

FEEDBACK ON PREVIOUS ARTICLES

Members Queries – VIR Endorsement – Bulletin 353/4

John Mathews writes in reference to Jack Brandt's query on his stamp with a VIR endorsement. "It looks as if someone may have made up an abbreviation for "Victoria I Regina" (similar to "E2R"). It looks as if it has been done by hand."

Members' Queries – F & C P P Postmark – Bulletin 353/4

Andy Donaldson writes in relation to Jack's query regarding the "F & C P P" cancel.



"I wouldn't claim to have a greater knowledge on cancels but I do have a good book on them (Collect British Postmarks by Whitney, 7th Ed.) I have attached the image from the catalogue, which, as you can see, is a very good match. The description states that this is a dated rubber handstamp for the "Foreign & Colonial Parcel Post".

Chris Carr also makes an interesting contribution on this subject. "The F&CPP is almost certainly part of F&CPPD [at that time Foreign & Colonial Parcel Post Depot as an alternative to I&FPPD or Imperial & Foreign], later to change to F & Commonwealth PPD. It is not so much a revenue use but rather a "date stamp" to postmark any stamp used at that depot or to date any label, document, etc. used at that depot. It was initially at Mount Pleasant but after WW2 it was divided between Mount Pleasant, King Edward Building and The Royal Agricultural Hall, Islington, [commonly referred to by Customs staff as Aggie Hall] and eventually work was transferred to LOMO [London Overseas Mail Office] at Stratford. Whilst I was in HMC&E [1948-1989] I worked at MP, KEB and RAH examining both inward and outward mail in 1949 and 1963-64. The RAH is now the Business Design Centre where Stampex is held.

More on the HM/OW Perfin – Bulletin 353/14

John Mathews writes "...was unacceptable in use (?)...". Perhaps because it covered too much of the stamp and might cause the stamps

to split when being separated from the sheet, or perhaps because it obliterated too much of the monarch's image. These were two aspects, which seemed to concern the authorities when perfin were first proposed.

Gas Mantle Manufacturers – Bulletin 353/20

John Mathews writes in reference to A5570.01 A/U/R perfin.



“The Welsbach Light Co Ltd gets plenty of hits on Google, but none, including company histories, mention anything that might be associated with these initials. There are no holes after each letter, and I wonder if it could have been meant to be a form of Carl Auer von Welsbach's name??”

Telegraphic Perfin “What Hath God Wrought?”– Bulletin 353/26

John Mathews responds to Roy Gault's invitation for information on Henry Harborow. “Bulletin 333, page 13 gives some details of Henry Harborow's life through Census records. I later found some earlier Census records and added the extra details in Bulletin 338, page 13 (the first reference to 1871 for Henry should of course be to 1861). In addition, the 1851 Census shows him as a scholar at Potter Street, Harlow, Essex, and the 1841 Census lists him with people in Kent with a different surname (could be relatives) so he may have been an orphan. The common link in all these Census records is his birthplace of Waltham Cross, Essex. The GRO records show he was born in the third quarter of 1838 and the birth was registered at Edmonton, north London. He married in the first quarter of 1864 at Shoreditch, which is where he was living at the 1861 Census. The 1913 and 1914 Directories show him living at 4 Weald View Road, Tonbridge, Kent. He died in the last quarter of 1916 at Bromley, Kent, aged 78 years.”