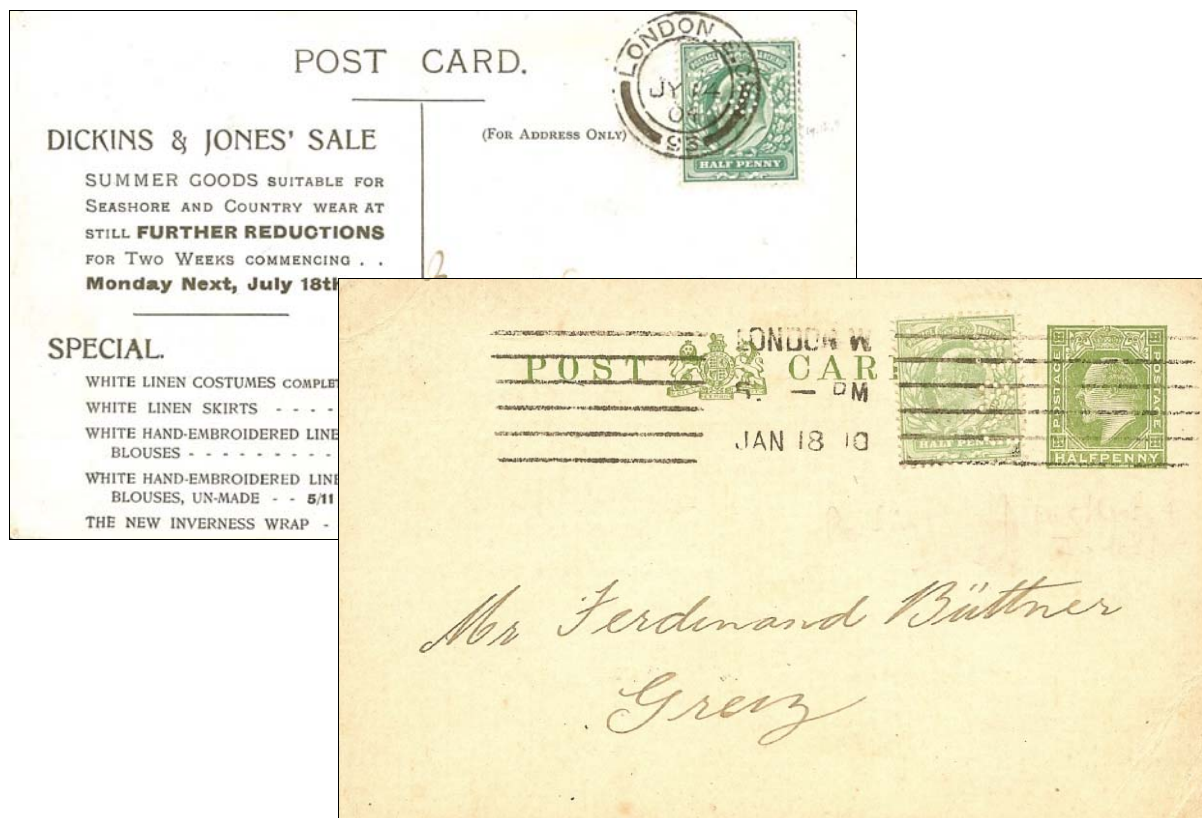
The gap between 1941 and 1945 could be filled by the Sloper Wartime Provisionals illustrated below :-





But, until someone can produce these two perfins showing a London postmark, Roy Gault is unable to give them even a provisional identity. Hitchcock, Williams & Co were customers of Slopers at the time.

At the beginning of the 1910's, by which time Dickins & Jones had expanded considerably, it had become apparent that the Dickins family was no longer interested in continuing in the business. Harrods Ltd, encouraged by JP-J, acquired a controlling interest in Dickins & Jones Ltd in July 1914.



