

SLOPER MACHINE “No 49”

Stephen Steere

A Joseph Sloper perforating machine (No. 49) has recently appeared on e-bay with a starting price of £9. The machine was described as being used to stamp numbers into X-ray film and is probably similar to that used by Kodak film processors that resulted in the well-known numeral “perfins”. The machine is fitted with two brass wheels that rotate to select the required number and is operated by a large handle on the right side. The description goes on to say that it is believed to be more than 80 years old and that it weighs 18kg. The machine finally sold for the reserve price.

A similar machine owned by member **Ian Hamill** but fitted with six wheels was illustrated in Bulletin 335. His machine was used as a “PAID/DATE” cancellator.

