THAMES VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY PERFIN "TWA" AND "TW" Alan Briggs.

Whilst soaking off some Machins on piece, as I peeled away what I thought were 3 x TWA perfinned stamps on the one piece, two lp and one 20p black (SG1469), I saw that only the lp stamps were TWA, the 20p being perfinned TW only. There was no identity or post-mark on the piece and I presumed that they were Thames Water Authority.

A further 20p black (SGX959) has also been found with TW only. In both cases the holes in the TW match exactly with those in the TW of TWA: almost as if the A pin had been removed.

Checking through recent Bulletins I find that in No.247 (Aug.'99 Page 19) Michael Rucklidge had confirmed at Sloper's Works the existence of this TW perfin now catalogued as T4910.02. It would seem that stocks of lp stamps perfinned with the original TWA die had been used along with 20p stamps perfinned with the new die to make up the new Postal Rate of 22p effective from 15-9-90.

From Ed.

It is a great pity the stamps were soaked from the piece even though there was no identity, postmark or date. At least it shows the two dies were used by the same user. From memory the only similar item I have is a 13p Machin NR/BR (N2730.02) and a lp

Machin NR (N2710.06) on one piece. Having an identified cover for Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche with perfin 2730.02 I safely identified 2710.06 with the same firm - albeit after some parting, of the ways of the former partners.

It would be interesting to find out if other members have different dies used by the same firm on the one envelope or piece. (Not a collection of illegally used perfins) Do please write in if you have other examples.