Postcards bearing KE7 ½d stamps perforated by die D2580.06

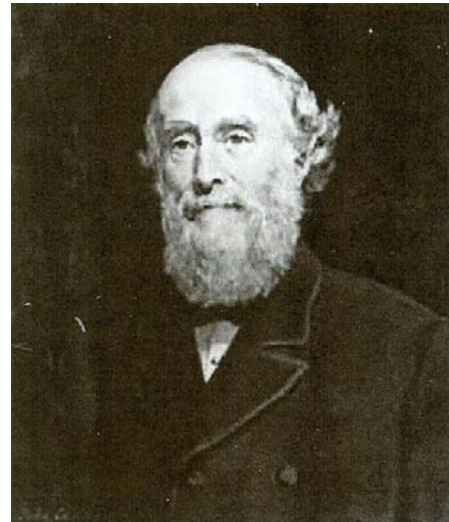
The business continued to operate completely independently and in 1919 the whole of the island site bounded by Regent Street, Argyle Place, Argyle Street and Little Argyle Street was finally secured. Between 1920 and 1922, the old building was pulled down and work was begun on the new store designed by Sir Henry Tanner, which was finally completed in 1939.

Harrods acquired complete ownership in 1968. The Regent Street store closed in January 2006 when the site was sold and the satellite

stores in Epsom and Richmond were re-branded as House of Fraser stores in 2007.

One common thread running through Dickins & Jones and George Hitchcock Williams & Co was philanthropy. JP-J was prominent in funding education in Wales, and among other things, became Vice-President of the Council of University College, Bangor in 1909, High Sheriff of Anglesey for 1905 and a Deputy Lieutenant in 1910. He was created a baronet in 1917 for services to education and community.

George Williams (1821-1905) is regarded as the founder of the Young Men's Christian Association in 1844, more commonly known as the YMCA. He was knighted in 1894.



George Williams

George Hitchcock was principally involved with the Early Closing Association, the Ragged School Union and the anti-slavery campaign.

Further information on Williams, Hitchcock, their business and the YMCA, who were also perfin users, can be found in the Perfin Society Bulletin written by Dave Hill.

I am grateful to Roy Gault and Maurice Harp for providing information for this article.

### **References:**

- 1. House of Fraser Archive*
- 2. Kelly's Post Office London Directories*
- 3. www.underprints.com*
- 4. University of Glasgow Library*
- 5. Dave Hill, History of firms using perfins – Hitchcock Williams & Co, Bulletin 327 pp12-14*
- 6. Dictionary of National Biography, 1912 supplement*
- 7. Wikipedia*

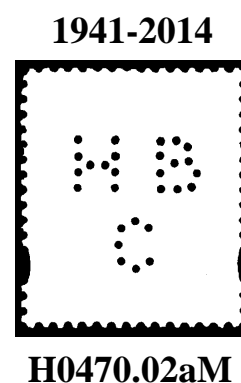
## LAST COMMERCIAL G.B. COVER?

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 17<sup>th</sup> 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 addressed to Henley-on-Thames dated 14<sup>th</sup> 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) 1<sup>st</sup> (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 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

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

## PERFINNED PARCEL DELIVERY STAMPS

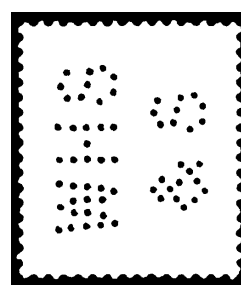
**Maurice Harp**

Railway parcel stamps that have been perfinned have been well documented in the Bulletin. However as far as I know perfins on the city parcel delivery stamps have not been recorded before. Two examples have recently come to light.



The first is a Liverpool Parcel Delivery 3d black on purple with a poorly struck WHS/&S - W3890.01. The die is thought to have been used by W. H. Smith & Sons' Liverpool office and the die is well known on railway Newspaper Parcel stamps. The Liverpool Parcel

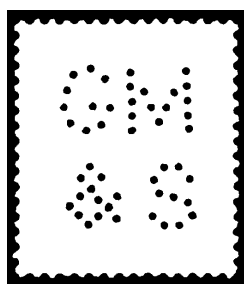
**1880 - 1950**



**W3890.01**

Delivery Co was operating from the 1870s and was finally wound up in December 1918. In the 1894 Trade Directory they were recorded at 12 locations throughout the city. This particular stamp was sold in Australia in August and had an estimate of A\$120.

**1895 - 1905**



**G3490.01**

**Jeff Turnbull** has shown me a Manchester Parcel Delivery 3d blue with perfin die GM/&S - G3490.01. The user of the die is at present unknown and it was only used for a short period between 1895 - 1905.



Their chief office in Manchester was at Fountain St. and I have managed to trace the company until 1909.

