

## GRAPHITE LINED PERFINS

In our last issue Reg Powell drew our attention to the scarcity of perfins on graphite lined issues and, judging by members response, these are very rare indeed. The only ones recorded to date are:-

- (i) Bob Schwerdt:  
NC on SG 562  
T & S on SG 556 (Toogood A Sons Ltd., Southampton)  
SW/GB on SG 593 (South Western Gas Board)
  
- (ii) Reg Powell  
W.S./M on SG 563  
J/LD or. SG 588  
CK on SG 589  
FRY on SG 589  
L/&Co/Ld on SG 589  
W & S on SG 593  
C/W/S on SG 594  
BN/&H on SG 594
  
- (iii) Douglas Wylie  
C.P/R on SG 590

Both the small number of reported examples and the range of types is surprising. These stamps were widely used in the Southampton area in the period 1957/9 in conjunction with the Post Office's first Automatic Letter facing machine. They are also known after 1959 with phosphor bands as well as graphite lines. The latter were used also in Southampton until 1960, when residual stocks were distributed in other areas. Consequently users should be based in Southampton, except for any who may have acquired residual stocks in other areas after July 1960, however only two of the above designs can be identified with the Southampton area whereas many of the others seem to originate elsewhere.

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