There were a number of other parcel delivery companies including ones based in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Newcastle, Bradford and London but as of yet no perfinned stamps have been recorded for these companies. These perfinned stamps must be very rare and are well worth looking out for.

## THE VEITCH FAMILY OF NURSERYMEN

Dave Hill

More than mere nurserymen, perhaps even more than horticulturalists, the first Veitch nursery was started by John Veitch in 1780 in Budlake, near Killerton in Devon. In 1832 John and his son James bought land near Exeter for a further nursery. In 1853 James and his son, James Junior, seeing that they needed to be nearer London,



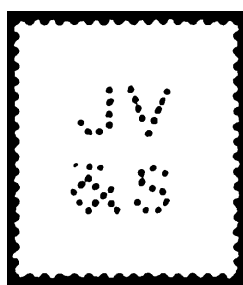
opened a nursery in Chelsea. In 1863 the two businesses separated, **Chelsea** trading as **James Veitch & Son** whilst the **Exeter** nursery was run by **Robert Veitch**, a younger brother.



The Veitch's sent many plant hunters abroad, often hunting plants themselves in South America and the Far East. This was dangerous in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and many family members were short lived. Harry Veitch ran the Chelsea nursery for many years but sold up in 1914 when he retired as there were no family members to take over from him. The Exeter nursery was run by Peter Veitch, Robert's son, and by Peter's daughter, Mildred, until 1969 when failing health forced her to sell.

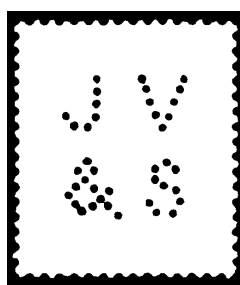
Perfins JV/&S - J8220.01 and J8220.02 and RV - R5610.02 are listed as provisional identities, from date and postmark evidence. I think I put them forward many years ago and am unsure that they have ever been confirmed.

1905 - 1913



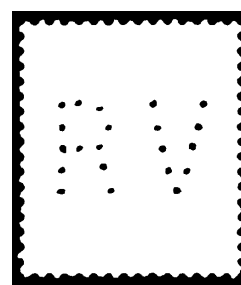
J8220.01

1895 - 1901



J8220.02

1890 - 1895



R5610.02



## FRANK BRAHAM PROOFS

Maurice Harp / Roy Gault

In Bulletin 190 (Dec. 1980) **Mike Burrows** discussed the work of Frank Braham and reported that 100 or so "proofs" of Braham dies were known to exist. This tantalising statement has intrigued perfin collectors for the last 35 years as no further information on these proofs was forthcoming. However in July last year the "Acle Hoard" was auctioned by Horners of Norfolk. The hoard was the collections of **Geoff Longbottom**, a former Society member and officer, and it included extensive perfin material. Major portions of the perfin material were bought by **Ron Mills** and **Peter Maybury** and in sorting through the perfins they uncovered over 100 Braham proofs - presumably the ones previously referred to by Michael Burrows.

The proofs are all struck on inter-pane gutters, the "stamp" having no watermark and still retaining gum. Our catalogue editor has reviewed all the proofs and has summarised the information gleaned from them in a study paper which will be published on the Society's website. In summary:-

- The earliest dates known from postage stamps have been included in the 'In Use' column, and shows a spread from the late 1880's, {7th February 1889 on "W.G.M" (W3210.01)}, through to the Edwardian era. There is also one unusually early date of 18th July 1883 on "B&M" (B4750.06).
- Of the **119** pieces of inter-pane gutters used for the 'Proofs', 70 come from sheets of QV 1d Lilacs, 48 from the QV ½d (vermilion) Jubilee, and one (a pair) with 'Pillars' (so post 1899) from a 10d stamp, probably Edwardian. All except one (the pair) show 'Jubilee' lines only.
- There are fifty-three pieces bearing numbers hand-written in ink and all by the same hand, which represents almost 45%. The rest are un-numbered, although one or two have pencil numbers referring to the Perfin Society catalogue number for that die. Note that an inter-pane 'gutter' with a Perfin isn't necessarily a Braham 'Proof'!

- The Braham ‘Proof’ numbers run from ‘1579’ on “W.N/B” (W5630.02) through to ‘2044’ on “HL/&Co” (H4440.03a). The longest consecutive run is seven, from ‘1906’ to ‘1912’. Inspection shows they have not been allocated alphabetically so were probably allocated as each new customer was acquired.
- Nineteen (some 16%) are as yet ‘unknown’ on G.B. Postage Stamps, although one, “P/&VG”, appears to match a die found on Dutch stamps.
- A number of dies have prolonged use, well after Braham went out of business, suggesting the die / machine was purchased by the customer for their own use.
- Known or suspected users are spread throughout the realm. London (28), Ipswich (8), Glasgow (6), Birmingham (3), Manchester (3), Newcastle-upon-Tyne (3), and Cardiff (2), with Belfast, Bradford, Colchester, Hull, Richmond (Surrey), Sunderland, and Willenhall (Staffs) one apiece.

With so many copies to hand Roy has also determined the "alphabet" used by Braham. The characteristics of the alphabet are the Type IIIa ampersand, usually use of single headed dies and the "o" in "Co" always has 6 pins. Using this alphabet, a list of possible additional Braham dies is currently being compiled and may reach over 1,000.

The summary table below includes not only the newly discovered proofs but all other dies previously associated with Frank Braham. Twenty three proofs are yet unreported used on stamps if we include those illustrated on Braham adverts and these are illustrated at the end.

### **Braham Proofs and Reported Dies**

	<b>Proof No.</b>	<b>Cat No.</b>	<b>Letters</b>	<b>In use</b>	<b>Used</b>
1	1924	A0285.01	A.A/OCo	1890-1900	Hull
2	-	A0470.01	A/B	1895-1930	London EC
3	1858	A0800.01	A&B/M	1895-1920	Manchester
4	1908	Unrecorded	AD/F	-	-
5	-	A2620.01	AGS/&Co	1890-1905	London SE
6	2043	Unrecorded	A.R	-	-

	<b>Proof No.</b>	<b>Cat No.</b>	<b>Letters</b>	<b>In use</b>	<b>Used</b>
7	-	Unrecorded	AZ/&C <sup>o</sup>	-	[9]
8	-	B1285.01	BCC/Ltd	1890-1900	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
9	-	B1500.02a	B/&Co	1895-1930	London EC
10	-	Unrecorded	BF/C <sup>o</sup>	-	-
11	1744	Unrecorded	BL	-	-
12	1877	B4750.06	B&M	1883-1890	London E
13	-	Unrecorded	B/M	-	-
14	-	Unrecorded	BO/LD	-	[9]
15	1964	B6130.04	B&R	1895-1912	Birmingham
16	2015	B6430.01	B&S	1890-1939	Ipswich
17	-	B6560.01	B&S/C	1890-1905	Cardiff
18	-	C2140.02	C/D&S/Ld	1895-1905	London EC
19	-	C2325.01	CE/Co	c1890	Bute Docks, Cardiff
20	1759	C2620.01	CFS <sup>t</sup> /&Co	1900-1905	London EC
21	-	Unrecorded	D&F/G	-	[9]
22	-	D2920.04	DLR	1890-1905	London EC, Exeter, York
23	-	D4740.01	DT/C	1890-1895	-
24	-	E0315.01	EBC/B	c1890	-
25	-	E0785.01	E/&C <sup>o</sup> .	c1890	-
26	-	Unrecorded	ED/WJ	-	[9]
27	1741	E1520.01	E.F	1890-1915	Ipswich, London [1]
28	-	E2320.01	EJN/S	1905-1910	Sunderland
29	-	E2640.01	ELCo/L	1895-1905	London EC
30	-	E2700.02	E.L/Ld	1890-1900	London EC
31	-	E3415.01	E.P	1895-1907	Birmingham
32	-	Unrecorded	E&S	-	-
33	-	F1400.01	FF	1895-1905	London WC
34	-	F1490.01	FF/L	1895-1910	London EC
35	2017	F3320.01	FPN	1890-1908	Ipswich
36	-	F3800.01	FS/&Co/Ld	1900-1935	London EC. [2]
37	-	G0370.03	G.B	1890-1939	London EC
38	-	G0470.04	GB/&Co	1895-1900	London. [3]
39	-	G0945.01	GC/I	1890-1905	Brockley, New Cross, London SE
40	1992	G1750.01	G /FC/Co	1890-1912	Glasgow.
41	1760	G1970.01	G.G/&Co	1890-1915	London EC
42	1935	G4580.01	GS/&Co	1895-1940	Glasgow

	<b>Proof No.</b>	<b>Cat No.</b>	<b>Letters</b>	<b>In use</b>	<b>Used</b>
43	1742	G4730.01	G.S.M	1895-1912	Newcastle, London EC
44	-	G5030.03	G&T	1890-1895	Bradford.
45	-	G5520.01	GWD/&Co	1890-1905	London EC
46	2022	H0012.12	H	c1895	London EC. [4]
47	1885	H1910.01	H.D	1902-1952	Birmingham.
48	1662	H2340.02	HERTZ	1890-1920	Bradford & Manchester
49	1909	H3970.01	H.J	1895-1915	Birmingham.
50	2044	H4440.03a	HL/&Co	1890-1895	Coventry.
51	-	H5360.02	HN/&Co	c1895	-
52	-	H5490.01	HO/&B	1890-1895	London EC
53	-	H6550.01b	HS/&Co	1900-1905	Leeds & London
54	1993	H7800.02	HW/Ltd	c1895	-
55	2016	H7825.01	HWR	1890-1895	Ipswich
56	-	I1924.02	IO/Co	1890-1898	London SE
57	-	J0640.01	JB/&Co	1888-1905	London & Dundee
58	-	J1010.01	JBT	1890-1905	Bedford St. London WC
59	-	J1450.01	JC/DB	1890-1905	London WC
60	1911	Unrecorded	J.G	-	-
61	1989	J3260.01	JG&S	1895-1913	Glasgow
62	-	Unrecorded	JGT/&Co	-	-
63	-	J3535.01	J&HC	1895-1910	London
64	-	J3670.01	JHG/&S	1890-1905	Richmond, Surrey
65	1857	J4611.01	J.K	1903-1905	Leeds
66	-	Unrecorded	JP/&Co/W	-	-
67	1886	J6230.01	JP/&S	1900-1935	Willenhall
68	2021	J6550.01	JR/&J	1895-1910	Ipswich
69	1907	Unrecorded	J.S	-	-
70	-	J8210.01	J&V/L	1890-1905	London EC
71	1925	K1360.04	KM/&Co	1890-1905	Hull
72	1955	L2810.01	L&HB	1892-1936	London EC
73	-	Unrecorded	LK&L/Ld	1891-1895	Belfast [5]
74	-	L4310.01	L&O/M	1895-1915	Manchester
75	-	L4380.01a	L&P	1890-1939	London EC
76	-	L4890.10	L&S	1890-1905	
77	1981	L5870.01	LW&D	1895-1900	London W
78	-	M0520.05	MB/&Co	1890-1900	London EC
79	-	M0700.01	MBM/&Co	1895-1903	London EC

	<b>Proof No.</b>	<b>Cat No.</b>	<b>Letters</b>	<b>In use</b>	<b>Used</b>
80	-	M1570.05	M/Co	1890-1932	London W
81	-	M2520.01	M&F	1890-1905	London EC & NW
82	1663	M3910.02	MM/B	1890-1908	Birmingham
83	2025	M4340.01	MOY	1890-1935	Colchester
84	-	M6080.01	MW/H	1895-1900	Huddersfield
85	-	Unrecorded	M&Y/Ltd	-	-
86	-	N3570.01	N&W	1900-1939	Cardiff.
87	-	O2210.01	OZO	1890-1920	London SE
88	2018	P0280.01	PAUL (10 pin P)	1890-1939	Ipswich
89	-	Unrecorded	PAUL (9 pin P)	-	-
90	-	P1165.01	P&Co/Ld.	1890-1910	London EC & SE, & Richmond, Surrey.
91	-	P2340.01	PH/Co	1890-1905	Birmingham.
92	-	P3530.01	POLY	1895-1905	London W.
93	1888	Unrecorded	P.R (with border)	-	-
94	1995	P3880.01	P&R/F&Co	1893-1932	Glasgow.
95	-	P4150.06	P&S	1889-1901	London WC [6]
96	-	P4300.05	P&S/L	c1895	-
97	1947	Dutch?	P/&VG	-	Matches Dutch stamp illustrated under P4935.01
98	-	P4940.01	PV/GM	1890-1895	Liverpool & Manchester
99	-	R0535.01	R&B/L	c1890	-
100	2034	Unrecorded	RB/&S	-	[7]
101	1906	R0900.01	R.C/C.L	1895-1905	Coventry & Birmingham
102	2040	R1430.01	RD/F/JB	1895-1930	Ipswich & Felixstowe
103	-	R2390.01	RH/&JP	1890-1900	London
104	1962	Unrecorded	RM	-	-
105	-	S1670.03	S/Co	1895-1905	London W & Coventry
106	-	Unrecorded	SG/&S	-	-
107	-	Unrecorded	SHANGHAI CORPS	-	-
108	2042	S3430.01	SHC	1890-1901	Ipswich
109	1910	S4917.01	S.M/Co	1890-1900	Glasgow, Edinburgh & Canon Bridge (Ross)

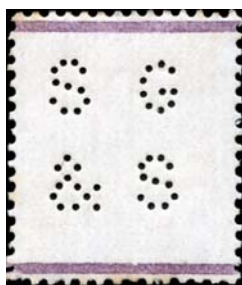
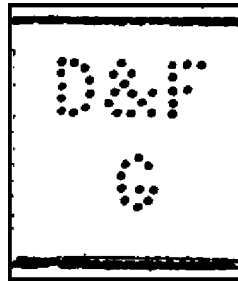
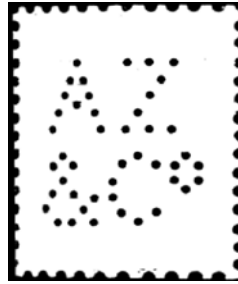


	<b>Proof No.</b>	<b>Cat No.</b>	<b>Letters</b>	<b>In use</b>	<b>Used</b>
110	-	S5030.01	SM/HK	1890-1910	London EC
111	1926	S5060.01	S&M/I&S/Co	1896-1906	Motherwell, nr Glasgow
112	-	S5490.02	SN&Co	1890-1922	London EC.
113	1936	S5730.01	S&P	1895-1905	Glasgow
114	1887	S6220.02	S.R	1890-1900	Birmingham.
115	1912	S7060.10	ST	1902-1905	-
116	-	T2110.01	THC/&Co	1895-1920	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
117	2030	T3100.01	TM	1902-1910	Ipswich
118	-	T3875.01	TRR	1890-1895	[8]
119	-	T4820.01	TV/R	1895-1923	Cardiff
120	2024	W0100.01	W&/AC	1890-1939	Ipswich
121	-	W1175.01	WC/DS	-	-
122	2011	W1345.04	W/&Co.	1905-1918	London
123	2041	W1895.01	W.DAY	1900-1905	Ipswich
124	2010	W3210.01	W.G.M	1885-1905	Birmingham
125	-	W5420.01	WMP/&C <sup>o</sup>	1895-1906	London EC
126	1579	W5630.02	W.N/B	1890-1895	Birmingham
127	2020	W6050.01	WP/&S 9-pin "P"	1890-1945	Ipswich & London EC
128	-	Unrecorded	WP/&S 10-pin "P"	-	-
129	1965	Unrecorded	WR/&S	-	-
130	-	W8140.01	WW/N	1890-1895	Newcastle-upon-Tyne

## Notes

1. E1520.01 has stop after "F" on stamps.
2. Different gutter pattern (pillars) so is post 1899 and is the only one that is a pair.
3. Slight variation compared to G0470.04 particularly on one pin in "&".
4. Different to other examples – perfin on paper stuck onto gutter rather than gutter perfined direct.
5. Similar to L3390.01 (with stop), but top line matches L3380.01.
6. Matches top line of P&S/L (P4300.05)
7. Matches R0610.01 except rows are 0.5 mm wider apart.
8. Holes smaller than in T3875.01 (closer to size in related die T3890.01)
9. Illustrated on Braham adverts or order forms.

## Unrecorded Braham Dies



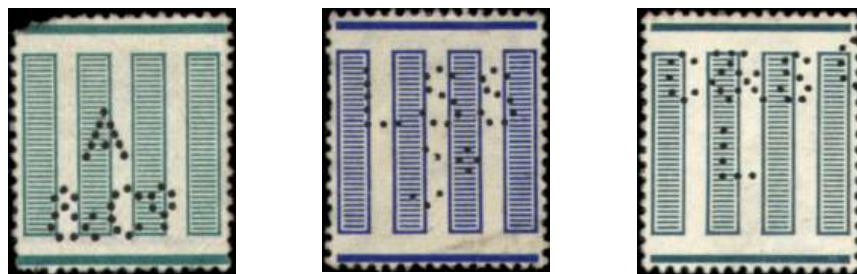
## INTER-PANE GUTTERS WITH PERFINS

Roy Gault

The sighting of a Perfin on the strip of paper separating two panes of stamps (the inter-pane gutter) wouldn't normally warrant publicity, but regular contributor *Steve Netten* has reported a most unusual item. But first a brief history of what was printed between the panes, and why.

In an experiment to try and improve the quality of printing, and possibly extend the life of the printing plate, two plates of the Queen Victoria 1d Lilac were modified in 1887 to include a continuous line around the edge of each pane of stamps utilising the sheet gutter and selvedge. As 1887 was Queen Victoria's 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year, the line naturally became known as the 'Jubilee Line'. The experiment was a success, and as a result the 'Jubilee' line was applied to printing plates from then onwards through to 1934 when a different printing technique (photogravure) was employed which didn't use it.

In October 1899 additional 'pillars' (sometimes called 'ladders') were also included in the inter-pane gutter. The inter-pane gutter itself was removed in 1924 when Waterlows took over the printing contract.



Above we have three examples where the inter-pane gutter has also been *Perfined*. The colour of the line is the colour of the printed stamp, so the middle example (which is blue) with "LSS/C", known used 1922-1970, would probably have come from a King George V 2½d stamp. In the case of bi-coloured stamps, two 'Jubilee' lines can be found surrounding the panes of stamps, one for each colour printed - e.g. the QV 2d Jubilee would have one green line and one (interrupted) red line/rule. This red rule eventually became 'pillars' after they were introduced in 1899. As a result, all three examples date to post 1899 as the 'pillars' are present as well as part of the 'Jubilee' lines.



But what's special about Steve Netten's example, shown above? It turns out there are *two* unusual features.

- The pair appears to have been 'used' - the company cachet reads:  
Claude H. Evans & Co/London E.C./16 Monkwel Street  
Note - Claude H Evans were Glove makers.
- Surprisingly, the Die is completely unknown on Postage Stamps!

If you can shed any more light on this particular Perfin,  
I'd very much like to hear from you!

While we're on the subject, what other 'marginal markings' can be found associated with Perfins?



- Line Engraved and Surface Printed Plate numbers, 'Current' numbers, Cylinder numbers, and marginal inscriptions may be found from the early days of initialling postage stamps in 1868 through to the Decimal Machin issues of today. They are usually still attached to the postage stamp(s), although the margins themselves have not normally been Perfined.





- Controls - introduced in February 1884, they were a regular feature in the margins of sheets of stamps until they were discontinued in the late 1940's. The number portion is the year. Usually, such items are mint and are likely to have been 'retained' as 'trophies'. For example, I know of eight different KGV typograph values with various controls ranging from J28 to M30, all with the same Perfin - "GH/&C<sup>o</sup>" (G2120.03). These still show the 'Jubilee' line, but the 1/2d photogravure pair shown above with Y/36, and later issues, no longer have it.



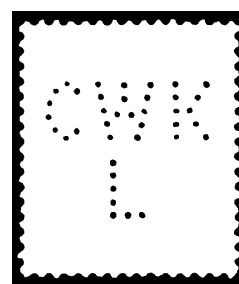
## HOW LONG DO YOU WAIT FOR AN ANSWER?

Rosemary Smith

Going through my "C" perfin collection, to add any new information onto Roy's Draft Sheets, I came across a very interesting cover and letter. I had completely forgotten about the letter but realise it could be well worth an article for the Bulletin.

The perfin is C8460.01 - CWK/L- used by C. W. Kellock & Co, 27 St. Mary Axe, London EC. The company is an international broker for the sale and purchase of ships. It was founded in 1820 and the family business is still in business with 6th generation family members. The cover is a window envelope, so no recipient's address, and rather dark and somewhat stained. The date is July 30 1914, the stamp King George V 2½d.

1895 - 1939



C8460.01

The letter inside, from Angfartygs Aktiebolaget Bore, Abo, Finland, is dated December 18th 1919. The contents read:-

*Dear Sirs,*

*As a curiosity we may mention, that your favour of the 3rd July 1914 came to us to hand today. At the first glancing at the letter we could not understand, what had caused the sudden substantial drop in price of steamers, but when we looked at the date, we found that the letter and prices were pre-war. We enclose the envelope, as it may have some interest for stamp collectors.*

*With the best compliments of the season, we are,*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Angfartygs Aktiebolaget Bore.*

It certainly has interest, for stamp collectors and for any historians of the First World War. I wonder where the letter had been kept all during the war? GB or Finland? We will never know.

## EXPERIMENTAL PUNCHED CANCELLATIONS

Maurice Harp

For the perfin collector all life begins in 1868. However experiments in the use of perforation date back long before. Trials in the perforation of postage stamps date back to 1853 and official perforation of stamps was introduced in January 1854 with machines constructed by David Napier & Sons. And Sloper himself took out his first patent in 1858 for cancellation of cheques.

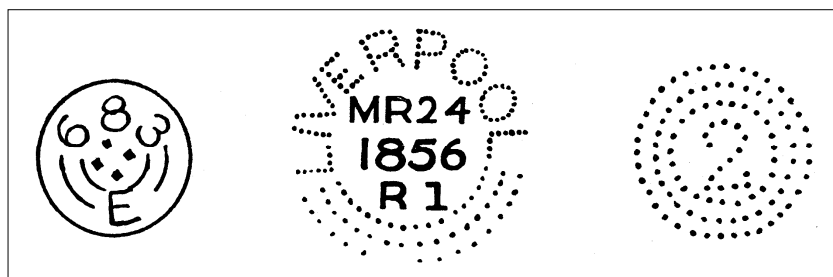
**Rudy Roy** alerted me to the stamp illustrated below which has been on sale on ebay, which I had never seen before. The cancel consists of a simple circle with 683 for Salisbury and four punched holes in the centre.



Turning to "British Postmarks - A Short History & Guide - Alcock & Holland" I found :- *"In the late 1850's experiments were made with a punching obliterator, the four dots in the centre being the holes made by the pins. The first trial may have been made at Salisbury, which had the office number 683, but specimens are also known from London. The*

*steel pins needed frequent attention and also penetrated the enclosure in the envelope, so that the experiment did not prove a success."*

*"Liverpool also had a single numbered obliterator with six punctured holes and in 1855-56 they experimented with the cancel shown below, in which the name and arcs consisted of small holes made by perforating pins. There was also an experimental type in use at the Foreign Branch of the London G.P.O., in which the holes formed three concentric circles around the figure 2."*



How this machine worked and what it looked like I have no information. All these items may be seen as precursors of perfins and would form a good introductory pages to any perfin collection.

# CONTENTS

## PAGE

### **Society News:-**

Membership Changes; Editorial; Secretary/Treasurer	
Exhibit Section on Website / Spring Meeting / First Auction	2 – 4

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

New Identity for CL/P/AC - C4570.01/ Eugene Rimmel - Perfumer /	
Request for Information / Jean Oswald Sauven /	4 - 7
Summer Holiday Memories / Curzon Brothers International Tailors /	
£1 Seahorse and New Catalogue / More Errors / Ohlson & Co Ltd	

### **Articles**

Life Membership Award - John Donner	<b>Rosemary Smith</b>	8
Nunnery Colliery - Pit Accident	<b>Roy Gault</b>	9
Dickins & Jones - Department Store	<b>Richard Husband</b>	10 - 16
Last Commercial G.B. Cover?	<b>Roy Gault</b>	17
Perfined Parcel Delivery Stamps	<b>Maurice Harp</b>	18
The Veitch Family of Nurserymen	<b>Dave Hill</b>	19
Frank Braham Proofs	<b>Maurice Harp</b>	20 - 26
	<b>/ Roy Gault</b>	
Inter-Pane Gutters with Perfins	<b>Roy Gault</b>	27 - 29
How Long Do You Wait for an Answer?	<b>Rosemary Smith</b>	30
Experimental Punched Cancellation	<b>Maurice Harp</b>	31

Auction No. 1 (2015) 12 Pages

New Identities Pages 565 - 568 12 Pages



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: