

Bankers mail services since the 18th century (Money Letters, Registered, Express Delivery, High Value Parcels & Bankers Special Packets) – the Post Office ‘secret’ services.

Banks have always needed high security methods for the transfer of banknotes, bullion and coin between their various offices, both nationally and internationally.

This presentation deals with aspects of those services provided within Britain by the Royal Mail in the late 18th to late 20th centuries.

Naturally this has attracted the attention of criminals (think Great Train Robbery), hence the arrangements have always been enveloped in as much security as possible and there is the minimum of public knowledge about the services – although this lack of public knowledge never seemed to hinder those who robbed post office vans carrying registered mail which just happened to contain hundreds of thousands of pounds in used banknotes!

Transfers have used private courier, security firms, and a variety of postal services.

Within the UK these postal services met the need to transfer new banknotes from head office out to branches, and 'retired' used notes back to head office for destruction.

In addition, a number of national banks had the right to issue their own notes in Scotland, Ireland and elsewhere. Because these banknotes were accepted tender throughout the UK, there was a need for 'repatriation' of used banknotes between receiving and issuing banks.

The HVP and BSP services were not available for random mailings. Packages could be sent between branch banks and head offices and *vice versa*, but the service may not have been available for direct transmissions between branch banks.

This presentation addresses aspects of this system within the UK, but it is obvious that many other countries must have had to satisfy the same requirements.

It is also obvious that with the increase in foreign travel there has been an increasing need for similar international services.

The High Value Packet (HVP) service started in most of Great Britain on June 16, 1930. The service was only extended to major Scottish cities late in 1960 and to the whole of Scotland on March 1st 1961.

It was later replaced in Scotland by the Bankers' Special Packet (BSP) service.

The HVP and BSP services offered security additional to that provided by Registered Post (with or without the refinement of Express Delivery). The service was only available to banks.

Packages could be sent between branch banks and head offices and *vice versa*, but the service may not have been available for direct transmissions between branch banks.

There has been very little written about these services.

Further information may be found in

Mackay, J., 1982. *Registered Mail of the British Isles*, p.137-142; and in

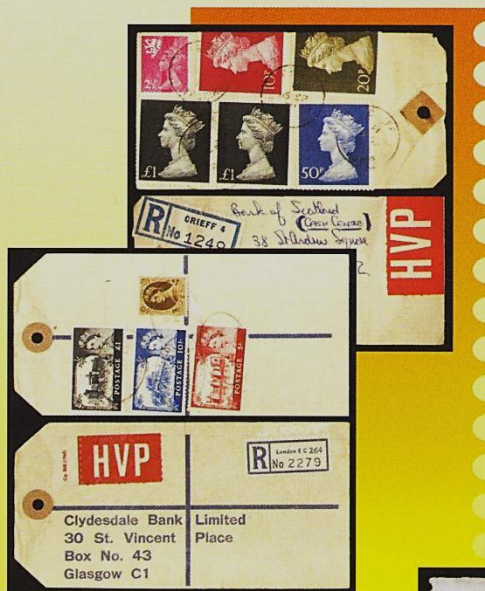
O'Hara, M.J., 2006. UK Bankers' Mail services in the 20th Century – High Value Packets (HVP) and Bankers Special Packets (BSP) – the Post Office 'Secret' Services. *GB Journal* 44 No 1, p.4-12.

Les Wilkinson at www.les-wilkinson.co.uk/article14.shtml

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*Bankers' Mail Services — tags
from High Value Packets (HVPs)*



*Dividing Sheets at
Somerset House —
wing margin stamps*

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HARRY DAGNALL FRPSL
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THE 20TH CENTURY
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SOMERSET HOUSE
RAY SIMPSON FRPSL &
PETER SARGENT FRPSL

Organisation of this presentation

The presentation opens with an **introduction** and this panel [6] which provides a **summary of contents**

Escalating **postal charges** and the classification of the **postal history** into periods and intervals are reviewed in [45]-[56]

The **material available** and its possible abundance is surveyed in panels [7]-[13]

Availability of the services by date and region is summarised in [14]-[15]

Franking of the packets using postage meters [57]-[61] or adhesives [62]-[74] is reviewed, with the handling of posted unfranked dealt with in [75]-[76]]

Transport and package handling are covered in Transport & Mailings [16]-[21], and **size, weight and frequency** of mailings in [22]-[24]

A survey of **cancellations and postmarks** [77]-[81] follows

Enclosure and sealing are considered in [25]-[38]

Marks and labels indicative of the services are described in [39]-[44] and a supplement

An appendix contains some of the **documentation** relevant to this presentation [198]-[212]]. Also an appendix on changes in PO arrangements in Kyle and Ft William., and on the fate of these packets under the Scottish Registration experiment 1972-1980

The presentation closes with a gallery displaying early sequential items [82-107], pre-stamp [108]-[115]], sequential history [116-101], franking contrasts [102-104], persistent franking errors [151]-[155], overseas directed mail [160]-[176], English mailings [177-179]] post 1973, and punched Machins [179]-[180] displaying items from different periods

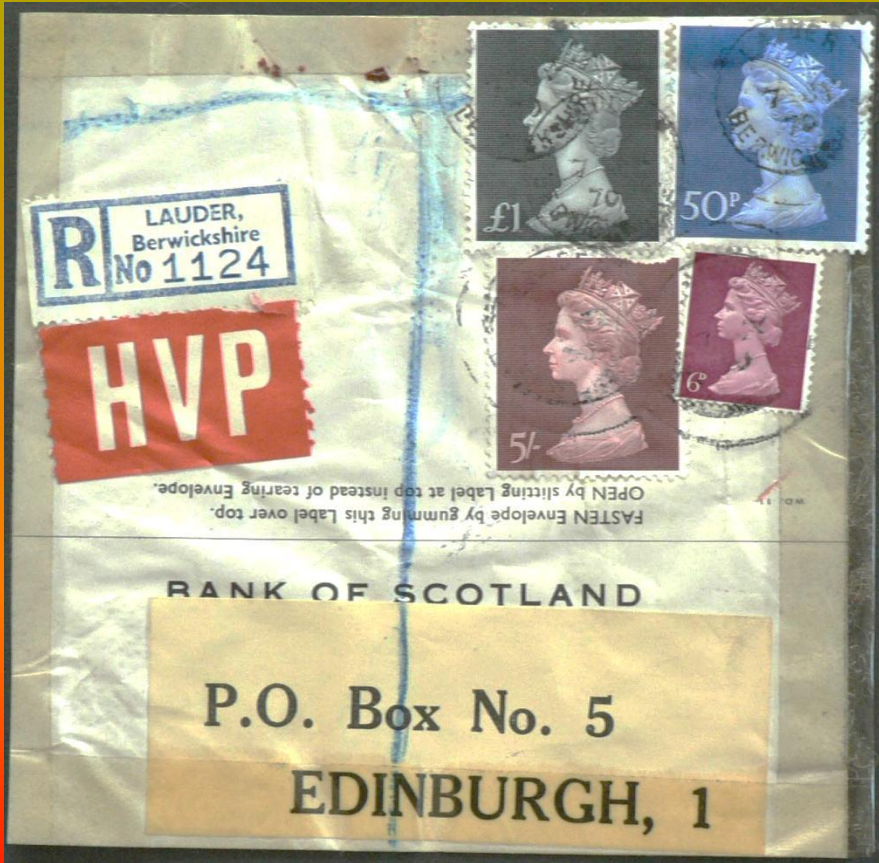
These services were the principal postal source in the UK of fine used higher face value definitives and of commemorative stamps with circular cancellations.

Because the services were only available to accredited representatives of banks, for transmission of banknote parcels to other specified banks, there has been no 'creation' of philatelic items.

The surviving postal history material is mostly in the form of printed linen address tags, printed or hand-written card parcel labels bearing addresses, registration marks and frankings.

These were cut or slashed with widely varying levels of care from the parcels of banknotes.

There are scarcer parcel fronts or portions of 'registered' wrappers.



Economy label taped to front of 7 lb packet in 1970 and recovered intact.

Part of large strong wrapper preprinted with bank information and blue cross, with bank code in red.



Cut fragments from the material indicating the use of standard postal stationery, mainly to send small packets from England to Edinburgh *after* the end of HVP services in England and Scotland.

It is possible, given access to sufficient 'complete' material, to learn a great deal about the pattern and size of mailings between particular offices and to identify which parcels were likely to be the most 'rewarding'.

The vast bulk of the tags from these packages were damaged anyway in transit, but for security reasons most were further broken up by tearing into fragments to separate the information on addresses, weights and dates.

The resulting melange was then mostly soaked to recover high value definitive and commemorative stamps and sold for charity.

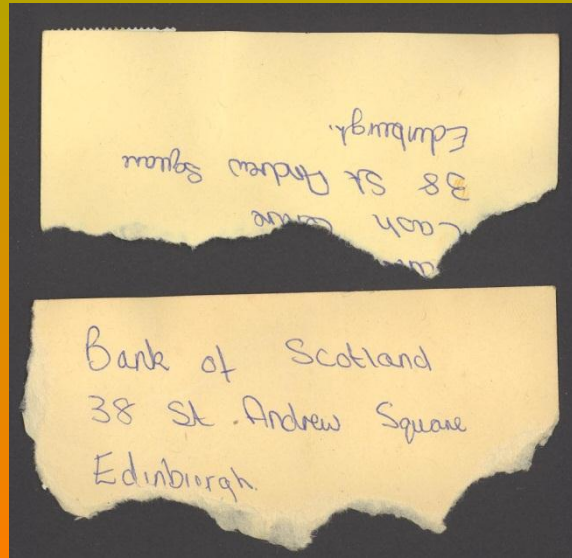
One might estimate that less than 10% of all the material created was of collectable quality and of this 10% much less than 0.1% appears to have survived as potential postal history

Survival of material has been a matter of chance. I have recovered complete HVP tags from dealers in Edinburgh and Glasgow (possibly the result of some private enterprise by bank employees), other material donated by parties who knew of my interest and who had come across that material in collections or even in the attics of houses previously owned by bank managers!

The bulk of material I have seen, however, came my way between 1969 and 1986 through a personal contact made in the Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh when I had need in late 1969 for secure overnight lodging for some exceptionally valuable material (the first lunar samples from the Apollo 11 mission).



A parcel of raw material from the bank source tipped onto the carpet for sorting.



Despite regular requests to the contrary, helpful modifications to otherwise fine items were often encountered.



And the post office made sure of cancelling some of the stamps.



Part of a large recovery of HVP tags from a Glasgow dealer about 1975

Collectable Items from Banknote Mail Services

The essential features are:-

(a) *a base of strong wrapping material, tie-on card or linen label.*

The postal history interest of the first is one-sided; that of the latter is necessarily two-sided, which poses some challenges for effective display of the material.

(b) *indications of registration*, such as a registration label and/or a blue cross.

(c) *a franking indicating a parcel of significant weight*, and a postage rate consistent with the service apparently used.

Depending upon the area, period and specific service of usage, there may additionally be,

(d) *labels, stamps or manuscript markings* indicating Express Delivery, HVP or BSP service.

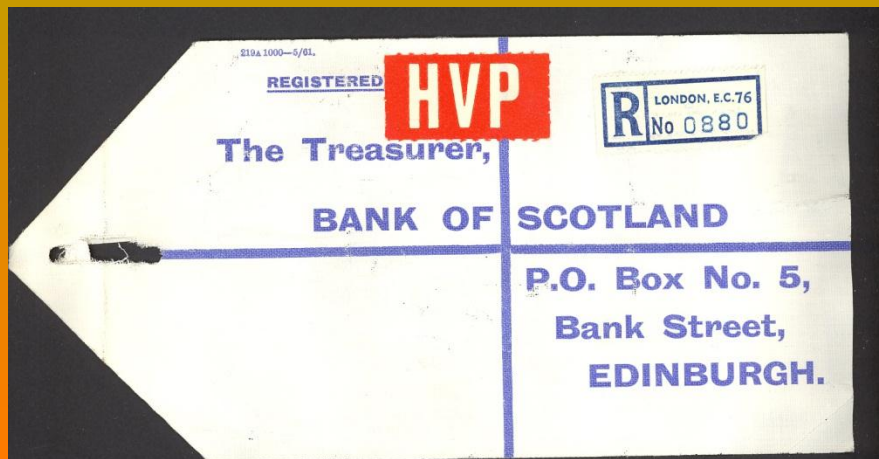
(e) *indications of the bank* originating the mailing.

(f) *address* of the destination bank.

(g) *wax or metal seals* of the originating bank.

(h) *cancellations.*

Collectable Items from Banknote Mail Services

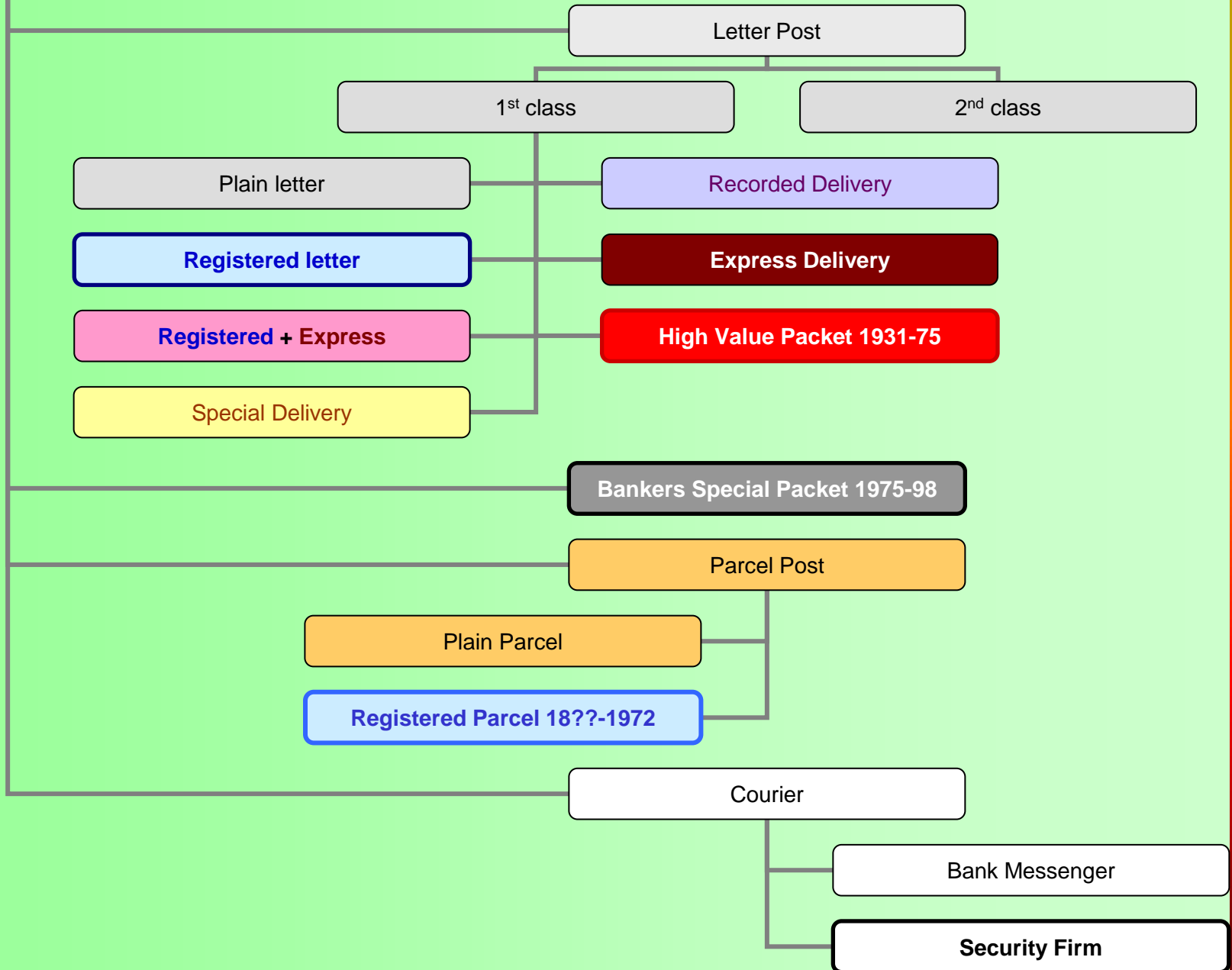


Printed linen tag, Bank of Scotland,
London to Edinburgh, 26/11/1963



Packet card label, Bank of
Scotland, Elgin to Edinburgh late
1969

Bankers' Mail Choices



Extent of the HVP and BSP services by time and place

Special Delivery only	DECIMAL CURRENCY	PRE-DECIMAL (IMPERIAL) CURRENCY	Currency						
Most bank carried by security	<p>Changes in monarch or issues of high denomination definitives were numerous but are <i>not</i> used in the classification.</p>		Postal Rates						
	QEII	KGVI	Reign						
	New Castles Engraved	Machin large (Photo)	Machin Engraved	Castles (W, DIR, & BW printings)	Arms	Seahorses (BW and W printings)	High value definitive issues		
	No printed BSP labels seen. A few handstamps, mostly manuscript	Printed white 'HVP' on scarlet labels used in addition to registration labels. Experimental registration labels in Scotland 1972-1976. National head office labels introduced from 1973 and replaced by imperforate self-adhesive labels from 1984.		Standard registration, Special and Express Delivery labels in use		Labels			
After the HVP ended, banks mostly used security firms and road transport to move banknotes.	HVP service existed 1930-1973 in the Isle of Man, Channel Islands (except during the war), England & Wales and London-Belfast		Isle of Man	Channel Islands	England & Wales	London to Belfast only	London to major Scottish cities only	within Scotland	Northern
BSP service existed, in Scotland only, from 1975 until the end of registration in 1998	HVP service was extended to Scotland from 1960 to 1961 and was maintained		Prior to the HVP service, banks used Registered parcel or letter post, or Registered post + Express Delivery.						
The chart extends from 1920 at right to 2000 at left									
2000	<p>These changes in type and geographic extent of service offered. are the basis of the 7 main periods recognised. Further subdivision is by changes in letter rates, registration & HVP fees, changes in currency and metrication of weights. Earlier periods are based on the 18th-19th century Money Letter system and a short period 1840-1841 when there was no special security for banknote parcels</p>								
7									

Extent of the HVP and BSP services by time and place

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HVP service was extended to Scotland from 1960/61 and was maintained until 1975.

BSP service existed, in Scotland only, from 1975 until the end of registration in 1998

Transportation

- Bankers parcels have almost always been transported by the Post Office with the ordinary mails, subject to extra security appropriate for these registered items.
- Even in remote country towns and villages where crime is low, it is unreasonable to think that a bank or post office employee walked down the street carrying a parcel containing many thousands of pounds in negotiable currency under his arm. It is more likely that mail vans were used between despatching bank and the post office, although in some cases items might have been taken directly to or from the long-distance transport (train, ship or plane).
- Special secure locations were provided within the railway travelling post offices (TPO's – see www.tpo.org.uk) and perhaps on some other mail carriages also.
- Special dedicated carriages or sections of carriages may have been provided for the large volume of traffic between London and other major cities. The Great Train Robbery of August 8 1963 was directed at such a shipment of c. £2.3 million from Glasgow to London on the night mail train which was entirely as travelling post office on which mail was sorted in transit. The HVP items, in 120 bags containing about 2100 kgs of cash, mostly as used £1 and £5 notes, were all located in the second carriage (see the British Transport Police website www.btp.police.uk), which may have been dedicated, but more probably the HVP occupied part of a carriage dedicated to all registered items. This was an exceptional shipment nearly 8 times larger than usual following the August Bank Holiday.
-
- Mail vans were used to move the HVP mail from train directly to the banks in major cities. These, too, were frequently attacked in London, individual vans turning out to have contained as much as £800,000 in used banknotes.

Package handling (1)

- Given the high value and readily negotiable content of the parcels, especially those returning used banknotes, it is probable that they were packed and sealed in the manager's office in small branches of the banks, or in the head cashier's office in larger branches. Head offices probably had dedicated HVP mailrooms.
- There is evidence that in many cases the parcels were made-up, sealed, addressed, weighed, franked and registered in these offices at the despatching bank. Head offices and larger branches held their own stocks of HVP labels, registration labels and record forms, and of the necessary high value definitives. In small towns where the bank might not have carried stocks of high value definitives, franking and registering may have been deferred until the parcel reached the post office itself. Payment was probably made at the time of collection, however, in these cases.
- The parcels were checked and collected from the bank by Post Office employees, put into special green mail sacks (Mackay 1982) which were given special post office labels (these were occasionally used to carry the address and franking on the parcels themselves), and possibly further camouflaged in ordinary grey mail sacks. Transport to post office, train, ship or plane was probably by post office van, and it would have been sound security to minimise the time between parcel collection and its commitment to transportation.
- The rare appearance of post office 'Found open and resealed' tape suggests that the green bags were on occasions opened and the parcels removed or amalgamated with the contents of other green sacks during their transit.

Package handling (2)

- On receipt at the bank, parcels were checked and unpacked in a secure area, and at this stage the collectable material was separated, often very roughly, and in most cases destroyed or broken up as indicated in the Introduction.
- The organisation of the high level of security required and provided in the HVP and BSP services would have been made easier if mailings and deliveries were made only on specified days, 'randomly' selected and agreed at short notice between banks and the post office – provided that villains could not get this inside information!
- It is likely that at all banks involved in the transmission of banknotes by mail there was at least one designated HVP or BSP 'officer'. This would have been the manager or head cashier at smaller branches, but there may have been one or more dedicated positions within the cashier's department at head offices.
- In major cities the Post Office may also have maintained one or more staff members with dedicated duties towards HVP and BSP mailings, duties which would have been performed by the postmaster at small post offices receiving and delivering the mailings. There must also have been other staff charged with special responsibility for these packages during their transit by road, rail, sea and air. Not all of these staff would have been employees of the Post Office or the banks.

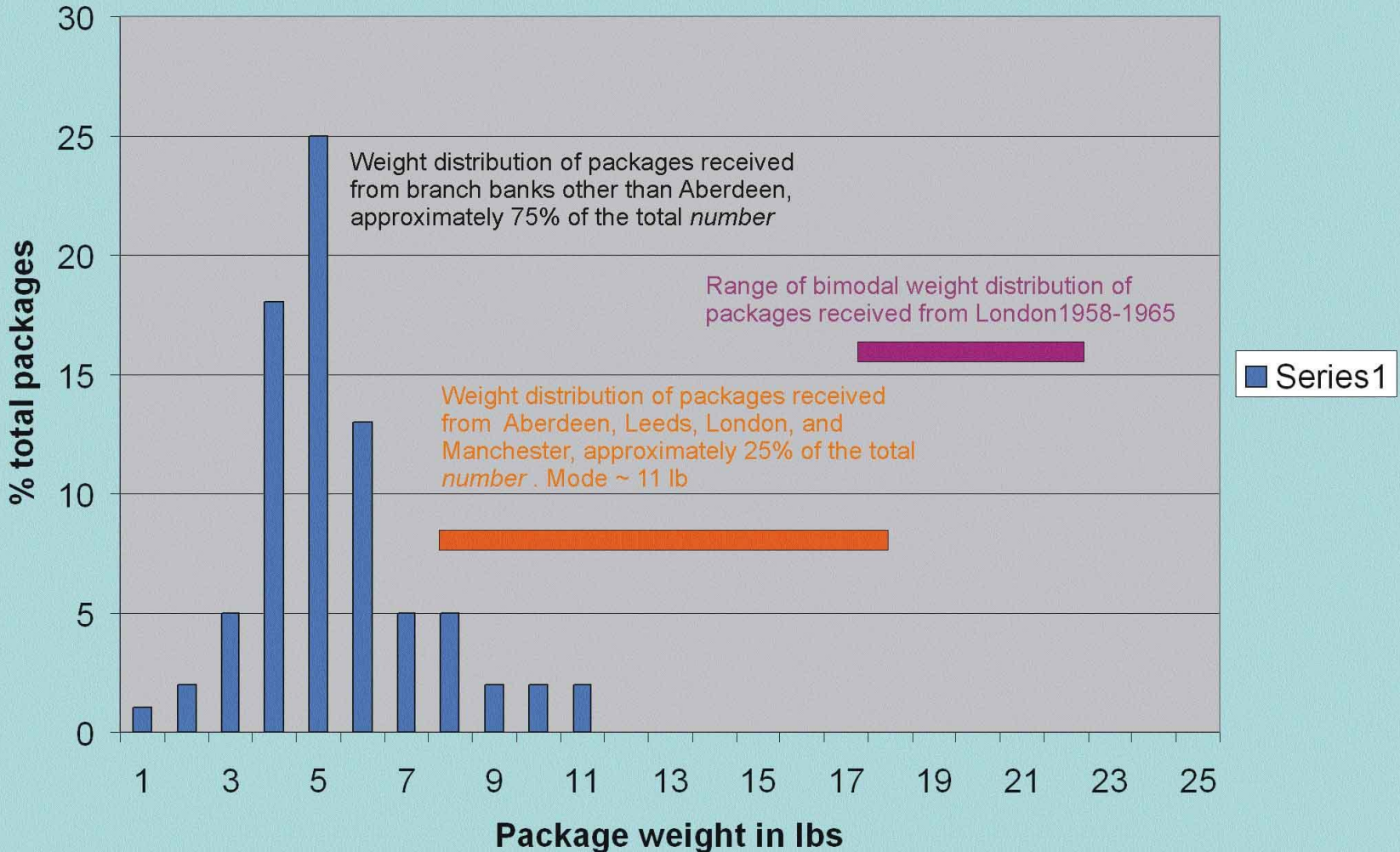
Package weights, sizes and values A

- The frankings indicate the weights of packages, many of which would be made up to standard sums of currency, especially in the case of the larger transactions between major offices. Banknote weights have varied over the years, and from denomination to denomination, but some indication of the probable value of parcels can be obtained.
- Assuming that the weight of a banknote is approximately 1.0 gm, each kilogram weight of a parcel, neglecting wrapping, would represent a value of about £1000 in £1 notes, £5000 in £5 notes, £10000 in £10 notes.
- Many parcels of over 7 lbs or 3 kg weight are indicated, and some up to 28 lbs or over 12 kg weight, implying individual package values in the vicinity of £3000 to £120,000.
- 10000 banknotes weight ~10 kg pack into a box 14x28x35 cm, or ~13.6 litres volume.
- Most of the parcels in the shipments between the Bank of Scotland in London and Edinburgh in 1963-64 were 9 or 10 kg in weight. Approximately fortnightly shipments of an average of 8 parcels are indicated, implying total weights of perhaps **80 kg** and total values of about **£200,000**, allowing for some higher denomination notes.

Package weights, sizes and values B

- Combining this information with the information that £300,000 was the more typical cash value of the overnight HVP mail from Glasgow to London, it might be inferred that only one bank would send on a given day except when the flow of business had been disrupted by a Bank Holiday and a weekend. As many as 8 banks may have despatched simultaneously on Tuesday, August 7th 1963 preceding the Great Train Robbery, directly following the August 1st Bank Holiday on the Wednesday before. Approximately 220 parcels with a volume of about 3 cubic metres and a value of £2.3 million were stolen.
- The frequency of weights in mailings from branches to the head office of the Bank of Scotland within Scotland between 1969 and 1971, based upon a large but not necessarily representative sample of tags, is shown in the figure.
- Within this distribution there was a clear tendency for particular banks to send parcels of a particular weight. Aberdeen, for example, persistently sent heavier parcels than most other branches.
- When the Scottish banks negotiated in 1973-1975 with the Post Office for the introduction of the flat-rate Banker's Special Packet service between remoter branches and head office, the calculations were based on the assumption that the average parcel weight would be 7 lbs or approximately 3.3 kg.

Distribution of package weights in receipts by Bank of Scotland 1968-70



Envelopes Banknotes must on occasion have been sent in quite small quantities (e.g. foreign currency, very high denomination notes) which could have been enclosed in standard printed registered envelopes of post office issue, or similar envelopes printed specifically for individual banks. Little if any material survives to indicate that this was a significant volume of traffic.

Brown paper Some fragments recovered indicate that quite substantial packages were wrapped externally in strong brown paper with franking and address applied directly to the parcel

'Registered' wrappers Numerous fragments and fronts have been seen which come from printed registered wrappers of strong cream paper of the type also used in some post office registered envelopes. These must have been quite large sheets because they enclosed parcels of banknotes up to 7 lbs in weight (here 6 lb 8 oz).

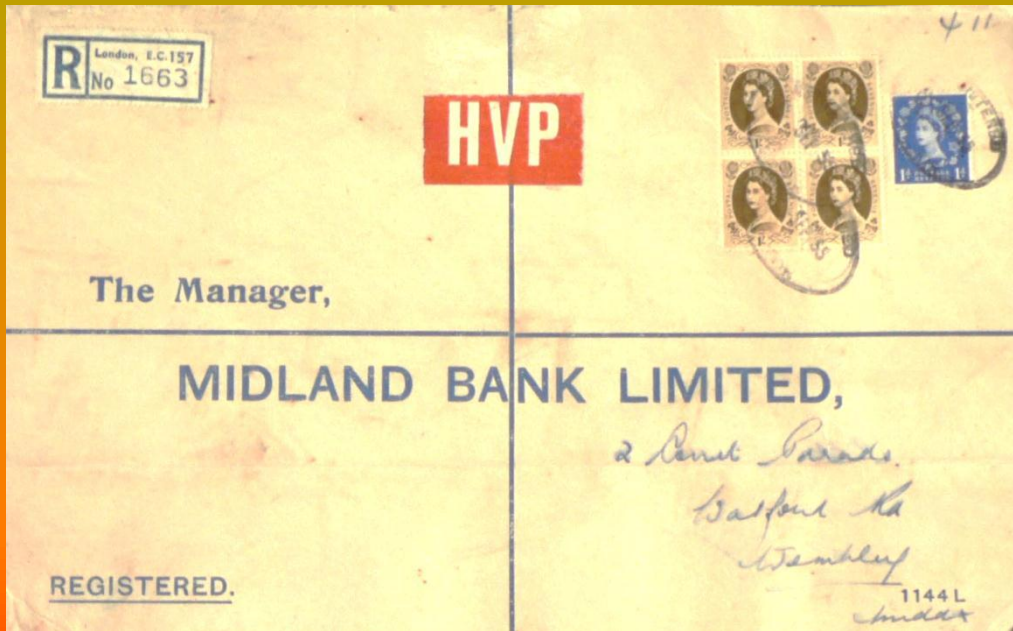
Special boxes? The traffic between head offices of banks, and between head offices and major branches, was substantial and frequent.

These transactions are marked by the use of special printed linen address tags which were probably used in conjunction with strong, possibly fibre-board, re-usable boxes which would contain a standard amount (weight) of banknotes of a particular denomination.

Large loose blocks of medium and high denomination definitives have been seen, implying large flat surfaces, such as those provided by fibre-board boxes, to which the stamps did not adhere strongly.

Wrappers, Boxes, Tags, and Labels - 1

Wrappers etc A



Wrappers, Boxes, Tags, and Labels - 1



Wrappers, Boxes, Tags, and Labels - 2

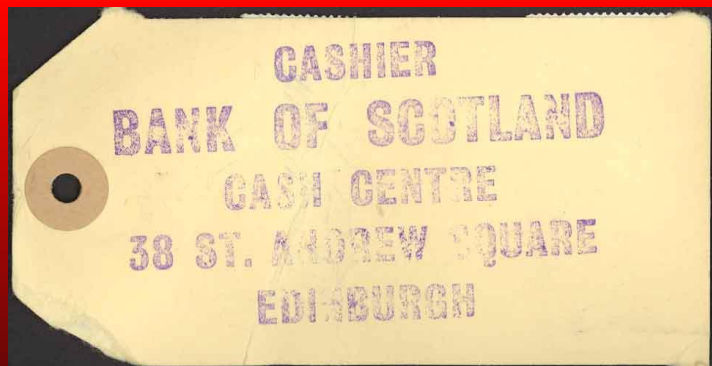
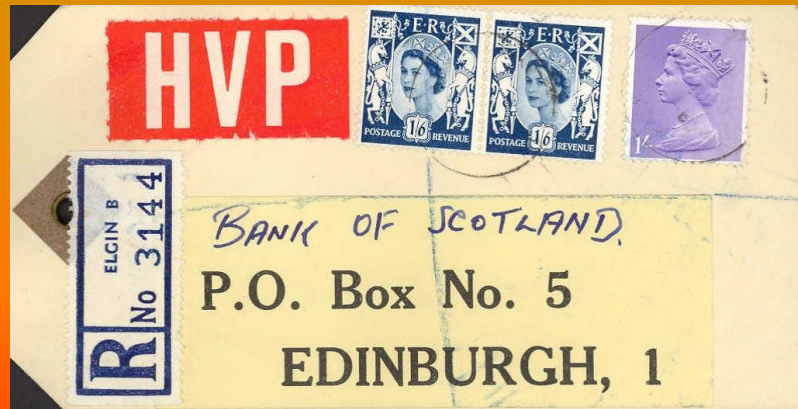
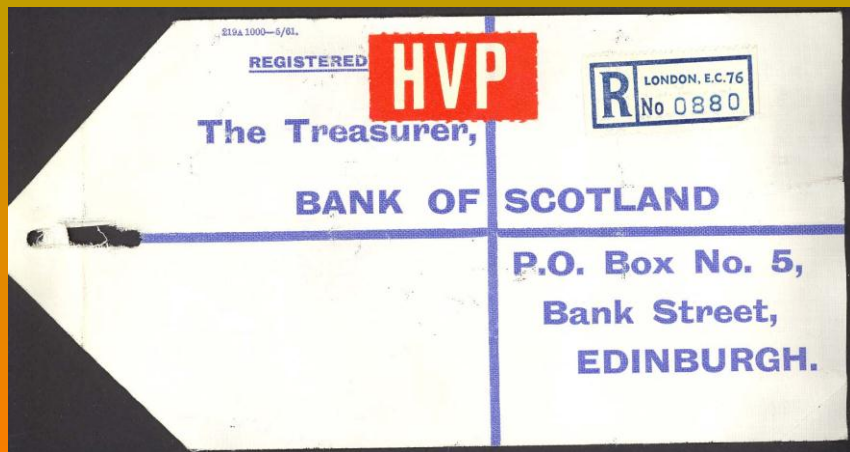
Printed linen registered labels. Specially printed linen tags with the full address of the receiving bank (head office), the registration blue cross and the word “Registered”, were prepared for use as tie-on labels in the large and regular transmissions between head offices in major cities e.g. between London, Edinburgh, Glasgow and probably Belfast.

This type of transmission was particularly vulnerable to criminal activity, however, and may have been the first part of the service to have been transferred to private security firms. Very few labels of this type have been seen dated after the mid-1960's.

Printed stickers Some banks used simple adhesive labels with the name and address of head office. These were probably standard issue to all branches and were used on a large volume of mail, not just banknote packets. They appear on standard card tie-on parcel tags in abundance. Many more banks used ‘skeleton’ address labels where part of the address had to be filled-in at the time of use.

Standard tags Branch banks mailing banknotes to head office normally used these standard card tie-on parcel tags, sometimes specially printed with the name of the despatching bank e.g. Aberdeen, with the address partly or wholly hand-written or very occasionally typed or rubber stamped.

Wrappers, Boxes, Tags, and Labels - 2



Wrappers, Boxes, Tags, and Labels - 2

Wrappers etc B

'Emergency' tags Older material and occasional sendings from small branches e.g. Lairg sometimes used labels made up from roughly cut pieces of cardboard. This was the normal practice at Lairg.+

During the BSP period in particular, some branch banks persistently used printed money-bag tie-on labels, often stapled back-to-back to provide greater strength, as the tag on which to attach address and franking.

All the above mentioned wrappers, boxes, labels and stickers could plausibly have been incorporated in the packages *in the despatching bank itself*, together with the HVP labels, frankings and even the registration labels (from dedicated reels). This would have been an obvious security measure and would have provided much greater convenience in recording and checking for both bank and post office.

This arrangement would have been least likely to exist at small branch banks which made infrequent sendings. Post Office official card tie-on labels normally used on whole mail bags in transit were occasionally used to carry both address and franking.

In some cases there are indications that the address label *and* the franking, possibly the HVP label and the registration label were applied by the post office *after* collection from the bank.

Such an arrangement is consistent with the occasional examples of packages despatched unfranked.

Wrappers, Boxes, Tags, and Labels - 3



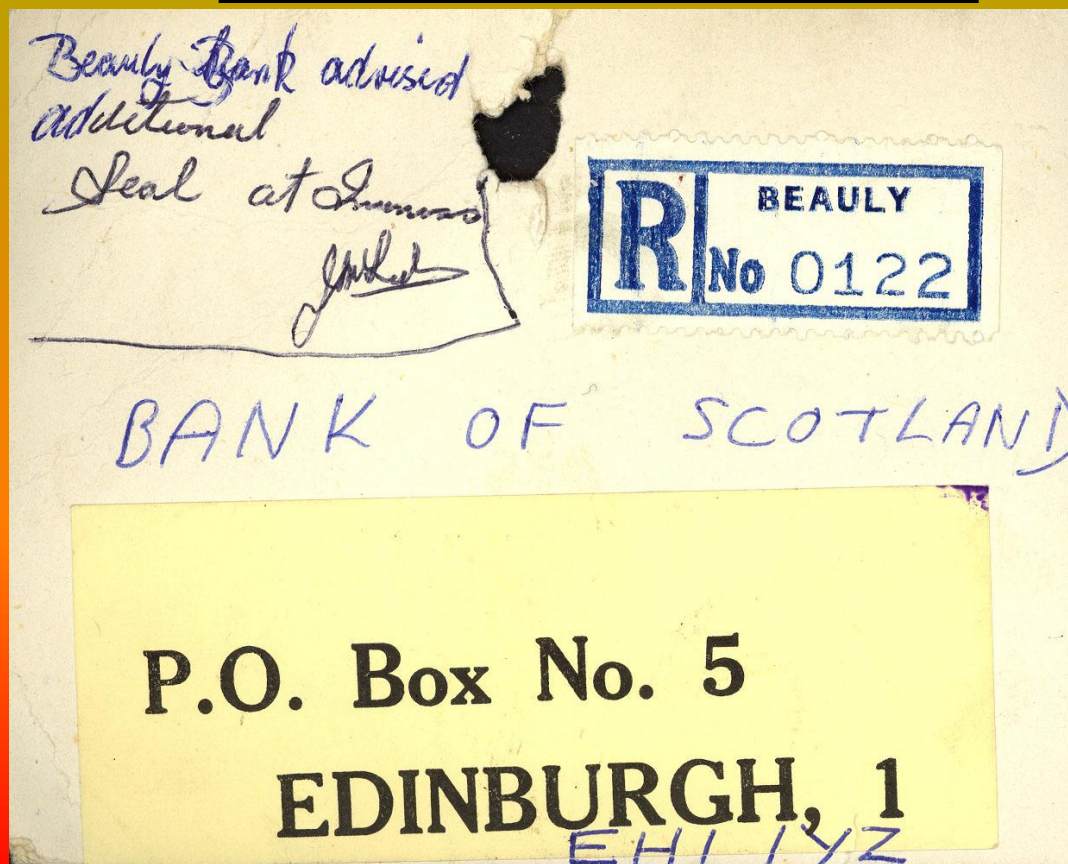
Post Office Mail Bag Labels (left) used to carry £6.90 & £7.80 BSP frankings

Rough hand-made labels (lower left) from cardboard with £12.39 frankings

Bank cash bag cards (below) with BSP £12.39 frankings.



Packets found open in transit



This is the front of a 1969 tag from Beaulieu to Edinburgh. Part of the back of this tag is shown in the next, bearing the address, registration label and manuscript comments,

“Beaulieu Bank advised additional seal at Inverness” with signature.

Packets found open in transit



This is the front of a 1969 tag from Beaulieu to Edinburgh. Part of the back of this tag is shown in the next, bearing the address, registration label and manuscript comments, "Beaulieu Bank advised additional seal at Inverness" with signature.



Two examples of Post Office official resealing tape, used on packets from Drumnadrochit in 1971. The tape has been struck and tied by the steel double circle 'Edinburgh R' cancellation.













Marks and Labels

indicating the service used

Simplified Classification	Registration, Express, HVP and BSP Labels and Marks Used on Scottish Banknote Mail 1906-1998						Classification Period
	Year	Marks only	Gummed Labels			Self-Adhesive Labels	
			Sheet	Coil			
	1841-1906		Rouletted and Perf	Rouletted x Imperf	Perf x Imperf	Imperf	
S1	1906 onwards	Large sheet labels D (Mackay 1962 p302)		Large sheet labels would have been used extensively in 1906-7 but have been available for use at Scottish offices when other supplies have failed at least until 1970, when they were used for short periods of time at Blair Atholl, Kingussie and Newtonmore (with manuscript or stamped office name inserted but no date stamp)			
S2	1907/8	Scottish small sheet labels A-D (Mackay 1962 p.315-320) Types 1-10		Small sheet labels would have been in use between 1907 and 1929 on registered letters and registered parcels. Some labels of this type may have persisted in use later than 1930 and the setting up of the HVP service in England and Wales. One from Aberdeen 3 was encountered in the late 1970's			2
S3	1929	Scottish Experimental Rouletted Coil (Mackay 1962 p.326 Types 1-5)		There are indications that large bank branches (Aberdeen, Edinburgh, London, Stornoway) making frequent mailings may have been issued with dedicated reels of registration labels			
S4	1931 - 1940	First National Perforated Coil (Mackay 1962 p.329-36 Types 1-9)	Other marks & labels				
S5	1944/45	Small Serial Number Labels (Mackay 1962 p.336-7 Types 10-12)	A combination of registration and express delivery was used by London banks sending to Scotland in 1955-58			The small serial number labels may not have been issued to Scottish post offices	
S6	1943? - 1968?	Poor Quality Perforated Coil (Mackay 1962 p.337-9 Type 13)		This type was in use at Portree as late as 1976			3
S7	1957 - ?	Telegraphic Code Labels (Mackay 1962 p.340-2 Types 14-16)		Telegraphic code labels were supplied to Edinburgh & Glasgow in Scotland and <i>inter alia</i> to Birmingham, Leeds and Manchester in England, these labels would have been used on outgoing packets from bank branches in these cities.			
S8	1968 - 1973?	Thick paper Rounded Frame (Mackay 1962 p.342 Types 17,18)	HVP labels varied very little between 1931 and 1975				
S9	1968 - 1973?	Thick paper Square Frame (Mackay 1962 p.343-5 Types 19-24)		These Blair Atholl labels were in use in chronologically reverse order in 1970-72			
S10	1972	Scottish Experimental Tripartite Coil (Mackay 1962 p.345 Type 25) perf 13 & roulette	There were no labels associated with the BSP service but some offices had handstamps made up			Tripartite experimental labels were introduced late in 1972. Their use did NOT apply in the HVP service and the two lower portions were supposed to be removed at source. In a number of cases this was not done.	The office-name portions were used long after the end of the 6-month experiment. In a few cases older labels were used in error during the experiment.
S11	1973 - 1983	National Head Office 4-6 digit (Mackay 1962 p.346-51 Types 26-31)		Mailings from BoS Stornoway used this type long after type S12 had appeared at Lochmaddy. The 'Inverness HPO' was soon replaced by types with simple inscription			5
S12	1984 - 1998?	Bright blue 6-digit imperf labels with hollow white "R" on blue		These types appeared in incoming mail to BoS Edinburgh first from Dumfries, later from Fort William, Inverness, Kirkwall, Lerwick, Stornoway and Wick			6

Registration, Express, HVP and BSP Labels and

A wide variety of marks and labels to indicate registration have been in use over the years.

Simplified Classification	Registration, Express, HVP and BSP Labels and		Classification Period	
	Year	Marks only	Sheet	Self-Adhesive Labels
	1841-1906		Rouletted and Perf Rouletted x Imperf	Imperf
S1	1906 onwards	Large sheet labels D (Mackay 1982 p302)		Large sheet labels would have been used extensively in 1906-7 but have been available for use at Scottish offices when other supplies have failed at least until 1970, when they were used for short periods of time at Blair Atholl, Kingussie and Newtonmore (with manuscript or stamped office name inserted but no date stamp)
S2	1907/8	Scottish small sheet labels A-D (Mackay 1982 p.315-320) Types 1-10		Small sheet labels would have been in use between 1907 and 1929 on registered letters and registered parcels. Some labels of this type may have persisted in use later than 1930 and the setting up of the HVP service in England and Wales. One from Aberdeen 3 was encountered in the late 1970's
S3	1929	Scottish Experimental Rouletted Coil		There are indications that large bank branches (Aberdeen, Edinburgh, London, Stornoway) making frequent mailings may have been issued with dedicated reels of registration labels
S4	1931 - 1940	Express delivery services were sometimes used in conjunction with registration in the absence of the HVP service.		
S5	1944/45			The small serial number labels may not have been issued to Scottish post offices
S6	1943? - 1968?	Telegraphic Code Labels (Mackay 1982 p.337-9 Type 13)		This type was in use at Portree as late as 1976
S7	1957 - ?	Telegraphic Code Labels (Mackay 1982 p.340-2 Types 14-16)		Telegraphic code labels were supplied to Edinburgh & Glasgow in Scotland and <i>inter alia</i> to Birmingham, Leeds and Manchester in England, these labels would have been used on outgoing packets from bank branches in these cities.
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S10	1972	Scottish Experimental Tripartite Coil (Mackay 1982 p.345 Type 25) perf 13 & roulette		Tripartite experimental labels were introduced late in 1972. Their use did NOT apply in the HVP service and the two lower portions were supposed to be removed at source. In a number of cases this was not done.
S11	1973 - 1983	National Head Office 4-6 digit (Mackay 1982 p.346-51 Types 26-31)		Mailings from BoS Stornoway used this type long after type S12 had appeared at Lochmaddy. The 'Inverness HPO' was soon replaced by types with simple inscription
S12	1984 - 1998?	Bright blue 6-digit imperf labels with hollow white 'R' on blue		These types appeared in incoming mail to BoS Edinburgh first from Dumfries, later from Fort William, Inverness, Kirkwall, Lerwick, Stornoway and Wick
		SELF-ADHESIVE LABELS		
		The BSP service generated nothing more than manuscript markings and occasional rubber stamps.		

The HVP service used distinctive red labels which varied little over a 45 year duration.

Express delivery services were sometimes used in conjunction with registration in the absence of the HVP service.

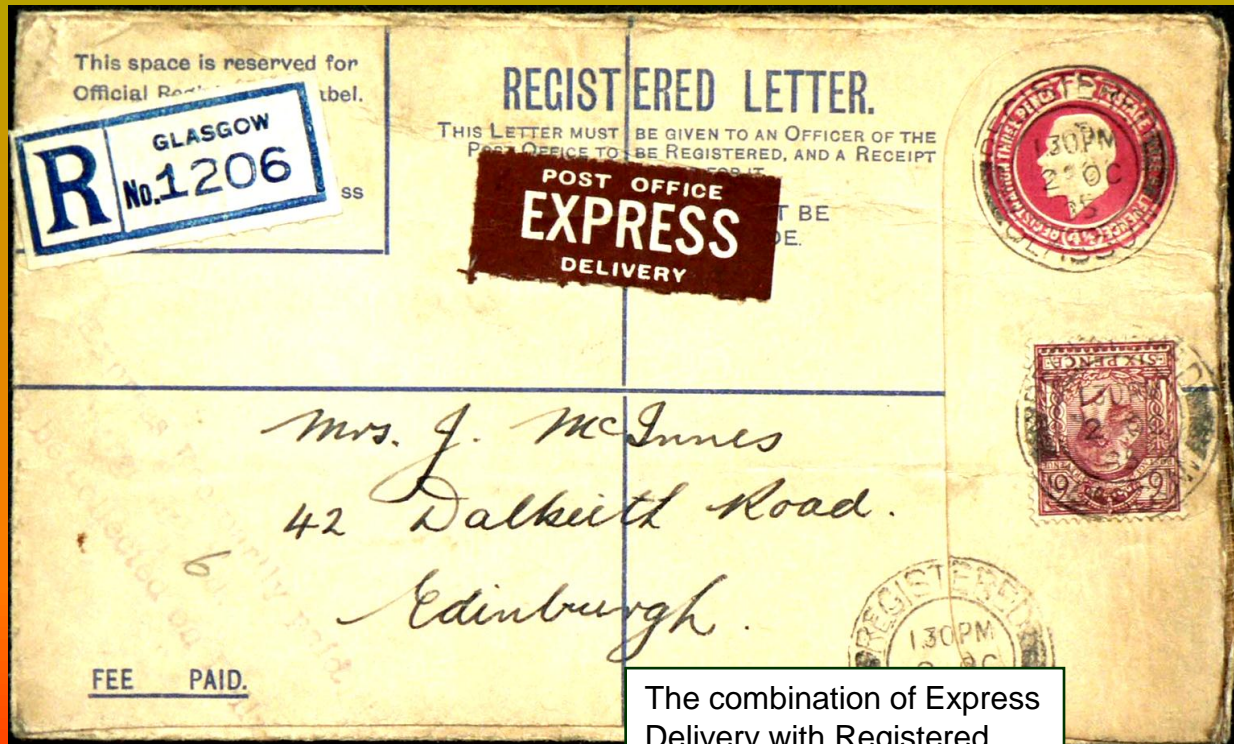
The BSP service generated nothing more than manuscript markings and occasional rubber stamps.

When the banks began using Express Delivery in addition to registered post is not known, but may have been very early for mail from London to Edinburgh, Glasgow and vice versa.



Hand stamped Express marks such as this may have appeared on banknote mail also.





The combination of Express Delivery with Registered Letter post was definitely in use in the absence of HVP service between London and Edinburgh in 1953. Item in a private collection.

This fragment comes from London to Edinburgh banknote mail in 1955 and shows a lighter brown Express Delivery label..





By 1935 'standard' size dark brown Express labels were in use from rouletted sheets

Registration marks and labels are a separate field of study. This reviews some of the features which will have appeared on banknote mail under the Registered Post system 1841-1998



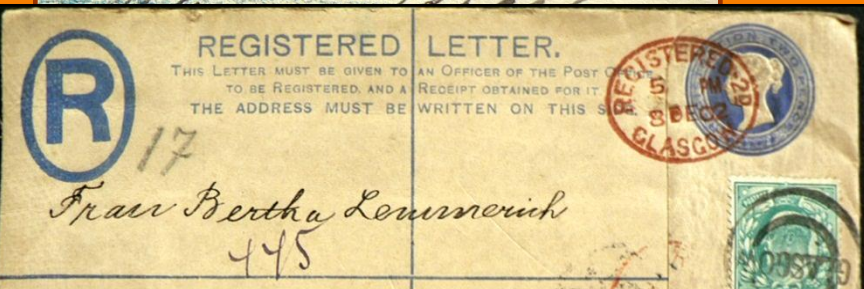
Large rouletted sheet labels with simple numbering and manuscript or hand-stamped office identification appeared about 1906 and were still in occasional use in 1970



Small sheet labels (perf. or rouletted) were in use 1907-1931 and even 1970.



Experimental rouletted coil labels were introduced in Scotland from 1929



A black "R" in an upright oval was in use by 1894. Oval cancellations became widespread. Numbering was still manuscript.

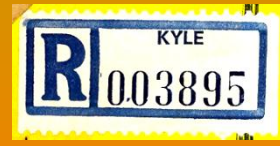
To be replaced nationally by a variety of coil labels perforated 13 x imperf. from 1931 to 1968, but in use much later.

This had been replaced by a blue "R" in an upright oval by 1902. Numbering was still manuscript.

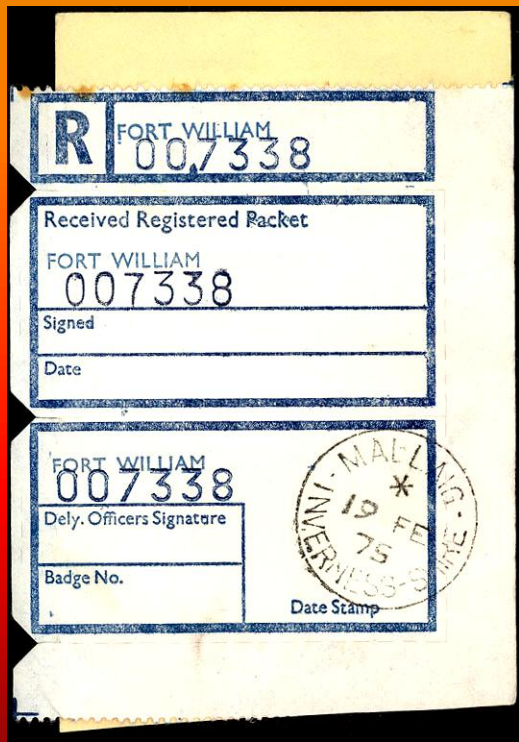
Registration marks and labels are a separate field of study but these are the features which will have appeared on banknote mail under the Registered Post system 1841-1998



Coil labels with square or rounded frame on thick white paper, perforated 11 x imperf. were in use nationally from 1968-1973, and contrast with the earlier types.



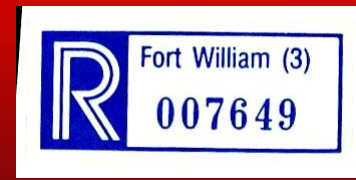
Head office coil labels with no "No" and mainly six digit numbers appeared nationally from 1973 onwards.



Experimental tripartite labels with head office names only, no "No" and six digit numbers were introduced in Scotland in November 1972. The experiment was not a success!



To be replaced by distinctive imperforate self-adhesive head office labels with six digit numbers from 1983.



Illustrations of National Head Office Labels Used in Scottish Bank Mail 1973-1984

Frame and sight features		FRAME THICKNESS								
		Thin <1mm	Medium ~1mm	Thick ~1.5mm						
Rounded	The Perth label to the right can be accommodated within Mackay Type 20			<i>All images on pale blue background were scanned at the same time. Differences in background shade reflect principally variations in thickness of the paper used.</i>						
	Labels grouped to the right would include Mackay Types 26-28									
	Labels grouped to the right would include Mackay Types 28, 29									
					<i>The large central block of labels falls within Mackay Type 30. Above is type 28. The block of thick framed labels immediately below corresponds to Mackay Type 31.</i>					
FRAME CORNERS	Square									
	The Edinburgh & Fort William labels above might be included in Mackay Type 30	<i>There is, however, a gradation to be observed between thin, medium and thick framed types of label. From 1985 the central Mackay Type 30 and above right Mackay Type 31 began to appear in bright blue (see below).</i>					<i>These two square framed types to the right do not correspond to any type listed by Mackay</i>			
	The Inverness labels at the extreme right are square cornered equivalents of Mackay Type 28									

DRUMNADROCHIT RAN OUT OF HVP LABELS MORE THAN ONCE!

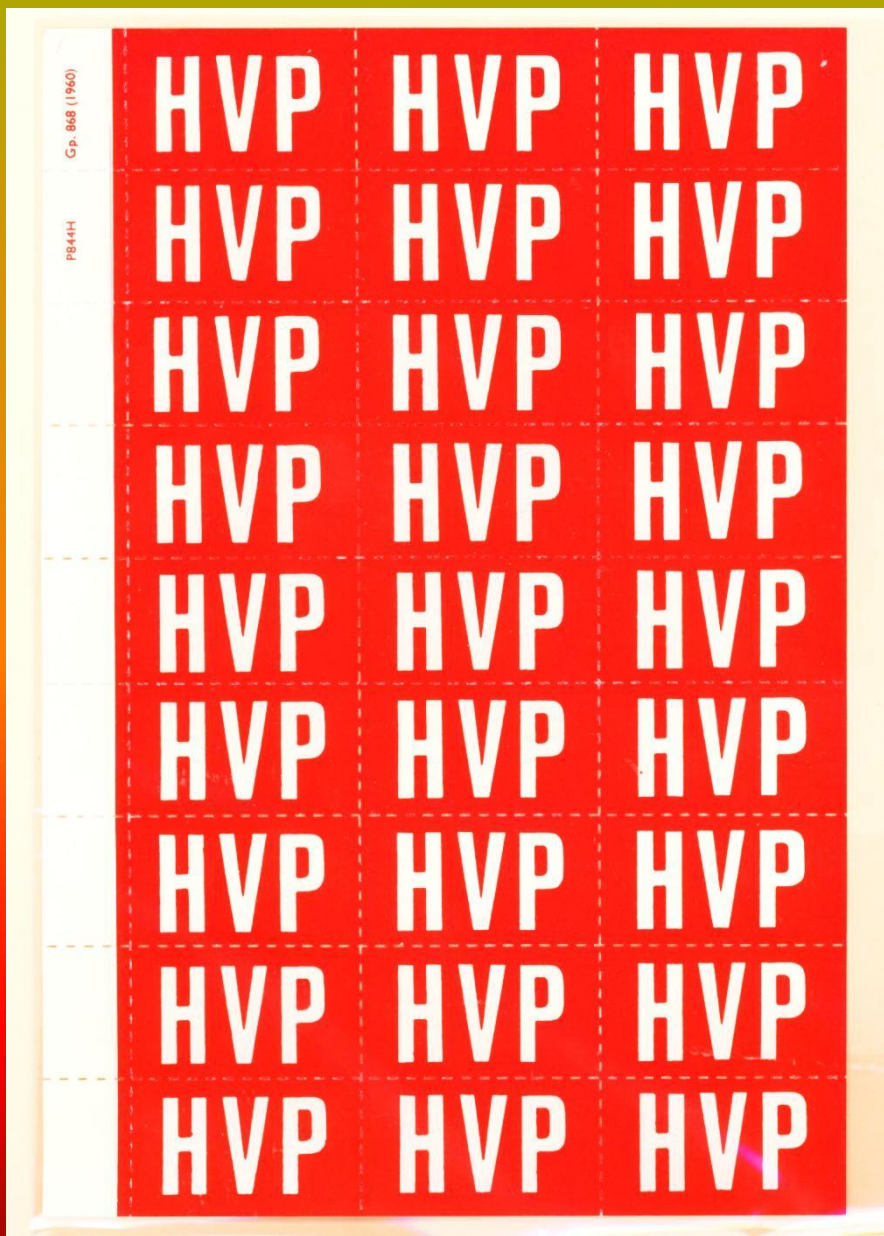


£2.78½p franking of July 1972 from Drumnadrochit with manuscript 'HVP' in red crayon, tied by stamps and cancellations

DRUMNADROCHIT RAN OUT OF HVP LABELS MORE THAN ONCE!

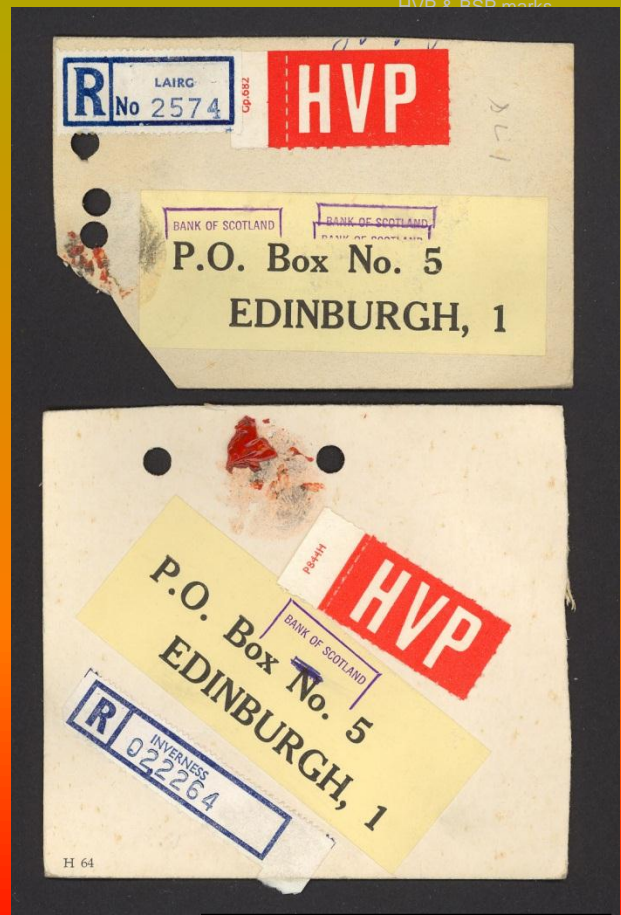


£1.78p franking from Drumnadrochit with manuscript 'HVP' in red and black on a small piece of white gummed paper, applied early and tied by stamps and cancellations.



This is a complete sheet of HVP labels with marginal inscription at top left..

The BSP service produced no labels but several banks and post offices had "BSP" hand-stamps made up



Here the top left copies (from two different sheets) have been used, with selvedge attached,



COSTS of BANKNOTE PARCELS

- The charging for mailings of banknotes from 1841 onwards was complex, being compounded at various times from some combination of three components, each of which underwent changes which were not always synchronised with one another:-
 - (a) **Flat-rate charges for a service** (the registration fee when applicable throughout, the Bankers Special Packet charge from 1975);
 - (b) **Weight dependent charges** (the letter post rate at various times, which advanced in complex patterns at normal letter weights, but at parcel weights advanced by the ounce or part thereof (before 1923), by each two ounces (1923 to 1966), by the half-pound (1973-1975), by each 250 gms (1975 onwards), or by the lb (the letter rate 1966-1973) and **the HVP charge from 1966 to 1975**) ;
 - (c) Distance related charges (the Express Delivery charges when incurred).

Provisional Classification of Bankers mail services since the 18th century (Money Letters, Registered,

Period	2				3						4											
	9	10	11	12	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Internal	9	10	11	12	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Start date	1.6.1920	13.6.1921	29.5.1922	14.5.1923	16.6.1930	1.5.1940	1.5.1949	1.5.1952	1.1.1956	1.10.1957	7.9.1959	1.3.1961	29.4.1963	17.5.1965	10.1.1966	3.10.1968	16.9.1968	1.1.1969	15.2.1971	6.3.1972	10.9.1973	
Duration (ap)	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	7 yr 1 m	10 yr	9 yr	3 yr	3 yr 8 m	1 yr 9 m	~ 3 yr	~ 6 m	2 yr 3 m	2 yr 1 m	8 m	9 m	1 yr 11 m	3 1/2 m	2 yr 1 1/2 m	1 yr 1 m	1 yr 6 m	1 1/2 m	
Currency	£.s.d				£.s.d						£.s.d											
Registration Charge (min)	2d		3d		3d		4d		6d		1/-		1/6d		1/9d		1/9d		3/-		20p	
Special Charge	Registration, possibly with express delivery were only services				No special charge for HVP service beyond registration and sometimes express delivery costs. Scottish destinations had to use registered parcel, registered or registered + express						No special charge for HVP											
Weight not exceeding (lb.oz)	Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 6d				Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 6d						Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 1/-						Express Delivery - additional charge if used 20p					
1 oz			4/6d						1/3d		1/3d		1/9d		2/-							

Bankers mail services since the 18th century (Money Letters, Registered, High Value Parcels & Bankers Special Packets, Special Delivery)

4									5			6																		
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7										
1.3.1961	29.4.1963	17.5.1965	10.1.1966	3.10.1968	16.9.1968	1.1.1969	15.2.1971	6.3.1972	10.9.1973	1.11.1973	24.6.1974	17.3.1975	18.8.1975	29.9.1975	7.6.1976	13.6.1977	20.8.1979	4.3.1980	26.1.1981	1.2.1981										
2 yr 3 m	2 yr 1 m	8 m	9 m	1 yr 11 m	3 1/2 m	2 yr 1 1/2 m	1 yr 1 m	1 yr 6 m	1 1/2 m	8 m	9 m	5 m	1 m	8 1/2 m	1 yr	2 yr 2 m	6 1/2 m	10 1/2 m	1 yr	1 yr										
£.s.d			£.s.d						Decimal			Decimal																		
1/6d		1/9d		1/9d		3/-		20p			20p		25p		35p		35p			45p		60p		65p		75p		90p		
No special charge for HVP			2/- per lb or part thereof			4/6d/lb			22 1/2p/lb or part thereof			22 1/2p/lb or part thereof			£4.75		£4.75		£6.15		£6.90		£7.80		£9.30		£10.88		£12	
1/-		3/-		Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 3/-			Express Delivery - additional charge if used 20p			20p		40p		40p		Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used			80p		£1.25		Exp		-		-			
1/9d	2/-																													

The eight major vertical divisions from left to right mark:-

- the introduction of the HVP service in 1930,
- its extension to the whole of Scotland in 1961,
- introduction of a special charge for the HVP service in 1966,
- decimalisation of the currency in 1971,
- the end of HVP service except in Scotland in 1973,
- replacement of HVP by BSP with a flat rate charge in 1975,
- metrication of the weight system in 1976
- the end of registration in 1998.

Bankers Special Delivery) based on service offered and rates charged Draft 3 - Late Sept/05

6													7				Period			
4	5	6	7	8A	8B	8C	8D	8E	8F	8G	8H	8I	8J	8K	0	1	2	3	4	Interval
20.8.1979	4.3.1980	26.1.1981	1.2.1982	5.4.1983	3.8.1984	20.10.1988	5.9.1988	2.10.1988	17.11.1990	16.9.1991	28.6.1993	1.11.1993	8.7.1996	27.1.1997	12.10.1998	26.4.1999	27.4.2000	17.4.2003	1.4.2005	Start date
6 1/2 m	10 1/2 m	1 yr	1 yr 2 m	1 yr 5 m	2 yr 1 m	1 yr 11 m	1 yr 1 m	1 yr 1 m	10 m	1 yr 9 m	4 m	2 yr 8 m	6 1/2 m	1 yr 9 m	6 m	1 yr	3 yr	2 yr		Duration (ap)
Decimal													Decimal				Special Delivery (min.)			
65p	75p	90p	£1	£1.10	£1.20	£1.40	£1.55	£1.75	£1.90	£2.70	£3.00	£3.24	Five weight bands with charges shown below				Weight not exceeding (kg)			
£7.80	£9.30	£10.88	£12.03	£12.39		BSP Flat rate charge for parcels up to 35 lb/16 kg based on average of 7lb. £12.39 rate unaltered until end of registration.						Special Delivery Service only				0.06				
80p	£1.25	Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used £1.50		£1.65	£1.75	£1.85	£1.95	Express Delivery replaced by Special Delivery, subsumed within Registered service												
75p	87p	£1.04	£1.15 1/2	£1.16	£1.27	£1.38	£1.59	£1.75	£1.97	£2.14	£2.94	£3.25	£3.26	£3.50	26p	26p	27p	28p	30p	0.06

Provisional Classification of Bankers mail services since the 18th century (Money)

Period	2				3							4							
Interval	9	10	11	12	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Start date	1.6.1920	13.6.1921	29.5.1922	14.5.1923	16.6.1930	1.5.1940	1.5.1949	1.5.1952	1.1.1956	1.10.1957	? 9.1960	1.3.1961	29.4.1963	17.5.1965	10.1.1966	3.10.1966	16.9.1968	1.1.1969	
Duration (ap)	1 yr	1 yr	1 yr	7 yr 1 m	10 yr	9 yr	3 yr	3 yr 8 m	1 yr 9 m	~ 3 yr	~ 6 m	2 yr 3 m	2 yr 1 m	8 m	9 m	1 yr 11 m	3½ m	2 yr 1½ m	
Currency	£. s. d				£. s. d							£. s. d							
Registration Charge (min)	2d	3d			3d		4d	6d	1/-			1/6d		1/9d		1/9d	3/-		
Special Charge	Registration, possibly with express delivery were only services				No special charge for HVP service beyond registration and sometimes express delivery costs. Scottish destinations had to use registered parcel, registered or registered + express							No special charge for HVP							
Weight not exceeding (lb,oz)	Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 6d				Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 6d				Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 1/-			1/-		3/-		Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 3/-			
1 oz			4½d								1/3d	1/3d							
2 oz				4½d	4½d	5½d	6½d	8½d	1/2½d	1/4½d	1/4½d								
3 oz																			
4 oz	4d	5d	5d	5d	5d	6d	7d	9d	1/4d	1/6d	1/6d								
5 oz	4½d	5½d	5½d	5d	5d	6d	7d	9d											
6 oz	5d	6d	6d	5d	5½d	6½d	7½d	10d	1/5½d	1/7½d	1/7½d								
7 oz	5½d	6½d	6½d	5½d	5½d	6½d	7½d	10d	1/5½d	1/7½d	1/7½d								
8 oz	6d	7d	7d	6d	6d	7d	8d	11d	1/7d	1/9d	1/9d								
9 oz	6½d	7½d	7½d	6d	6½d	7½d	8½d	11d	1/7d	1/9d	1/9d								
10 oz	7d	8d	8d		6½d	7½d	8½d	1/-	1/8½d	1/10½d	1/10½d	2/4½d	2/7½d	2/9d	4/9d	6/-	6/3d	8/9d	
12 oz	7½d	8½d	8½d	6½d	7d	8d	9d	1/1d	1/10d	2/-	2/-	2/6d	2/9d	3/9d	5/3d	6/6d	7/-	9/6d	
1 lb	8½d	9½d	9½d	7d	8d	9d	10d	1/3d	2/1d	2/3d	2/3d	3/3d	3/6d	4/3d	8/3d	9/6d	10/-	15/-	
1 lb 4 oz	10½d	11½d	11½d	8d	9d	10d	11d	1/5d	2/4d	2/6d	2/6d	3/6d	3/9d	4/9d	9/3d	10/6d	11/-	16/-	
1 lb 8 oz	1/0½d	1/1½d	1/1½d	9d	10d	11d	1/1d	1/9d	2/10d	3/-	3/-	3/9d	4/9d	5/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	11/3d	
1 lb 12 oz	1/2½d	1/3½d	1/3½d	10d	11d	1/1d	1/9d	2/10d	3/-	3/-	3/-	4/3d	5/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	
2 lb	1/4½d	1/5½d	1/5½d	11d	1/1d	1/1d	1/2d	1/11d	3/1d	3/3d	3/3d	4/3d	5/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	
	1/6½d	1/7½d	1/7½d	1/-	1/2d	1/3d	1/4d	2/3d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	5/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	
	1/10½d	1/11½d	1/11½d	1/2d	1/4d	1/5d	1/6d	2/7d	4/1d	4/3d	4/3d	5/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	11/3d	
3 lb	2/2½d	2/3½d	2/3½d	1/4d	1/6d	1/7d	1/8d	2/11d	4/7d	4/9d	4/9d	5/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	11/3d	
	2/6½d	2/7½d	2/7½d	1/6d	1/8d	1/9d	1/10d	3/3d	5/1d	5/3d	5/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	11/3d	12/3d	
4 lb	2/10½	2/11½	2/11½	1/8d	1/10d	1/11d	2/-	3/7d	5/7d	5/9d	5/9d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	11/3d	12/3d	
	3/2½d	3/3½d	3/3½d	1/10d	2/-	2/1d	2/2d	3/11d	6/1d	6/3d	6/3d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	11/3d	12/3d	13/3d	
5 lb	3/6½d	3/7½d	3/7½d	2/-	2/2d	2/3d	2/4d	4/3d	6/7d	6/9d	6/9d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	11/3d	12/3d	13/3d	
	3/10½d	3/11½d	3/11½d	2/2d	2/2d	2/3d	2/4d	4/3d	6/7d	6/9d	6/9d	7/3d	8/3d	9/3d	10/3d	11/3d	12/3d	13/3d	
6 lb																			
7 lb																			
8 lb																			
9 lb																			
	add ½d/oz (8d/lb)	add ½d/oz (8d/lb)	add ½d/oz (8d/lb)	add ½d/2oz (4d/lb)	add ½d/2oz (4d/lb)	add ½d/2oz (4d/lb)	add ½d/2oz (4d/lb)	add 1d/2oz (8d/lb)	add 1½d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1½d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1½d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1½d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1½d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 3d/2oz (2/-/lb)	add 3d/2oz + 2/-/lb (4/-/lb) over 2 lb	add 2/-/lb + 2/-/lb (4/-/lb) over 2 lb	add 2/-/lb + 2/-/lb (4/-/lb) over 2 lb	add 2/-/lb + 4/6d/lb (6/6d/lb) over 2 lb	
10 lb	6/6½d	6/7½d	6/7½d	3/6d	3/6d	3/7d	3/8d	6/11d	10/7d	10/9d	10/9d	11/3d	11/6d	£1/0/3	£2/0/3	£2/1/3	£2/2/6	£2/3/0	£3/8/0
	6/10½d	6/11½d	6/11½d	3/8d	3/8d	3/9d	3/10d	7/3d	11/1d	11/3d	11/3d	11/9d	12/-	£1/1/3	£2/1/3	£2/2/6	£2/3/0	£3/8/0	
	7/2½d	7/3½d	7/3½d	3/10d	3/10d	3/11d	4/-	7/7d	11/7d	11/9d	11/9d	12/3d	12/6d	£1/2/3	£2/4/3	£2/5/3	£2/6/6	£2/7/0	
11 lb	7/6½d	7/7½d	7/7½d	4/-	4/-	4/1d	4/2d	7/11d	12/1d	12/3d	12/3d	12/9d	13/-	£1/3/3	£2/5/3	£2/6/6	£2/7/0	£3/14/6	
	7/10½d	7/11½d	7/11½d	4/2d	4/2d	4/3d	4/4d	8/3d	12/7d	12/9d	12/9d	13/3d	13/6d	£1/4/3	£2/8/3	£2/9/3	£2/10/6	£2/11/0	
12 lb	8/2½d	8/3½d	8/3½d	4/4d	4/4d	4/5d	4/6d	8/7d	13/1d	13/3d	13/3d	13/9d	14/-	£1/5/3	£2/9/3	£2/10/6	£2/11/0	£4/1/0	
	8/6½d	8/7½d	8/7½d	4/6d	4/6d	4/7d	4/8d	8/11d	13/7d	13/9d	13/9d	14/3d	14/6d	£1/6/3	£2/12/3	£2/13/3	£2/14/6	£2/15/0	
13 lb	8/10½	8/11½d	8/11½d	4/8d	4/8d	4/9d	4/10d	9/3d	14/1d	14/3d	14/3d	14/9d	15/-	£1/7/3	£2/13/3	£2/14/6	£2/15/0	£4/7/6	
	9/2½d	9/3½d	9/3½d	4/10d	4/10d	4/11d	5/-	9/7d	14/7d	14/9d	14/9d	15/3d	15/6d	£1/8/3	£2/16/3	£2/17/3	£2/18/6	£4/14/0	
14 lb	9/6½d	9/7½d	9/7½d	5/-	5/-	5/1d	5/2d	9/11d	15/1d	15/3d	15/3d	15/9d	16/-	£1/9/3	£2/17/3	£2/18/6	£2/19/0	£4/14/0	
	9/10½d	9/11½d	9/11½d	5/2d	5/2d	5/3d	5/4d	9/12d	15/7d	15/9d	15/9d	16/3d	16/6d	£1/10/3	£2/18/3	£2/19/0	£2/20/0	£4/14/0	

The HVP service in England and Wales 16.6.30

Note of Scotland 1.3.61 after partial extension to major cities in 1960

HVP extended to major Scottish cities

Special HVP additional charge of 2/- per lb or part thereof

Decimalisation of the currency

The introduction of the HVP charge in 1966, and its more than doubling in 1969 dramatically increased costs and pushed the banks towards use of security firms to transport banknote parcels

This was also a time of accelerating inflation of costs. Some of the intervals during which particular charges applied were very short.

The higher charges meant that use of high denomination definitives became commonplace after 1965.

Classification of Bankers mail services since the 18th century (Money Letters, Registered, High Value Parcels & Bankers Specials)

3				4								5			6																							
3	4	5	6	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	0	1	2																			
1.5.1952	1.1.1956	1.10.1957	? 9.1960	1.3.1961	29.4.1963	17.5.1965	10.1.1966	3.10.1966	16.9.1968	1.1.1969	15.2.1971	6.3.1972	10.9.1973	1.11.1973	24.6.1974	17.3.1975	18.8.1975	29.9.1975	7.6																			
3 yr 8 m	1 yr 9 m	~ 3 yr	~ 6 m	2 yr 3 m	2 yr 1 m	8 m	9 m	1 yr 11 m	3 1/2 m	2 yr 1 1/2 m	1 yr 1 m	1 yr 6 m	1 1/2 m	8m	9 m	5 m	1 m	8 1/2 m	1																			
£.s.d				£.s.d								Decimal			Decimal																							
6d	1/-			1/6d	1/9d			1/9d	3/-			20p			20p	25p	35p	35p	45p																			
HVP service beyond registration and y costs. Scottish destinations had to registered or registered + express				No special charge for HVP								2/- per lb or part thereof			4/6d/lb			22 1/2p/lb or part thereof			22 1/2p/lb or part thereof			£4.75			£4.75			£6								
s request ed 6d				Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 1/-				1/-		3/-		Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used 3/-				Express Delivery - additional charge if used 20p			20p		40p		40p		Express sender's additional c		53 1/2p		53		56 1/2p		58					
8 1/2d	1/2 1/2d	1/4 1/2d	1/4 1/2d	1/9d	2/-		4/1d	5/4d				45 1/2p	46p	46p	52p	64 1/2p	42p																					
9d	1/4d	1/6d	1/6d	2/-	2/3d	2/3d	4/3d	5/6d	5/5d	7/11d	45 1/2p	46 1/2p	47 1/2p	47 1/2p	54p	67 1/2p	45p																					
10d	1/5 1/2d	1/7 1/2d	1/7 1/2d	2/1 1/2d	2/4 1/2d	2/5d	4/5d	5/8d	5/9d	8/3d	47 1/2p	48 1/2p	50 1/2p	50 1/2p	57 1/2p	70p	47 1/2p																					
11d	1/7d	1/9d	1/9d	2/3d	2/6d	2/7d	4/7d	5/10d	6/-	8/6d	49 1/2p	50 1/2p	52 1/2p	52 1/2p	60p	72 1/2p	50p																					
1/-	1/8 1/2d	1/10 1/2d	1/10 1/2d	2/4 1/2d	2/7 1/2d	2/9d	4/9d	6/-	6/3d	8/9d	51 1/2p	53 1/2p	54 1/2p	54 1/2p	62 1/2p	75p	52 1/2p																					
1/1d	1/10d	2/-	2/-	2/6d	2/9d	2/11d	4/11d	6/2d	6/6d	9/-	53 1/2p	55 1/2p	56 1/2p	56 1/2p	65p	77p	54 1/2p																					
1/3d	2/1d	2/3d	2/3d	2/9d	3/-	3/3d	5/3d	6/6d	7/-	9/6d	57 1/2p	59 1/2p	60 1/2p	60 1/2p	70p	81 1/2p	59p																					
1/5d	2/4d	2/6d	2/6d	3/-	3/3d	3/9d	7/9d	9/-	9/6d	14/6d	85p	89p	92p	92p	£1.02 1/2	£1.14	69p																					
1/7d	2/7d	2/9d	2/9d	3/3d	3/6d	4/3d	8/3d	9/6d	10/-	15/-	89p	92p	92p	£1.01	£1.12 1/2	£1.24	79p																					
1/9d	2/10d	3/-	3/-	3/6d	3/9d	4/9d	8/9d	9/3d	10/6d	11/-	95p	99p	£1.01	£1.01	£1.12 1/2	£1.24	79p																					
1/11d	3/1d	3/3d	3/3d	3/9d	4/-	5/3d	9/3d	10/6d	11/-	16/-	£1.32 1/2	£1.38 1/2	£1.41 1/2	£1.41 1/2	£1.55	£1.66 1/2	89p																					
2/3d	3/7d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/6d	6/3d	12/3d	14/6d	15/-	£1/2/6	£1.70	£1.78	£1.82	£1.73	£1.87 1/2	£1.99	£1.09																					
2/7d	4/1d	4/3d	4/3d	4/9d	5/-	7/3d	13/3d	14/6d	15/-	£1/2/6	£1.70	£1.78	£1.82	£1.73	£1.87 1/2	£1.99	£1.09																					
2/11d	4/7d	4/9d	4/9d	5/3d	5/6d	8/3d	16/3d	18/6d	19/-	£1/9/0	£2.07 1/2	£2.17 1/2	£2.22 1/2	£1.73	£1.87 1/2	£1.99	£1.19																					
3/3d	5/1d	5/3d	5/3d	5/9d	6/-	9/3d	17/3d	18/6d	19/-	£1/9/0	£2.07 1/2	£2.17 1/2	£2.22 1/2	£1.82	£1.97 1/2	£2.09	£1.19																					
3/7d	5/7d	5/9d	5/9d	6/3d	6/6d	10/3d	£1/0/3	£1/1/3	£1/2/6	£1/3/0	£2.07 1/2	£2.17 1/2	£2.22 1/2	£1.82	£1.97 1/2	£2.09	£1.19																					
3/11d	6/1d	6/3d	6/3d	6/9d	7/-	11/3d	£1/1/3	£1/2/6	£1/3/0	£1/15/6	£2.07 1/2	£2.17 1/2	£2.22 1/2	£2.13 1/2	£2.30	£2.41 1/2	£1.29																					
4/3d	6/7d	6/9d	6/9d	7/3d	7/6d	12/3d	£1/1/3	£1/2/6	£1/3/0	£1/15/6	£2.07 1/2	£2.17 1/2	£2.22 1/2	£2.13 1/2	£2.30	£2.41 1/2	£1.29																					
add 1d/2oz (6d/lb)	add 1 1/2d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1 1/2d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1 1/2d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1 1/2d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 1 1/2d/2oz (1/-/lb)	add 3d/2oz (2/-/lb)	add 3d/2oz + 2/-/lb (4/-/lb) over 2 lb	add 2 1/4/-lb + 2/-/lb (4/-/lb) over 2 lb	add 2 1/4/-lb + 2/-/lb (4/-/lb) over 2 lb	add 2 1/4/-lb + 4/6d/lb (6/6d/lb) over 2 lb	add 37 1/2p/lb	add 39 1/2p/lb	add 9p 1/2 lb +22 1/2p/lb	add 9p 1/2 lb +22 1/2p/lb	add 10p 1/2 lb +22 1/2p/lb	add 10p 1/2 lb +22 1/2p/lb	add 10p 1/2 lb																					
6/11d	10/7d	10/9d	10/9d	11/3d	11/6d	£1/0/3	£2/0/3	£2/0/3	£2/0/3	£3/8/0	£3.95	£4.15	£4.25	£4.16	£4.42 1/2	£4.54	£2.29																					
7/3d	11/1d	11/3d	11/3d	11/9d	12/-	£1/1/3	£2/1/3	£2/2/6	£2/3/0	£3/8/0	£4.32 1/2	£4.54 1/2	£4.65 1/2	£4.56 1/2	£4.85	£4.96 1/2	£2.39																					
7/7d	11/7d	11/9d	11/9d	12/3d	12/6d	£1/2/3	£2/4/3	£2/5/3	£2/6/6	£2/7/0	£4.70	£4.94	£5.06	£4.56 1/2	£4.95	£5.06 1/2	£2.49																					
7/11d	12/1d	12/3d	12/3d	12/9d	13/-	£1/3/3	£2/5/3	£2/6/6	£2/7/0	£3/14/6	£4.32 1/2	£4.54 1/2	£4.65 1/2	£4.56 1/2	£4.95	£5.06 1/2	£2.59																					
8/3d	12/7d	12/9d	12/9d	13/3d	13/6d	£1/4/3	£2/8/3	£2/8/3	£2/9/3	£2/10/6	£4.70	£4.94	£5.06	£4.65 1/2	£4.97	£5.06 1/2	£2.69																					
8/7d	13/1d	13/3d	13/3d	13/9d	14/-	£1/5/3	£2/9/3	£2/10/6	£2/11/0	£4/1/0	£4.70	£4.94	£5.06	£4.65 1/2	£4.97	£5.06 1/2	£2.79																					
8/11d	13/7d	13/9d	13/9d	14/3d	14/6d	£1/6/3	£2/12/3	£2/12/3	£2/13/3	£2/14/6	£5.07 1/2	£5.33 1/2	£5.46 1/2	£4.65 1/2	£4.97	£5.06 1/2	£2.89																					
9/3d	14/1d	14/3d	14/3d	14/9d	15/-	£1/7/3	£2/13/3	£2/14/6	£2/15/0	£4/7/6	£5.07 1/2	£5.33 1/2	£5.46 1/2	£4.65 1/2	£4.97	£5.06 1/2	£2.99																					
9/7d	14/7d	14/9d	14/9d	15/3d	15/6d	£1/8/3	£2/16/3	£2/16/3	£2/17/3	£2/18/6	£5.45	£5.73	£5.87	£4.65 1/2	£4.97	£5.06 1/2	£3.09																					
9/11d	15/1d	15/3d	15/3d	15/9d	16/-	£1/9/3	£2/17/3	£2/18/6	£2/19/0	£4/14/0	£5.45	£5.73	£5.87	£4.65 1/2	£4.97	£5.06 1/2	£3.19																					

of Scotland 1.3.61 after partial extension to major cities in 1960

HVP extended to major Scottish cities

at HVP additional charge of 2/- per lb or part thereof

Decimalisation of the currency

HVP except in Scotland 31.10.1973

all-in charge for BSP service (Scotland only) 18.8.1975

on of the weight system for postal items

60p/kg

The HVP service in Scotland was replaced in 1975 by the Bankers Special Packet service which had a flat rate charge based on an assumed average weight of 7 lb

The HVP service ended in 1973, and was replaced by the use of security firms, except in Scotland where the remoteness of highland banks in particular and the long stretches of lonely road made security firm operation difficult.

The flat rate charge escalated rapidly from £4.75 in 1975 to £12.39 in 1983, individual charges applying for very brief intervals in the main. The £12.39 rate, however, was unchanged until the end of registration in 1998, while general postal rates underwent 10 increases.

Bankers packets posted in England and Wales had to use the standard registered post with the charges shown in grey figures.

Special Delivery) based on service offered and rates charged Draft 3 - Late Sept/05

6														7					Period	
5	6	7	8A	8B	8C	8D	8E	8F	8G	8H	8I	8J	8K	0	1	2	3	4	Interval	
4.3.1980	26.1.1981	1.2.1982	5.4.1983	3.9.1984	20.10.1986	5.9.1988	2.10.1989	17.11.1990	16.9.1991	28.6.1993	1.11.1993	8.7.1996	27.1.1997	12.10.1998	26.4.1999	27.4.2000	17.4.2003	1.4.2005	Start date	
10½ m	1 yr	1 yr 2 m	1 yr 5m	2 yr 1m	1 yr 11m	1 yr 1m	1 yr 1m	10 m	1 yr 9m	4 m	2 yr 8m	6½ m	1 yr 9m	6 m	1 yr	3 yr	2 yr		Duration (ap)	
Decimal														Decimal					Currency	
75p	90p	£1			£1.10	£1.20	£1.40	£1.55	£1.75	£1.90	£2.70	£3.00		Five weight bands with charges shown below					Special Delivery (min.)	
£9.30	£10.88	£12.03	£12.39			BSP Flat rate charge for parcels up to 35 lb/16 kg based on average of 7lb. £12.39 rate unaltered until end of registration.														Weight not exceeding (kg)
90p	£1.25	Express Delivery at sender's request - additional charge if used £1.50				£1.65	£1.75	£1.85	£1.95			Express Delivery replaced by Special Delivery, subsumed within Registered service					Special Delivery Service only			
87p	£1.04	£1.15½	£1.16	£1.27	£1.38	£1.59	£1.75	£1.97	£2.14	£2.94	£3.25	£3.26	£3.50	26p	26p	27p	28p	30p	0.06	
92p	£1.10	£1.22	£1.23	£1.34	£1.46	£1.68	£1.85	£2.08	£2.26	£3.06	£3.38	£3.39	£3.66	£3.20	£3.35	£3.50	£3.75	£3.85	0.1	
97p	£1.16	£1.28½	£1.29	£1.41	£1.52	£1.74	£1.92	£2.16	£2.35	£3.15	£3.47	£3.49	£3.73	49p	52p	57p	60p	64p	0.15	
£1.02	£1.22	£1.35	£1.36	£1.48	£1.60	£1.82	£2.00	£2.24	£2.44	£3.24	£3.57	£3.60	£3.84	60p	66p	72p	75p	79p	0.2	
£1.07	£1.28	£1.42	£1.43	£1.55	£1.68	£1.91	£2.09	£2.34	£2.54	£3.34	£3.67	£3.70	£3.94	70p	77p	84p	88p	94p	0.25	
£1.13	£1.34	£1.49	£1.50	£1.63	£1.76	£1.99	£2.17	£2.43	£2.64	£3.44	£3.77	£3.80	£4.04	80p	88p	96p	£1.01	£1.07	0.3	
£1.19	£1.41	£1.56	£1.58	£1.71	£1.84	£2.07	£2.26	£2.53	£2.75	£3.55	£3.88	£3.92	£4.16	92p	£1.00	£1.09	£1.15	£1.21	0.35	
£1.25	£1.48	£1.64	£1.66	£1.79	£1.92	£2.16	£2.35	£2.63	£2.86	£3.66	£4.00	£4.04	£4.28	£1.04	£1.14	£1.24	£1.33	£1.40	0.4	
£1.31	£1.55	£1.72	£1.74	£1.88	£2.02	£2.26	£2.45	£2.74	£2.98	£3.78	£4.13	£4.17	£4.41	£1.17	£1.30	£1.41	£1.50	£1.59	0.45	
£1.37	£1.62	£1.80	£1.82	£1.97	£2.12	£2.37	£2.57	£2.85	£3.10	£3.90	£4.25	£4.30	£4.54	£3.50	£3.65	£3.80	£4.05	£4.25	0.5	
					£2.35	£2.60	£2.80	£3.10	£3.40	£4.20	£4.55	£4.60	£4.84	£1.60	£1.75	£1.90	£2.03	£2.15	0.6	
					£2.55	£2.80	£3.00	£3.35	£3.70	£4.50	£4.90	£5.00	£5.24	£2.00	£2.20	£2.39	£2.38	£2.52	0.7	
£1.48	£1.98	£2.18	£2.22	£2.38	£2.65	£2.90	£3.10	£3.45	£3.85	£4.65	£5.05	£5.15	£5.39	£2.15	£2.35	£2.56	£2.55	£2.71	0.75	
					£2.75	£3.00	£3.20	£3.55	£3.95	£4.75	£5.15	£5.30	£5.54	£2.30	£2.55	£2.77	£2.73	£2.90	0.8	
					£2.95	£3.15	£3.35	£3.70	£4.15	£4.95	£5.35	£5.55	£5.79	£2.55	£2.80	£3.05	£3.10	£3.27	0.9	
£1.97	£2.34	£2.57	£2.62	£2.80	£3.05	£3.30	£3.50	£3.85	£4.30	£5.10	£5.50	£5.75	£5.99	£4.60	£4.75	£4.95	£5.20	£5.35	1 kg	
£2.24	£2.67	£2.96	£3.02	£3.22	£3.50	£3.75	£4.00	£4.40	£4.90	£5.70	£6.15	£6.45	£6.69	£3.45	£3.80	£4.13	£4.31	£4.52		
£2.51	£3.00	£3.35	£3.42	£3.64	£3.95	£4.20	£4.50	£4.95	£5.50	£6.30	£6.80	£7.15	£7.39	£4.15	£4.55	£4.94	£5.17	£5.40	1.5 kg	
£2.78	£3.33	£3.74	£3.82	£4.06	£4.40	£4.65	£5.00	£5.50	£6.10	£6.90	£7.45	£7.85	£8.09	£4.85	£5.30	£5.75	£6.03	£6.28		
£3.05	£3.66	£4.13	£4.22	£4.48	£4.85	£5.10	£5.50	£6.05	£6.70	£7.50	£8.10	£8.55	£8.79	£8.49	£9.14	£9.79	£6.55	£6.95	2 kg	
£3.32	£3.99	£4.52	£4.62	£4.90	£5.30	£5.55	£6.00	£6.60	£7.30	£8.10	£8.75	£9.25	£9.49	£6.25	£6.80	£7.37	£7.75	£8.04		
£3.59	£4.32	£4.91	£5.02	£5.32	£5.75	£6.00	£6.50	£7.15	£7.90	£8.70	£9.40	£9.95	£10.19	£6.95	£7.55	£8.18	£8.61	£8.92		
£3.86	£4.65	£5.30	£5.42	£5.74	£6.20	£6.45	£7.00	£7.70	£8.50	£9.30	£10.05	£10.65	£10.89	£7.65	£8.30	£8.99	£9.47	£9.80		
£4.13	£4.98	£5.69	£5.82	£6.16	£6.65	£6.90	£7.50	£8.25	£9.10	£9.90	£10.70	£11.35	£11.59	£8.35	£9.05	£9.80	£10.33	£10.68	3 kg	
£4.40	£5.31	£6.08	£6.22	£6.58	£7.10	£7.35	£8.00	£8.80	£9.70	£10.50	£11.35	£12.05	£12.29	£9.05	£9.80	£10.61	£11.19	£11.56		
£4.67	£5.64	£6.47	£6.62	£7.00	£7.55	£7.80	£8.50	£9.35	£10.30	£11.10	£12.00	£12.75	£12.99	£9.75	£10.55	£11.42	£12.05	£12.44		
£4.94	£5.97	£6.86	£7.02	£7.42	£8.00	£8.25	£9.00	£9.90	£10.90	£11.70	£12.65	£13.45	£13.69	£10.45	£11.30	£12.23	£12.91	£13.32		
£5.21	£6.30	£7.25	£7.42	£7.84	£8.45	£8.70	£9.50	£10.45	£11.50	£12.30	£13.30	£14.15	£14.39	£11.15	£12.05	£13.04	£13.77	£14.20	4 kg	
£5.48	£6.63	£7.64	£7.82	£8.26	£8.90	£9.15	£10.00	£11.00	£12.10	£12.90	£13.95	£14.85	£15.09	£11.85	£12.80	£13.85	£14.63	£15.08		
£5.75	£6.96	£8.03	£8.22	£8.68	£9.35	£9.60	£10.50	£11.55	£12.70	£13.50	£14.60	£15.55	£15.79	£12.55	£13.55	£14.65	£15.49	£15.95		
£6.02	£7.29	£8.42	£8.62	£9.10	£9.80	£10.05	£11.00	£12.10	£13.30	£14.10	£15.25	£16.25	£16.49	£13.25	£14.30	£15.47	£16.35	£16.84		
£6.29	£7.62	£8.81	£9.02	£9.52	£10.25	£10.50	£11.50	£12.65	£13.90	£14.70	£15.90	£16.95	£17.19	£13.95	£15.05	£16.28	£17.21	£17.72	5 kg	
£6.56	£7.95	£9.20	£9.42	£9.94	£10.70	£10.95	£12.00	£13.20	£14.60	£15.30	£16.55	£17.65	£17.89	£14.65	£15.80	£17.09	£18.07	£18.60		

the BSP service - Special Delivery service provided.

From 12/10/1998 the only options for bankers packets by post were the first class post (prices in light grey) or the Special Delivery Service (dark grey prices, large and irregular weight bands, maximum 10kg).

POSTAGE RATES IN THE REGISTERED PARCEL SERVICE USED IN SCOTLAND

Variation in rates for Registered Parcels, in the context of the classification based on Registered Letter Post. Draft 1 - 4/7/05

Period	2			3												4				5				6																											
Interval	9	10	11	0			1			2			3			4			5			6			7			8			9																				
Start date	1.6.1920	7.6.1921	14.5.1923	16.6.1930	1.7.1935	1.5.1940	1.7.1940	6.1.1947	29.12.1947	1.5.1949	31.7.1950	1.7.1951	31.3.1952	1.5.1952	7.4.1953	12.4.1954	1.1.1956	1.6.1956	1.10.1957	? 9.1960	1.3.1961	1.10.1961	18.2.1963	29.4.1963	17.5.1965	10.1.1966	3.10.1966	16.9.1968	1.1.1969	15.2.1971	6.3.1972	4.9.1972	10.9.1973																		
Duration (yr)	1 yr	2 yr	7 yr 1 m	5 yr	5 yr	2 m	6 yr 6 m	1 yr	1 yr 4 m	1 yr 3 m	11 m	9 m	1 m	11 m	1 yr	1 yr 8 m	5 m	1 yr 4 m	~ 3 yr	~ 5 m	7 m	1 yr 5 m	2 m	2 yr 1 m	8 m	9 m	1 yr 11 m	3 1/2 m	2 yr 1 1/2 m	1 yr 1 m	6 m	1 yr	1 1/2 m																		
Currency	£. s. d			£. s. d												£. s. d				£. s. d				Decimal																											
Registration Charge (min)	2d		3d	3d			4d			6d			1/-			1/6d		1/9d		1/9d		3/-		20p (letter), 25p (parcel)																											
Special Charge	Registration, possibly with express delivery were only			No special charge for HVP service beyond registration and sometimes express delivery costs												No special charge for HVP				2/- per lb or part thereof		4/6d/lb		22 1/2p/lb or part thereof																											
Weight lbs & ozs	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
4 oz	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
8 oz	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
12 oz	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
1 lb	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
1 lb 8 oz	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
2 lb	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
3 lb	11d			9d			9d			10d			11d			1/-			1/1d			1/2d			1/3d			1/3d			1/5d			1/6d			1/7d			2/3d			2/4d			2/6d			2/6d		
4 lb	1/2d	1/3d	1/-	1/-	10d	10d	11d	1/-	1/2d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/9d	1/10d	2/-	2/6d	2/9d	3/-	3/-	3/-	4/-	4/-	4/-	4/3d	5/-	5/-	7/6d	7/6d	7/6d	40p	41p	28p	50 1/2p	33p	55 1/2p															
5 lb	1/5d	1/6d	1/3d	1/3d	11d	11d	1/-	1/1d	1/3d	1/4d	1/6d	1/7d	1/9d	1/11d	2/-	2/2d	2/11d	3/-	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	4/6d	5/3d	5/3d	7/6d	7/6d	7/6d	49p	50p	37p	59 1/2p	44p	89p																
6 lb	1/5d	1/6d	1/3d	1/3d	11d	11d	1/-	1/1d	1/3d	1/4d	1/6d	1/7d	1/9d	1/11d	2/-	2/2d	2/11d	3/-	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	4/6d	5/3d	5/3d	7/6d	7/6d	7/6d	52 1/2p	54p	88p	£1.78	88p	£1.78																	
7 lb	1/5d	1/6d	1/3d	1/3d	11d	11d	1/-	1/1d	1/3d	1/4d	1/6d	1/7d	1/9d	1/11d	2/-	2/2d	2/11d	3/-	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	4/6d	5/3d	5/3d	7/6d	7/6d	7/6d	52 1/2p	54p	£1.05	£2.17 1/2	£1.05	£2.17 1/2																		
8 lb	1/5d	1/6d	1/3d	1/3d	11d	11d	1/-	1/1d	1/3d	1/4d	1/6d	1/7d	1/9d	1/11d	2/-	2/2d	2/11d	3/-	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	4/6d	5/3d	5/3d	7/6d	7/6d	7/6d	52 1/2p	54p	£1.22	£2.57	£1.22	£2.57																		
9 lb	1/5d	1/6d	1/3d	1/3d	11d	11d	1/-	1/1d	1/3d	1/4d	1/6d	1/7d	1/9d	1/11d	2/-	2/2d	2/11d	3/-	3/3d	3/3d	3/3d	4/6d	5/3d	5/3d	7/6d	7/6d	7/6d	52 1/2p	54p	£1.39	2.96 1/2	£1.39	2.96 1/2																		
10 lb	1/8d	1/9d	1/6d	1/6d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£1.56	£3.36	£1.56	£3.36																		
11 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£1.73	£3.75 1/2	£1.73	£3.75 1/2																		
12 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£1.90	£4.15	£1.90	£4.15																		
13 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£2.07	£4.54 1/2	£2.07	£4.54 1/2																		
14 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£2.24	£4.94	£2.24	£4.94																		
15 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£2.41	£5.33 1/2	£2.41	£5.33 1/2																		
16 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£2.58	£5.73	£2.58	£5.73																		
17 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£2.75	£6.12 1/2	£2.75	£6.12 1/2																		
18 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£2.92	£6.52	£2.92	£6.52																		
19 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£3.09	£6.91 1/2	£3.09	£6.91 1/2																		
20 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£3.26	£7.31	£3.26	£7.31																		
21 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£3.43	£7.70 1/2	£3.43	£7.70 1/2																		
22 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£3.60	£8.10	£3.60	£8.10																		
23 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£3.77	£8.49 1/2	£3.77	£8.49 1/2																		
24 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£3.94	£8.89	£3.94	£8.89																		
25 lb	7/7d	7/8d	4/1d	4/1d	1/3d	1/3d	1/4d	1/5d	1/7d	1/8d	1/10d	2/-	2/3d	2/5d	2/6d	2/9d	3/6d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	3/9d	4/3d	4/3d	4/3d	5/9d	6/3d	6/3d	60p	62p	£3.94	£8.89	£3.94	£8.89																		
				Parcel weight limit exceeded. Registered Letter Post or HVP was the only option																																															
				Prices shown in black are minimum registration fee + parcel rate. Prices shown in green at the foot are for the registered letter rate at the next weight increment; at right they are for the same weights at termination of the registered parcel post. Prices shown in red are for HVP service where this existed and was different from the registered letter rate.																																															
																Extension of HVP service to whole of Scotland (1.3.61) after partial extension to major cities in 1960								Introduction of special HVP additional charge of 2/- per lb or part thereof																											
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																Extension of HVP service to whole of Scotland (1.3.61) after partial extension to major cities in 1960								Introduction of special HVP additional charge of 2/- per lb or part thereof																											

Metered Frankings in the HVP Service - 0

Head office of Bank of Scotland in London was using postage meter strips for franking HVP items by 1970, replacing the sheet issue stamps in use in 1963/64.

After decimalisation of the currency, Barclays Bank used a combination of 9d perfin "BBK" which were still valid for postage. These were combined with postage meter strips for the balance of the franking.



Metered Frankings in the HVP Service - 0

For a time National Westminster Bank used a meter with "HVP" in place of the logo, but reverted to use of HVP labels in 1970..



Later in the same year Barclays Bank was using combinations of meter strips to form frankings.



Metered Frankings in the HVP Service - 1

There is little evidence to constrain when the Edinburgh head office of the Bank of Scotland first began to use postage meters to frank outgoing packets of banknotes destined for London or branch offices in Scotland. Postage meters were in use on outgoing mail from head office in Edinburgh by 1970. The scale of this traffic is completely unconstrained beyond speculating that it was likely to have been substantial and comparable with that of the traffic incoming from branches in Scotland.



Metered Frankings in the HVP Service - 1

High Value Packets were sent by First Class Registered Letter Post and were not to be regarded as Parcel Post. Nevertheless, parcel cancellations applied in error appear in perhaps 5% of all recovered material.

Just one example has been recovered in which the franking has been provided by the dedicated sterling parcel post meter at Perth post office counter, using two strips totalling to the £1/15/6d rate for a 5lb packet. The context in which this meter came to be used is unknown – but the date, first day of April, may have something to do with it.



Adhesive Stamps used to Frank Bankers' Packets

KGVI Festival High Denomination Definitives & First QEII Castles



London to Edinburgh Registered + Express packet in January 1955 displays three of the four high denominations of the Festival design (SG 509 - 511).

This crude tag from Perth 27 December 1955 shows the use of the Waterlow printing (SG 536) of the Castles design in simple registered post.

Between 1923 and 1952, including the first thirty years of the HVP service, it was only packets greater than 12 lb in weight which would have required stamp denominations of 5/- or greater.



Intermediate Printings of the Castles Design



Paired fragments of registered + express tags London to Edinburgh from March 1958 with Waterlow printings (SG 538, 539) and October 1958 with 1st De La Rue printings (SG 538a, 539a) of the 10/- and £1 Castles.



Fragment of London to Edinburgh linen HVP tag from December 1962 with 2nd De La Rue printing (SG 589) of the £1 Castle design,



Parcel tag from HVP packet London to Glasgow February 1966 with BW printing Castles on multiple crown watermarked paper, £1, 10/-, 5/- (SG 598a, 597a, 596a)

The Bradbury Wilkinson printings of the Castle design

Parcel tag from HVP packet from Arbroath
January 1968 with all four Bradbury
Wilkinson printing Castles on multiple crown
watermarked paper, £1, 10/-, 5/-, 2/6d (SG
598a, 597a, 596a, 595a)



The Bradbury Wilkinson printings of the Castle design



Parcel tag from HVP packet from April 1969 tag to Edinburgh with HVP label and Auchterarder registration label #2649.

Franked £1, 10/- and 5/- BW printing Castles on white unwatermarked paper (SG 762, 761, 760)

The Machin high denomination engraved definitives 1969-1977.

Alfred Jones D

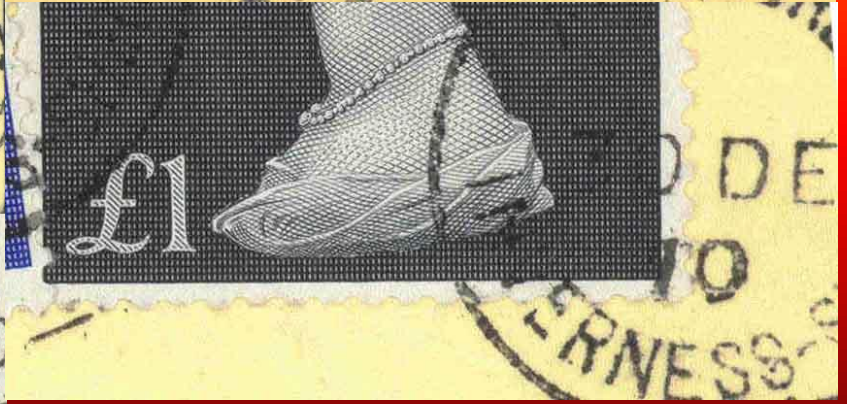
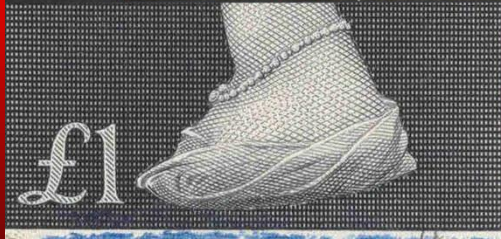


With a hand lens it is easy to detect that the white 'holes' in the background shading are narrower laterally in the later printing..



Pre-decimal £1 SG 790. White holes squarer, lighter grey effect.

Decimal £1 SG 790* White holes narrower, elongated, darker effect.



The Machin high denomination engraved definitives 1969-1977.

With a hand lens it is easy to detect that the white 'holes' in the background shading are narrower laterally in the later printing..

The 10p denomination in this design was replaced early by a small format Machin, which could be found used in combination with the other three denominations.



A redrawn £1 appeared in 1974.

50P SG831 ON PHOSPHORIZED PAPER (SPEC. UC9)

The 50p released originally on ordinary paper on 17 June 1970 (8 months before decimalisation of the currency) was also released on 1 February 1973 on phosphorized paper (residual stock from printings of the 10p (SG829), which had been replaced 11 August 1971 by the small format SGX885. The 50p (SG831) was replaced by the small format SGX921 from 2 February 1977. Only about one in a thousand used copies of SG831 recovered from HVP and BSP mail to the Bank of Scotland were printed on phosphorized paper.

Thirty-six examples yielding date of use, source or both were recovered. Most were used in the late summer – early autumn of 1973 (July [1]; August [3]; September [20]; October [11]; November [1]).

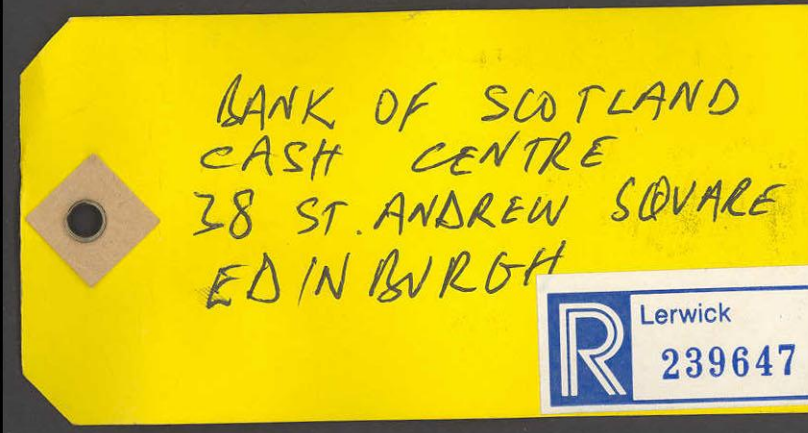
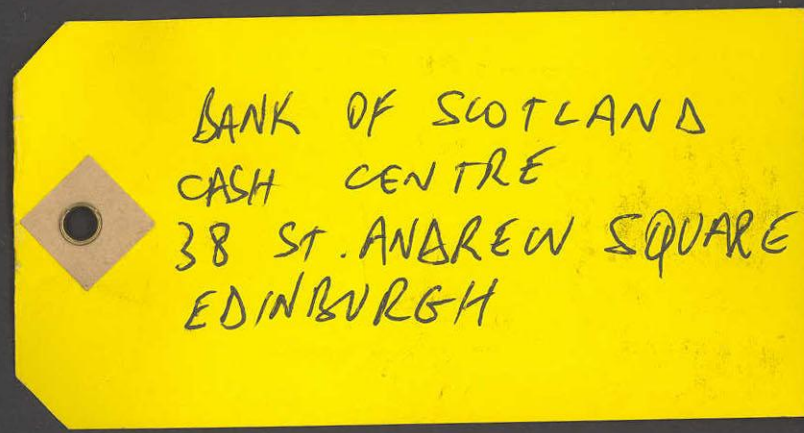
Sources included Kirkwall, Stornoway, Portree and Broadford in the Islands; Wick, Thurso, Golspie, Lairg, Aness, Lochcarron, Drumnadrochit in the Northern Highlands; Grantown, Elgin, Aberdeen, Braemar, Dundee, Killin in the Grampian Highlands; Langholm in the Borders, Port William in Southern Scotland, and Berwick-on-Tweed, Wooler in North-East England. This pattern is consistent with a very limited supply of this 50p printing (UC9) being distributed nationally within a single month's requisition by individual offices, made in August and September 1973, approximately 5 months after the first release.

HVP tag from Lairg Sutherland on 11 September 1973 with £2.13½p franking made up by block of 4 x 50p on phosphorised paper (SG831*, UC9), a 10p (SGX885) and a 3½p (SGX858). Registration label type S10 'Inverness' #01,6596. HVP rate for a 4 lb 8 oz packet in the very short (7 week) 4.9 interval.

Whole tag and fragment of HVP tag from King Street, Aberdeen on 2 August and 18 October 1973 respectively, with £1.78p franking – HVP rate for a 4 lb packet in interval 4.8, made up by a £1 (SG731*, UC11), a 50p on phosphorised paper (SG830*, UC9), a 20p (SG 829) and a pair of 4p with two phosphor bands (SGX861), and by a block of four 50p on the fragment.



The large format two-colour photogravure Machin high denominations 1977-1987



The £1 denomination was used extensively in making up the £6.90 flat-rate BSP franking and less frequently in other BSP rates where it was generally more convenient to use combinations of the £2 and £5.

This example is a double tag from Lerwick in the time of the £12.39 rates in early 1986.

The £2 denomination was used extensively in making up the £7.80, £9.30, £12.03 and £12.39 flat-rate BSP frankings.

The £5 denomination was widely used in all rates from its first availability, and often in pairs in the £10.88, £12.03 and £12.39 BSP frankings.

This example is a double tag from Ballivanich, Isle of Benbecula, in the time of the £12.39 rates in early 1986.



The £1.33 denomination is seen on a tag from Wick, Caithness, making up the £12.39 BSP rate.



The £1.41 denomination was very little used in the material reaching me from the Bank of Scotland before the supply failed. Here a copy is seen on a fragment of a £12.39 BSP rate franking from Broadford, Isle of Skye



The Parcel Rate Large Format Photogravure Machin High Denominations 1983 - 1988

Denominations of £1.30, £1.33, £1.41, £1.60 (SG 1026a, 1026b, 1026c, 1026d) were issued in succession between 1983 and 1987 to meet the minimum charge for the parcel post.

They were very little used in meeting the BSP rates, and from their catalogue valuations, all four stamps appear to be in short supply in fine used condition.

The post offices at Bonar Bridge and Golspie were inclined to use these parcel denominations in large blocks or multiples.

The £1.30 denomination appears here on a tag from Fort Augustus, making up the £12.39 BSP rate. The overfranking by 1p is typical of tags from Fort Augustus throughout the time of the £12.39 rates.



REAPPEARANCE of the CASTLE THEME in the HIGH DENOMINATION DEFINITIVES



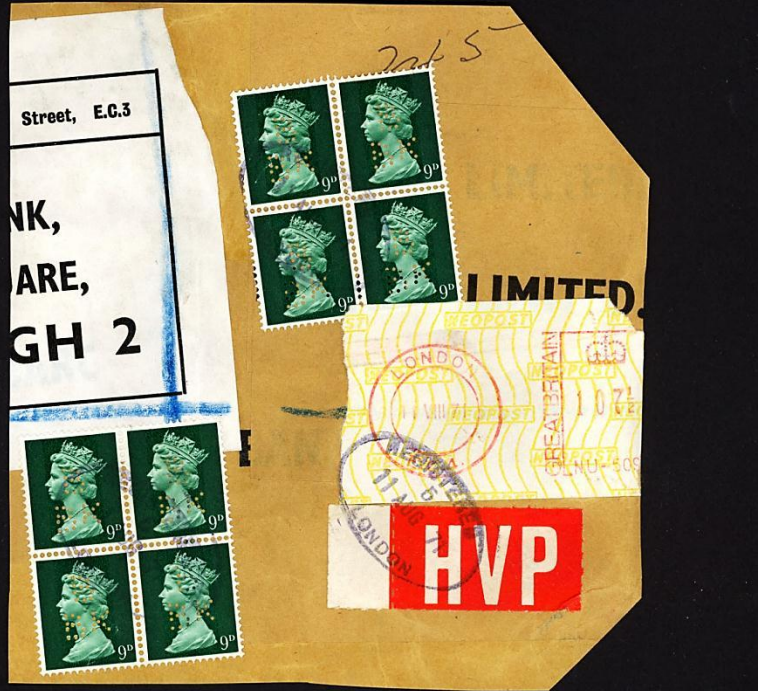
The 3d regional with two phosphor bands was used in the Glasgow area from 29.1.1963 and withdrawn 9.11.67 when the version with one central phosphor band was issued. A few years later the remaining stock of SG S1p was being widely used in the far north and north-west of Scotland (Inverness-shire, Ross-shire, Caithness and Sutherland) at a time when dealers were still asking high prices for mint copies.

The £1 grey (SG 790) was slow to be replaced at Scottish offices by the £1 black (SG 790*) and was infrequently seen before the end of 1970. Similarly the £1 black (SG 790*) was not replaced in general until 1974 at Scottish offices by the redrawn version (SG 831b) issued in late 1972.

The 50p Phosphor (SG 831) had a very restricted circulation in Scotland long after its date of issue. It is not known what its distribution among English sources was, if any at all.

Some unusual frankings

Examples of mixed partial meter frankings with pre-decimal Machin 9d perfins 'BBK' from Barclays Bank, London. Using up stock in the period of grace following decimalisation of the currency.



These two examples show that stamps were (not infrequently) cancelled before being affixed to the tags (much easier to effect a clean strike when you think about it).

Postage Due was *never* incurred in the HVP and BSP services – because all packets were handled person to person and paid for or debited on the spot.

The H.V.P. OFFICER.
G.P.O. EDINBURGH.

PEEBLES.
7/1/72.

HVP. No. 2703. addressed to
The Bank of Scotland (EDINBURGH CASH CENTRE)
1st Andrew Square. EDINBURGH.
was despatched from this Office
without stamps.

Herewith 95p. in stamps.

H Thomson. AI.

for Postmaster.



EDZELL,
BRECHIN,
Angus.



This did not prevent the packets being despatched occasionally without the appropriate franking being applied by the postmaster.

An apologetic letter carrying the missing franking was the method used to straighten the accounts.

*Postage stamps omitted from
H.V.P. Packet post at this office
on 22/4/71. Reg N^o Edzell 3116.*

Cancellations and Postmarks – 1

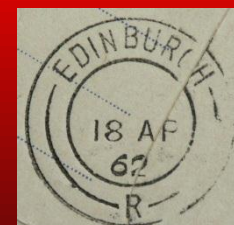
Mackay (1978) gives background information on the introduction and usage of almost all the types of postmark, many not specific to registered mail, which have been encountered as cancellations on HVP and BSP mail originating within Scotland.

No special cancellations are recorded to have been used in connection with the Express Delivery service after 1900. Mackay (1982) gives a more specialised survey of postmarks specific to the Inland Registered Post throughout Britain from 1841 until 1982.

Oval steel 'registered' date-stamps This obsolescent type of 'Registered' cancellation was still in regular use at certain offices between 1969 and 1986 at least, notably Leeds, Manchester, Kirkwall and Stornoway.



Circular double ring and other 'registered' cancellations were rarely seen.



Cancellations and Postmarks – 2

Oval rubber 'registered' date stamps : The oval rubber registered cancellations were in general use at major city offices such as London and possibly Edinburgh, Glasgow and Belfast as well. They do not seem to have been in use at branch post offices, but were probably the cancellations used on the greatest cumulative 'value' of banknote transmissions.



The cancellations encountered by far the most frequently were the circular steel counter date-stamps.



Almost as frequent were cancellations from steel double circle obliterators of various types.



Cancellations and Postmarks – 3

Some offices usually used circular rubber packet cancels, notably Langholm and Lochmaddy. Other offices used them rarely.



Others occasionally or frequently (and erroneously) used parcel cancellations



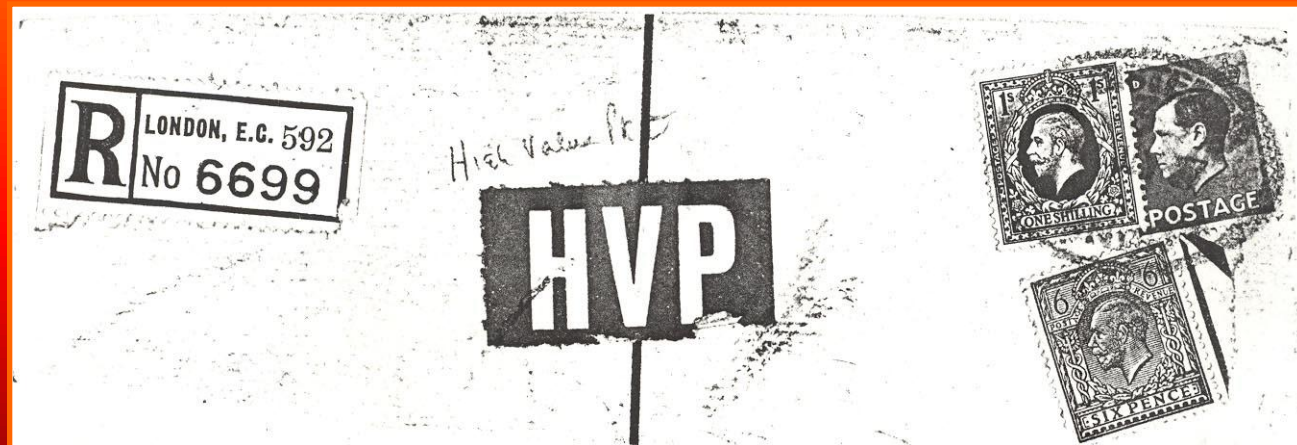
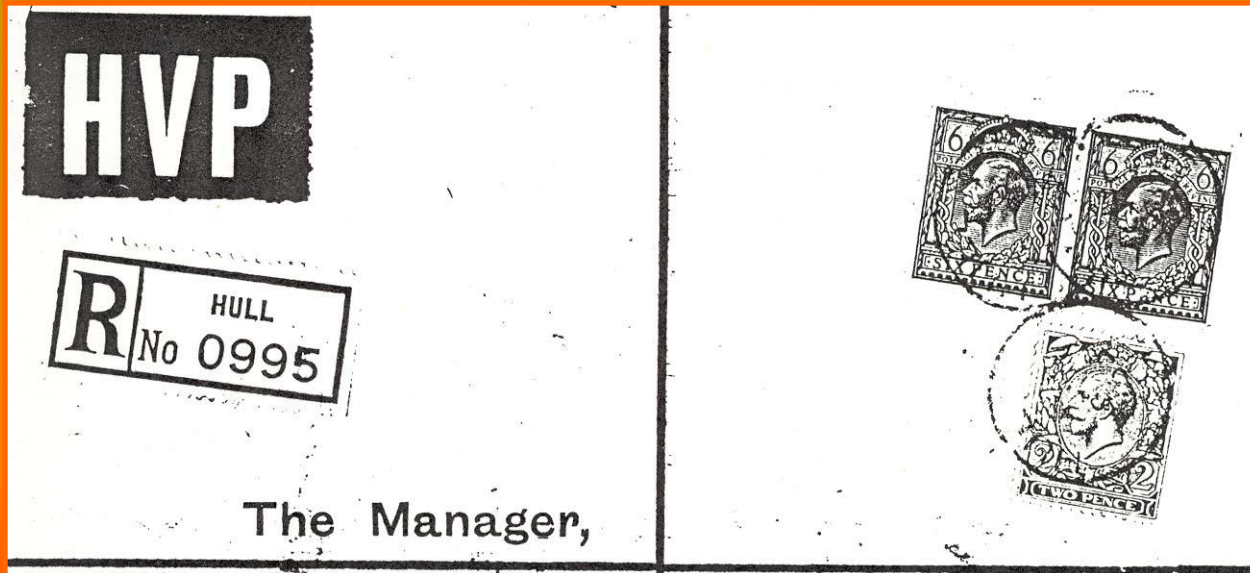
Cancellations and Postmarks – 4

With so many high denomination definitive stamps in use, it was an objective to see that none escaped cancellation. Datestamps, 'HVP' and 'BSP' stamps and finally manuscript cancellations were all used by default.



Early HVP from England

Pre-1937 HVP



These two photocopies of items from the 1930's, in a private collection, were supplied by a dealer in 1983

English HVP in Wartime 1940

HVP 1940



This fragment from a registered envelope or wrapper was donated by James Mackay about 1983

English HVP in 1955

HVP etc 1955



Front from specially printed wrapper used within England on mail outgoing from head office.
Donated by James Mackay about 1983

Express + Registered Post used between Scotland and England in place of HVP before 1960

Express+Registered

When the banks began using Express Delivery in addition to registered post is not known, but may have been very early for mail from London to Edinburgh, Glasgow and vice versa.

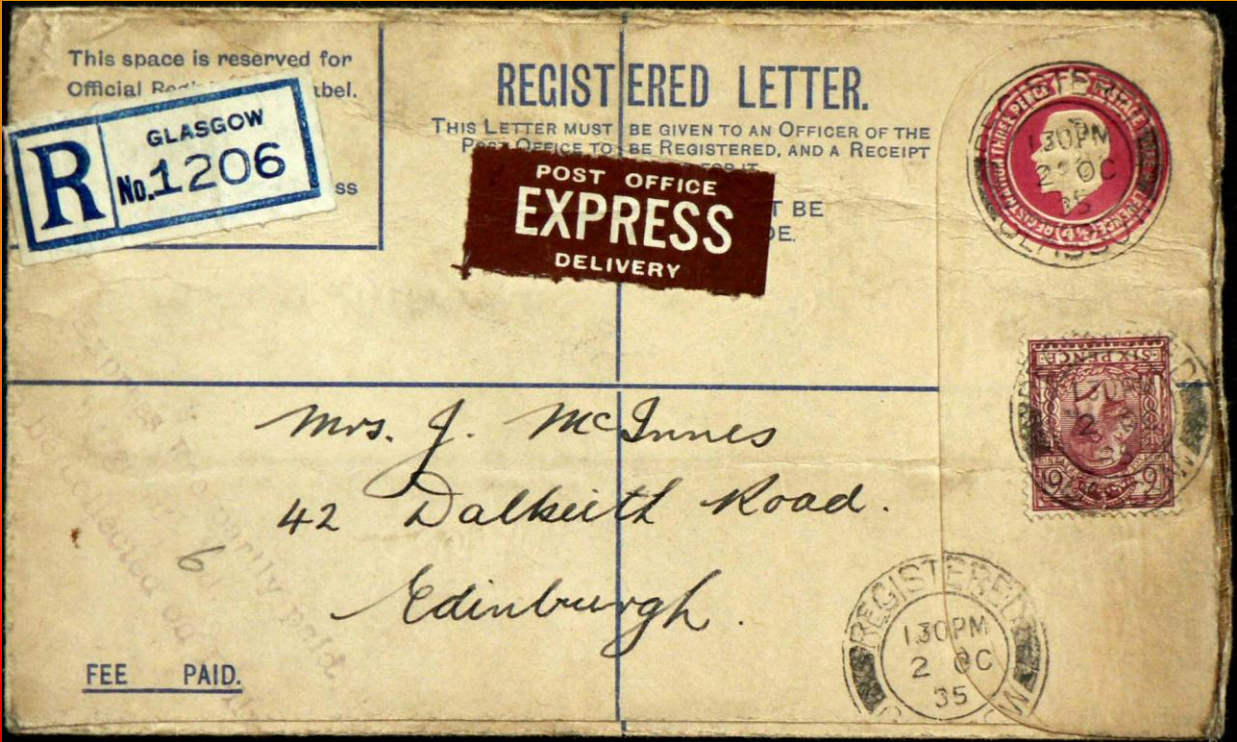


Hand stamped Express marks such as this may have appeared on banknote mail also.

Express + Registered Post used between Scotland and England in place of HVP before 1960

Express+Registered

By 1935 'standard' size dark brown Express labels were in use from rouletted sheets



Express + Registered Post used between Scotland and England in place of HVP before 1960

Express+Registered

When the banks began using Express Delivery in addition to registered post is not known, but may have been very early for mail from London to Edinburgh, Glasgow and *vice versa*.

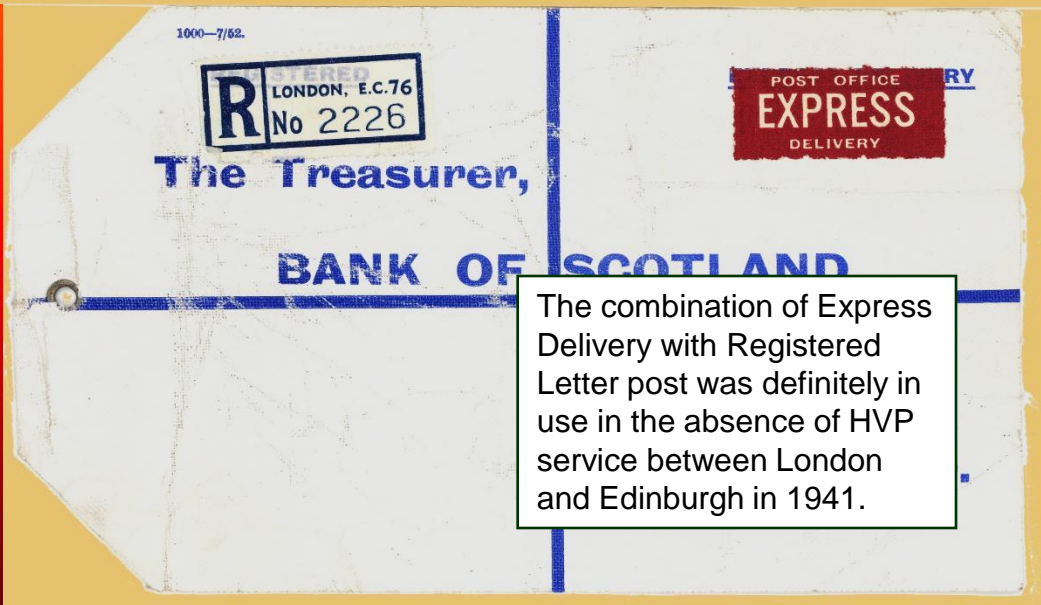


The combination of Express Delivery with Registered Letter post was definitely in use in the absence of HVP service between London and Edinburgh in 1941.

Express + Registered Post used between Scotland and England in place of HVP before 1960



This fragment comes from London to Edinburgh banknote mail in 1955 and shows a lighter brown Express Delivery label..



The combination of Express Delivery with Registered Letter post was still in use in the absence of HVP service between London and Edinburgh in 1955. Item in a private collection.

The combination of Express Delivery with Registered Letter post was definitely in use in the absence of HVP service between London and Edinburgh in 1941.

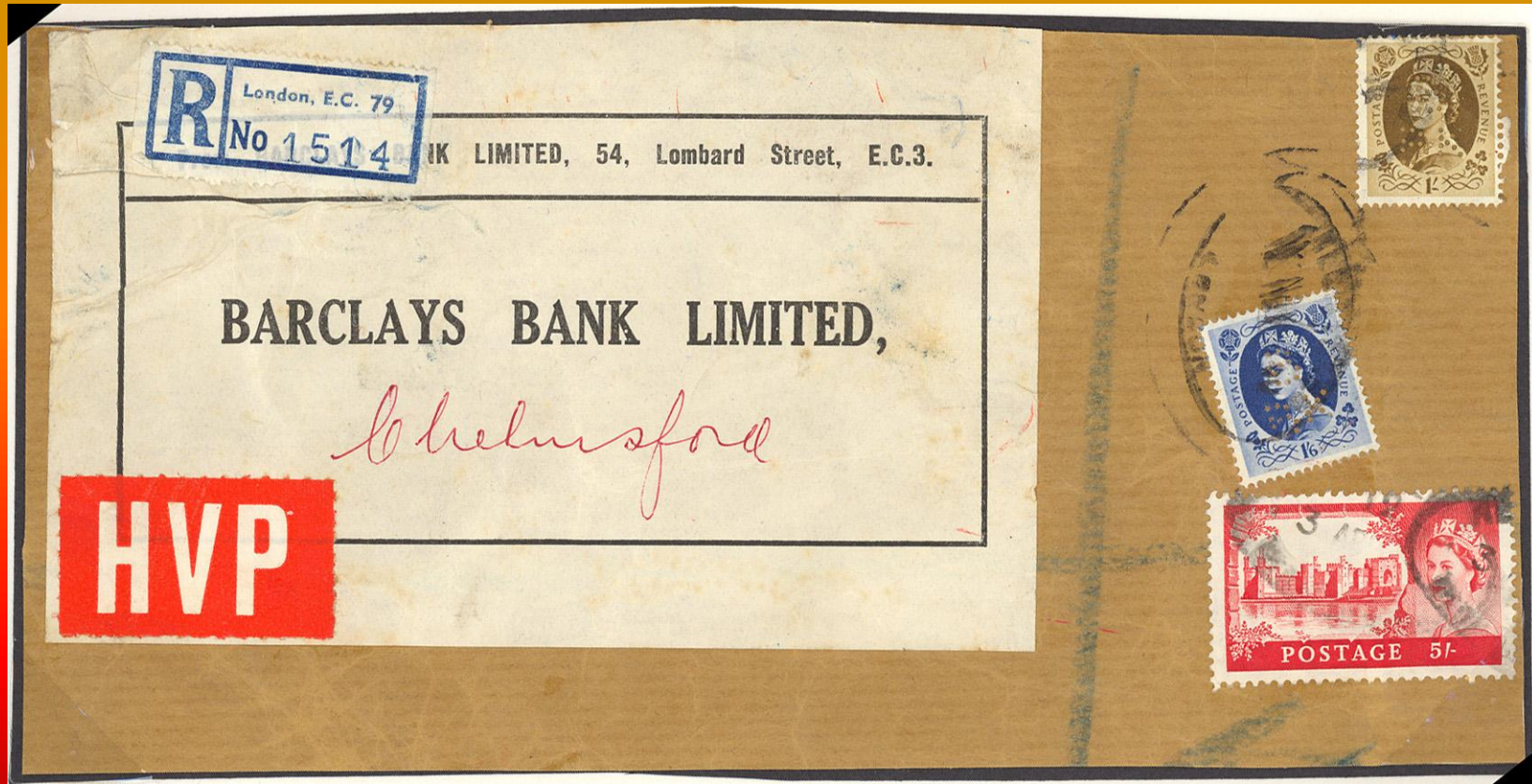
Ordinary Registered Letter Post used by Banks within Scotland in 1955-56



Scottish banks also used Registered Parcel Post before the extension of the HVP service

Early 1960's HVP outgoing from head office in England

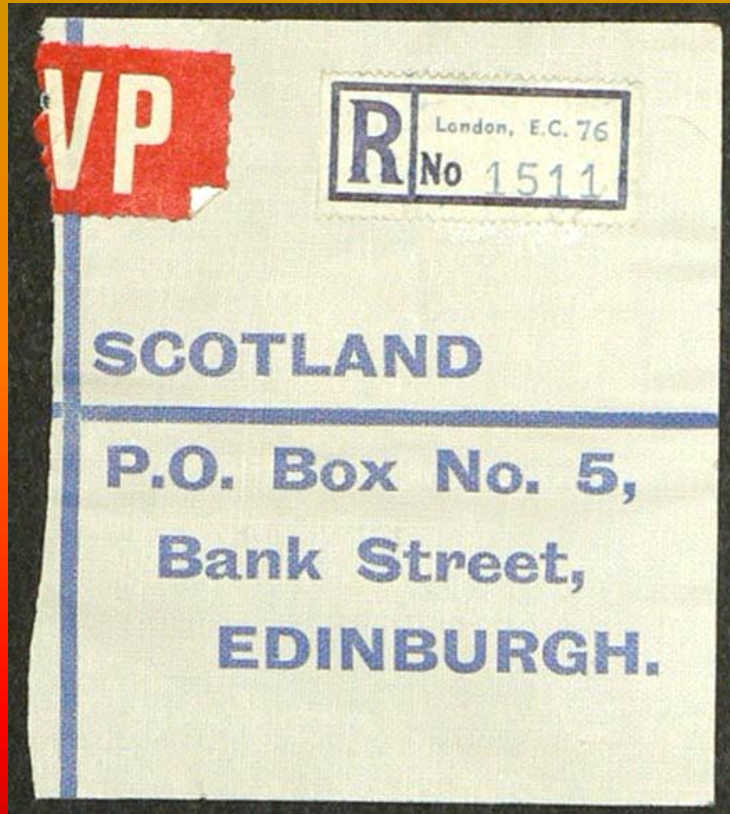
Early 1960's HVP B



Item in a private collection. Note use of perfins implying that packet was franked in the head office

Scottish and English HVP fragments from 1962-63

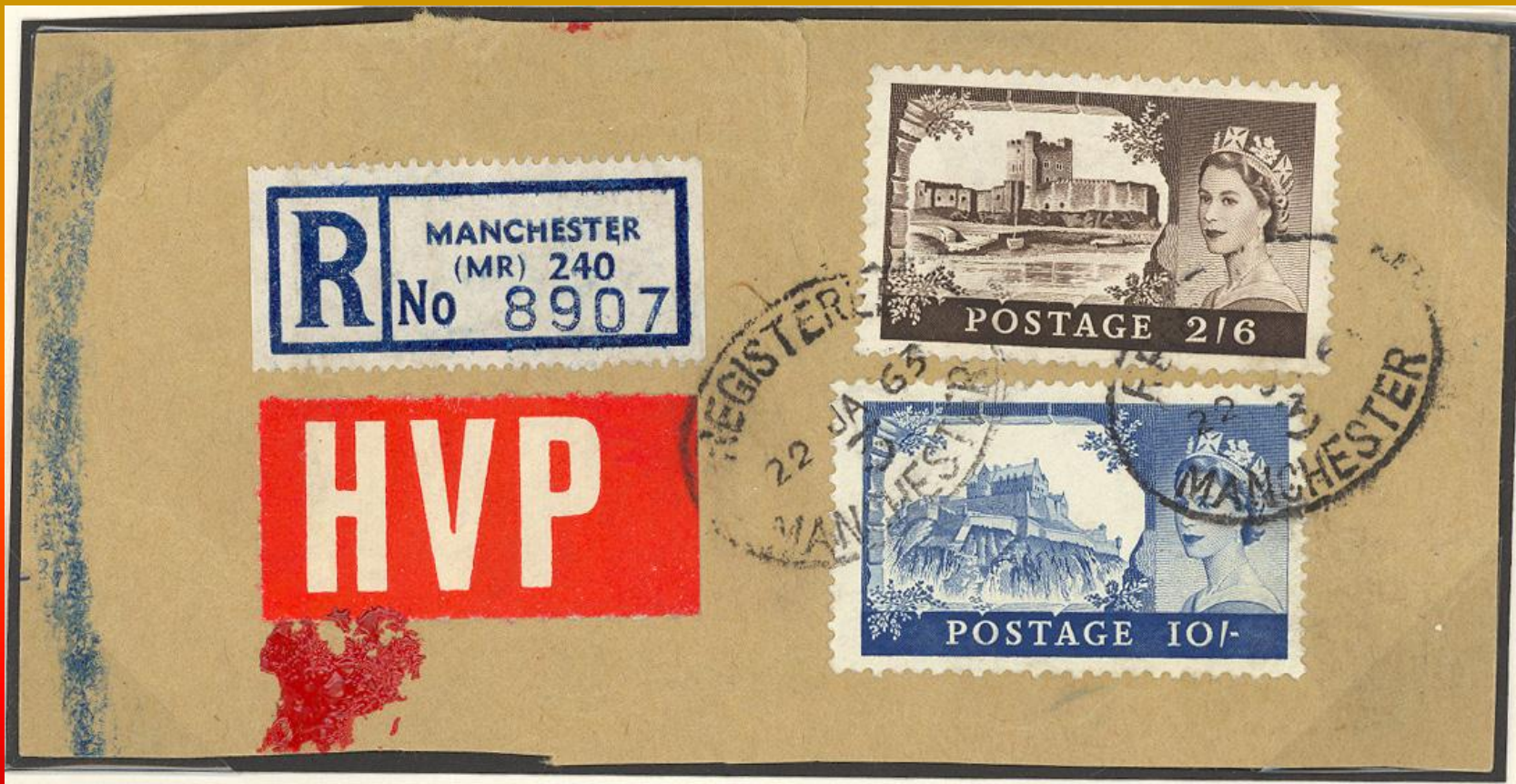
Early 1960's HVP C



Both sides of a fragment of a tag from a London to Edinburgh packet 1962

Scottish and English HVP fragments from 1962-63

Early 1960's HVP C



Fragment of parcel front from Manchester 1963

HVP in Scotland mid- & late-1960's

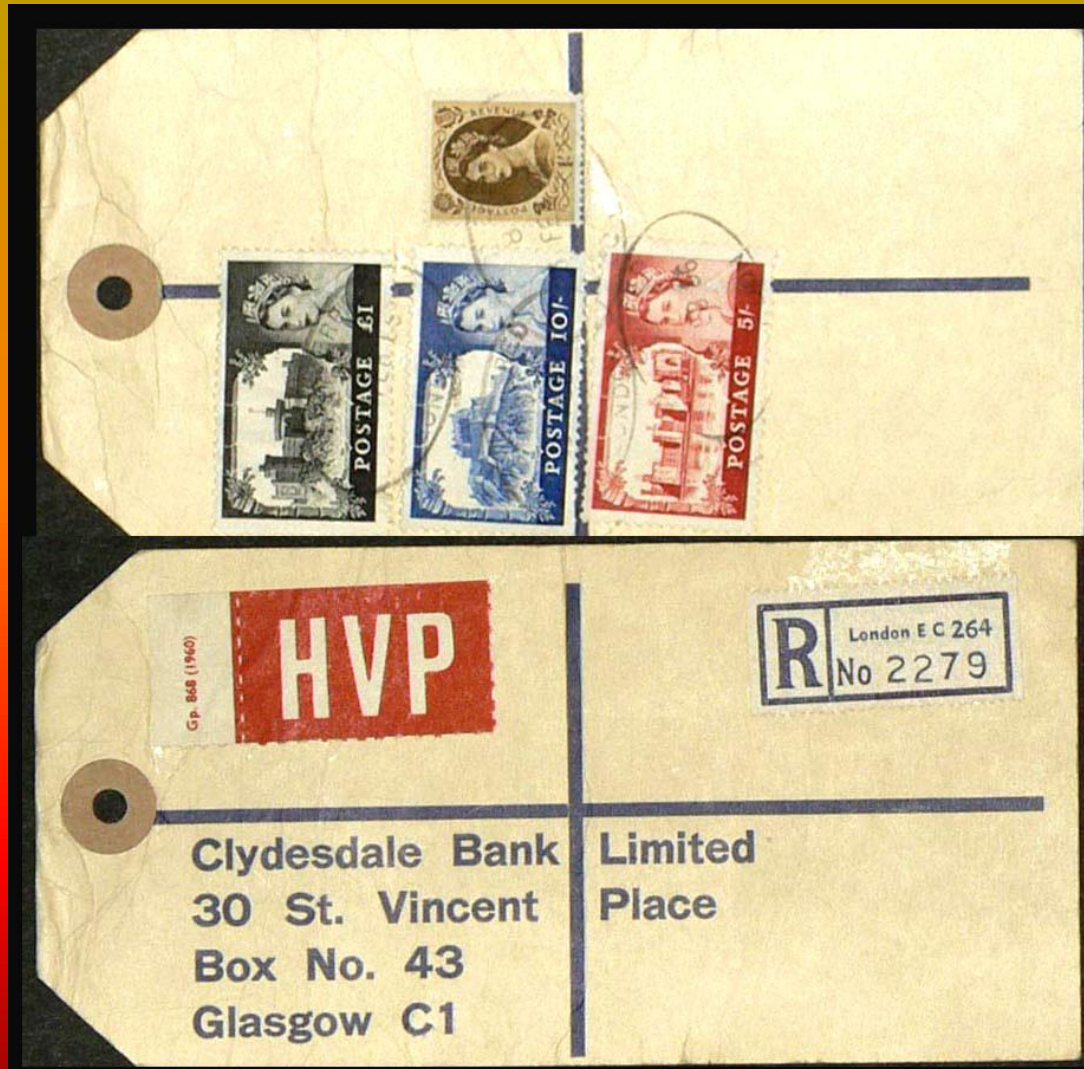
Mid 1960's HVP



Both sides of a HVP tag London to Edinburgh 1963

HVP in Scotland mid- & late-1960's

Mid 1960's HVP



Both sides of a HVP tag London to Glasgow 1966

HVP in Scotland mid- & late-1960's

Mid 1960's HVP



Single sided tag from Scottish HVP 1968 – use of all four high denominations in same franking

Three sets of High Denomination Definitives current in the 25 months of Period 4.6 - A

Three versions of each of the high value stamps were available in this interval.



Callander May 1969

Pitlochry May 1969

North Berwick July 1969

Kirkwall September 1969

stamp, or a 20p plus a 1/6d stamp. There is the possibility of matching the same franking in the three sets of definitives, together with as many as 6 different transitional combinations at each change-over.

These two frankings using the three

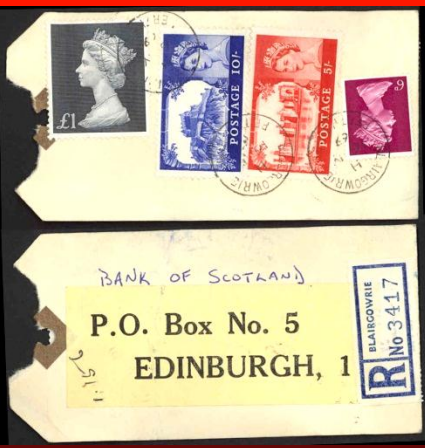
Errol August 1969

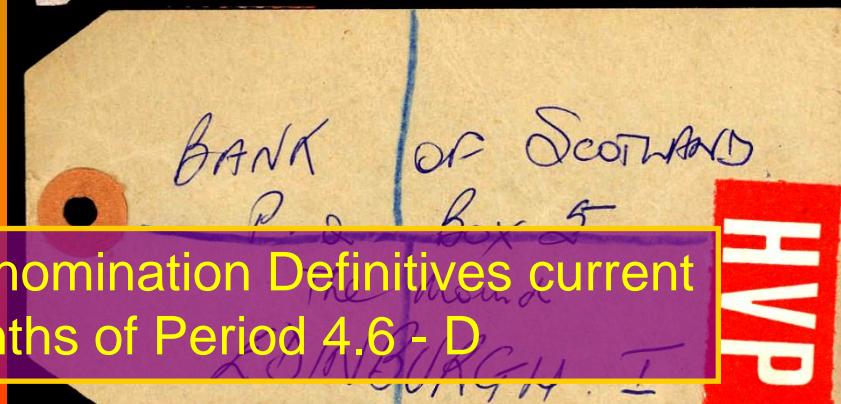
Blairgowrie July 1969

Dunbar July 1969

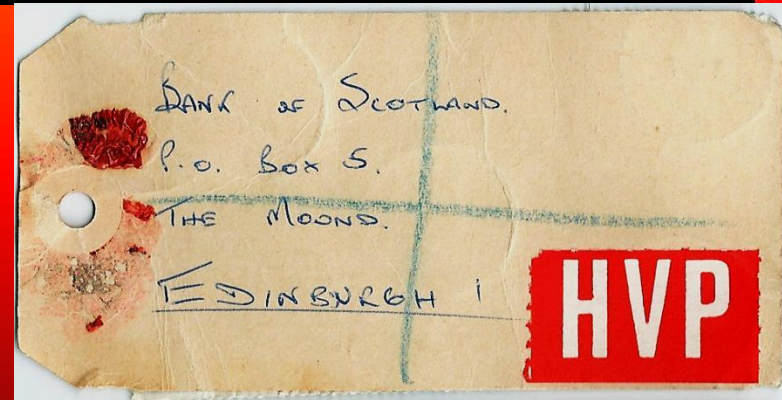
Aviemore August 1969

frankings using the three Cables were generated as late as September 1969





Three sets of High Denomination Definitives current in the 25 months of Period 4.6 - D



The £2/2/0d charge for a High Value Packet not exceeding 6 lb in weight invited the use of a pair of £1 stamps plus a pair of 1/- stamps, or a 10p sterling Machin stamp. A rarely used alternative was the use of a block of four of the 10/- or 50p denominations, the use of Castles and sterling Machins in matched frankings being illustrated by these two tags. A third tag of December 7 1970 displays the partial franking from a probable £3/1/6d packet, also from Arbroath with block of 4 x 50p,

Three sets of High Denomination Definitives current in the 25 months of Period 4.6 - A

Three versions of each of the high value stamps were available in this interval, the critical dates being

Start of Interval 4.6: 1 January 1969

5 March 1969: Sterling Machins start to replace the unwatermarked Castles.

17 June 1970 Decimal Machins start to replace Sterling Machins.

Start of Postal Strike just before decimalisation day 15 February 1971.

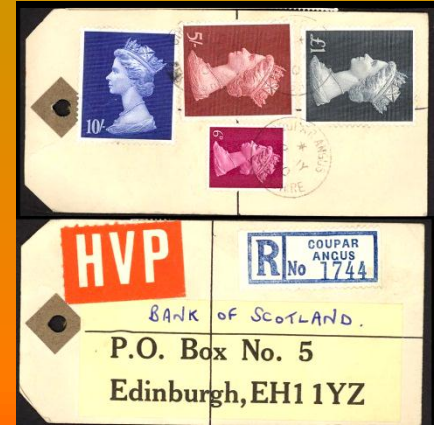
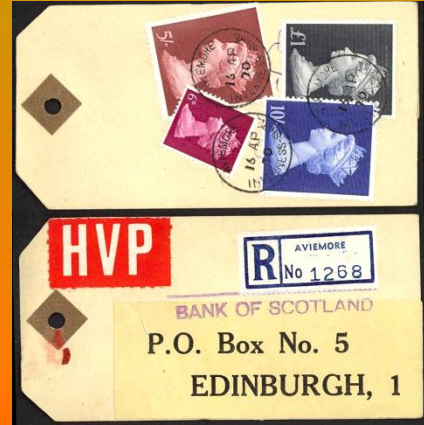
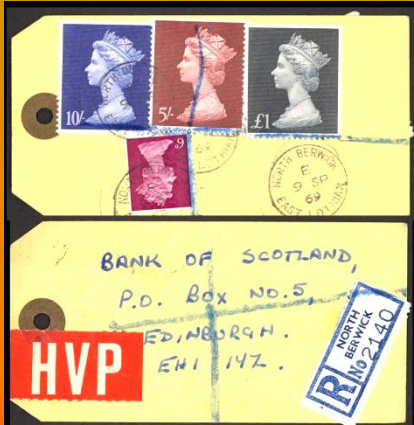
High Value Packets not exceeding 5 lb in weight were charged £1/15/6d, a rate readily and frequently made up from a £1, a 10/- and either a 5/- plus a 6d stamp, or a 20p plus a 1/6d stamp. There is the possibility of matching the same franking in the three sets of definitives, together with as many as 6 different transitional combinations at each change-over.

Smaller post offices like those at Avoch and Newtonmore may not have stocked the £1 stamp, and so used 3 10/- or 50p stamps in making up the franking.

Supply of the 5/- Castle appears to have failed before that of the 10/- and £1 stamps. The first three examples show an all-Castles franking followed by one of 10/- Castles with a 5/- Machin from the same office two months later, and finally an all-sterling Machin franking from Avoch.

Three sets of High Denomination Definitives current in the 25 months of Period 4.6 - B

Frankings using all three sterling Machins were generated from September 1969 to July 1970



North Berwick Sept 1969

Aberdeen February 1970

Aviemore April 1970

Coupar Angus July 1970

These two frankings from July 1970 use the sterling Machin 5/- and £1, or £1 only, with the decimal Machin 50p and the 20p in one case

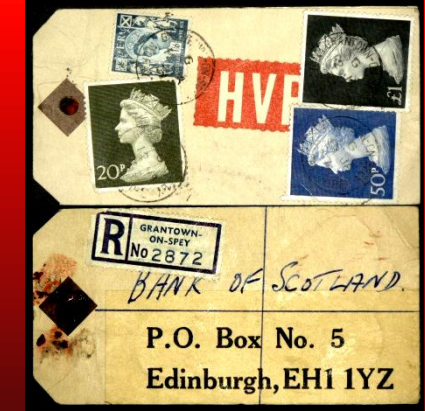
While these two frankings from December 1970 and January 1971 use only decimal Machins

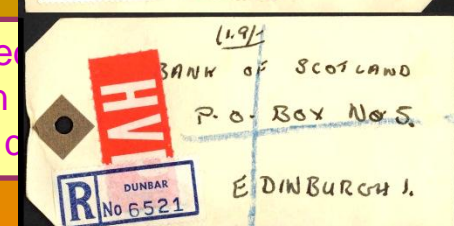
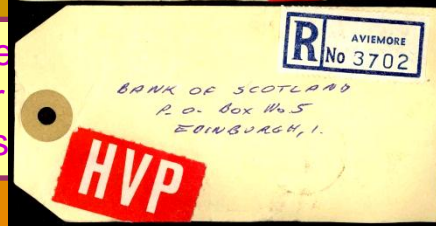
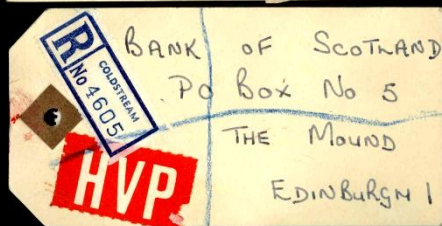
Aviemore July 1970

Nairn 'P' July 1970

Aviemore December 1970

Grantown January 1971





Coldstream March 1969

Auchterarder July 1969

Aviemore July 1969

Dunbar July 1969

All eight examples here involve the use of three high denomination definitives with one being the £1 denomination in every case.

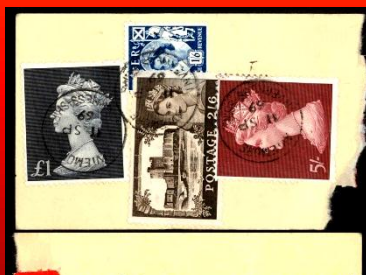
The first four examples carry either all three as Castles, or at least two Castles. At most offices it was the supply of 5/- Castle which failed first, but there is an example here where the supply of the 2/6d failed first.

Aviemore September 1969

Errol February 1970

Aviemore August 1970

Aviemore October 1970



Example 5 shows the persistence of the 2/6d Castle at Aviemore after both £1 and 5/- had been replaced by the sterling Machin. Example 6 is an all-sterling Machin franking from early 1970. The final two are a matched pair from Aviemore in August and October 1970, the former with decimal Machin 20p stamps but a sterling £1, the latter with the decimal £1 stamp.



BANK OF SCOTLAND,
P.O. Box No. 5,
EDINBURGH. 1

R Newtonmore
No 0951

Newtonmore May 1969



BANK OF SCOTLAND,
P.O. Box No. 5
EDINBURGH, 1

Newtonmore July 1969



Bank of Scotland
P.O. Box No. 5
Edinburgh, 1

HVP

Avoch September 1969



R AVOCH
No 0748

Avoch 20
August
1970

BANK OF SCOTLAND
P.O. Box No. 5
EDINBURGH, 1
EHI IYZ



The BANK OF SCOTLAND,
Avoch no 5,
Edinburgh, 1
1970

HVP

R AVOCH
No 0893

The last two examples also come from Avoch about a year later and show matched frankings with the 10/- and 50p Machins respectively, both accompanied by the 20p decimal Machin and unwatermarked 1/6d Scottish regional.

Ordinary Registered Mail used by branches in England - Intervals 6.1, 6.2

Bank branches in England were not included in the Bankers Special Packet service and had to use the ordinary registered post.



Berwick-on-Tweed Nov 1975



Wooler Sept 1976



Wooler Aug 1976



Wooler Dec 1976

Three sets of High Denomination Definitives current in the 25 months of Period 4.6 - F



The £1/9/0d charge for a High Value Packet not exceeding 4 lb in weight invited the use of a £1 stamp plus a 5/-, 2/6d and 1/6d, or 5/- plus four 1/-, or a pair of 20p sterling Machin stamps plus a 1/-. An occasionally used alternative was the use of a pair of the 10/- or 50p denominations.

Bankers Mail – Use of all Four High Denominations Simultaneously



In interval 4.7 the postage rates included £2.82½p and £4,70p, the former calling for the use of all four Machin recess definitives and the latter permitting the use of all four. The 10p went out of use relatively swiftly and was replaced by a small format 10p.

Bankers Special Packets - Intervals 6.1, 6.2



Aberfeldy Dec 1975

Charges were soon (June 1976) increased to £6.15 until mid-June 1977



Kirkwall March 1977

The large format Machin series was soon issued with the £5 denomination finding an immediate use



Aberdeen Jan 1977

The Bankers Special Packet service was introduced in Scotland in August 1975 at a flat rate of £4.75p, replacing the High Value Packet service.



Tain June 1977

The large format Machin £1 later replaced the second decimal £1 denomination.

Bankers Special Packets - Intervals 6.3, 6.4

BSP 6.3 & 6.4

The Bankers Special Packet flat rate was increased in mid-June 1977 to £6.90. Initially this was paid using the first decimal series £1 & 50p.

The large format Machin series £1 eventually became available at Scottish post offices.



Aberdeen mid-late 1977
Tain Feb 1978



Pitlochry June 1979

The 50p was soon replaced by a small format stamp of the same denomination. Old format £1 persisted at Scottish post offices until very long after the issue of the new format.



Peebles Nov 1979

In mid-1979 the BSP flat rate was increased to £7.80 inviting the use of the £2 denomination

Bankers Special Packets - Intervals 6.5, 6.6

The Bankers Special Packet flat rate was increased in early March 1980 to £9.30. Initially this was paid using large format £5 and £2 with two 15p definitives.



Aberfeldy March 1980

The Bankers Special Packet flat rate was increased in late January 1981 to £10.88. Initially this was paid using a pair of large format £5 with four 22p definitives.



Thurso March 1981



Langholm November 1980

After the release of the regional issue this became the commonly encountered franking.



Peebles December 1981

After the release of the regional issue this became the commonly encountered franking.

Bankers Special Packets - Intervals 6.7, 6.8

The rate for a Bankers Special Packet was increased to £12.03p on the 1st February 1882, a rate almost universally met by the franking shown.



Aberfeldy March 1882

The rate was increased again to £12.39p early in April 1883. By this time the volume of BSP mail had diminished and it was probably decided to leave the rate unaltered through the ten further changes to postal rates in the following 14 years until the replacement of registered mail by the Special Delivery Service in early 1997.



Lauder September 1883

Including the new issue of Castle definitives.....

There were, however, many different ways of making up the £12.39 rate, partly reflecting the mental agility of the postmaster and partly the changing nature of the stamps on issue, including the large format parcel rate Machins..



Thurso June 1884



Ballivanich, Benbecula September 1992

Early Bankers' Mail - Introduction

Bankers, Insurance Companies and Solicitors corresponded extensively *and kept their records*.

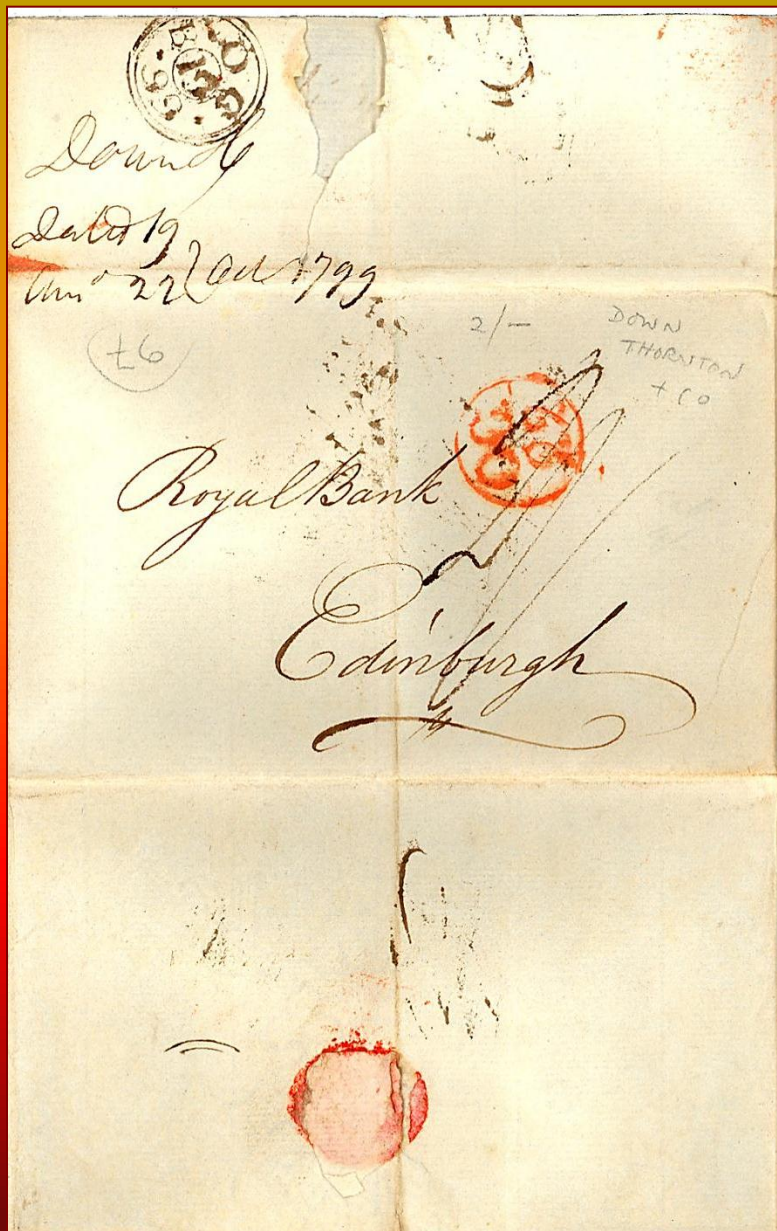
Some of these have come onto the philatelic market. Prior to the 1840's these items are generally as entire letters or as wrappers. Those of interest in the present context were addressed from bank to bank, contained many enclosures and were charged at high postal rates. The letters sometimes refer to the enclosing or other despatch of quantities of banknotes.

The widespread introduction of envelopes from the mid-1840's led to separation of the information, with the envelope and its stamps and markings having the greater chance of survival in the philatelic market. From as early as 1849 until at least 1882 some banks imprinted brief details of the enclosed transaction on the inside of the flap of the envelope. This with other marks, seals etc. is evidence of transfer of generally quite modest sums of money (but you need to keep in mind the changes in the purchasing power of money).

Most of the material of interest is in the form of used post office registered stationery. Much of the material available was directed to overseas banks, probably repatriating foreign currency, and is of philatelic interest because of the additional franking. Post Office registered envelopes were in use for bank to bank cash transfers within the UK until at least the 1980's.

At some point, probably long before the introduction of the HVP service in 1930, the banks adopted the practice of sending larger quantities of banknotes by registered+express delivery services.

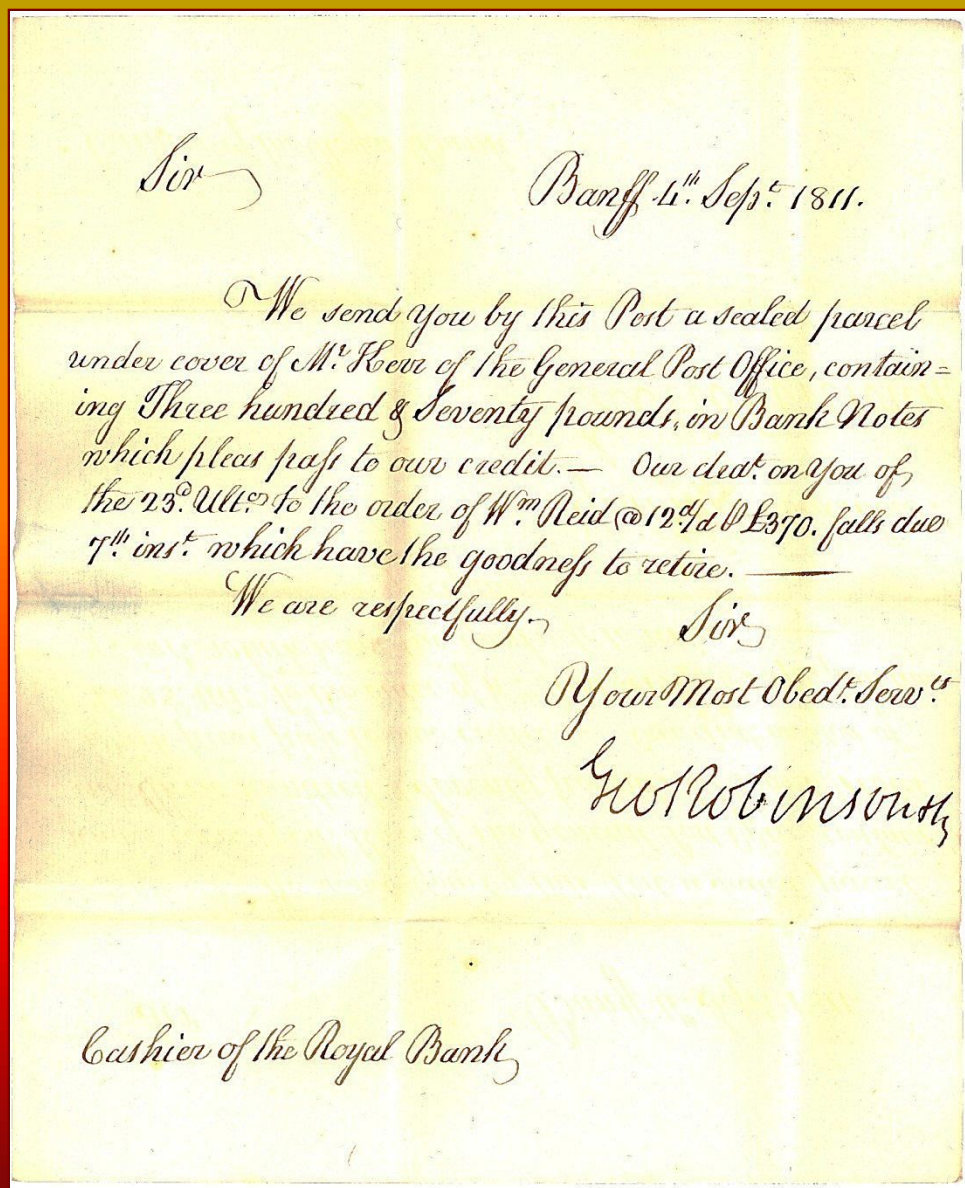
Early Bankers' Mail – London to Edinburgh 1799



S^r London 19th Oct 1799
 We wrote you on the 17th Inst. and have now your several favors of the 15th & 16th: The former with 23 Bills amounting to £ 2238.1.7 The latter with 28 Bills for £ 3384.17.4 which sums are plac'd to the credit of the Royal Bank we are much oblig'd to you for returning £100 on striking account. The Bill for £140. 6s. 13.4 Charges Mess Taylor & Co refuse to pay without the charges are specified & they can judge of the propriety of them - Your instructions in this case will be obliging, and we hold the Bill until we can receive them. Enclosed is a £10 note which we have taken the liberty of charging to the cash account, also a protest for non-acceptance. £30 Greg 11 Nov^r is now accepted Pereman
 Accepted on S^r M. Bethune's B^{ills}
 £191.10 paid for m^{rs} your mo: obed^t Servants
 Down Thornton & Co
 Mr Simpson Esq:

Letter charged 2/1 (? ¾oz triple letter plus 1d extra within Scotland). The letter itself weighs about ¼oz and contained enclosures of at least the £10 note (about £6,000 today) mentioned in the letter. Received and answered 3 days after posting,

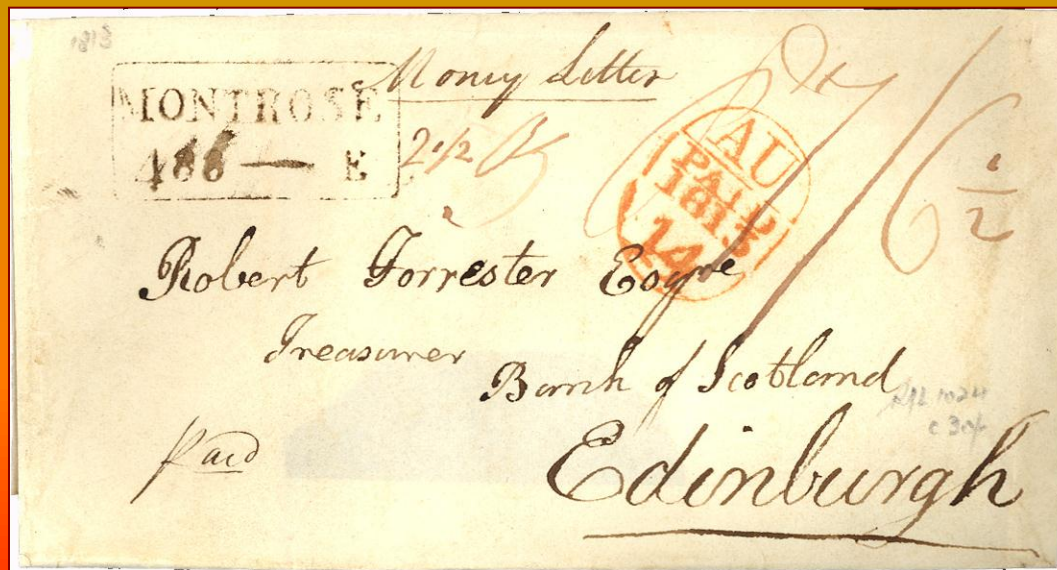
Early Bankers' Mail – Banff to Edinburgh 1811



This letter of 1811 advises the separate sending of a parcel containing £370 in bank notes (about £150,000 in today's money) between the Banff and Edinburgh branches of the Royal Bank.

Early Bankers' Mail – Money Letter Montrose to Edinburgh 1813

Fore-runner of the Registered Mail system



The Money Letter service was introduced on October 1 1792 and terminated on January 1 1840, within the time of the uniform 4d post. This was the first form of registration available to bankers or the general public. Packets endorsed “Money Letter” were to be handed in to a Post Office official. They were then entered on and sent wrapped in the Letter Bill. There was no special fee, but were charged as a letter containing a single enclosure, i.e. at double the ordinary fee. Money Letters received special treatment in transit but there was no compensation for loss.

This wrapper comes from a Money Letter posted August 14 1813 at Montrose to Edinburgh, and addressed to Robert Forrester Esquire, Treasurer, Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh. It was prepaid and charged as 2½oz (~ 70 gm) or 7/6d – a high fee when a schoolteacher’s salary was only £8/year. The extra halfpenny was levied on all mail carried by four-wheeled carriages on toll-roads in Scotland. This packet might have held up to 25 bank notes to a value greater than £25 – equivalent to £10,000 in today’s money.

Early Bankers' Mail – London to Edinburgh 1815



London 7th Aug^r. 1815

George Mitchell Esq
 Sir

Since writing on the 31st Ult^o
 we are favoured with yours of the 29th Ult^o
 handing us 27 bills amounting to
 £18871.6.4. which are placed to the
 credit of the Royal Bank —

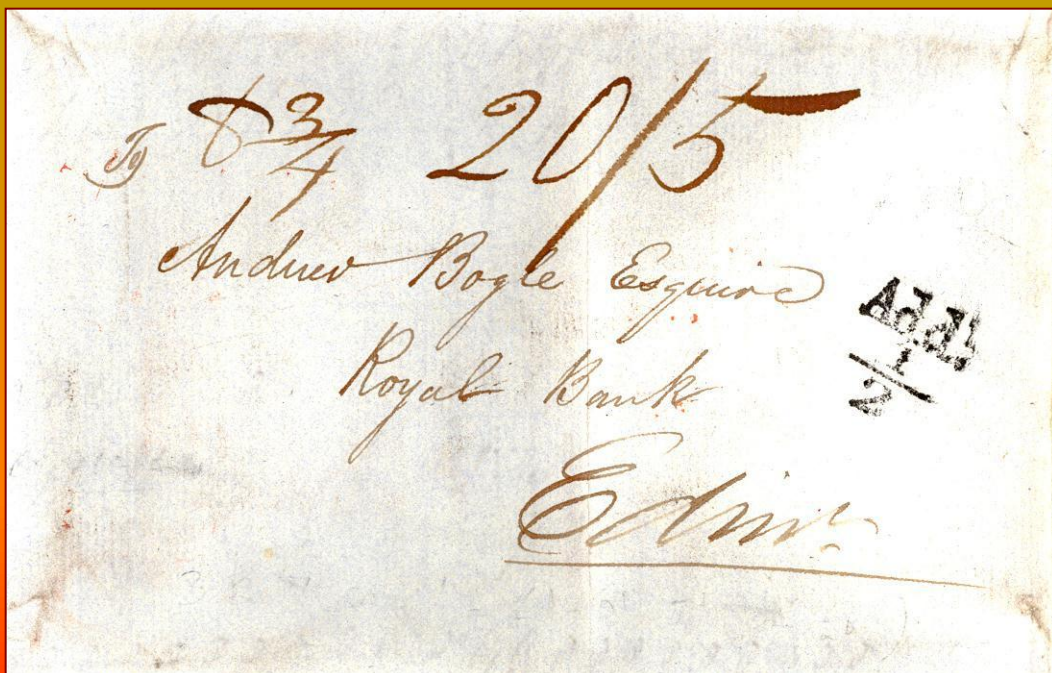
Enclosed you will receive an account
 of the Sale of Dollars by the magistrates
 the proceeds £899.5 at the Company's
 credit & at their debit £170.17.6 on
 Browne protected ch^r 13/- & in two
 covers we hand at their debit £1000
 in Bank post bills of Ten Pounds each
 No remain

Y^r most obed^t. Serv^t
 Pole Thornton

The Royal Bk are charged £10000 paid to us
 to the Bank of England for their credit.
 The protest for non acceptance was given to Mr. J. Irvine to be
 transmitted to Mr. T. Innes the endorser presently at Harrogate

Letters marked 1 oz and $\frac{3}{4}$ oz and charged $4\frac{1}{2}$ d, $3\frac{1}{2}$ d respectively, posted 3 months apart. The letters themselves weigh about $\frac{1}{4}$ oz and contained enclosures mentioned in the letter. Both letters to George Mitchell Esq., the first referring to sending of £1000 in bills of £10 each (see back of sheet). These were high franking rates and the bills accompanying represented large sums of money in real terms. Note change in Edinburgh arrival marks.

Early Bankers' Mail - Glasgow to Edinburgh 1826



375.7.6	W. Chapman & Co	Edinburgh
81.7.6	W. & A. Ramsay & Co	Fifehead Keynot
13.1.9	Ship's Store	Mr J. & W. Wallace Leith
12.15.1	W. & A. Ramsay & Co	W. Cameron & Co
7.4.1	for Charges on a returned bill of £ 544. 12. 2	Robertson & Ballantyne

I enclose the following bills with relative bills, and am,
 Sir,
 Your most Obedient
 John Thompson

P.S. I further debit you £1500
 for 20/- notes sent you by the Bce this
 morning.

Mr. Bell having made a mistake
 in the address of Helen Erskine & Co for
 £400 added in your letter as being notes
 for 20/- you will please to credit back
 without change at my debit.

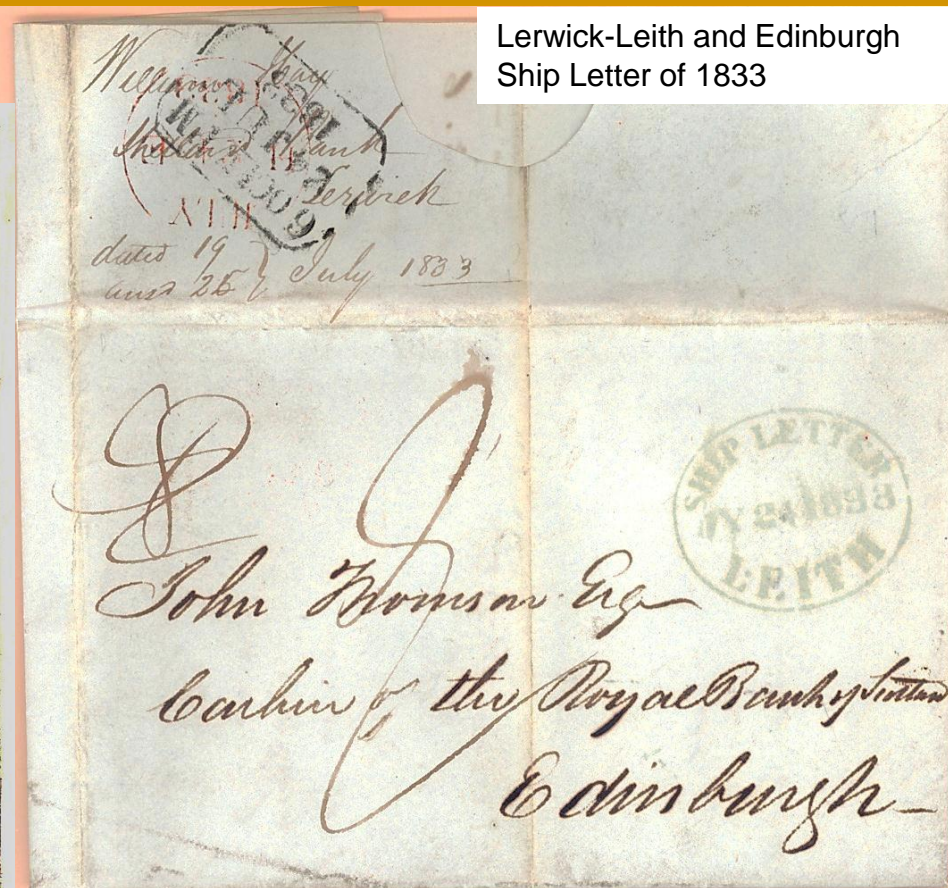
6 June 1826 Letter marked 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz and charged 20/5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, an unusually high postal charge - equivalent in real terms to £61.25 today (2007) but perhaps less unusual in the banking community in the early 19th century. This packet was unable to take advantage of the special one-quarter rates for banker's packets (see McKay 1982 pp 26-29) because it contained material other than banknotes (and the special rates may have applied only to mails leaving London). The letter itself weighs about $\frac{1}{2}$ oz and contained enclosures mentioned in the letter. A postscript refers to despatch 'this morning' of a packet containing 1500 20/- notes. To Andrew Bogle Esq., from John Thompson, the Glasgow agent of this bank, and detailing transactions approximating one and a half million pounds in today's money.

Bankers Mail – Road and Sea Transport

Westport, Ireland - Edinburgh
Paid Letter of 1826

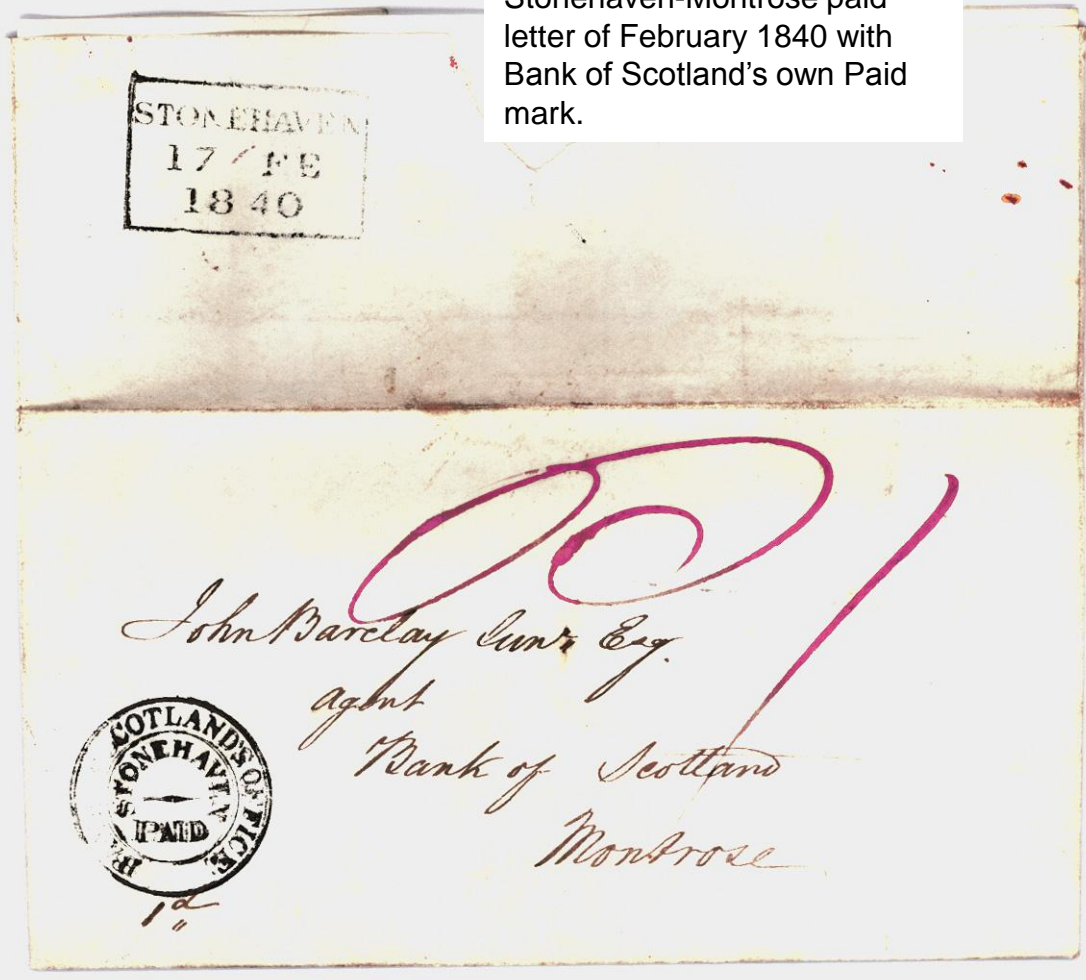


Lerwick-Leith and Edinburgh
Ship Letter of 1833



Bankers Mail – Pre-stamp (just) & Bank Paid Marks

Stonehaven-Montrose paid letter of February 1840 with Bank of Scotland's own Paid mark.

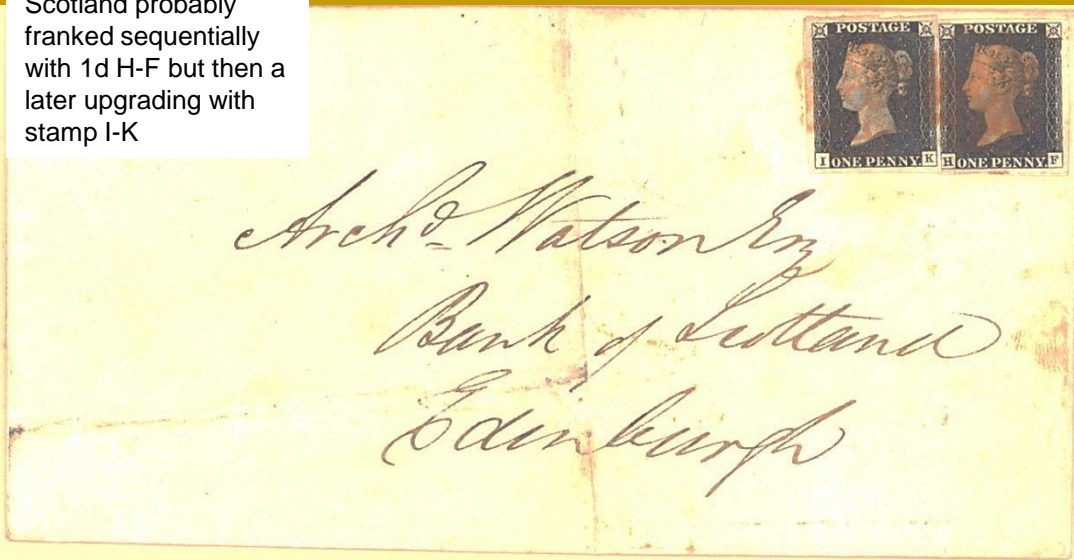


Aberdeen-Stonehaven paid letter of March 1840 with Bank of Scotland's own Paid mark.



Bankers Mail – Early Frankings

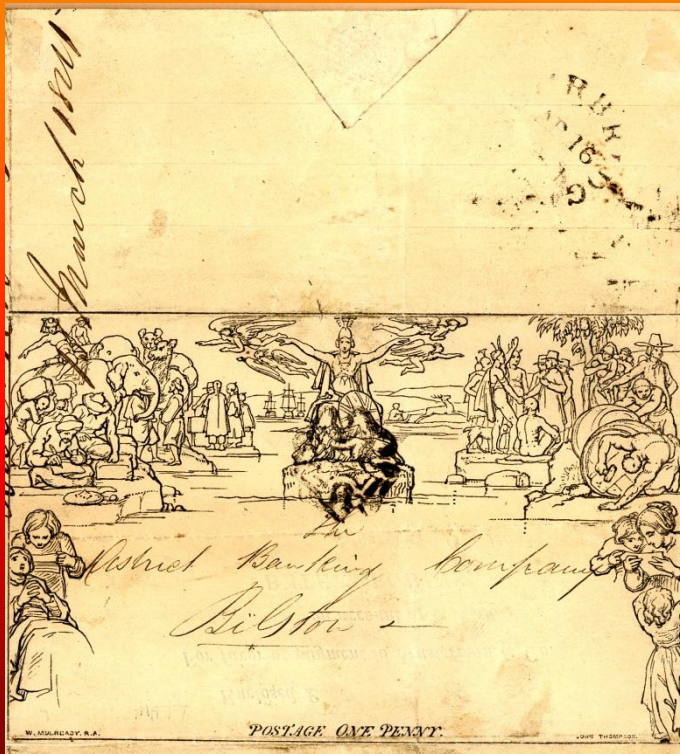
Wrapper to Bank of Scotland probably franked sequentially with 1d H-F but then a later upgrading with stamp I-K



4d was a commonly encountered rate in bankers mail at this time. The two stamps were applied at the same time.



Bankers Mail – Mulreadies



✓
Enclosed £ 19 . 15 . 9
For favor of payment to Masterman & Co.
on account of
BATE & ROBINS,
Stourbridge Old Bank,
Juch 15 1841.
Skizzins £ 19 . 15 . 9 ✓

Bankers Mail – Mulreadies



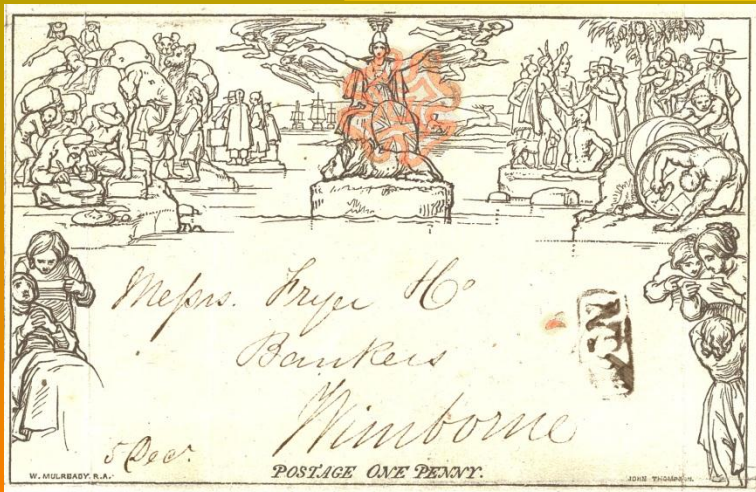
£13 from Williams Coy to
Sturminster, for favour of payment to
Phillipson & Co. London

May 31st 1841

Thomas Paynter & Co

The Webb Doiset & Parkin Company
Yeovil

Bankers Mail – Mulreadies



Rossethorne Bank
Sturminster, 5 Dec. 1840

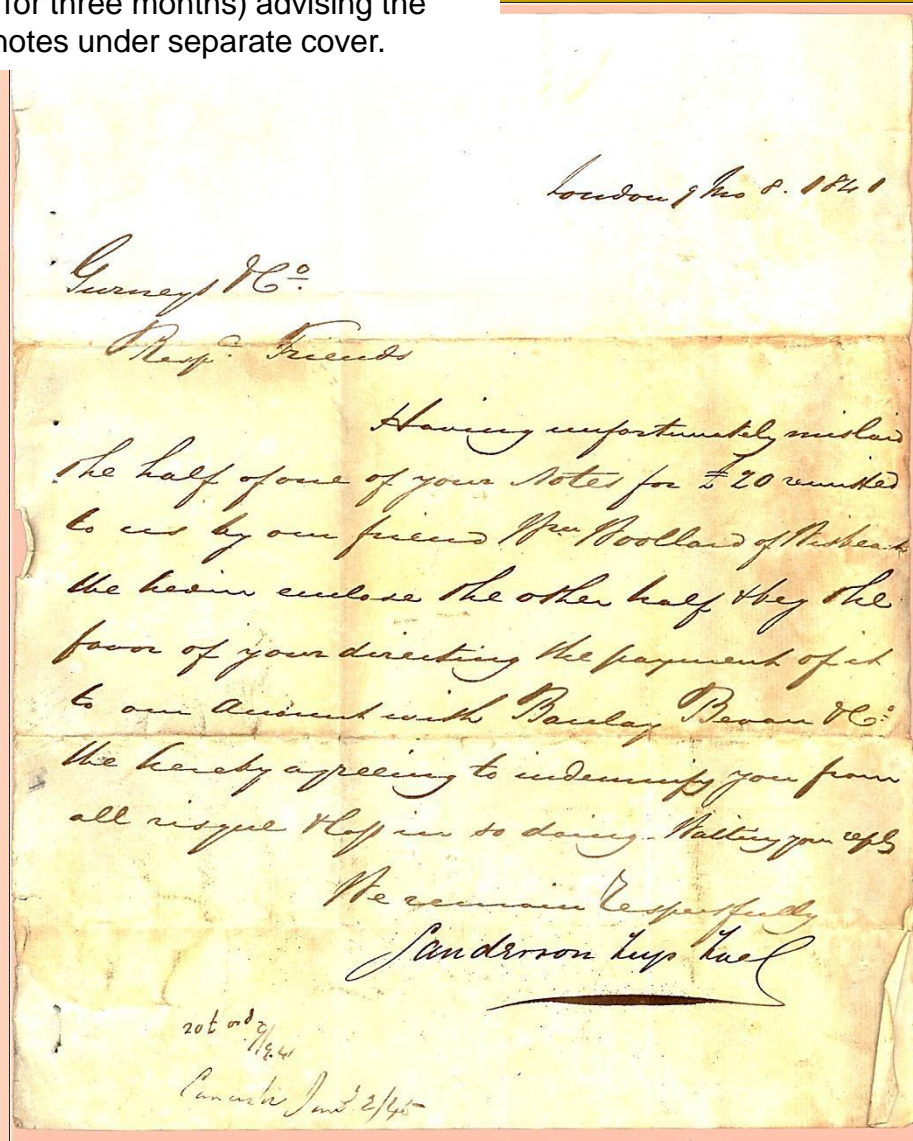
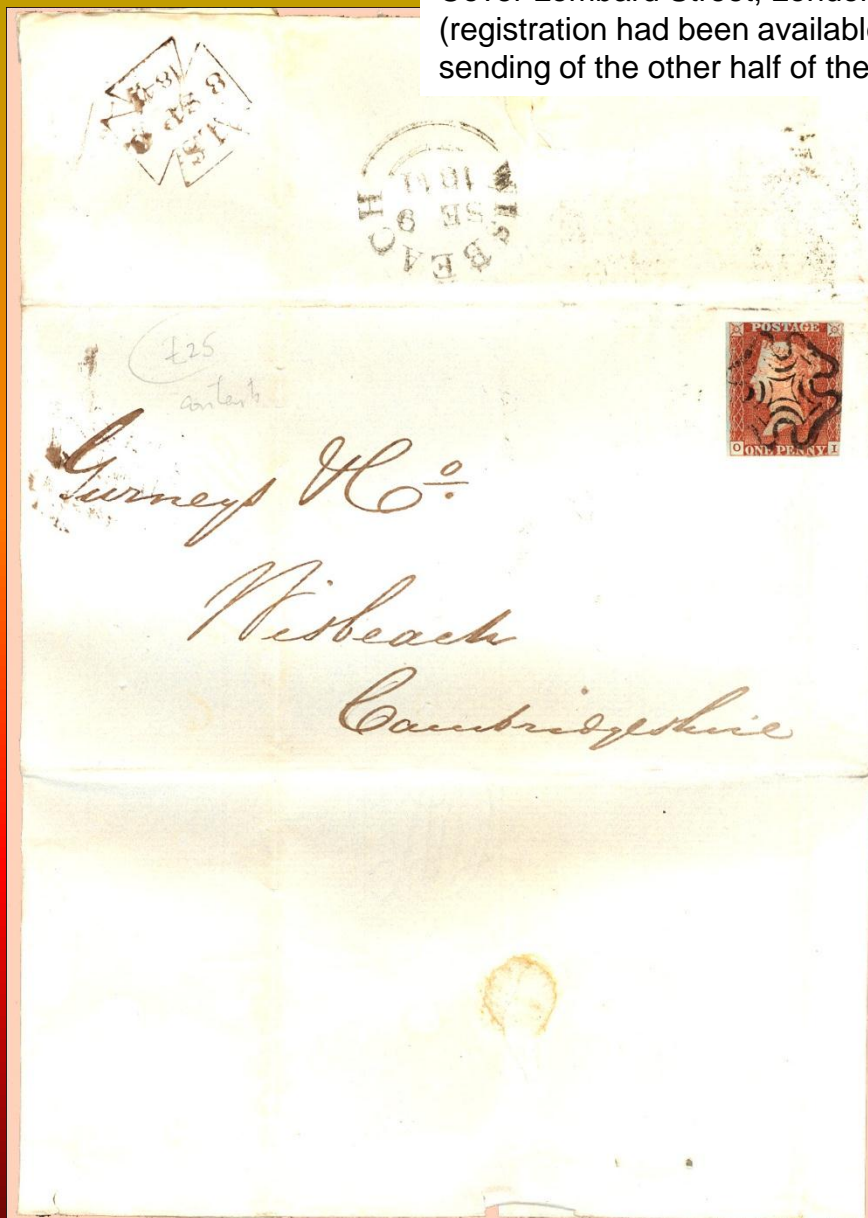
Messrs. Frye & Co
Wimborne
Gent^l

Please pay the amount
of the enclosed, which on yourselves £10.
to our credit with Messrs Williams & Co
London —

We are
Gent^l
Your obed^t. Servants
For Williams, Coy & Co
H. Colbourne

Bankers Mail Security – Mailing of Halved-Banknotes

Cover Lombard Street, London-Wisbeach 8 September 1841
(registration had been available for three months) advising the
sending of the other half of the notes under separate cover.

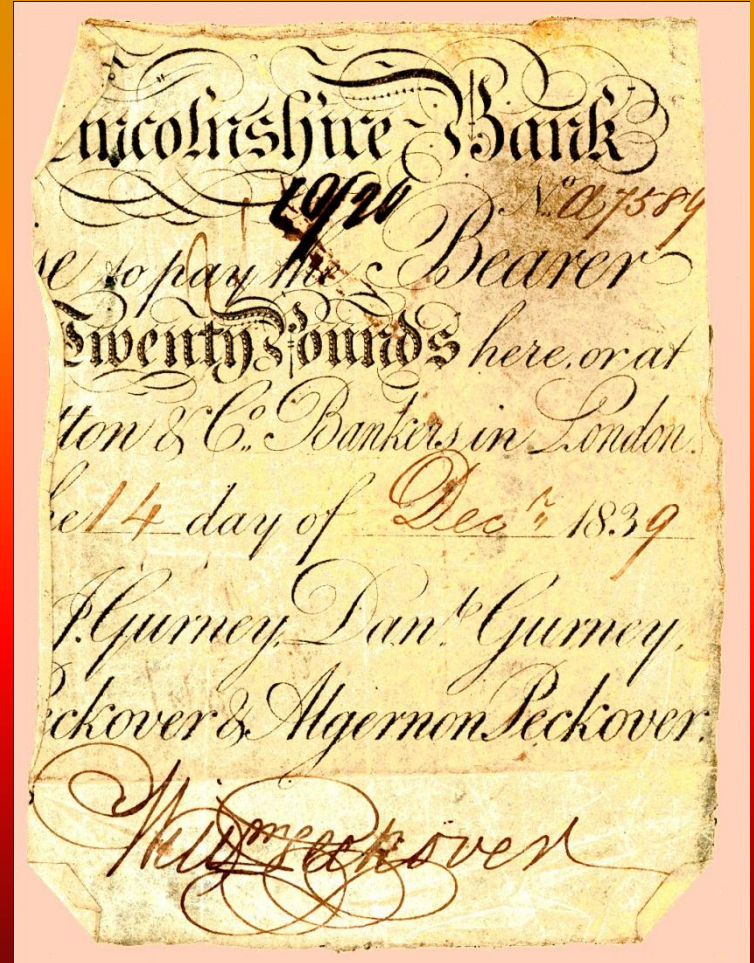


Bankers Mail Security – Mailing of Halved-Banknotes

Cover Lombard Street, London-Wisbeach 8 September 1841
(registration had been available for three months) advising the
sending of the other half of the notes under separate cover.

The enclosed half-banknote

Detail of the stamp



Bankers Mail – Banknote Transmission by Registered Post



Registered cover of 1847 franked by a pair of 2d blue reflecting the weight of paper inside, with a manuscript "1n" in red ink indicating payment in cash of the 1/- registration fee.

Bankers Mail – Banknote Transmission by Registered Post

Letter advising the inclusion of £1000 in notes



Detail of franking.
Paid Lombard Street
mark.

Messrs. Brocklehurst & Co. London Oct. 23rd 1847
Gentl^{rs}.

We beg to hand you annexed,
a statement of your account, which we hope will
be found correct.

We are Sirs with respect
for the enclosed Bank Notes, Your most obedient Serv^{ts}
and enclose £10. of your paid *James Boyatt & Co*
notes

Bankers Mail – Exceptional Frankings

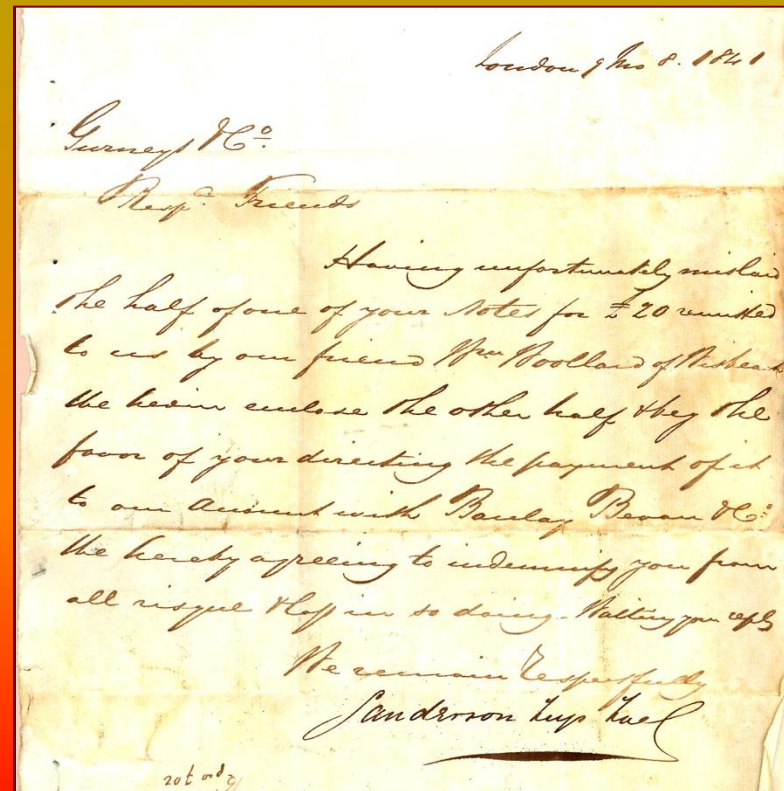


March 1851 registered letter with full fee of 6d paid in adhesives.



June 1851 registered letter with full fee of 1/- paid in adhesives.

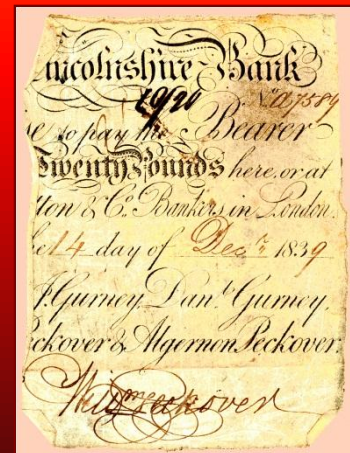
Early Bankers' Mail – London to Wisbeach 1841



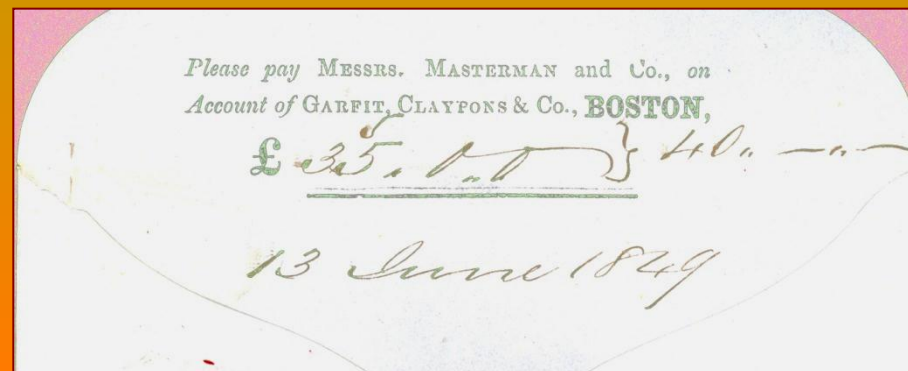
Letter of 8/9/1841, delivered 9/9/1841, franked 1d red imperf from plate 16 or earlier This letter may have been considered important enough to have been sent by registered post but there are no msrks on the letter to indicate this. The letter reads,

“London Sep 8 1841 Gurneys & Co Respd. Friends Having unfortunately mislaid the half of your note for £20remitted to us by our friend Mr Boolland of Wisbeach we herein enclose the other halffavor of your directing the payment of it to our account with Barclay Bevan & Co we hereby agreeing to indemnify you from all risque & loss from so doing. Waiting your reply

We remain respectfully, Sanderson Leys ?.”



Early Bankers' Mail – Boston to Doncaster 1849



Registered letter of 13/6/1849 from Garfit, Claypons & Co, bankers of Boston, Lincolnshire, to Messrs Cooke & Co, bankers, Doncaster. Received 15/6/1849. Apparently contained £40 (in notes) for payment to Masterman and Co, bankers, of London.

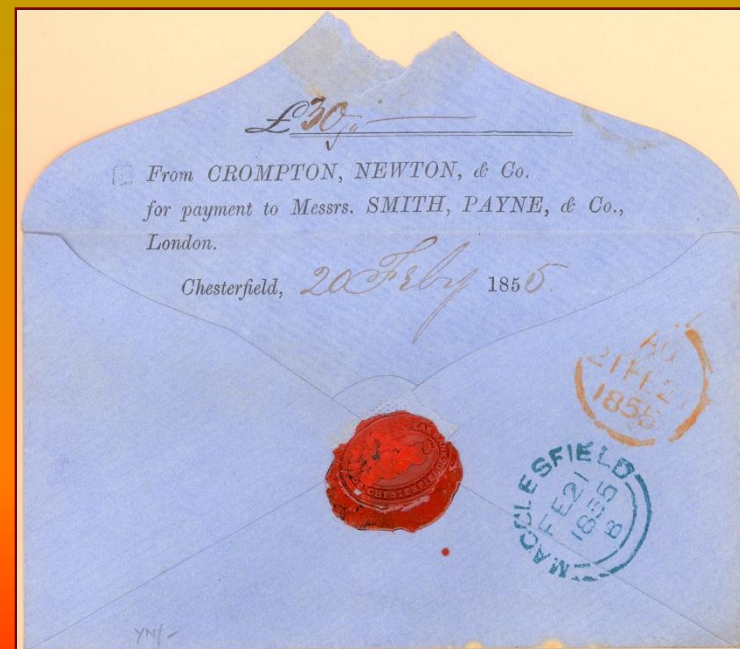
Letter, which weighs barely $\frac{1}{4}$ oz, was franked by 1d (SG 8) and cancelled by one strike of the Boston '94' obliterator. The 7d paid covered the 6d registration fee and the first half ounce of weight, leaving perhaps 15 gm for contents (up to 15 modern banknotes).

Inside flap and inside part front shows source and ultimate destination of cash enclosed.

Letter was registered at Boston on 13/6/1849, the 6d registration fee being paid in cash but not reflected in the franking other than the red 'PAID' mark and the manuscript '6'. Received Doncaster 15/6/1849 Arrival mark from back of envelope.



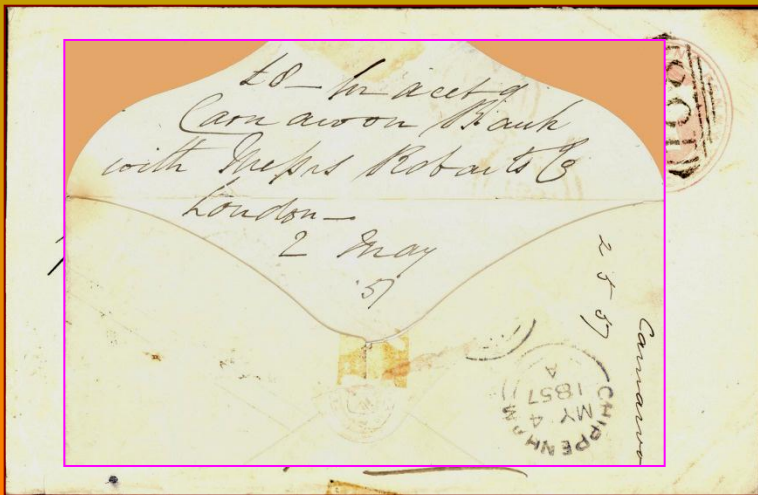
Early Bankers' Mail – Chesterfield to Macclesfield 1855



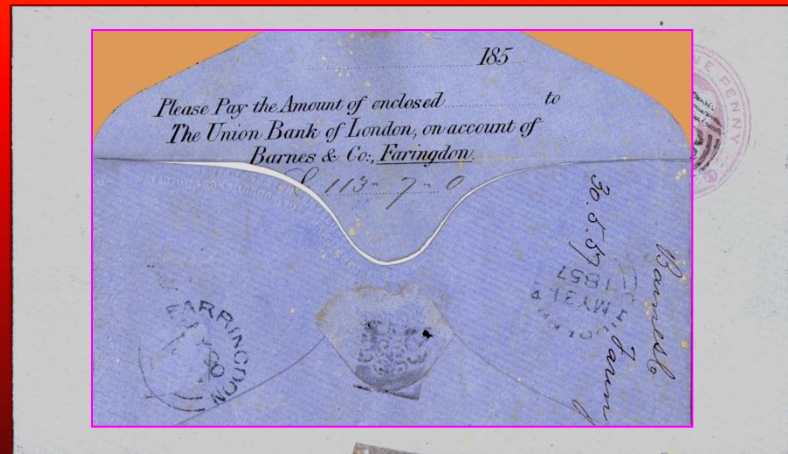
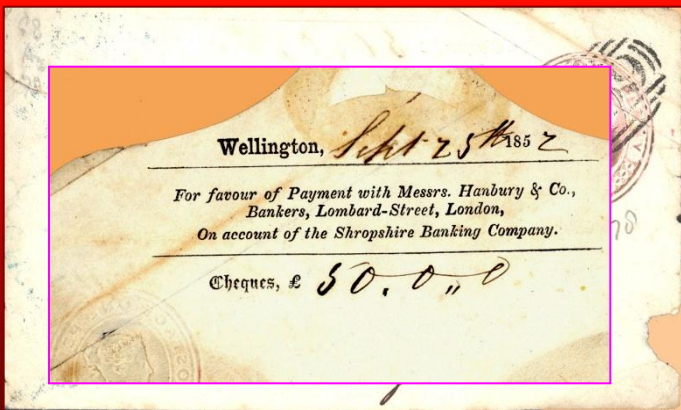
Registered letter of 20/2/1855 from Crompton, Newton, & Co, bankers of Chesterfield, to Messrs Brocklehurst & Co, bankers, Macclesfield. Received 22/2/1855. Apparently contained £30 (in notes) for payment to Smith, Payne & Co, bankers, London. Letter, which weighs barely ¼ oz, was franked by 1d (SG 17) and 6d embossed (SG 58-60) and cancelled by two strikes of the Chesterfield '186' obliterator. The 7d franking covered the 6d registration fee and the first half ounce of weight, leaving perhaps 15 gm for contents (up to 15 modern banknotes). Letter was registered at Chesterfield on 20/2/1855, received Macclesfield the following day, received a red 'Paid' mark, and filed on 22/2/1855 by Messrs. Brocklehurst & Co.



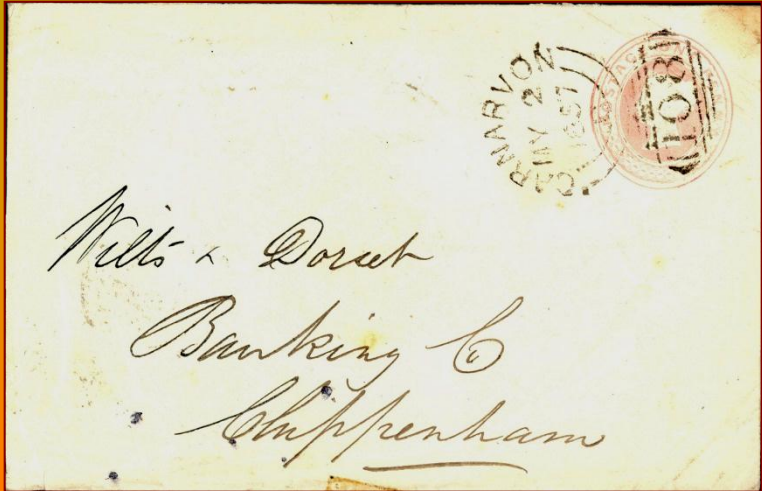
Early Bankers' Mail – Penny Pink's in Use 1857



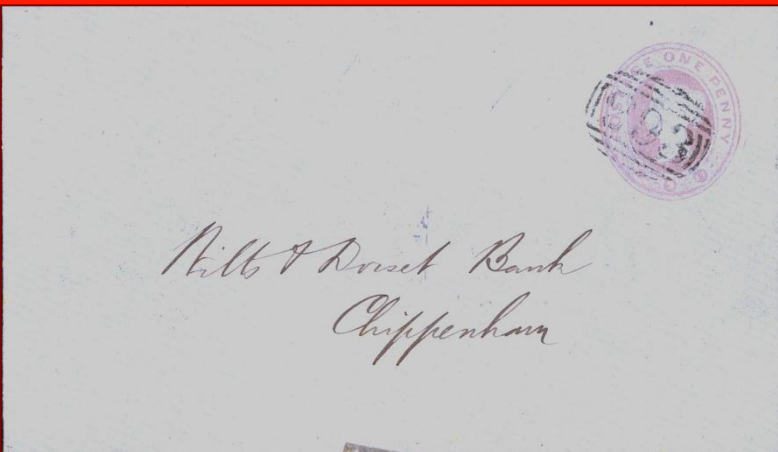
These four examples from Caernarvon, Devizes, Wellington and Farringdon illustrate the use of post office and embossed to order postal stationery with brief explanation inside the flap, to send (probably) a few cheques rather than cash, from bank to bank. All were used in 1857 but the practice may have extended for decades.



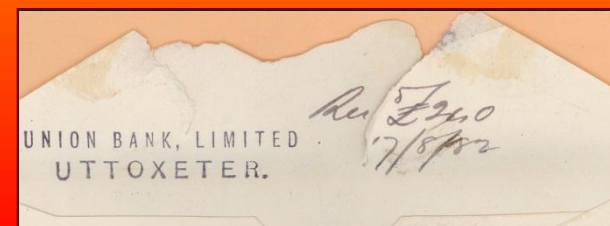
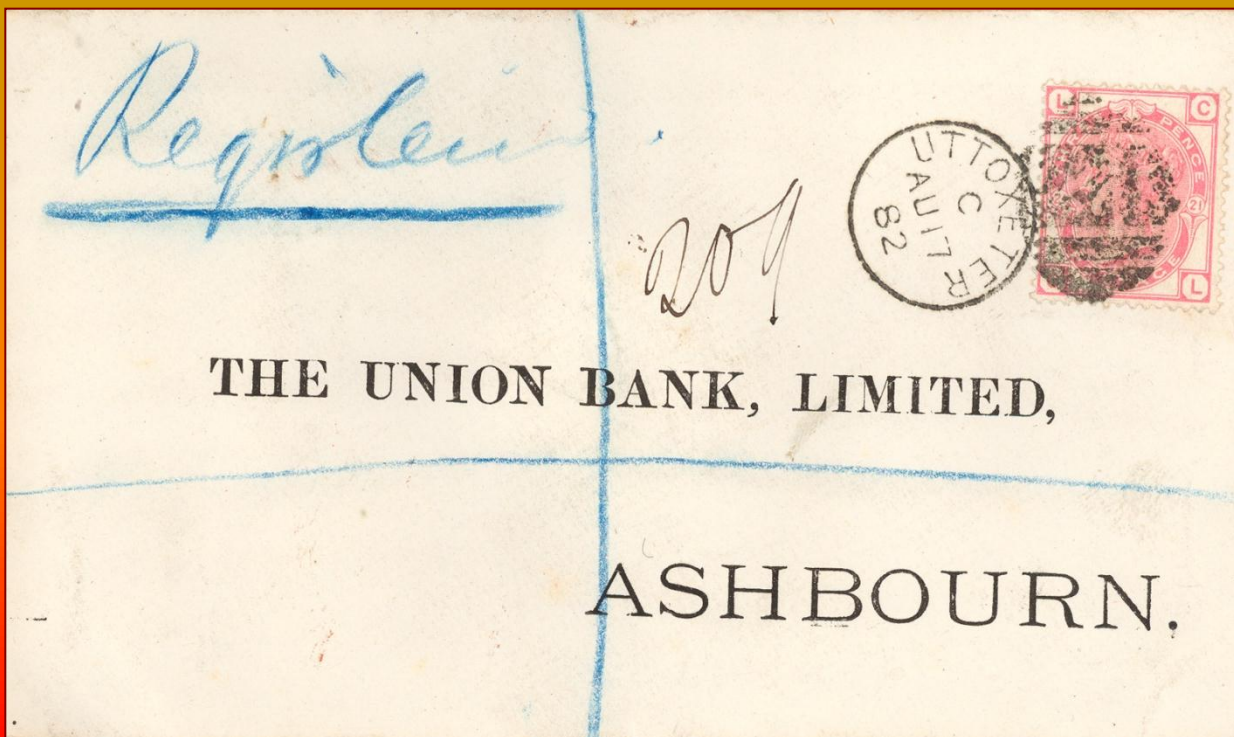
Early Bankers' Mail – Penny Pink's in Use 1857



These four examples from Caernarvon, Devizes, Wellington and Farringdon illustrate the use of post office and embossed to order postal stationery with brief explanation inside the flap, to send (probably) a few cheques rather than cash, from bank to bank. All were used in 1857 but the practice may have extended for decades.



Early Bankers' Mail – Uttoxeter to Ashbourn 1882



Letter of 17/8/1882 from the Union Bank, Limited of Uttoxeter to the Union Bank, Ashbourn. Received apparently the same day because noted under the flap is "Rec £240 17/8/82" but this conflicts with the postmarks which suggest delivery on the 18th. 3d stamp (plate 12, SG 158), illegible numeral obliterator and small circular Uttoxeter datestamp, simulating a duplex. Blue crayon 'Registered' and cross. Manuscript reference number '209' added.

The 3d franking covered 2d registration fee and 1d postage for carriage of up to half an ounce, allowing enclosure of about 15 modern banknotes. The envelope is pre-printed with address to Ashbourn and probably hand-impressed inside the flap with the Uttoxeter insignia, the whole suggesting a regular traffic from branches to head office. Bank seal and transit registered postmarks of Stafford Station (blue) and Derby (red).

Early Bankers' Mail – Glasgow to Stirling 1866



Royal Bank of Scotland,
Glasgow 26 Jan 1866

Dear Sir,

I enclose to your debit-

Christie in Parkrough	31 Jan	£ 23.. 16.. 8
Caldwell. In Elph	7 Feb	51 - -
Do. Inland	5	102.. 8.. 3
Do. Grotter	4	24.. 3
Do. Lamer	4	195 5 11
Do. Innyth	4	14.. 6.. 8
Do. Klenchuan	4	47.. 13.. 6
Do. Grotter	4	69.. 13.. 3
Do. Duncan	4	20.. 7.. 2
Do. Peacock	4	11.. 15 -
Do. Kask	5	40.. 16 -
Murray	sd	119.. 15 -
		9
		<hr/> 430 .. 5
		48 6 6
		<hr/> 1786 11

The Agent
Royal Bank of Scotland,
Stirling

I am
Yours truly
Wm. Brown

Letter Glasgow-Stirling containing various Bills of Exchange.

Early Bankers' Mail (overseas)– Letter of Credit 1857

Commercial Bank of Scotland
Edinburgh 17 July 1857

C. S. Hop & Co,
Am

I write to you in the 10th forward, and have received your favor of the 29th ulto.

Of this date we have given Mr John Fraser, manager of the Life Association of Scotland an open Letter of Credit on you for £1000 stg - his drafts against which be so good as forward to us as paid - (say for one thousand pounds).

I enclose a list of sundry Letters of Credit granted on you amounting to £138. 16/- to which your usual attention is requested.

Yours
Yours most obedient
W. Mackenzie
Manager

Cashier
Commercial Bank of Canada
Kingston



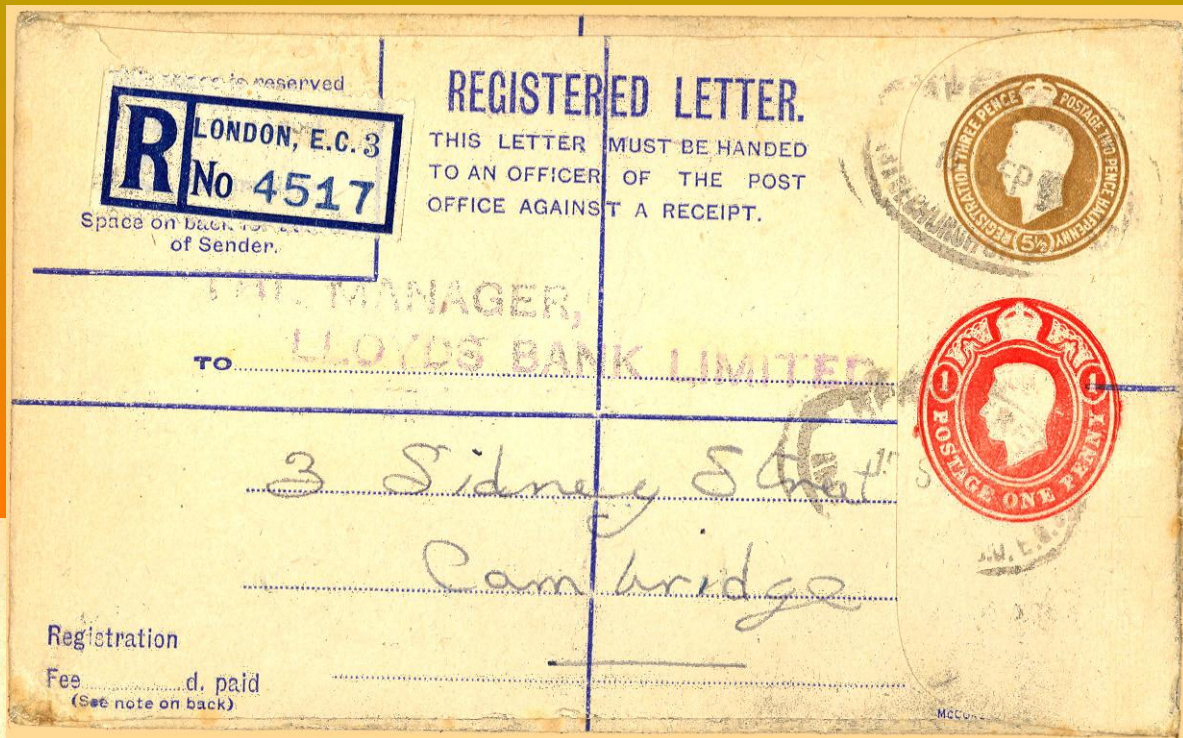
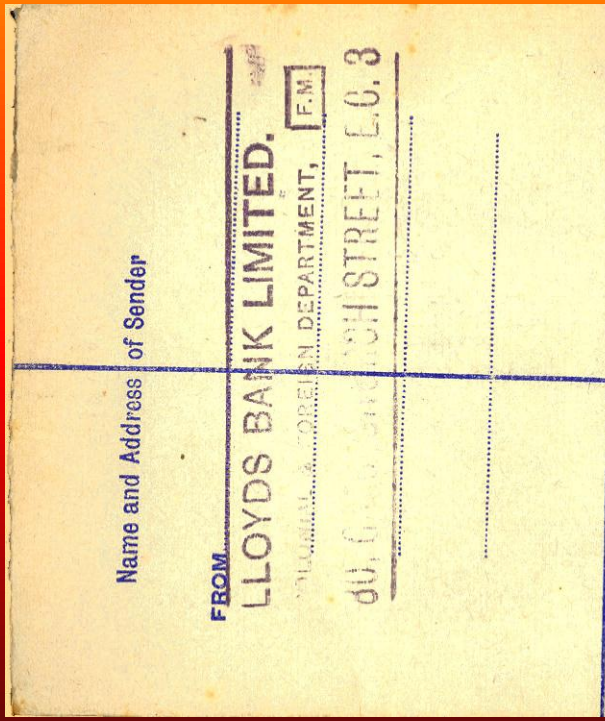
Letter of 17/7/1857 from the Commercial Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh to the Commercial Bank of Canada, Kingston, Canada. Received 3/8/1857 The central purpose is to advise,

“Of this date we have given Mr John Fraser, manager of the Life Association of Scotland an open Letter of Credit on you for £1000 stg – his drafts against which be so good as forward to us as paid - (say for one thousand pounds) - “

but the letter also mentions sundry other Letters of Credit totalling £138/16/-, a list of which was included.

Letter, which weighs barely ¼ oz, was franked by 2d (SG 23a or 34) and 6d (SG 70) and cancelled by two passes of the Edinburgh 131 roller.. The 8d franking covered the first half-ounce for postage to Canada and there was evidently very little extra enclosed.

Early Bankers' Mail



Guide, the registration fee of 3d. covers compensation up to £5 for loss or damage of an Inland Registered Letter, and up to £2 for the entire loss of a Registered Letter sent to a place abroad. To cover higher amounts extra fees must be paid as indicated in the Guide. When a higher registration fee than 3d. is paid on an Inland Registered Letter the amount should be inserted in the space provided on the front of this envelope.

Registered post printed stationery used in September 1947 by the Lloyds Bank Foreign Currency Department, probably to mail foreign currency from head office to the Cambridge branch office..

Early Bankers' Mail

Early registered sticker on plain envelope to the National Bank Ltd at Charring Cross, London from Margate in 1902



Registered label from small sheet on postal stationery envelope from Reading in 1919

Early Bankers' Mail

Registered stationery used from Brill to Aylesbury in mid-1918.



Registered stationery used late 1912.

Bankers Mail - Intervals 3.0, 3.1

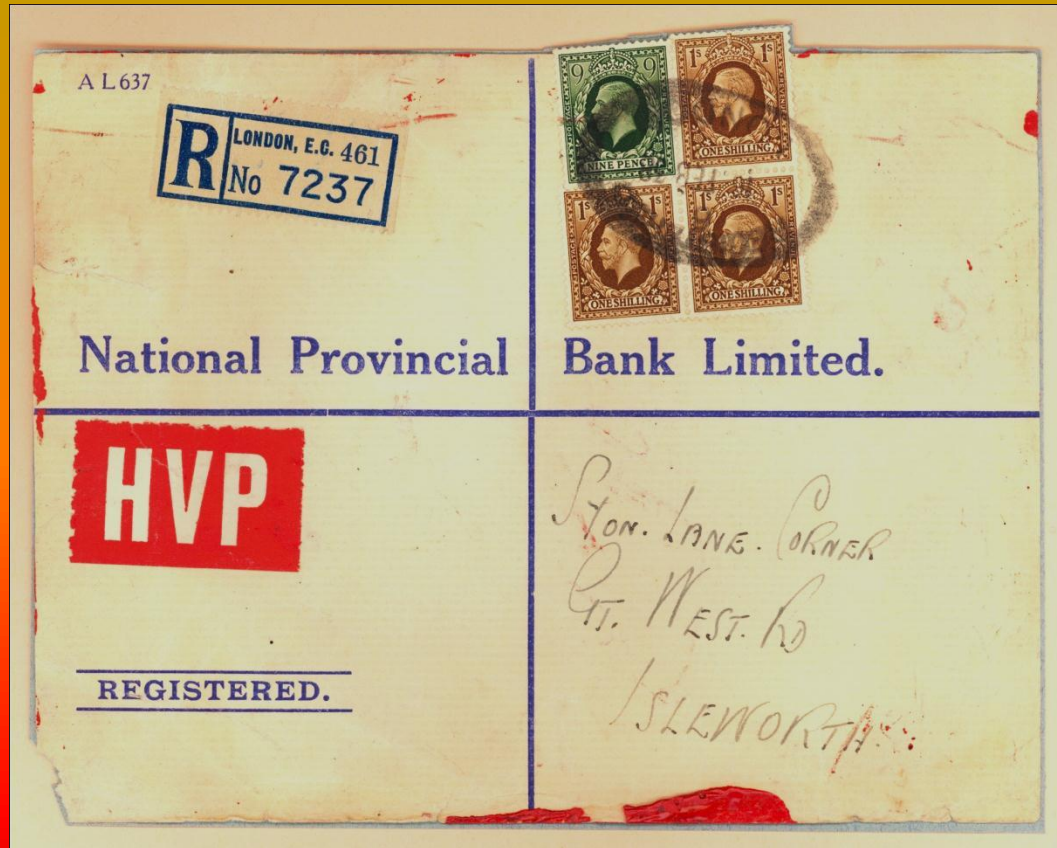


Reverse of this tag



Complete registered +
express mailing from
early 1947 franked
8/9d, for a 25 lb
packet in period 3.1

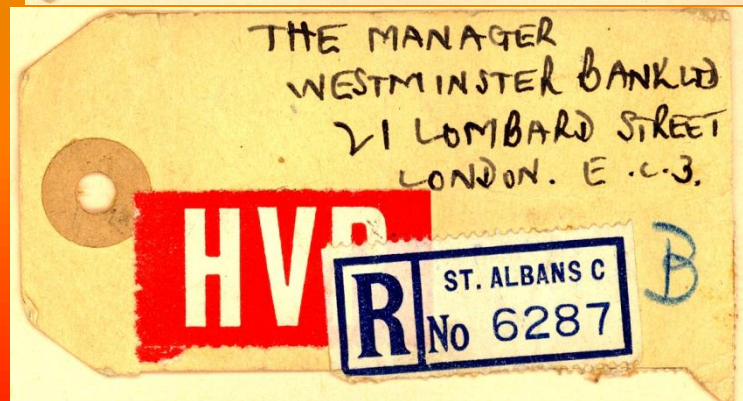
Bankers Mail - Intervals 3.0, 3.1



Fragment of HVP mailing from early 1938 franked 3/9d, for a 10 lb packet in period 3.0

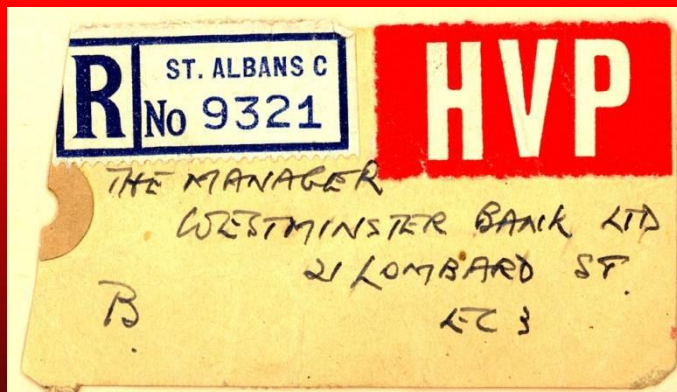
Bankers Mail - Intervals 3.1, 3.3

Card from the District Bank registered + express mailings in late 1948, period 3.1

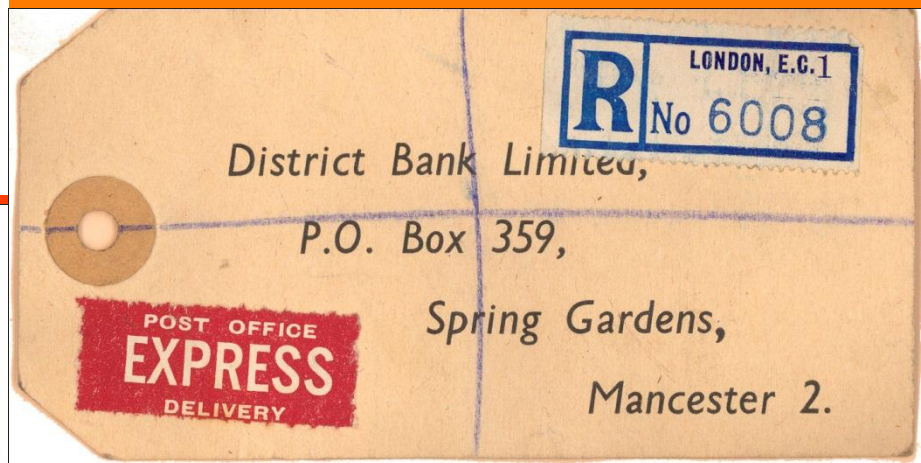


Front and back of a small HVP label of late 1953 sent from St Albans to Lombard Street in period 3.3 franked 14/3d attached to a 20 lb packet.

Front and back of a small HVP label of late 1953 sent from St Albans to Lombard Street in period 3.3 franked 11/11d attached to a 17 lb packet.



Bankers Mail - Intervals 3.2



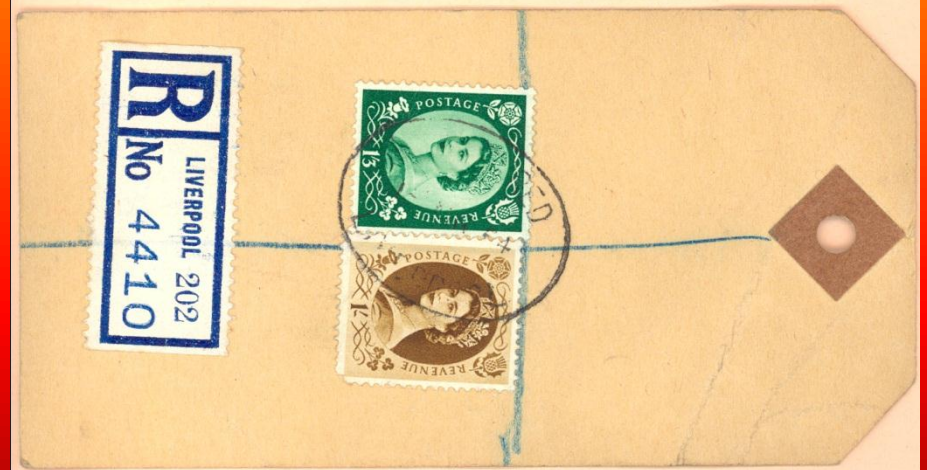
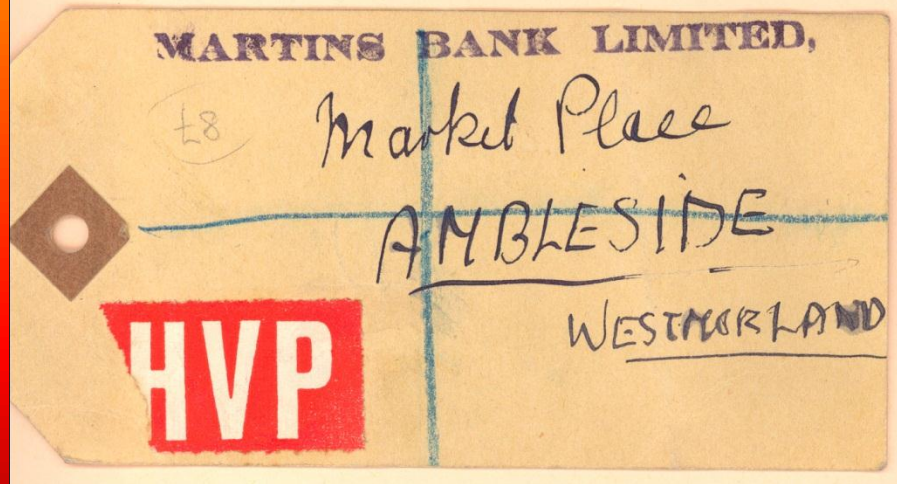
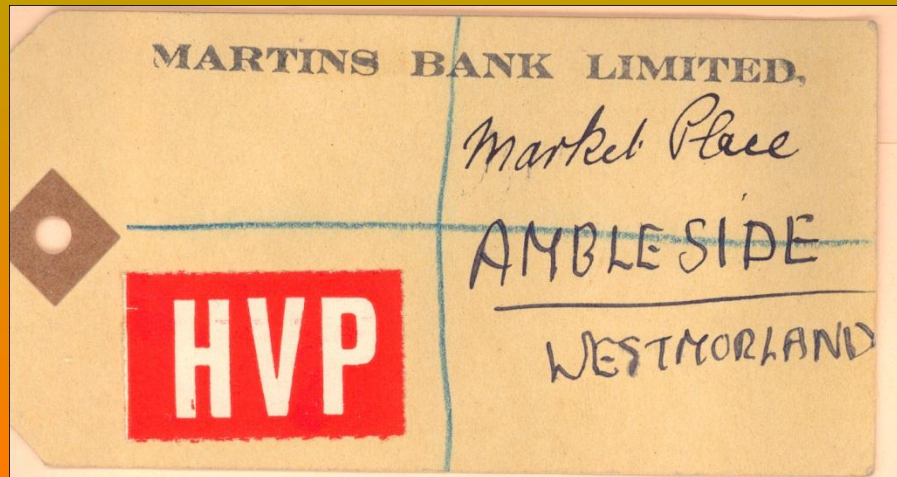
Front and back of a two small printed labels of mid-1949 sent from London to Manchester in period 3.2 franked 3/4d, 3/2d attached to a c 8 lb packet.

Bankers Mail - Intervals 3.3, 3.4

16/6d franking from wrapper of banknote packet in late 1953 attached to a 22 lb packet..



Bankers Mail - Intervals 3.3, 3.4



Back and front of Martins Bank HVP tags sent from Liverpool office to Ambleside, Westmoreland in 1956

Bankers Mail - Intervals 3.3, 3.4

14/1½d franking from wrapper of banknote packet in early 1956.



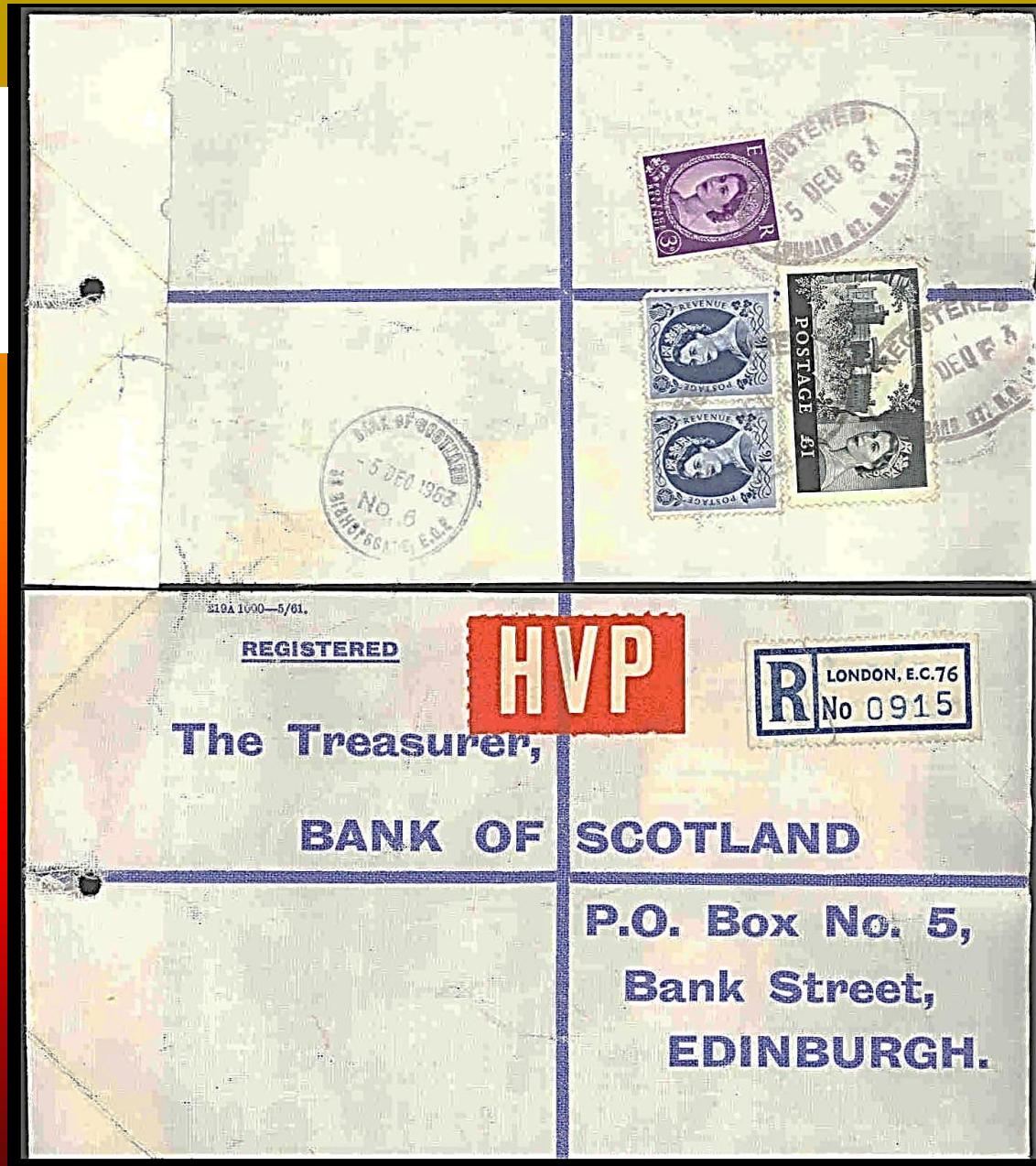
6/7d franking from wrapper of banknote packet in early 1956.



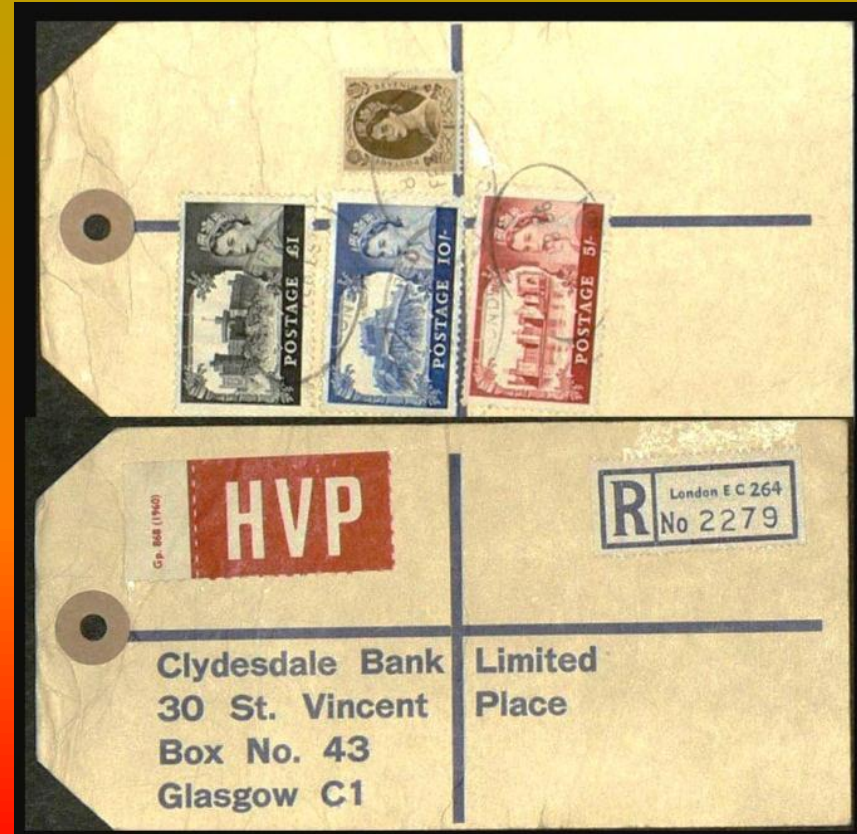
6/5½d franking from wrapper of banknote packet in early 1956.

Bankers Mail - Intervals 4.1, 4.3

£1/3/3d franking from printed linen tag from a banknote packet in late 1963, period 4.1, attached to a 21 lb packet and franked SG 538a.

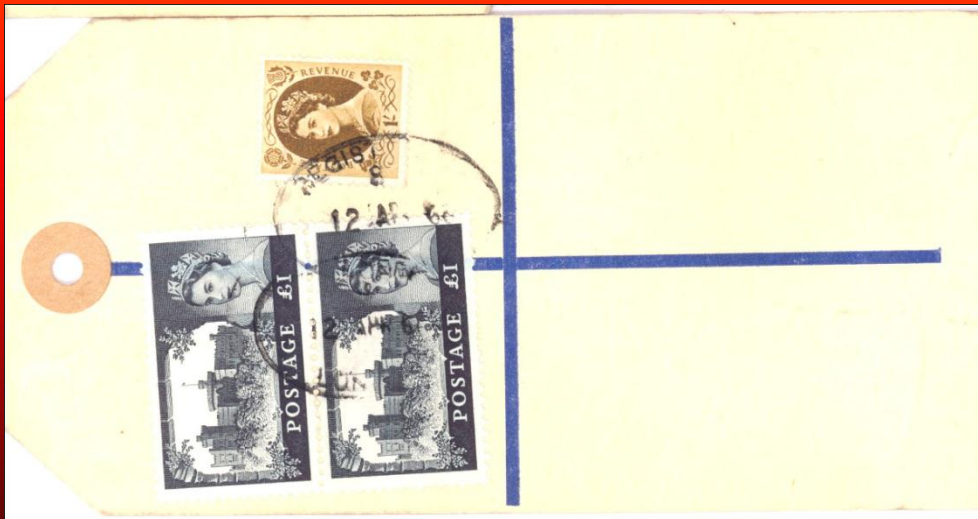


Bankers Mail - Intervals 4.1, 4.3



£1/16/-d franking on printed cards for transmission to Clydesdale Bank, Glasgow in early 1966 attached to a 8 lb packet.

£2/1/-d franking on printed cards for transmission to Clydesdale Bank, Glasgow in early 1966 attached to a 10 lb packet.



Bankers Mail - Intervals 4.4, 4.5

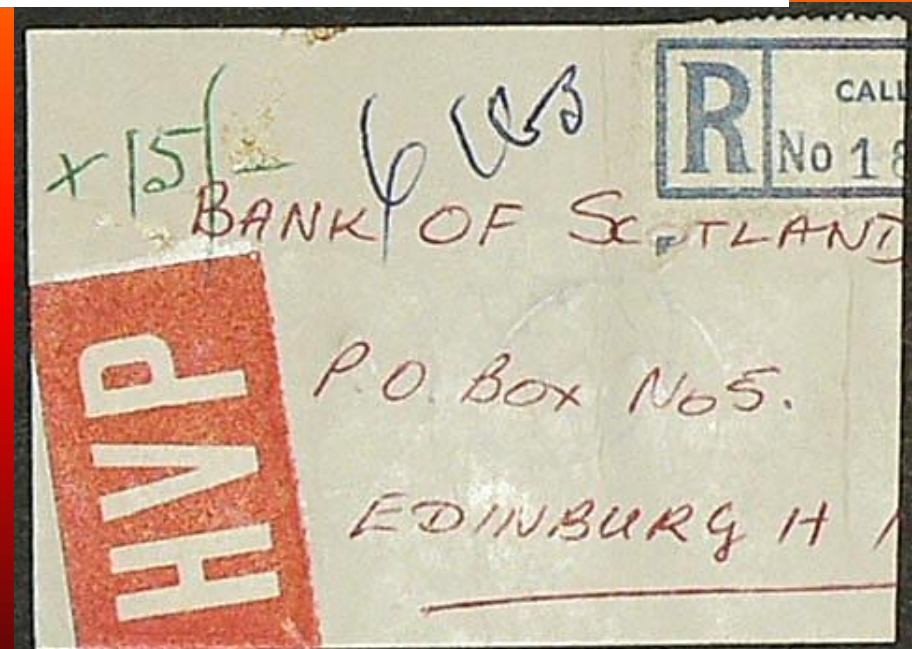


All four high denomination definitives could logically be used together when the packet rates were in the range £1/17/6 - £1/19/11d etc. In interval 4.4 the £1/18/6d rate qualified and is here illustrated by a tag of early 1968

Bankers Mail - Intervals 4.4, 4.5

Postal rates were raised for the general public in the autumn of 1968, but the negotiations between the banks and the Post Office failed to reach agreement in time. The special HVP rate per lb was eventually increased from 2/- to 4/6d. During the autumn of 1968 all tags recovered were marked up in blue biro with a note of the weight of the packet and in green biro with the additional charge which was due. Presumably someone kept account of these charges.

The example below shows both sides of a 6lb packet tag which paid £1/7/0d reflecting the rise in postal rates on 16 September 1968, but was liable to an extra charge of $6 \times 2/6d = 15/-$ bringing the total charge up to £2/2/0d, the eventually agreed rate in interval 4.6. About eight examples are known from this period.

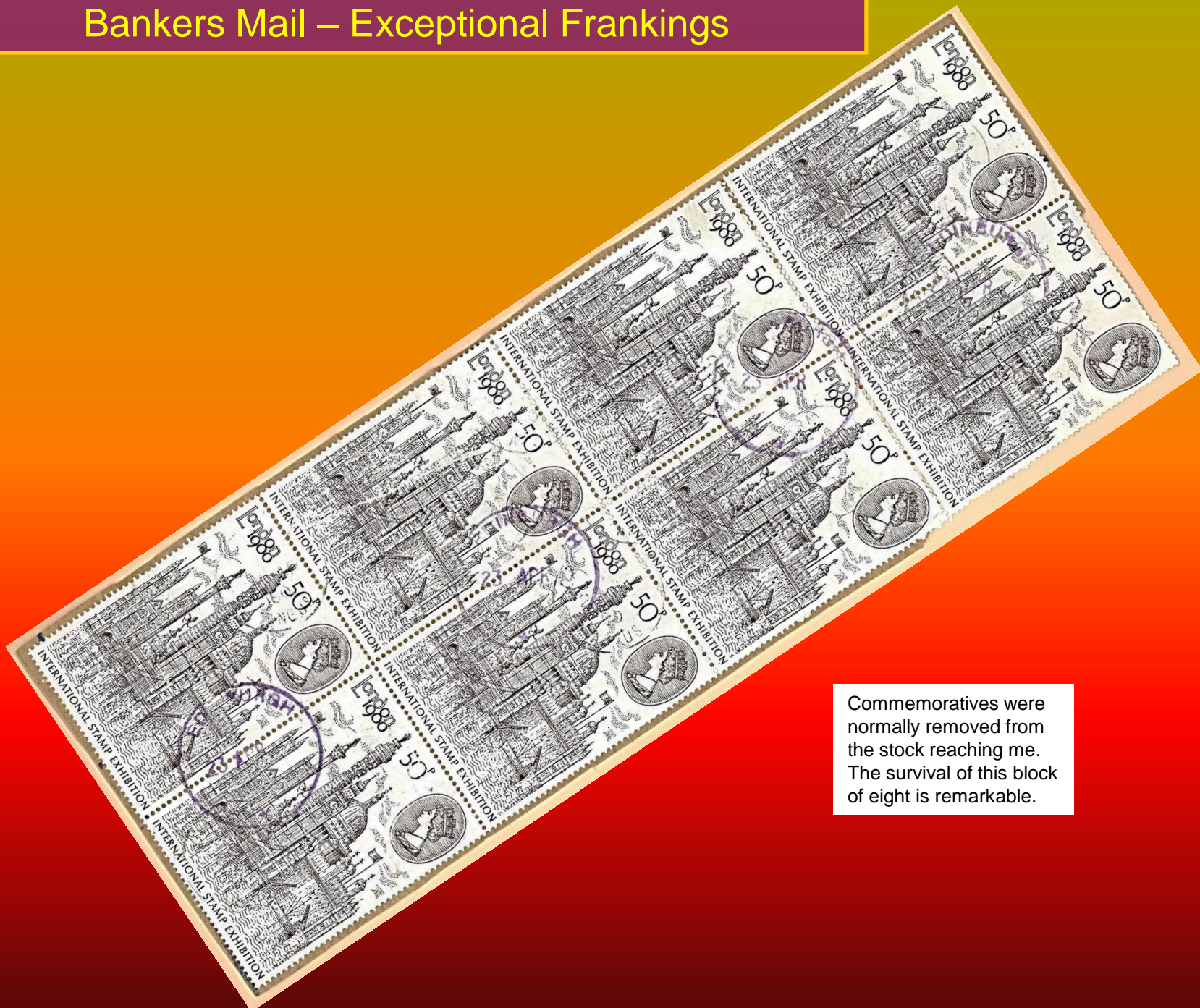


Bankers Mail – Exceptional Frankings

This distributed franking of 1 x 3p regional, 34 x 4p, 3 x 9p, and 1 each of 20p, 50p & £1 making £3.36p was applied at Drumnadrochit in interval 4.8 and ties the HVP label.



Bankers Mail – Exceptional Frankings



Commemoratives were normally removed from the stock reaching me. The survival of this block of eight is remarkable.

Bankers Mail – Large multiples of Low Denominations

Helmsdale,
Sutherland used
this large block of
34 x 20p to make
the £6.90p BSP
rate in 1978

TOTAL SHEET VALUE £20



Broadford used a large block of
29 x 10p in making up the £2.97
HVP rate.



Bankers Mail – Large multiples of Low Denominations

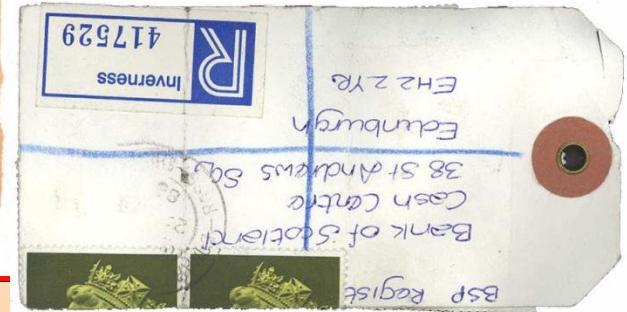
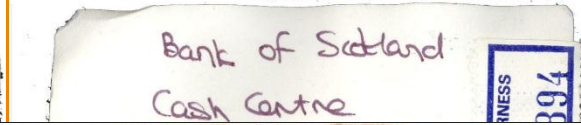
Large blocks of lower denominations such as the 50p and 75p were used from Golspie,



Lairg occasionally used large blocks of the 75p to make up the bulk of the £12.39 flat-rate, here with the addition of a pair of 19½p regional stamps.

Bankers Mail – Exceptional Frankings

A further selection of closely packed frankings of £10.88, £12.03 and £12.39 created by the postmaster at Bonar Bridge, Ross-shire.



Bankers Mail – Exceptional Frankings

The postmaster at neighbouring Golspie, Sutherland proceeded altogether differently, attaching large blocks of 50p and 75p definitives with massive 'overhangs' to the labels, yet many of these survived the handling of the BSP service. Note shade variations in the 50p in particular.



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Persistently Incorrect Frankings

Mailings from Fort Augustus followed the normal pattern until the onset of the final change to the £12.39 BSP rate. Initially the packets were charged £13.80 between 1 June 1983 and 28 August 1983, and thereafter they were charged £12.40p. Here are three examples illustrating the considerable care exercised in making up the £13.80 rates.



Bankers Mail – Exceptional Frankings

Mailings from Fort Augustus followed the normal pattern until the onset of the final change to the £12.39 BSP rate. Initially the packets were charged £13.80 between 1 June 1983 and 28 August 1983, and thereafter they were recharged £12.40p. Here are two examples illustrating the determination in making up the £12.40 rates.



Year	Month	Day	Reg .Label #	Franking	Make-up
1978	8	9		£6.90	
1979	5	30		£6.90	
1980	5	16		£9.30	
1980	6	16		£9.30	
1980	7	3		£9.30	
1981	7	28		£10.88	
1981	6	10		£10.88	
1981	9	1		£10.88	
1982	5	19		£12.03	
1982	6	30		£12.03	
1983	6	1	0473	£13.80	2 X £5, £2, £1, 50p
1983	6	14		£13.80	2 x £5, 2 X £1, 3 X 50p, 20p, 10p
1983	6	23		£13.80	27 X 50P
1983	6	24		£13.80	27 X 50P
1983	6	30		£13.80	2 x £5, £2, £1, 3 x 26p, 2p
1983	7	20		£13.80	2 X £5, £2, £1, 4 x 20P
1983	7	22		£13.80	
1983	7	27		£13.80	2 x £5, £2, 3 x 50p, 26p, 4p
1983	8	3		£13.80	4 X £2, 5 X £1, 4 X 20p
1983	?	?	0559		£1.30, 10 X £1, 5 X 50p
1983	8	11	0564	£13.80	27 x 50p, 28p, 2p
1983	8	16		£13.80	13 X £1, 50p, 26p, 4p
1983	8	17		£13.80	7 X £1, 13 X 50p, 26p, 4p
1983	8	23	0582	£13.80	27 x 50p, 26p, 4p
1983	8	24		£13.80	27 x 50p, 28p, 2p
1984	4	31		£12.40	
1984	6	6		£12.40	6 x £2
1984	6	27		£12.40	
1984	7	4		£12.40	
1984	7	11		£12.40	6 X £2, 2 x 20p
1984	7	18		£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1984	8	1		£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1984	8	1		£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1984	8	13		£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1984	8	20		£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1984	8	23		£12.40	6 x £2
1984	8	25		£12.40	
1984	8	26		£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1984	9	16	0927	£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 34p, 2 x 3p
1984	9	26	0934	£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1984	11	14	0984	£12.40	2 x £5, £2, 2 x 20p
1985	2	3		£12.40	£5, 2 x £2, 3 x £1, 2 x 20p
1985	2	6		£12.40	6 x £2
1985	3	1		£12.40	6 X £2
1985	4	6		£12.40	
1985	4	?		£12.40	
1985	4	18		£12.40	10 x £1, 4 x 50p
1985	4	24		£12.40	6 x £2
1985	5	26		£12.40	
1985	6	12		£12.40	£1, 22 x 50p

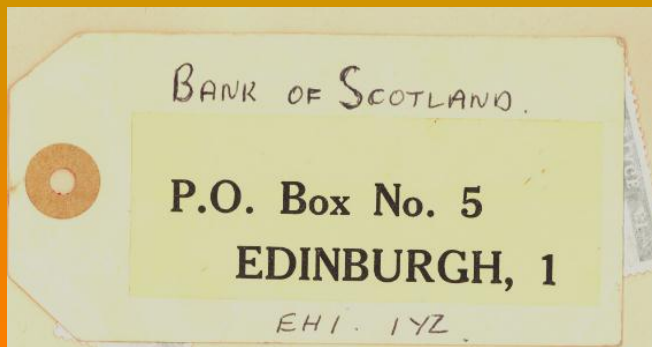
Bankers Mail – Persistent Errors?



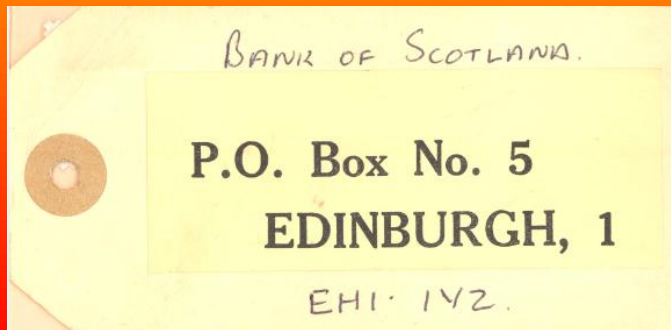
Galashiels used distinctive large cards for its labels in the era when the BSP charge was £6.15, franking always with £6.20p. Others are franked with the 20p recessed. These examples dated 1976 and 1977 are typical.

Bankers Mail - Persistent Errors

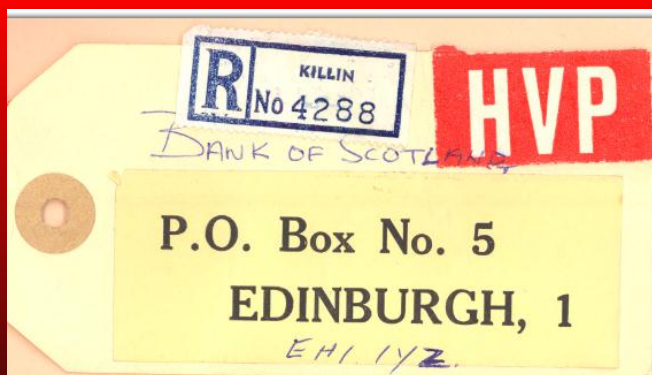
Killin regularly sent 5 lb packets to head office. The changes of conditions in September 1968 and on 1 Jan 1969 left the postmaster untroubled – the old rate of £1/3/0 was levied in 1968, 1969 & 1970.



1968



1969

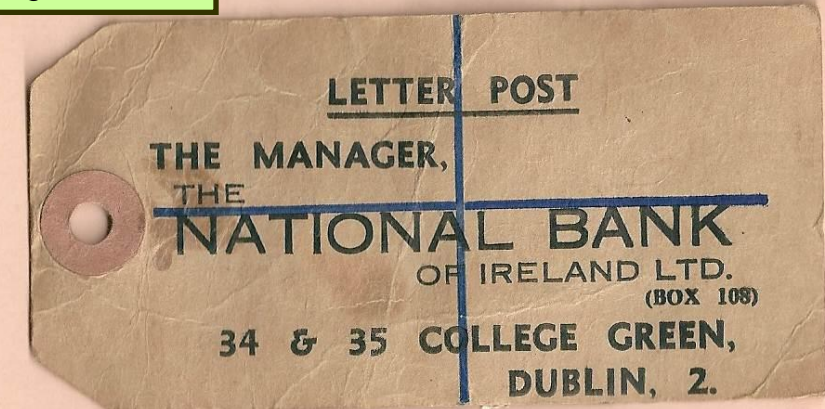
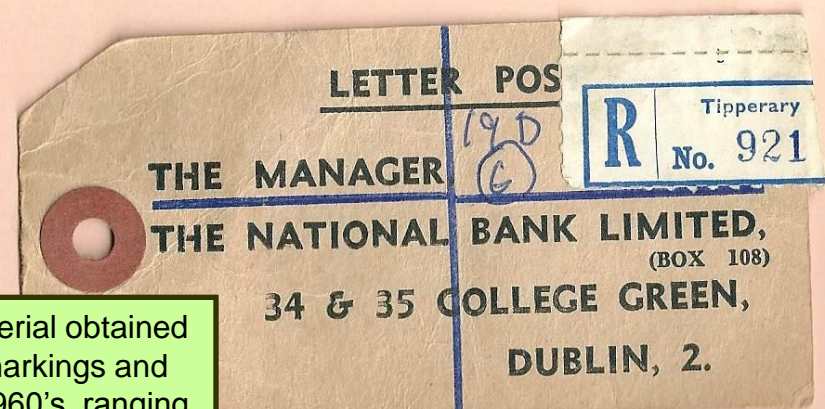


1970

Interbank' Mail - Ireland

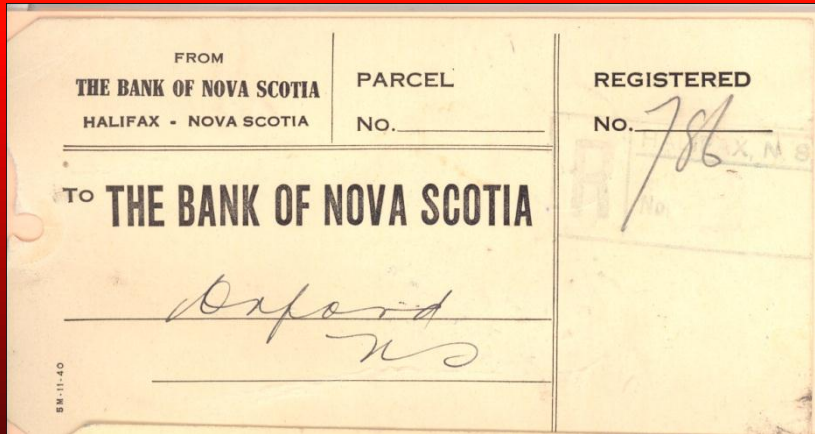


From Ireland the material obtained carries no special markings and dates from the late 1960's, ranging up to 8/1d in franking values.



Early Bankers' Mail within Canada

Canada operated a system of Money Bags, with extensive use of air mail. The first is dated about 1926 for \$8.32, while a second tag is franked \$2.25 from 1940 and the third tag is franked \$8.70 by a block 2 x 4 of \$1, plus a 50 and 20c stamp cancelled 1938. A representative back is shown.




Early Bankers' Mail (overseas) – Germany 1903-1923

Early Bankers' Mail Dresden 1905

1903



<h3>Inland Registration.</h3> <p>Compensation for loss or damage is given in respect of Inland Registered Letters and Packets of all kinds,</p>	
<p>subject to the limitations and conditions notified in the Post Office Guide under the head of "Registration and Compensation."</p>	



1905



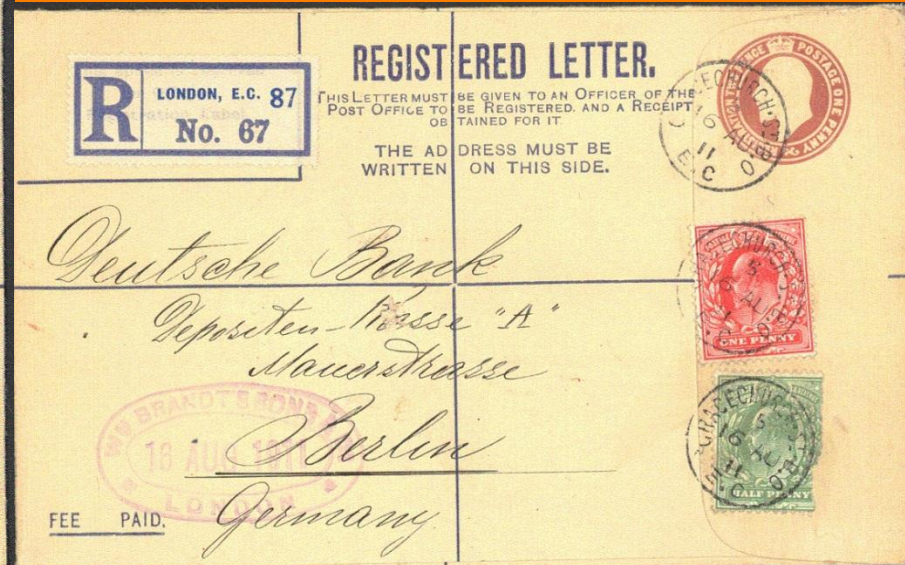
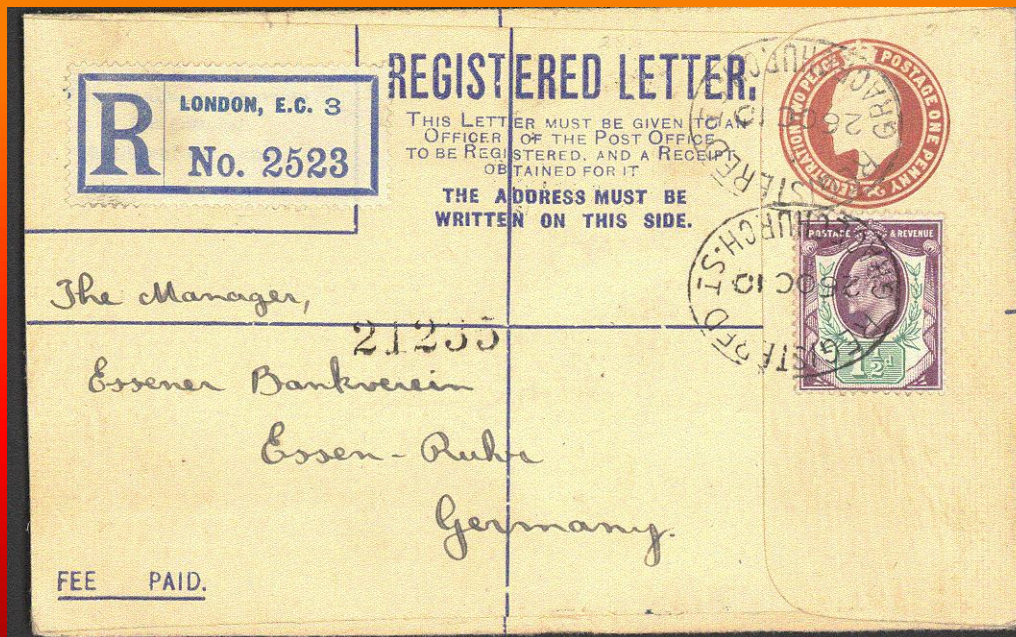
Early Bankers' Mail (overseas) – Germany 1903-1923

Early Bankers' Mail Dresden 1905

Registered Postal Stationery used with excess 4d in mail to Germany, a commonly encountered trading partner.

1910

1911



Early Bankers' Mail (overseas) – Germany 1903-1923

Early Bankers' Mail Dresden 1905



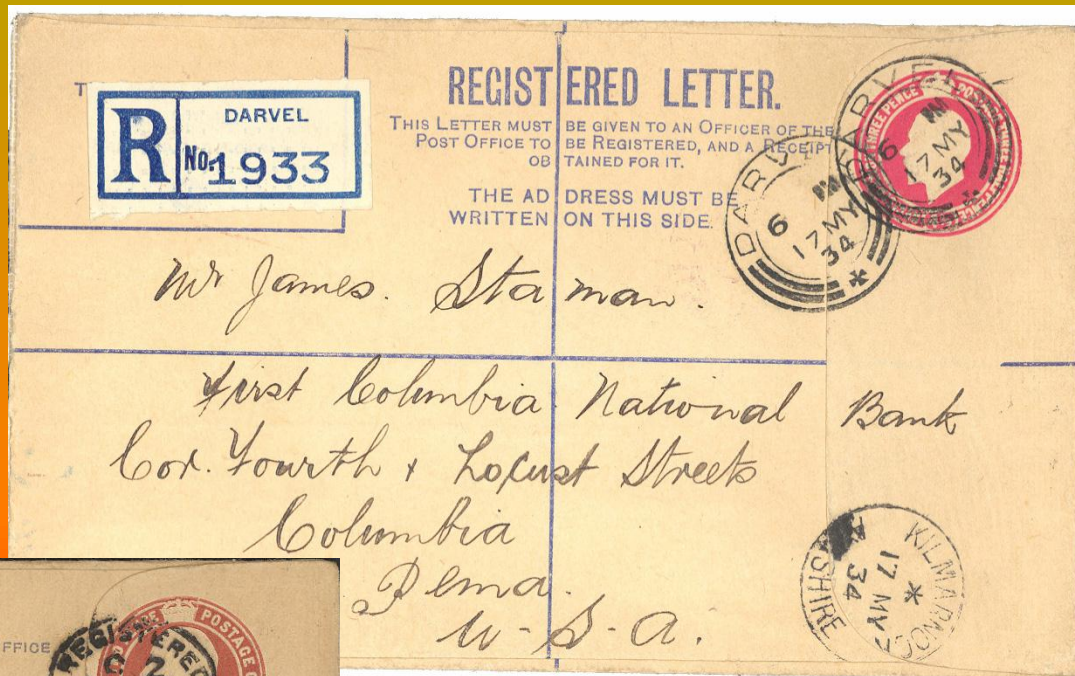
1923



1914

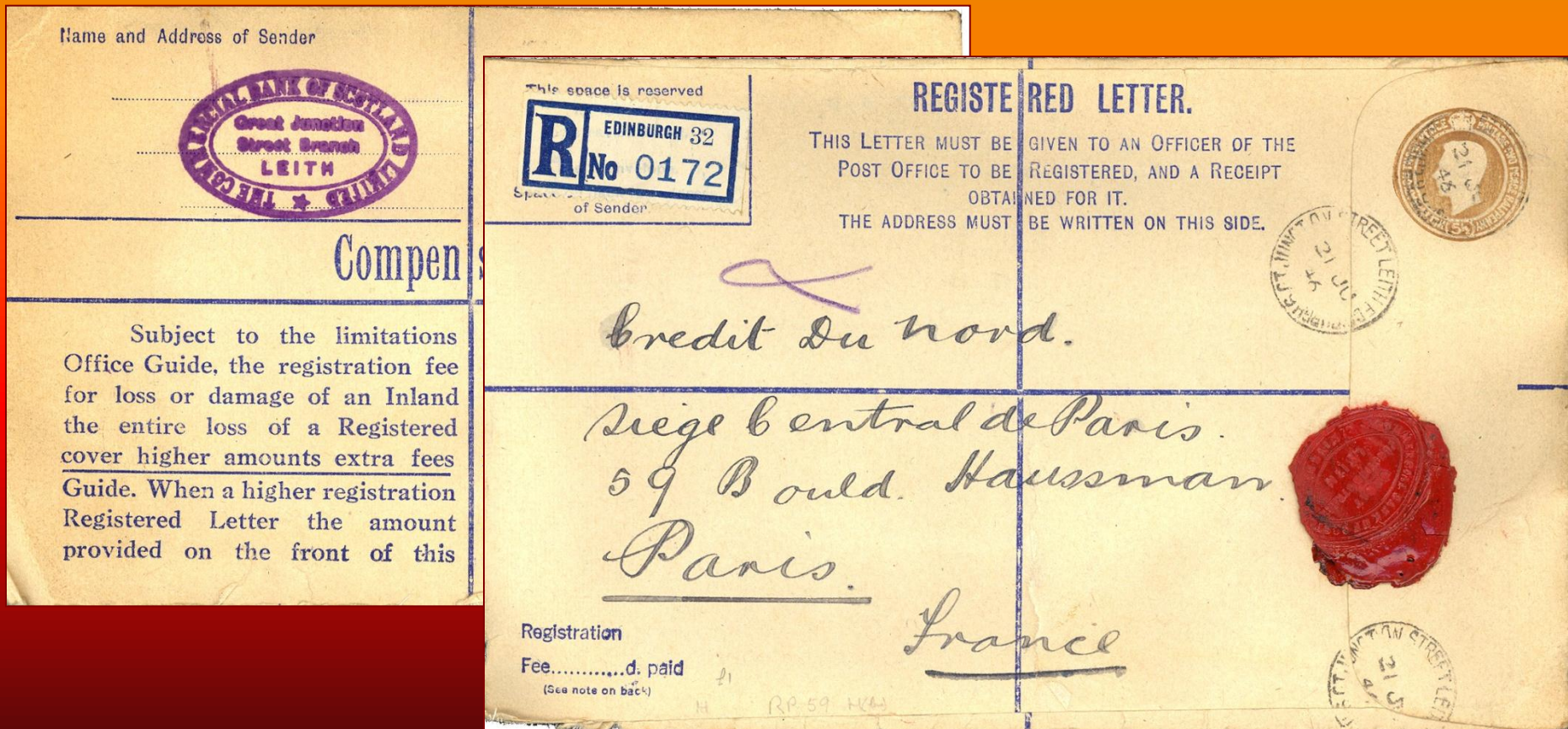
Early Bankers' Mail (overseas) – USA

1905 and 1934 registered letters to Milwaukee and Columbia, Penn.



Early Bankers' Mail Paris, 1944

Postwar registered letter to Paris 1944 from the Commercial Bank of Scotland.



Bankers' Mail to Middle East

Early Bankers Mail J

1885 registered cover with surface-printed 2½d to Constantinople and 1941 censored cover from Barclays Bank (perfins) to Iran



Bankers' Mail to Middle East

1885 registered cover with surface-printed 2½d to Constantinople and 1941 censored cover from Barclays Bank (perfins) to Iran.



Bankers' Mail to Middle East

Early Bankers Mail J

. Incoming from British Bank of the Middle East in Taiz, Yemen in 1976 and from Deira, United Arab Emirates in 1976.



Bankers' Mail to Middle East

Early Bankers Mail J

. Incoming from British Bank of the Middle East in Taiz, Yemen in 1976 and from Deira, United Arab Emirates in 1976.

BY AIR MAIL

REGISTERED.

البريد الجوي
PAR AVION

2310

L DEL/760096

The Manager,
The British Bank of The Middle East,
LONDON.
ENGLAND.

B. B. M. E. DEIRA

R 1558

Date 10/5/76



Bankers' Mail - India

Two registered airmail covers to the North of Scotland Bank Ltd at Bucksbank, Aberdeenshire of 1946 and 1951.



Bankers' Mail – New Zealand

Two airmail packets to Wellington, New Zealand franked with 2/6d, 5/- and 10/- SeaHorses and other high denomination definitives



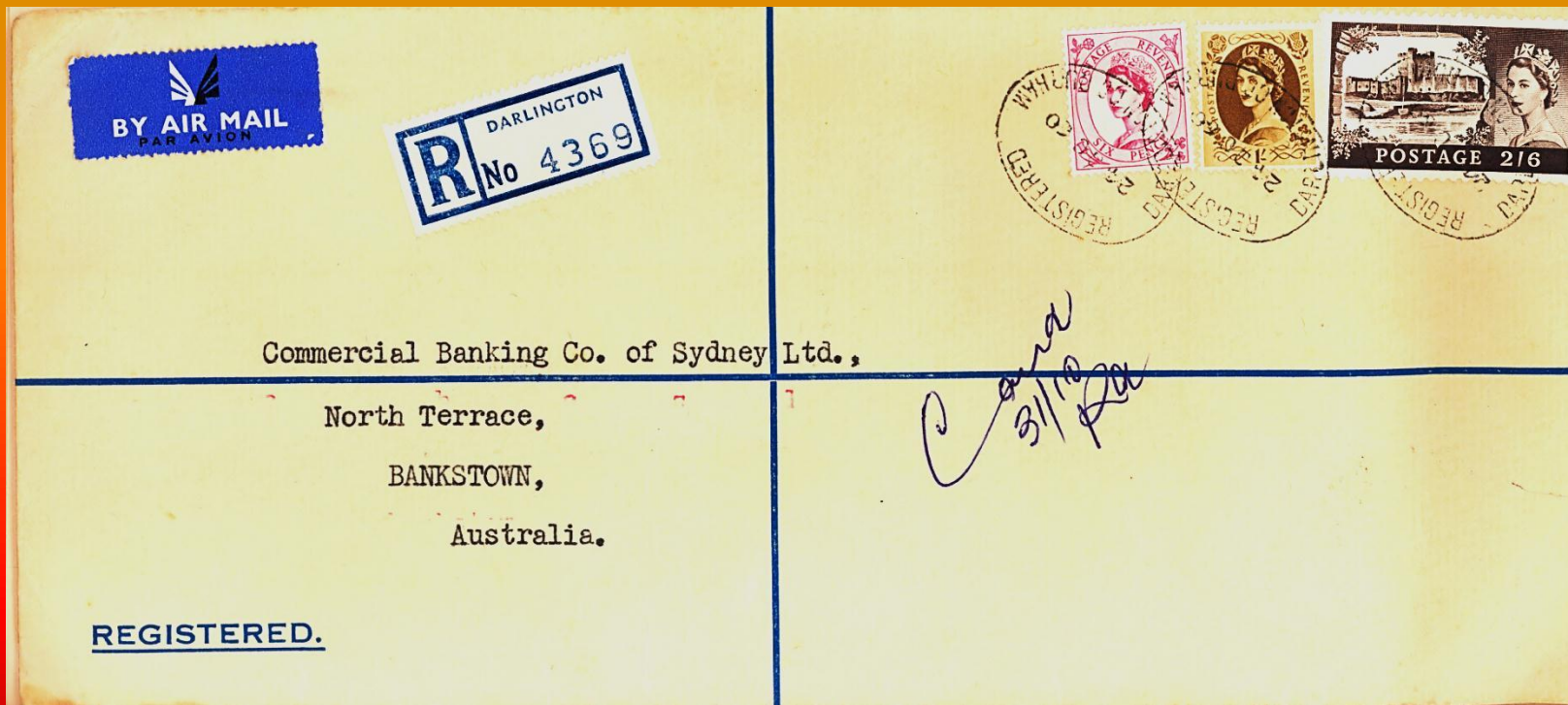
Bankers' Mail – Switzerland & USA

Registered airmail letter Glasgow-Philadelphia of late 1941 franked 2/6d brown, 1/- and 6d. Opened by censor.



Bankers' Mail – Switzerland & USA

Registered airmail letter Darlington to Bankstown, Australia 1960 franked 2/6d Castle, 1/- and 6d.

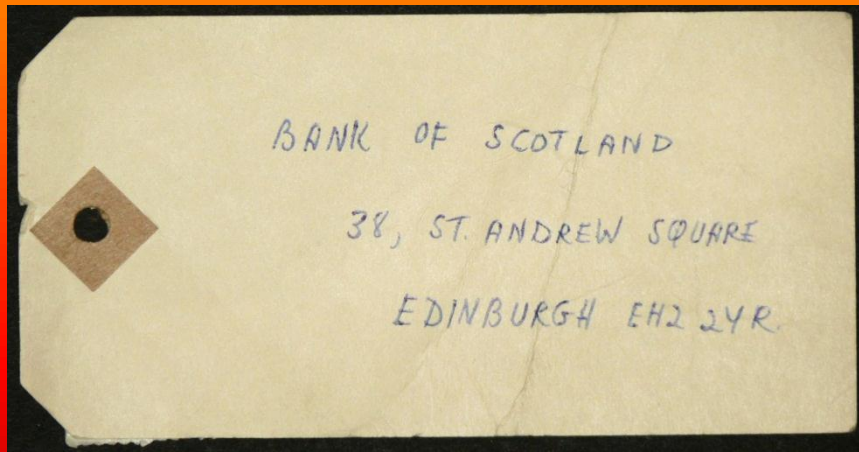
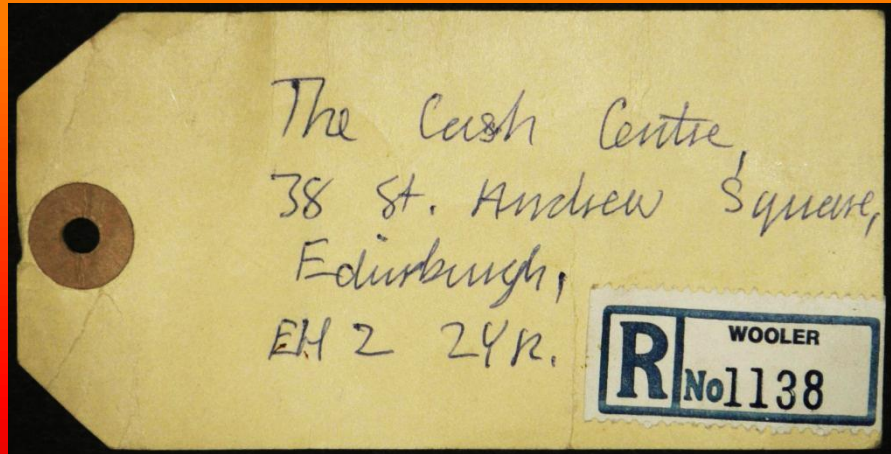


Bankers' Mail – Switzerland & USA

Registered postal stationery 1894 postmarked Threadneedle Street uprated 5d to St Gall, Switzerland.



Bankers Mail – English Mailings after October 1973



Only one branch of the Bank of Scotland, at Wooler in Northumberland, was located in England and mailed regularly to the Edinburgh cash centre. These two examples show the replacement of the registration label type S9 of Wooler by the Head Office label type S11 with only four digits for Morpeth, Northumberland. The first in interval 5.0 is franked 97½p, the second in interval 5.2 is franked £1.19p

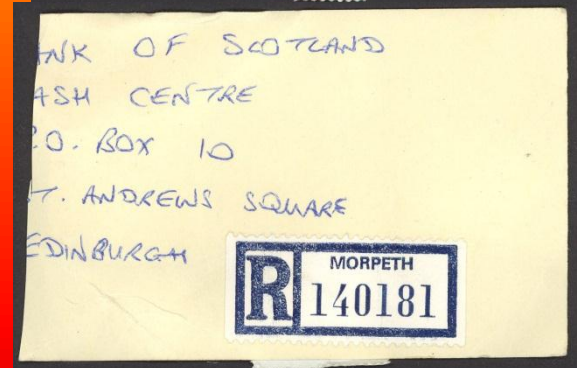
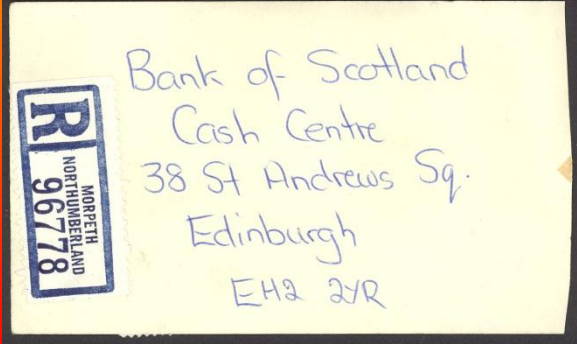
Bankers Mail – English Mailings after October 1973

Each of these packets would have cost £6.15, £6.90 or £7.80 under the BSP service. Berwick on Tweed was also ranked as an English post office at this period as illustrated by this tag from early 6.1, when the BSP flat-rate was £4.75. Note the evolution and grouping of the registration labels.



Bankers Mail – English Mailings after October 1973

These tags show the general inflation of cost of postage during 1973-1985 and two further developments in the registration labels during intervals 6.6-6.8, when the BSP rate was £10.88, £12.03 or £12.39 respectively.



Bankers Mail – Unusual Cancellations

For a period in the early 1980's BSP mail from Tain and to a much lesser extent Beaulieu was observed to have its high denomination definitives defaced by some form of ticket-punch. All materials of this type were donated to Leslie Wilkinson who has made a study of them published on his website.



Bankers Mail – Unusual Cancellations

materials of this type
weer

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Postal Headquarters

OPERATIONS AND OVERSEAS DEPARTMENT

POSTAL HEADQUARTERS Telephone:
ST MARTIN'S-LE-GRAND 01-432
LONDON Telex: 888746
EC1A 1HQ Giro a/c: 501 0101

In any reply please quote: Your reference:

MD/DS/1358

Professor M J O'Hara
Lindenfield
32 Arbuthnot Road
LOANHEAD
Midlothian

22 July 1971

Dear Mr O'Hara

Further to my letter of 17 June, the information you requested on the charges for (i) letter post and (ii) HVPs is shown on the enclosed tables.

As far as the letter rate changes are concerned, you will notice that variations in the basic charges are frequently accompanied by variations in the first weight step should perhaps mention that it is not strictly accurate since, as you probably know, before the introduction of "Two Tier" service, eligibility for the cheaper rate was governed by the contents of the packet, rather than the weight of delivery; before "Two Tier", an ordinary sealed letter could not be sent at the cheaper rate.) Perhaps I should also mention that the conditions of posting for printed papers - in particular, the question of eligibility, varied considerably over the years.

The High Value Packet service was introduced in England and Wales on 16 June 1960. It was extended to the extent to Scotland in 1960 and was fully operational from 1 March 1961. There is however no HVP service in Northern Ireland.

ENCS

Extracts of Letters 0

Scottish banks were slow to use the HVP service. No proven examples of use of registered parcel post have yet been identified (end 2005). Express delivery in addition to registered letter was used on all recovered material for Scottish banks prior to 1960

This letter contains the sad news that records had been destroyed (I had written in the mid 1970's urging that they be preserved). It gives some useful information about BSP.

Originally the postage for an HVP was the same as for an ordinary registered packet. However, with the passage of time the operational costs of the service increased and the Banks agreed to the introduction of an "additional charge" from 10 January 1966.

I hope this is the information you require.

Yours sincerely


M. R. GROGAN

The Committee of Scottish Clearing Bankers

19 Rutland Square, Edinburgh EH1 2DD

Telephone 031-229 1326

2nd October, 1974.

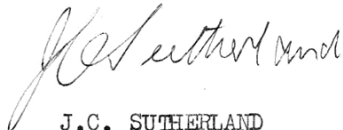
Prof. M.J. O'Hara,
Lindenfield,
Arbuthnot Road,
LOANHEAD,
Midlothian.
EH20 9RS

Dear Prof. O'Hara,

Thank you for your letter of 21st September regarding the discontinuance of, and replacement service for, the Post Office High Value Packet Service.

I am sorry that there is nothing I can add to that which you already know. As you say, the High Value Packet Service was formally discontinued in October 1973 and no doubt the other services which you mention - registered post, etc. - have all played their part in absorbing the traffic previously transmitted by that Service. You will no doubt be aware, too, that the Post Office have, or will devise - if appropriate, specialised services to suit "specialist" users - provided, of course, that there is sufficient demand. All these alternative services are available to, and utilised by, all sectors of the community - including the Banks, who are quite satisfied with the existing range of postal services.

Yours sincerely,



J.C. SUTHERLAND
Secretary.

of Letters 0

Note the implication that other interests may have negotiated special mail services with the post office - any speculations?

The Post Office

Northern Ireland Postal Board

Queen's House
14 Queen Street
BELFAST
BT1 6ER

Telephone 0232

Telex 74141 (PONIP G)

Girobank account 619 1002

Date 5 September 1983

Your reference

Our reference

Letters 0

Professor M J O'Hara FRSE FRS
Golwy-Y-Mor
TALYBONT
Dyfed
SY24 5EQ

Dear Professor O'Hara

HIGH VALUE PACKETS

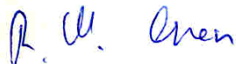
You wrote to the Head Postmaster Belfast on 10 August requesting information about the High Value Packet service. Your letter has been passed to this Headquarters for reply.

As you will appreciate with the passage of time the information we now have on the High Value Packet service is very fragmentary and I am not able to speak with personal experience. I understand however that the service was extended to include items sent from Great Britain to Northern Ireland but there was no return posting to Great Britain nor did a service operate in respect of items posted and delivered in Northern Ireland. The service from Great Britain was used almost exclusively by the Bank of Ireland in Belfast but ended in 1972. Nationally the High Value Packet service ceased on 31 October 1973.

In addition a type of Bankers Packets service operated also until about 1972 between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. This was used for the conveyance in both directions of spoiled banknotes.

Unfortunately we do not now have records available relating to the operation of the High Value Packet service and I am sorry that I cannot be of further assistance to you. As the service was used by banks you may find them of help in your research.

Yours sincerely



R M CREA
Regional Operations Manager

Note the implication that other interests may have negotiated special mail services with the post office – any speculations?



POST OFFICE

**Scottish
Postal Board
Headquarters**

West Port House
102 West Port
EDINBURGH
EH3 9HS
Tel. 031-228 5246

S 0

Our Ref: OBC 1.3.1

Professor M J O'Hara FRSE FRS
Golwy y Mor
TALYBONT
Dyfed
SY24 5EQ

Skip the first paragraphs
and note the foot of page
1 and top of page 2.

12 July 1983

Dear Professor O'Hara

Thank you for your letter of 11 June concerning the HVP service in Scotland.

Perhaps I should explain that the Scottish Banks did not accept the HVP service when it was introduced in England on 16 June 1930. We were unable to persuade them to use the service until 1 March 1961 when it was introduced throughout Scotland.

We have no records prior to 1930 but we know that from 1930 onwards Branches in Scotland sent packets by registered letter post (registered parcel post if this was cheaper) to London, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. The Scottish banks in London despatched to their Head Offices by the same method. Prior to the introduction of the HVP service in Scotland there were some offices in England who sent HVPs to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee. Unfortunately we are unable to name them as our records are now destroyed.

Charges for the interim HVP service in Scotland were increased on 24 June 1974 and 17 March 1975 as you rightly state. A copy of the ready reckoners then used are enclosed for your information.

Yours sincerely

A INGLIS
for Controller Operations

This letter contains the sad news that records had been destroyed (I had written in the mid 1970's urging that they be preserved). It gives some useful information about BSP.

D



**Scottish
Postal Board
Headquarters**

West Port House
102 West Port
EDINBURGH
EH3 9HS
Tel. 031-228 5 302

Professor M J O'Harn FRSE FRS
Colwy Y Mor
TALYBONT
Dyfed
SY24 5GQ

Skip the first paragraphs
and note the foot of page
1 and top of page 2.

6 June 1983

Dear Professor O'Harn

Further to my letter of 18 May I am in a position now to say something about our BSP service. I must state at the outset however I am not prepared to say very much; I can understand your interest but I must ask that you in turn appreciate my need for reticence.

I can however answer your specific questions. First, there are no HVP documents or instructions still available for copying and if there were I doubt that we would release them anyway.

In the interval between the end of HVPS and the introduction of BSPs we in effect carried on with the old system while new arrangements were worked out. This was a service offered only to Scottish banks for use within Scotland.

The rates were based on postage and registration charges current at any particular time and the rate changes have been broadly in line with general tariff changes, as follows:

18 9 75	-	£4.75
7 6 76	-	£6.15
13 6 77	-	£6.90
20 8 79	-	£7.80
4 2 80	-	£9.30
16 2 81	-	£10.88
1 2 82	-	£12.03
5 4 83	-	£12.39.

Note the implication that
other interests may have
negotiated special mail
services with the post office
- any speculations?

The maximum weight was set at 35 lb and has remained unchanged throughout.

Yours sincerely

A INGLIS
for Controller Operations

Prof. O'Hara.

You probably know that the H.V.P. Service in England, and between Scotland and England, was withdrawn as from 31st. October 1973.

Because of the large number of remote branches in the Scottish banking system, an alternative Post Office service in Scotland has been the subject of negotiation for some time — between the P.O. and the Committee of Scottish Clearing Bankers. This body lives at 101 George Street, Edinburgh, and if you tell them the object of your enquiries I think they might be prepared to give you any general information you seek. (I would prefer it if you did not mention my name!) To the best of my knowledge the H.V.P. Service is continuing in Scotland pending alternative arrangements being agreed.

B. S. Hobson

1/5/74

tracts of Letters 1

Letter informing of end of HVP in England and between Scotland and England; of ongoing negotiations for a replacement service; and of continuation of HVP within Scotland only in the interim.



BANK OF SCOTLAND

Prof. O'Hara: 440-0128

Head Office
The Mound EDINBURGH

Standing Instruction No. 88.

f Letters 1

The Managers
Bank of Scotland

Date 30th July, 1975.

CASH REMITTANCES BY POST
ALTERNATIVE TO H.V.P. SERVICE
BANKERS SPECIAL PACKETS (BSPs)

The alternative to the High Value Packet service has now been arranged between the Scottish Banks and the Post Office and will come into operation on 18th August 1975.

Attached is a list of places at which the service will be available; in some of the places mentioned this Bank uses Bullion Vans and will not require the postal service. Branches which currently use the H.V.P. service regularly are being advised separately of the detailed arrangements of the new service.

Any Branch which has in the past used the H.V.P. service infrequently and find that their place name is missing from the list will, in future, have to use ordinary Registered Post as the Post Office are not providing the new facility where it would only be used infrequently. If any Branch whose location is not on the list considers that the new BSP Service should be available to them, they should communicate with the Cashier at St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

D.G.A.
Secretary.

Bank internal document announcing start of BSP service, with attached list of relevant offices. Note particularly that there was one-way traffic into or out of certain offices; and that service from Oban and Fort William was only provided during the winter months when road-borne bullion vans might have proved unreliable.

Extracts of Letters 1

LIST OF TOWNS USING BANKERS SPECIAL PACKET SERVICE

Aberdeen	Drumnadrochit	Kyle	Stromness
Aberfeldy	Dufftown	Lairg	Tain
Aboyne	Dumfries	Lanark	Tarbert (Argyll)
Alford	Dunkeld	Langholm	Tarbert (Harris)
Alloa*	Dunoon	Lauder	Thurso
Alness	Edinburgh	Lerwick	Tighnabrauch
Alyth	Edzell	Lochboisdale	Tobermory
Ardishaig †	Elgin*	Lochcarron	Tomintoul †
Auchterarder*	Ellon	Lochgilphead	Tongue
Avoch	Forres	Lockerbie	Turriff
Ballater	Fort Augustus	Lochinver	Ullapool
Banchory †	Fortrose	Lochmaddy	West Linton
Banff*	Fort William (Oct–May only)	Lybster*	Whithorn
Beauly	Fraserburgh*	Macduff*	Whiting Bay
Beith*	Gairloch	Mallaig	Wick
Benbecula	Galashiels	Maud	
Blairgowrie	Gardenstown	Millport	
Blair Atholl	Glasgow	Moniaive	
Bonar Bridge	Glenluce	Muir of Ord	
Braemar †	Golspie	Munlochry	
Bridgend	Grantown on Spey	Nairn	
Broadford	Greenock*	Neilston*	
Brodick	Hawick	Newburgh, Fife*	
Brora	Helmsdale	Newcastleton	
Buckie	Huntly*	New Pitsligo	
Callander	Innellan*	Newton Stewart	
Campbeltown	Insch*	North Berwick	
Carnoustie	Inveraray	Oban (Oct–May only)	
Castlebay	Invergordon*	Peterhead*	
Castle Douglas	Inverness	Pitlochry	
Coldstream*	Inverurie*	Portree	
Comrie	Irvine*	Port William †	
Coupar Angus	Kelso	Rosehearty †	
Crieff	Killin	Rothesay	
Dalbeattie	Kilmarnock	St. Margaret's Hope*	
Dalry, Kirkcuds.	Kinlochleven	Sanquhar	
Dingwall	Kirkcudbright	Scarinish	
Dornoch	Kirkwall	Stonehaven †	
Douglas	Kirriemuir*	Stornoway	

† from Branches to HO only

* from HO to Branches only



Scottish
Postal Board
Headquarters

West Port House
102 West Port
EDINBURGH
EH3 9HS
Tel. 031-228 5302

Extracts of Letters 1

Professor M J O'Harn FRSE FRS
Colwy Y Mor
TALYBONT
Dyfed
SY24 5GQ

6 June 1983

Dear Professor O'Harn

Further to my letter of 18 May I am in a position now to say something about our BSP service. I must state at the outset however I am not prepared to say very much; I can understand your interest but I must ask that you in turn appreciate my need for reticence.

I can however answer your specific questions. First, there are no HVP documents or instructions still available for copying and if there were I doubt that we would release them anyway.

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4 2 80	-	£9.30
16 2 81	-	£10.88
1 2 82	-	£12.03
5 4 83	-	£12.39.

The maximum weight was set at 35 lb and has remained unchanged throughout.

Yours sincerely

A INGLIS
for Controller Operations

BANK OF
SCOTLAND



Bank of Scotland

Edinburgh

PO Box No 5

Edinburgh EH1 1YZ

Telephone 031-225 3431

Telex 72275

12th January 1970.

Our ref St/W

Your ref

Michael O'Hara, Esq.,
"Lindenfield",
32 Arbuthnot Road,
Loanhead,
MIDLOTHIAN.

Dear Mr. O'Hara,

Many thanks for your letter of 1st January. Since then I have been trying to obtain information regarding the "HVP" service and am pleased to report as follows:-

1. We do get a few franked tags and I am arranging for them to be kept from now on. However, it is only our larger Offices which use a meter so there won't be much of a selection.
2. I enclose a table showing the old "HVP" rates, now obsolete.
3. There are no special rules regarding packing and sealing; the normal regulations for registered packets apply.
4. The service is available only to the Banks in England, Scotland, Wales, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and only certain Post Offices are authorised to accept HVPs.
5. There are special methods of transmission and delivery, but these I regret I cannot disclose.
6. There is no additional "guarantee".

I hope you will find these details helpful, and if there are any other points we can perhaps talk about them when you call. I have some material for you at home.

Meantime, my best wishes to you for 1970.

Yours sincerely,

Superintendent of Branches.

Extracts of Letters 2

This letter followed initial contacts. It contains the information that metered tags or wrappers were already scarce (?because of use of security firms between London and Edinburgh); that there were no additional sealing requirements for HVP's; and no extra comensation in the event of loss. The letter also implies that there were special arrangements for transport and delivery.

Letter giving date of start of HVP in Scotland.

Letter announcing impending retirement of initial source and detailing arrangements for the future supply of HVP and BSP materials

Subsequent letter from the new source, confirming the ongoing arrangements

88 Colinton Road,
Edinburgh, EH14 1DD.
2nd March 1970.

Dear Mr. O'Hara,

My belated thanks for your cheque for £5 which has been passed to the Orphans' Fund.

I've been trying in the interval to get the answer to your question, but all I can find out is that the HVP service started in Scotland on 1st March 1961. When it was instituted in England I can't say — it may have been at the same time, but the literature in the Bank's possession seems to indicate that March 1961 was the date of an extension

2.

to an existing service. However, I can't be positive about this, and would suggest you write to the G.P.O. in London — or if they are loath to divulge the information direct you might be able to get it through the Philatelic Bureau. Sorry I can't be more helpful!

Yours sincerely,

R.S. Robson.

Documents – Extracts of Letters 2

This letter followed initial contacts. It contains the information that metered tags or wrappers were already scarce (?because of use of security firms between London and Edinburgh); that there were no additional sealing requirements for HVP's; and no extra compensation in the event of loss. The letter also implies that there were special arrangements for transport and delivery.

Letter giving date of start of HVP in Scotland.

Letter announcing impending retirement of initial source and detailing arrangements for the future supply of HVP and BSP materials

Subsequent letter from the new source, confirming the ongoing arrangements

IVAN R. S. ROBSON
JOINT GENERAL MANAGER



BANK OF SCOTLAND
P.O. BOX No. 12
UBERIOR HOUSE
61 GRASSMARKET
EDINBURGH EH1 2JF
TELEPHONE 031-229 2555

5th August 1983

Michael J. O'Hara, Esq.,
Golwyg-y-Mor,
Talybont,
Dyfed, SY24 5EQ.

Dear Mike,

Following our telephone conversation on Wednesday night, I have sent off a parcel of stamps today. I had a look through some old material which I have at home (mainly the tail-end of the "Castles" to be steamed-off when I have time) but unfortunately there is nothing earlier than 1969 so I'm afraid I can't help solve your problem. I was glad to learn that Sandy Jackson had been able to give you some useful information for your postal history research.

As you know, I retire in November, but your source of supply will not dry up; one of Mr. Jackson's staff, David Taylor, has kindly agreed to continue sending you our used high value stamps - he is aware that the labels are just as important to you as the stamps themselves - for the benefit of the Bank Clerks' Orphans' Fund. As I expect to be out of the office a great deal from mid-September onwards, I think it would be as well if Mr. Taylor "took over" now; his name and address are appended.

I trust you enjoy your year in the U.S.A. from July 1984. Hopefully we shall meet before then if you are up in Edinburgh.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Note referred to:

Mr. David P. Taylor,
Controller, Edinburgh Cash Centre,
Bank of Scotland,
38 St. Andrew Square,
Edinburgh, EH2 2YR.

Letters of Letters 2

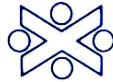
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Letter giving date of start of HVP in Scotland.

Letter announcing impending retirement of initial source and detailing arrangements for the future supply of HVP and BSP materials

Subsequent letter from the new source, confirming the ongoing arrangements

Documents – Extracts of Letters 2



BANK OF SCOTLAND

Constituted by Act of Parliament 1695

Cashiers Department

P.O. Box No. 10
38 St. Andrew Square
EDINBURGH EH2 2YR

Telephone: 031-557 4777

Telex: 72242

Telegrams: "Ubifor Edinburgh"

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

4th January, 1984

Mr. M.J. O'Hara,
Golwyg-y-Mor,
Talybont,
DYFED,
SY24 5EQ.

Dear Mr. O'Hara,

Thank you for your letter of 27th December, 1983
enclosing cheque for £25 made out to Bank Clerks Orphans Fund.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you the compliments
of the season, albeit a little late.

Yours sincerely,

D.P. TAYLOR
Cash Controller

Subsequent letter from the
new source, confirming the
ongoing arrangements



BANK OF SCOTLAND

Constituted by Act of Parliament 1695

Cashiers Depa
P.O. Box No.
38 St. Andrew
EDINBURGH E

Telephone: 031-5
Telex: 72242
Telegrams: "Ubif

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Professor M. O'Hara,
GOLJURY Y MOR,
TALYBONT,
DYFED. SY24 5EQ

15th Ju

Dear Professor,

Ivan Robson passed your letter regarding B.S see if I could help with any of your queries. I the delay in replying but I had to delve into old I may say, with a great deal of success. However with your enquiries in the order you set them out

I have not been able to confirm that the H.V was extended to Edinburgh and Glasgow in 1960.

We enclose lists of H.V.P. rates introduced 1974 and 17th March, 1975 respectively as request

It is regretted that old registered receipts available. So far as I can ascertain it was prac use registered letter post or indeed registered p in Scotland though registered letter post became March 1961.

Sorry not to have been more helpful but you appreciate storage space is at a premium and less records are apt to be destroyed.

Yours sincerely,

A. Jackson
Cashier.

Helpful letter from the
Cashier of the Bank of
Scotland.

CHARGES FOR HIGH VALUE PACKETS AS FROM 24 JUNE 197

Examples of HVP ;ready reckoners' issued to banks and postmasters.

WEIGHT NOT EXCEEDING		LETTER RATE	REGISTRATION FEE	"ADDITIONAL CHARGE" (NO CHANGE)	TOTAL POSTAGE
lbs	oz	£	£	£	£
	2	0.04½	0.25	0.22½	0.52
	4	0.06½	0.25	0.22½	0.54
	6	0.10	0.25	0.22½	0.57½
	8	0.12½	0.25	0.22½	0.60
	10	0.15	0.25	0.22½	0.62½
	12	0.17½	0.25	0.22½	0.65
	14	0.20	0.25	0.22½	0.67½
1	0	0.22½	0.25	0.22½	0.70
1	8	0.32½	0.25	0.45	1.02½
2	0	0.42½	0.25	0.45	1.12½
2	8	0.52½	0.25	0.67½	1.45
3	0	0.62½	0.25	0.67½	1.55
3	8	0.72½	0.25	0.90	1.87½
4	0	0.82½	0.25	0.90	1.97½
4	8	0.92½	0.25	1.12½	2.30
5	0	1.02½	0.25	1.12½	2.40
5	8	1.12½	0.25	1.35	2.72½
6	0	1.22½	0.25	1.35	2.82½
6	8	1.32½	0.25	1.57½	3.15
7	0	1.42½	0.25	1.57½	3.25
7	8	1.52½	0.25	1.80	3.57½
8	0	1.62½	0.25	1.80	3.67½
8	8	1.72½	0.25	2.02½	4.00
9	0	1.82½	0.25	2.02½	4.10
9	8	1.92½	0.25	2.25	4.42½
10	0	2.02½	0.25	2.25	4.52½
10	8	2.12½	0.25	2.47½	4.85
11	0	2.22½	0.25	2.47½	4.95
11	8	2.32½	0.25	2.70	5.27½
12	0	2.42½	0.25	2.70	5.37½
12	8	2.52½	0.25	2.92½	5.70
13	0	2.62½	0.25	2.92½	5.80
13	8	2.72½	0.25	3.15	6.12½
14	0	2.82½	0.25	3.15	6.22½

CHARGES FOR HIGH VALUE PACKETS AS FROM 24 JUNE 1974

ts – Bank of Scotland 0

WEIGHT NOT EXCEEDING		LETTER RATE	REGISTRATION FEE	"ADDITIONAL CHARGE" (NO CHANGE)	TOTAL POSTAGE
lbs	oz	£	£	£	£
	2	0.04½	0.25	0.22½	0.52
	4	0.06½	0.25	0.22½	0.54
	6	0.10	0.25	0.22½	0.57½
	8	0.12½	0.25	0.22½	0.60
	10	0.15	0.25	0.22½	0.62½
	12	0.17½	0.25	0.22½	0.65
	14	0.20	0.25	0.22½	0.67½
1	0	0.22½	0.25	0.22½	0.70
1	8	0.32½	0.25	0.45	1.02½
2	0	0.42½	0.25	0.45	1.12½
2	8	0.52½	0.25	0.67½	1.45
3	0	0.62½	0.25	0.67½	1.55
3	8	0.72½	0.25	0.90	1.87½
4	0	0.82½	0.25	0.90	1.97½
4	8	0.92½	0.25	1.12½	2.30
5	0	1.02½	0.25	1.12½	2.40
5	8	1.12½	0.25	1.35	2.72½
6	0	1.22½	0.25	1.35	2.82½
6	8	1.32½	0.25	1.57½	3.15
7	0	1.42½	0.25	1.57½	3.25
7	8	1.52½	0.25	1.80	3.57½
8	0	1.62½	0.25	1.80	3.67½
8	8	1.72½	0.25	2.02½	4.00
9	0	1.82½	0.25	2.02½	4.10
9	8	1.92½	0.25	2.25	4.42½
10	0	2.02½	0.25	2.25	4.52½
10	8	2.12½	0.25	2.47½	4.85
11	0	2.22½	0.25	2.47½	4.95
11	8	2.32½	0.25	2.70	5.27½
12	0	2.42½	0.25	2.70	5.37½
12	8	2.52½	0.25	2.92½	5.70
13	0	2.62½	0.25	2.92½	5.80
13	8	2.72½	0.25	3.15	6.12½
14	0	2.82½	0.25	3.15	6.22½

Helpful letter from the
Cashier of the Bank of
Scotland.



BANK OF SCOTLAND

Constituted by Act of Parliament 1695

Cashiers Department

P.O. Box No. 10
38 St. Andrew Square
EDINBURGH EH2 2YR

Telephone: 031-557 4777

Telex: 72242

Telegrams: "Ubifor Edinburgh"

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

Professor M. O'Hara,
GOLURY Y MOR,
TALYBONT,
DYFED. SY24 5EQ

15th July, 1983.

Dear Professor,

Ivan Robson passed your letter regarding B.S.P. to me to see if I could help with any of your queries. I apologise for the delay in replying but I had to delve into old records not, I may say, with a great deal of success. However I shall deal with your enquiries in the order you set them out.

I have not been able to confirm that the H.V.P. service was extended to Edinburgh and Glasgow in 1960.

We enclose lists of H.V.P. rates introduced on 24th June, 1974 and 17th March, 1975 respectively as requested.

It is regretted that old registered receipts are not available. So far as I can ascertain it was practice here to use registered letter post or indeed registered parcel post in Scotland though registered letter post became common in March 1961.

Sorry not to have been more helpful but you will appreciate storage space is at a premium and less important records are apt to be destroyed.

Yours sincerely,

A. Jackson
Cashier.

- Bank of Scotland 0

CHARGES FOR HIGH VALUE PACKETS AS FROM 17 MARCH 1975

WEIGHT NOT EXCEEDING		LETTER RATE	REGISTRATION FEE	"ADDITIONAL CHARGE" (NO CHANGE)	TOTAL POSTAGE
lbs	oz	£	£	£	£
	2	0.07	0.35	0.22½	0.64½
	4	0.10	0.35	0.22½	0.67½
	6	0.12½	0.35	0.22½	0.70
	8	0.15	0.35	0.22½	0.72½
	10	0.17½	0.35	0.22½	0.75
	12	0.19½	0.35	0.22½	0.77
	14	0.22	0.35	0.22½	0.79½
1	0	0.24	0.35	0.22½	0.81½
1	8	0.34	0.35	0.45	1.14
2	0	0.44	0.35	0.45	1.24
2	8	0.54	0.35	0.67½	1.56½
3	0	0.64	0.35	0.67½	1.66½
3	8	0.74	0.35	0.90	1.99
4	0	0.84	0.35	0.90	2.09
4	8	0.94	0.35	1.12½	2.41½
5	0	1.04	0.35	1.12½	2.51½
5	8	1.14	0.35	1.35	2.84
6	0	1.24	0.35	1.35	2.94
6	8	1.34	0.35	1.57½	3.26½
7	0	1.44	0.35	1.57½	3.36½
7	8	1.54	0.35	1.80	3.69
8	0	1.64	0.35	1.80	3.79
8	8	1.74	0.35	2.02½	4.11½
9	0	1.84	0.35	2.02½	4.21½
9	8	1.94	0.35	2.25	4.54
10	0	2.04	0.35	2.25	4.64
10	8	2.14	0.35	2.47½	4.96½
11	0	2.24	0.35	2.47½	5.06½
11	8	2.34	0.35	2.70	5.39
12	0	2.44	0.35	2.70	5.49
12	8	2.54	0.35	2.92½	5.81½
13	0	2.64	0.35	2.92½	5.91½
13	8	2.74	0.35	3.15	6.24
14	0	2.84	0.35	3.15	6.34



States of Guernsey
Post Office Board
Postal Headquarters
Guernsey C.I.
Telephone 0481 26241
Telex 4191414

Professor M. J. O'Hara, F.R.S.E., F.R.S.,
Golwg y Mor,
TALYBONT,
Dyfed,
SY24 5EQ.

Our ref
Your ref

31st August, 1983

Dear Professor O'Hara,

I am sorry that you have been kept waiting for a reply to your enquiry about H.V. Packets, but there are only a few of us left in Guernsey who recall these items!

None of us unfortunately can recall the actual date of cessation but we all believe it to be early in 1969 prior to the "take-over" by the States of Guernsey. This would apply to items both from and to the island.

As none of us were in the old G.P.O. before 1938, and we have no records to help us, we can only assume that the commencement date would have been identical to that of all other offices within the administration of the Postmaster General. Certainly it must have coincided with other offices in the S.W. Region.

We do not know of any continuation service such as you mention, and certainly no such service operated from this administration. Indeed, remembering now all the rules and regulations of that service, I have a shrewd suspicion that we greeted the news of its demise with some pleasure!

My apologies for a general lack of information such as you are seeking but I doubt whether any of us ever thought that anyone would be interested. As a lover of history myself I can only bow my head in shame.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. J. Le Page".

M. J. LE PAGE
Controller of Posts

– Post Offices Channel Islands

Letter from Guernsey Post Office
yielding not much information.

Documents – Post Offices Channel

Ref: PAE/JLeC/1030

Letter from Jersey Post Office
indicating that HVP ceased on the
same day as in the rest of
England and Wales..



DEPARTMENT
OF
POSTAL
ADMINISTRATION

P.O. Box 106
St. Helier
Jersey
Channel Islands

Telephone
Jersey Central
(0534) 26262
Telex 4192307

16th August, 1983


Dear Professor O'Hara,

Thank you for your letter of 10th August.

I regret we have no record of the date of introduction of the High Value Packet service to and from the Channel Islands but believe it may have been some time in 1931. The British Post Office may be able to supply confirmation.

The service ceased with effect from 1st November 1973 and a comparable replacement service was not introduced

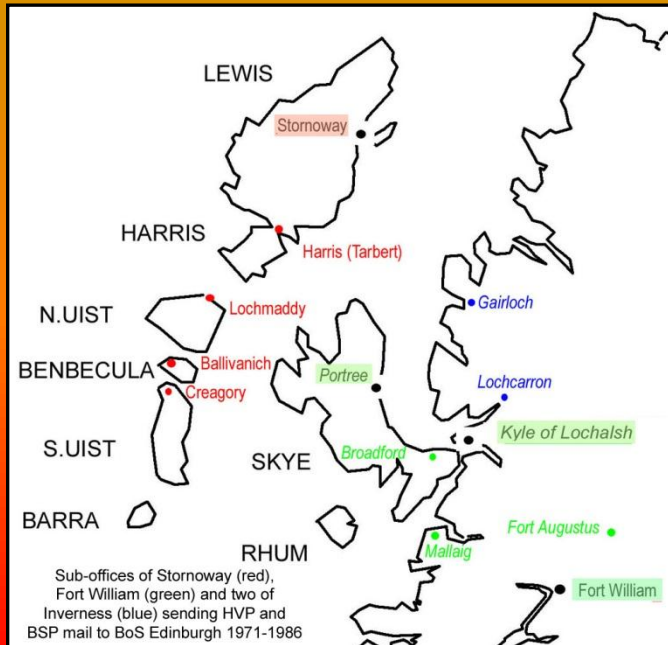
Yours sincerely,


P.A. Egan (Miss)
Controller Mails

Professor M.J. O'Hara,
Golwg y Mar,
TALYBONT,
Dyffed,
SY24 5EQ

SPECIAL TOPICS FT WILLIAM, KYLE, PORTTREE

CHANGES IN POST OFFICE STATUS DOCUMENTED: FORT WILLIAM, KYLE & PORTTREE 1972-1986



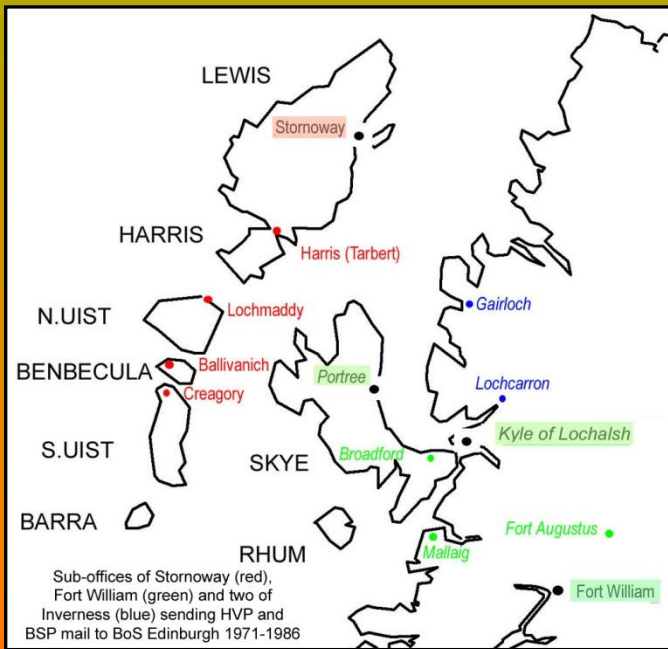
From Western Scotland, five post offices in the Outer Isles, with head post office **Stornoway**; two post offices in Ross-shire, with head post office **Inverness** (off map) and six post offices in Ross-shire, Inverness-shire and the Isle of Skye, with head offices variably **Fort William**, **Kyle** and **Portree**, sent HVP or BSP mailings to Bank of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Between 1972 and 1986 there was a change from the older type of perforated coil **registration labels** (S6, S9) which were printed for individual post offices, first to the **Scottish Experimental labels** (S10) which were printed for head post offices only, then to the **National Head Office** labels in perforated coil (S11) and peelable (S12) formats (see McKay 1982)

Use of head office labels allows changes in head office status to be tracked. Stornoway and Inverness remained head offices for their respective groups of sub-offices throughout the period.

Fort William was head office for Fort Augustus and Mallaig at the first introduction of head office labels (S10) in 1972 but Kyle was a head office in its own right, Broadford and Portree two of its sub-offices at this stage. By mid-1974, however, both Kyle and Portree appear to have become sub-offices of Fort William, an arrangement which persisted through a stage in 1975 when older style (S6) office labels were reissued.

SPECIAL TOPICS FT WILLIAM, KYLE, PORTREE



At the first introduction of National Head Office labels (S11) in late 1976, both Kyle and Portree had assumed head office status which they retained until assimilated under Fort William from mid-1980. A coil of 'Portree REM' (S6) labels (see McKay 1982) was used from Portree during 1984, probably in response to a temporary shortage of supply of head office labels

Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	Until late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10		mid-1974
	Fort William S10		mid-1975
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
	Fort William S10		end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
Fort William S11		Portree S6 REM	mid-1984
			early 1985 onwards
Fort William S12			

This reading of the information, often from damaged fragments, may be complicated by several factors. Material posted from Fort William itself ceased about 1975, presumably because traffic was transferred to security van.

Material from Kyle ceased in 1977, but postings from neighbouring Broadford commenced about the same time.

Possibilities which need to be considered are that:-

(a) the bank(s) held one or more dedicated coils of labels issued at different times,

(b) the Portree post office in particular had more than one coil of registration labels in use at any one time with the type of label not synchronised and

(c) some of the postmark dates were incorrectly set up or wrongly interpreted, and

(d) that 1971-1986 saw several changes in the administrative structure of the Post Office in the Western Highlands and Skye.


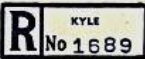
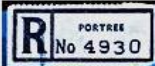
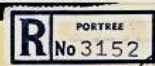
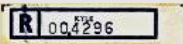
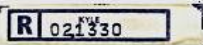



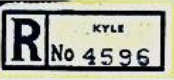
The rate of usage of labels, and the consistency of type between changes, argue against (a) or (b) being major factors.

Consistency of dates, postal service and rates argue against (c).

Possibility (d) might be pursued further through Post Office records.

Tabulation of dates of posting, registration label types, offices and numbers on material (much damaged) recovered from Kyle of Lochalsh and Portree. Material from Broadford is often faintly postmarked and hence difficult to identify. A listing of fragments is provided overpage.

MATERIAL IDENTIFIED FROM FORT WILLIAM-KYLE-PORTREE

Office Location		PORTREE				KYLE of LOCHALSH E7-1									
Period	Interval	Service	H.V. defins	Date	Reg.Label, Bank Mark	Office	Number	Cancel	Reg.Label, Bank Mark	Office	Number	Cancel			
4	6 £2/8/6	HVP	Engraved decimal Machin, £1 black U41	1.1.1969						S6a KYLE	4845	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE			
				3.7.1970							S6a KYLE	4943	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE		
				9.8.1970											
	Decimalisation of the currency														
	7 £2.82½			15.2.1971									S6a KYLE	1689	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE
				4.3.1971											
				7.6.1971		S6a PORTREE	4303	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
				4.8.1971		S6a PORTREE	4820	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
				17.8.1971		S6a PORTREE	4930	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
				8.9.1971		S6b PORTREE	0092	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
				6.3.1972											
				27.7.1972		S6b PORTREE	3061	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE					S6b KYLE	3370	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE
8.8.1972			S6b PORTREE	3152	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE					S6b KYLE	3622	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE			
26.10.1972															
8.11.1972															
Start of Scottish tripartite registration label experiment 13/11/1972															
8 £2.96½	22.11.1972					S10 KYLE	00,4004	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
	9.1.1973					S10 KYLE	00,0140								
	7.2.1973		S10 KYLE	00,4246	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE										
	29.3.1973		S10 KYLE	00,4296	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE										
	18.4.1973		S10 KYLE	00,4327	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE										
Originally scheduled end of Scottish registration label experiment 13/5/1973															
9 £3.13½	17.7.1973					S10 KYLE	02,0183	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
	15.8.1973									S10 KYLE	02,1330	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE			
10.9.1973															
End of HVP except in Scotland															
0 £3.13½	1.11.1973					S10 FORT WILLIAM	02,8508	ovst REG.PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
	26.4.1974					S10 FORT WILLIAM	01,4657	dblc PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
	4.6.1974		S10 FORT WILLIAM	01,4746	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE										
	13.6.1974														
	24.6.1974														
	24.7.1974		S10 FORT WILLIAM	02,7886	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE										
Mackay (1982, p.136) states Scottish experimental labels scrapped July 1974															
5	1 £3.25	HVP	Engraved decimal Machin, £1 redrawn	27.8.1974						S10 FORT WILLIAM	02,6809	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE			
				7.7.1974						S10 FORT WILLIAM	26,990	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE			
				7.10.1974						S10 FORT WILLIAM	35,038	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE			
				3.1.1975		S6b PORTREE	3193	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
				6.2.1975		S10 FORT WILLIAM	00,0355	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE							
	16.3.1975				S10 FORT WILLIAM	00,0920	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE								
	17.3.1975														
	20.5.1975														
	4.6.1975				S6b PORTREE	3524	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE					S6b KYLE	2014	too faint	
	12.6.1975				S6b PORTREE	3585	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE								
	18.6.1975				S6b PORTREE	3609	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE								
	25.6.1975				S6b PORTREE	3660	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE								
	7.7.1975											S6a KYLE	4155	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE	
	2.7.1975				S6b PORTREE	3718	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE								
	9.7.1975				S6b PORTREE	3769	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE								
16.7.1975		S6b PORTREE	3822	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE											
6.8.1975		S6b PORTREE	3966	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE					S6a KYLE	4596	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE				
10.8.1975									S6b KYLE	2497	cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE				
12.8.1975		S6b PORTREE	4000	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE											
End of HVP in UK, start of BSP															

MATERIAL IDENTIFIED FROM FORT WILLIAM-KYLE-PORTREE

Large format Photo Machin

7
£12.03

8A
£12.39

8B
£12.39

8C

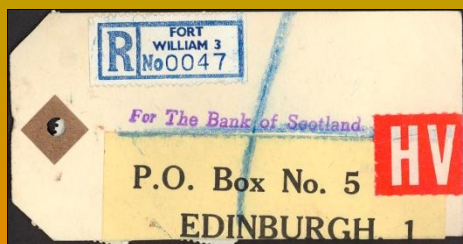
1.2.1982
17.6.1982
22.6.1982
10.8.1982
11.8.1982
18.8.1982
8.9.1982
2.11.1982
10.12.1982
19.1.1983
10.3.1983
5.5.1983
17.5.1983
5.4.1983
5.5.1983
11.5.1983
26.5.1983
14.6.1983
21.6.1983
30.6.1983
5.7.1983
6.7.1983
7.7.1983
19.7.1983
27.7.1983
28.7.1983
11.9.1983
17.9.1983
30.9.1983
2.11.1983
27.6.1984
17.7.1984
29.7.1984
7.8.1984
8.8.1984
9.8.1984
15.8.1984
23.8.1984
3.9.1984
6.9.1984
13.9.1984
20.9.1984
11.4.1985
3.6.1985
17.7.1985
14.9.85
20.10.1986



S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 042492	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050914	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 042468	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050231	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050261	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050371	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 058068	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 041903	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 058347	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 042190	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 042350	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 011213	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 014741	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050559	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 011081	prcl PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050914	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050953	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	??	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050995	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050751	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 057353	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 011093	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 011061	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 014351	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 011312	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050953	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11c FORT WILLIAM	↗ 010066	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 050985	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1004	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1040	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1104	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1110	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1116	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1147	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1184	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1282	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S6b PORTREE REM	1284	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11d FORT WILLIAM (2)	↗ 002520	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11d FORT WILLIAM (2)	↗ 003264	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11d FORT WILLIAM (2)	↗ 004660	cd PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 011213	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE
S11b FORT WILLIAM	↗ 011351	pkt PORTREE ISLE OF SKYE

S11c FORT WILLIAM ↗ 057299 cd KYLE ROSS-SHIRE

The three tags illustrate the use of individual office perforated coil labels at each of these offices in the two years prior to the Scottish Registration Experiment in late 1972. This practice had been followed for the previous 30 years at least.



Complete 23/7/1969 tag to BoS Edinburgh, HVP label, registration label S9 'FORT WILLIAM 3' #0047. Franking £1/9/0d for a 4 lb packet. Cancelled one strike of the rubber parcel cancel 'Fort William – Inverness-shire'

Complete 24/2/1970 tag to BoS Edinburgh, HVP label, registration label S6 'Kyle' #3905. Franking £1/9/0d for a 4 lb packet. Cancelled five strikes of the circular counter datestamp 'Kyle Ross-shire'.

Two fragments showing tied S6 'Portree' registration labels used 6/7/1971 and 8/11/1971

When head office registration labels were introduced for the first time in late 1972, Kyle of Lochalsh was head office for Portree and 'Kyle' labels were used at both (and presumably at other sub-offices at Broadford etc). Two examples were posted from Kyle, six posted from Portree. By mid-1974 'Fort William' head office labels were in use from both Kyle and Portree.



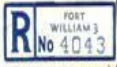




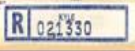








Left: 15/8/1973 Parcel tag to BoS Edinburgh, HVP label, Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Kyle #02,1330. Franked pair £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831) and pair 3½p (SG X858) making up the £2.57 rate for a 6 lb packet. Cancelled two light strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Kyle Ross-shire'.

Right: 29/3/1973 Parcel tag to BoS Edinburgh, HVP label, Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Kyle #00,4296. Franked £1 (SG 790*, U41), strip 3x10p and a 1p Machin both two phosphor bands (SG X885, SG X844) and regional 7½p two phosphor bands (SG S25) making up the £1.38½ rate for a 3 lb packet. Cancelled five strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Portree Isle of Skye'



Left: 11/1/1973. Fragment of paper wrapper, registration label S10 Kyle #00,1286. Franked strip of three 50p (SG 831) and cancelled three strikes of the circular packet cancel 'Kyle Ross-shire'.



Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6 	Kyle S6 	Portree S6 	Until late 1972
Fort William S10	 Kyle S10 		mid-1974
	Fort William S10		mid-1975
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
	Fort William S10		end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11 	Portree S11 	mid 1980
		 	
	Fort William S11	Portree S6 REM 	mid-1984
			early 1985 onwards
	Fort William S10		

The black spots mark the label allocation at this stage.

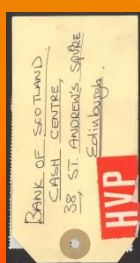
FT WILLIAM EXPERIMENTAL HEAD OFFICE S10 LABELS USED KYLE & PORTREE MID-1974 TO EARLY 1975

7/8/1974 Tag below on left, no address, no HVP label, and Scottish experimental registration label 'Fort William' #002,6809 Franked redrawn £1 (SG 831b), strip of 3 x 50p (SG 831), 20p (SG 830) 10p Machin and 2½p Machin (SG X 885, SG X845) postmarked Kyle Ross-shire; scan of reverse. £2.82½p franking is HVP rate for a 6 lb packet in interval 5.1, item recovered from mail to BoS Edinburgh

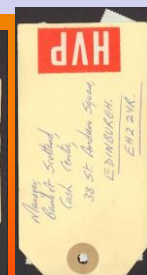


Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10	Portree S10	mid 1974
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
Fort William S10			end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
Fort William S11	Portree S6 REM		mid 1984
Fort William S12			early 1985 onwards

Below: [51Sak] 6/2/1975 Tag to BoS Edinburgh with HVP label and Scottish experimental registration label 'Fort William' #00,0355. Franked redrawn £1 (SG 831b, torn), 50p (SG 831), strip of 3 x 10p Machin and ½p Machin (SG X 885, SG X841), and pair of regional 3½p (SG S17) being used up long after issue of the central band SG S18, and making up the £1.87½p rate for a 3½lb packet. Cancelled three strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Portree Isle of Skye'.

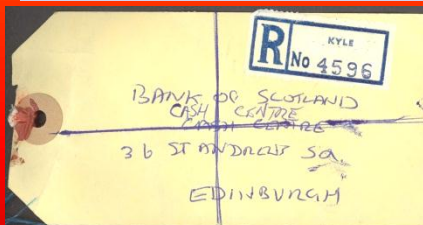


Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10	Portree S10	mid 1974
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
Fort William S10			end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
Fort William S11	Portree S6 REM		mid 1984
Fort William S12			early 1985 onwards



Above: 12/6/1975 tag to BoS Edinburgh with HVP label and registration label (S6b) 'Portree' #3585. Franked block of 4 x redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 6p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X870) and 5½p Scottish regional central phosphor band (SG S22) making up the £4.11½p rate for a 9 lb packet. Cancelled six strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Portree Isle of Skye'.

KYLE & PORTREE S6 LABELS USED APPROPRIATELY MID 1975



2/6/1975 tag to BoS Edinburgh with HVP label and registration label (S6b) 'Portree' #3585. Franked 4 x redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 6p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X870) and 5½p Scottish regional central phosphor band (SG S22) making up the £4.11½p rate for a 9 lb packet. Cancelled six strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Portree Isle of Skye'.

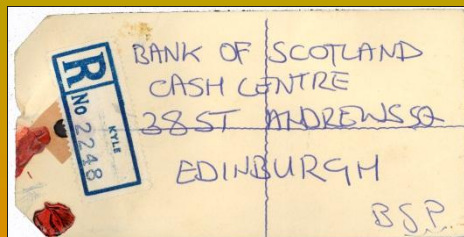
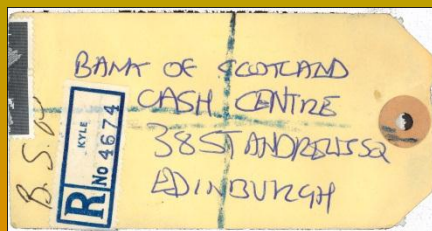


6/8/1975 Tag to BoS Edinburgh, without HVP label but with registration label (S6) 'Kyle' #4596. Franked pair redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831), and 1½p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X848) making up £2.51½ in a part franking HVP rate for a greater than 5 lb packet. Cancelled five strikes of the counter datestamp 'Kyle Ross-shire'.

Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10	Portree S10	mid 1974
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
Fort William S10			end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
Fort William S11	Portree S6 REM		mid 1984
Fort William S12			early 1985 onwards

Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10	Portree S10	mid 1974
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
Fort William S10			end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
Fort William S11	Portree S6 REM		mid 1984
Fort William S12			early 1985 onwards

KYLE S6 LABELS USED MID 1975- MID 1976



30/6/1976 Double tag to BoS Edinburgh, manuscript 'BSP' with registration label (S6) 'Kyle' #2248. Franked two strips of three redrawn £1 (SG 831b), and pair 7½p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X877) making up the £6.15 second BSP rate in interval 6.2. Cancelled seven strikes of the counter datestamp 'Kyle Ross-shire'

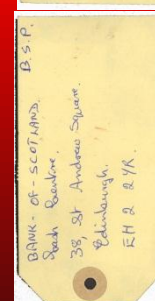
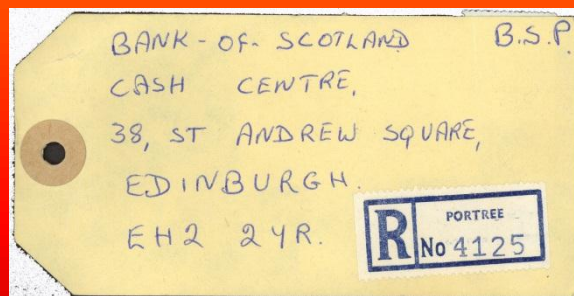
19/8/1975 Tag to BoS Edinburgh, manuscript 'BSP' with registration label (S6) 'Kyle' #4674. Franked strip of four redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831), 20p (SG 830) and 5p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X866) making up the £4.75 first BSP rate in interval 6.0 on the second day of operation of the BSP service. Cancelled five strikes of the counter datestamp 'Kyle Ross-shire'



PORTREE S6 LABELS USED EARLY 1976

Type S6 registration labels were apparently also used in late 1975-early 1976

14/1/1976 Double tag to BoS Edinburgh, with manuscript 'BSP' and registration label (S6b) 'Portree' #4125. Franked two pairs redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831), 20p (SG 830 torn), and 5p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X866) making up the £4.75 first BSP flat rate. Cancelled six strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Portree Isle of Skye'.



The date in the cancellation could be read as '14 JAN 75' rather than '14 JAN 76' but this would be inconsistent with the claim to BSP service, which did not exist on 14 Jan 1975, or the franking of £4.75, typical of the BSP rate in intervals 6.0 and 6.1, but not a possible HVP rate on 14 Jan 1975 (but £4.85 and £4.95 were rates for 10 lb 8 oz and 11 lb packets respectively). A further possibility is that the date plug had been made up incorrectly, or simply not changed at the New Year. If so, it was corrected before the rest of this coil of labels were used.

FORT WILLIAM EXPERIMENTAL S10 LABELS USED KYLE & PORTREE APRIL 1976 & OCTOBER 1975

Late 1975 to mid-1976 saw both Kyle and Portree using Fort William experimental labels again, both offices presumably being reassigned as sub-offices of Fort William. The rates of usage at Portree were ~40 registered mailings/week, consistent with total mailings from a town post office rather than the use of a dedicated coil by one bank branch. Insufficient material was recovered from Kyle to constrain the rate of usage at this time but ~40/week was demonstrable from Kyle soon afterwards.



28/4/1976 Tag to BoS Edinburgh, with manuscript 'BSP' and registration label (S10) 'Fort William' #03.3764. Franked two pairs redrawn £1 (SG 831b)50p (SG 831), 20p (SG 830 torn), and 5p Machin, two phosphor bands (SG X866) making up the £4.75 first BSP flat rate. Cancelled three strikes of the oval steel 'Registered Kyle Ross-shire'.

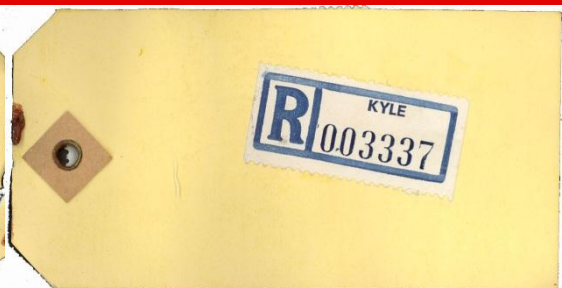
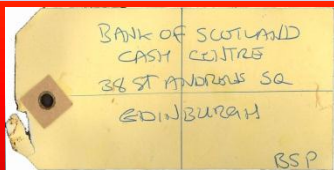
Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	Until late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10		mid-1974
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	mid-1975
Fort William S10	Fort William S10		late 1975
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
Fort William S11	Portree S6 REM		mid-1984
Fort William S12	Fort William S12		early 1985 onwards



1/10/1975 Tag, no address and registration label (S10) 'Fort William' #00.1056. Franked two pairs redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831), 20p (SG 830 torn), and pair 2½p Machin, One central phosphor band (SG X851) making up the £4.75 first BSP flat rate. Cancelled five strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Portree Isle of Skye'.

KYLE HEAD OFFICE LABELS S11 USED KYLE JANUARY 1977

?11/1/77 double cash-bag tag to BoS Edinburgh with manuscript 'BSP' and national head office registration label (S11a) 'Kyle' #003337. Franked six redrawn £1 (SG 831b), and pair 7½p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X877), making up the £6.15 flat rate for a BSP. Cancelled four strikes of the circular datestamp 'Kyle Ross-shire'



Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	Until late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10		mid-1974
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	mid-1975
Fort William S10	Fort William S10		late 1975
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
Fort William S11	Portree S6 REM		mid-1984
Fort William S12	Fort William S12		early 1985 onwards

PORTREE HEAD OFFICE S11 LABELS USED PORTREE SEPTEMBER 1977

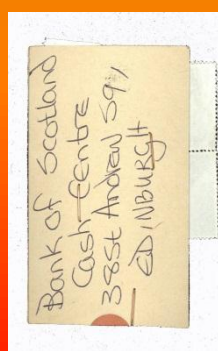
This was the only head office label (S10, S11 or S12) known to have been issued in the name of Portree. Examples are known from August 1976 to May 1978.

Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	Until late 1972
Fort William S10		Kyle S10	mid-1974
	Fort William S10		mid-1975
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
	Fort William S10		end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
		Portree S6 REM	mid-1984
	Fort William S11		early 1985 onwards
	Fort William S12		



22/9/77 tag to BoS Edinburgh with manuscript 'BSP' and national head office registration label (S11a) 'Portree' #002081. Franked £5 (SG 1028), redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831) and pair 20p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X915), making up the £6.90 flat rate for a BSP. Cancelled two strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Portree Isle of Skye'.

FORT WILLIAM HEAD OFFICE S11 LABELS USED PORTREE 1982-1983



8/9/1982 part tag to BoS Edinburgh, no BSP indication, bright blue national head office registration label (S11c) 'Fort William' #050371. Franked pair £5 (SG 1028), £2 (SG 1027) and 3p Machin (SG X857) making up the £12.03 flat rate for a BSP. Cancelled two strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Portree Isle of Skye'. Back has address only.

Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	Until late 1972
Fort William S10		Kyle S10	mid-1974
	Fort William S10		mid-1975
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
	Fort William S10		end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11	Portree S11	mid 1980
		Portree S6 REM	mid-1984
	Fort William S11		early 1985 onwards
	Fort William S12		



26/8/1983 Tag to BoS Edinburgh with national coil head office registration label S11b 'Fort William' # 011081. Franked 2 x £5 (SG 1028), pair £1 (SG 1026), 31p Machin (SG X981) and pair 4p Machin (SG X997) making up the £12.39 BSP flat rate. Cancelled two poor strikes of the Portree parcel obliterator.

PORTREE REM S6 LABELS USED PORTREE MID 1984

Mackay (1982 p.360) comments that labels with an office name followed by 'REM' were used on official remittances from head office to sub-offices. In this case they may have been used during a two month period when supply of Fort William labels had failed.

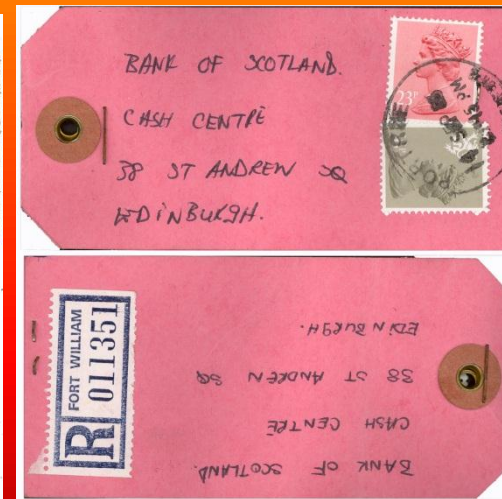


8/8/1984 tag to BoS Edinburgh, no BSP indication, registration label (S6b) 'Portree Rem' (REM defaced) #1110. Franked pair £5 (SG 1028), £2 (SG 1027), pair 17p Machin (SG X952) and 5p Machin (SG X1003?), most damaged, making up the £12.39 flat rate for a BSP. Cancelled three strikes of the steel counter datestamp 'Portree Isle of Skye'. Back has address only.

Fort William Inverness-shire	Kyle of Lochalsh Ross-shire	Portree Isle of Skye	Dates HVP or BSP
Fort William S6 R No 1043	Kyle S6 R No 1089	Portree S6 R No 1728	Until late 1972
Fort William S10	Kyle S10 R No 2430		mid-1974
Fort William S10 R No 2430			mid-1975
Fort William S6	Kyle S6	Portree S6	late 1975
Fort William S10			end 1976
Fort William S11	Kyle S11 R No 003337	Portree S11 R No 2081	mid 1980
Fort William S11 R No 010956			
Fort William S11 R No 011312			
Portree S6 REM R No 1110			mid-1984
Fort William S11 R No 003264			
Fort William S12 R No 097649			early 1985 onwards

FORT WILLIAM HEAD OFFICE S11 LABELS USED PORTREE 1984-1985

3/6/1985 double double stapled yellow tags to BoS Edinburgh, no BSP indication, national head office registration label (S11d) 'Fort William(2)' #004660. Franked pair £5 (SG 1028), £2 (SG 1027), 26p Machin on phosphorized paper (SG X971), and Scottish regional 13p perf 14 type II (SG S39Ea) one misplaced side (near centre) phosphor band, making up the £12.39 flat rate for a BSP. Cancelled three strikes of the steel counter datestamp 'Portree Isle of'

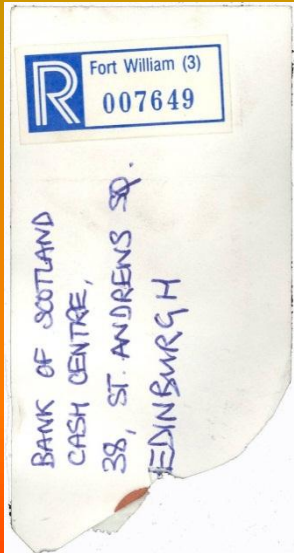


14/9/1985 double double stapled pink tags to BoS Edinburgh, manuscript 'BSP' on both, national head office coil registration label (S11b) 'Fort William' #011351. Franked two 2 x 4 blocks of eight each 75p Machin Litho ordinary paper perf 15 x 14 (SG X1023a, one block damaged), 23p Machin Photo on phosphorised paper perf 15 x 14 (SG X965), and Scottish regional 16p type II Photo?? on phosphorised paper perf 14 (cf SG S42), making up the £12.39 flat rate for a BSP. Cancelled five strikes circular rubber packet cancel 'Portree Isle of Skye'.



FORT WILLIAM HEAD OFFICE S12 LABELS INTRODUCED BROADFORD, MALLAIG 1986

A new type of Fort William head office registration label appeared at the start of 1976 at Broadford, Fort Augustus and Mallaig. It would doubtless have been introduced soon after at Kyle and Portree but no examples have been recovered. This new type had appeared earlier in 1975 from Inverness and Stornoway.



7/1/1986 fragment of cash tag to BoS Edinburgh, no BSP indication, self-adhesive imperforate head office registration label (S12) 'Fort William (3)' #007649. Franked £5 (SG 1028), £2 (SG 1027) and pair 50p Machin (SG X992), part £12.39 flat rate. Cancelled two strikes of the steel counter datestamp 'Broadford Isle of Skye'.



1/2/1986 fragment of green double cash tag stapled, to BoS Edinburgh, no BSP indication, self-adhesive imperforate head office registration label (S12) 'Fort William' #030971. Franked 2 x £5 (SG 1028), £2 (SG 1027), 34p and 5p Machins (SG X985, SG X934), making up the £12.39 flat rate for a BSP. Cancelled three strikes of the steel counter datestamp 'Mallaig Inverness-shire'.



SPECIAL TOPIC - SCOTTISH TRIPARTITE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS

INCORRECT USAGE of SCOTTISH EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS in the HVP SERVICE – ABERDEEN & LANGHOLM (DUMFRIES)

Aberdeen head office used a complete label on 28 June 1973, just after the originally scheduled end of the experiment. This label was actually separated and both parts carefully affixed to the tag after addressing, after the HVP label but before the franking. Someone clearly thought they were acting correctly.

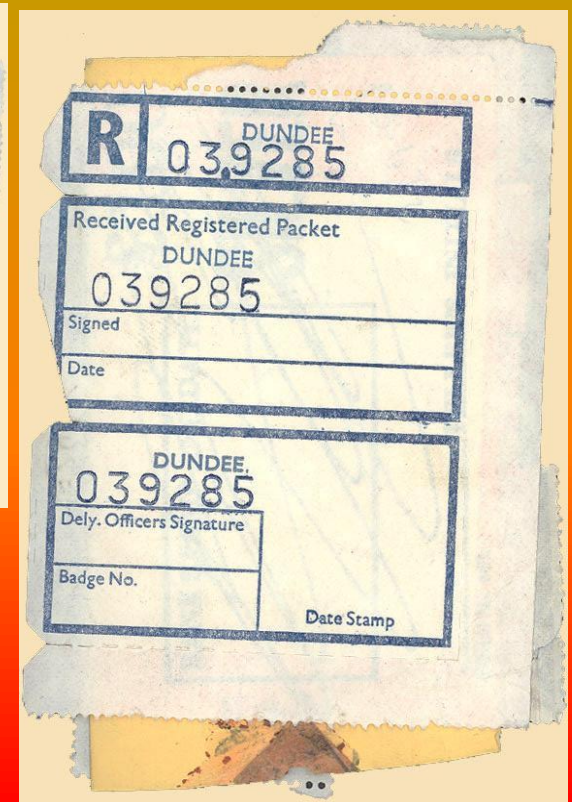
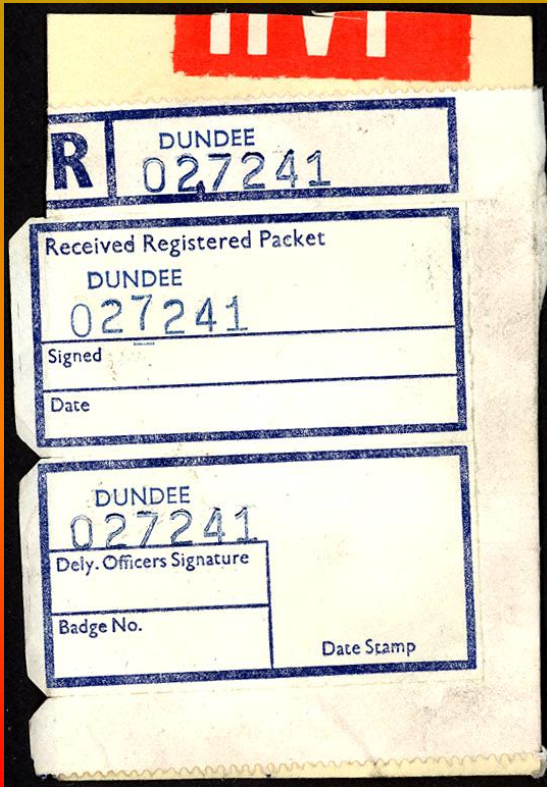
28/6/1973 Printed tag from BoS Aberdeen to BoS Edinburgh with HVP label and complete Scottish experimental registration label (S10) #22,9384 in two separated parts. Franked 3 x £1 (SG 790*, U41), 3 x 10p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X885) and a 6p Machin 2 phosphor bands (SG X870) making up the £3.36 rate for an 8 lb packet. Cancelled eight strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'King Street Aberdeen'. Both parts of the label are tied by the cancellations. Sole example recovered from the frequent Aberdeen mailings.



17/1/1974 Fragment of brown paper wrapping, no address, no HVP label, complete Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Dumfries #04,5031. Franked vertical pair £1 (SG 790*, U41 one torn), 10p Machin (SG X885) and regional 7½p (SG S25), both two phosphor bands, making up the £2.17½ rate for a 5 lb packet. Cancelled two strikes of the circular rubber packet obliterator 'Langholm Dumfriesshire'



INCORRECT USAGE in the HVP SERVICE – CARNOUSTIE & EDZELL (DUNDEE)



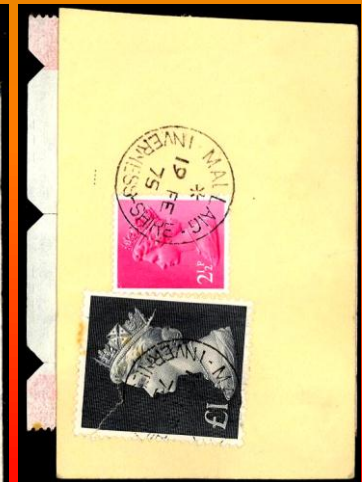
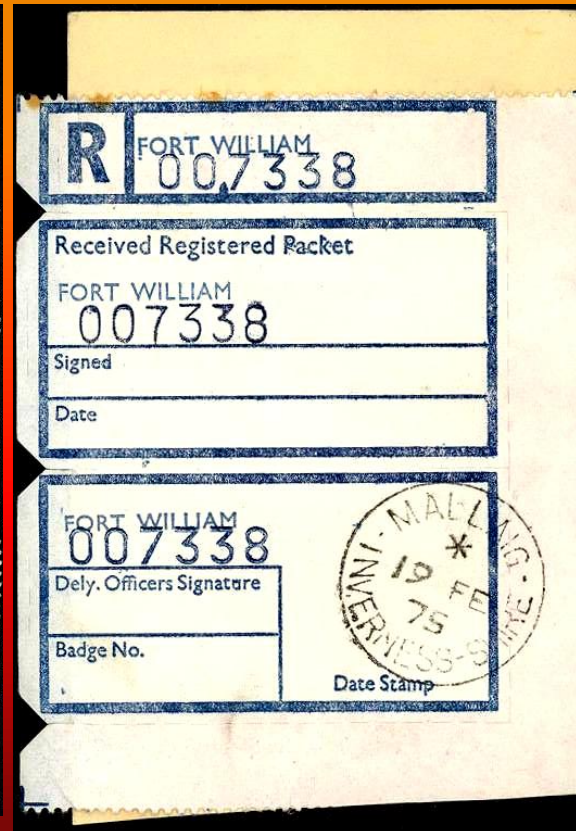
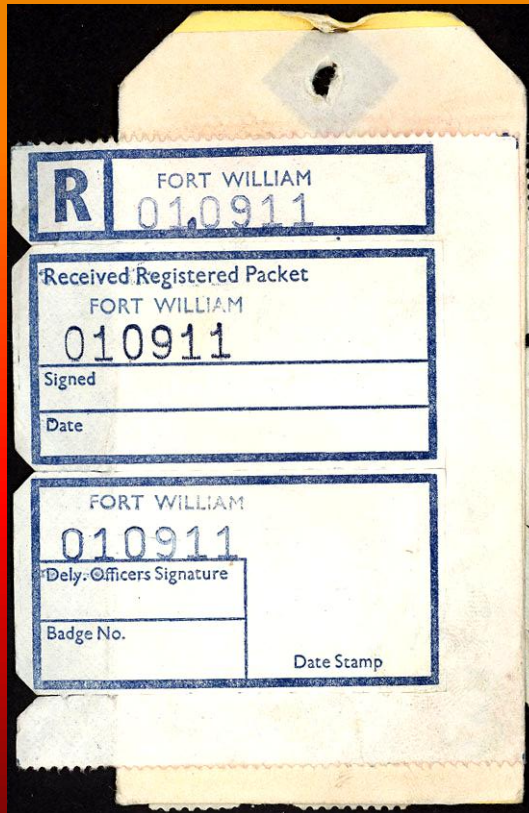
Undated (late 1972-late 1973) tag with no address, part HVP label and complete Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Dundee #02,7241. Franked block of 4 50p (SG 831), 10p Machin (SG X885) and regional 7½p (SG S25), both two phosphor bands, making up the £2.17½ rate for a 5 lb packet. Cancelled four indistinct strikes of the steel double circle obliterator 'Carnoustie Angus'..

18/9/1974 tag, no address, no HVP label, complete Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Dundee #03.9285, used after end of extended experiment. Franked strip of 3 redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831), 9p Machin (SG X882), ½p Machin (SG X) and regional 8p (SG S26) making up the £3.67½ rate for an 8 lb packet (some stamps damaged). Cancelled five strikes of the steel double circle obliterator 'Edzell Brechin Angus'. Stamps and label tied.

INCORRECT USAGE in the HVP SERVICE – MALLAIG (FORT WILLIAM)

13/3/1974 tag, address buried, no HVP label, complete Scottish experimental registration label Fort William # 01,0911. Franked redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 2 x 20p (SG 830), 2 x 10p Machin (SG X885) and 2p Machin (SG X849), both two phosphor bands (several stamps damaged), making up £1.62, an incomplete or erroneous franking. Cancelled six strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Mallaig Inverness-shire'.

Whole Scottish experimental registration label applied to a tag from Mallaig, contrary to instructions, on 19 February 1975, almost seven months after the end of the extended period of experimental usage. Uniquely, a date stamp *has* been applied where it says 'Date Stamp'



[51Sac] 19/5/1975 Tag, no address, no HVP label, complete Scottish experimental registration label Fort William #00,7338. Franked redrawn £1 (SG 831b torn) and 2½p Machin central phosphor band (SG X851) making up the £1.02½ rate for a 2 lb packet.

INCORRECT USAGE of SCOTTISH EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS in the HIGH VALUE PACKET SERVICE - FORT AUGUSTUS (FORT WILLIAM)

This fragile-looking piece survived from Fort Augustus on 17 Jan 1974 in the period of the extended experiment. Stamps and label were applied and cancelled *before* the blue crayon cross was added and the whole was probably made up at the post office, not the bank. A similar item, 00,9216 is dated 16.7.74.



17/1/1974 Post office bag tag, no address, no HVP label, complete Scottish experimental registration label Fort William #00,9007. Franked 50p (SG 831), 2 20p (SG 830) and 2p Machin two phosphor band (SG X849) making up the 92p rate for a 1 lb 8 oz packet. Cancelled four strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Fort Augustus'. Used in the extended experimental period.

Other complete labels seen from Fort Augustus belong to a different series, cancelled after application of the blue cross and made up on parcel tags with the label robustly attached to the back. The items are 02,3538 (18.6.74); 02,3555 (25.6.74); 02,3565 (27.6.74); 02,3616 (23.7.74) and 02,3721 (10.9.74). These suggest 184 mailings in 85 days, an average a little over 2/day; 15/week; or 780/year. These latter rates appear low for a town the size of Fort Augustus and the relevant coil of labels may have been held at the bank.

INCORRECT USAGE of SCOTTISH EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS in the HIGH VALUE PACKET SERVICE - LAUDER (GALASHIELS)

The next twelve items were all used from Lauder over a 28 month period suggesting an abiding misunderstanding of the instructions. They illustrate the non-sequential use of the numbered reels commented on by Mackay (1982), combined with an appreciation that the two lower portions of the labels were irrelevant in HVP mailings (because they are frequently obscured by the franking). It is probable that the same person was involved in making up the packet in each case.

The recovered items are:-:-

INITIAL 6 MONTH TRIAL		EXTENDED 12 MONTHS		POST-EXTENDED	
POSTMARK	NUMBER	POSTMARK	NUMBER	POSTMARK	NUMBER
28.11.1972	01,3028	08.08.1973	00,3316	25.06.1974	02,5239
03.12.1972	01,3048	04.09.1973	00,3370	11.07.1974	02,5208
22.12.1972	01.3056	12.10.1973?	00,3426	23.07.1974	00,4554
27.12.1972	01,3078	03.01.1974	01,5665	20.08.1974	00,4642
06.01.1973	01,3088	29.01.1974	01,5678	03.09.1974	00,4641
09.01.1973	01,3095	20.02.1974	01,5735	16.09.1974	00,3395
18.01.1973	01,3114	05.03.1974	02,5010	17.09.1974	00,4676
24.01.1973	01,3126	03.04.1974?	02,9025	24.09.1974	00,4693
03.04.1973	02,9025	27.04.1974	02,5062	01.10.1974	00,4708
14.06.1973	02,9192			08.10.1974	00,4723
Items shown in blue and bold are displayed below ? indicates an element of doubt in reading the postmark				12.11.1974	01,7298
				14.01.1975	01,7496
				04.03.1975	03,1287
				11.03.1975	03,1302

The sequence of use of the labels from late 1972 through early 1975 was 013..., 003..., 015..., {025..., 004..., } 017..., 031..... The two coils enclosed within curly brackets show overlapping and slightly disorganised use.

Coil 013... indicates 99 mailings in 58 days, ~2/day; 11/week; 700/year. Coil 003... indicates 111 mailings in 65 days, and comparable rates.

Coil 015... indicates 58 mailings in 22 days, ~2.7/day; 19/week; 990/year. Coil 004... indicates 200 mailings in 78 days, and comparable rates.

These rates of posting of registered items appear to be too low to represent public use of the post office in a town the size of Lauder. The coils of labels may, therefore, have been provided to the bank for its exclusive use – but the coils were probably used for items other than High Value Packets.

COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS USED FROM LAUDER
(GALASHIELS) DURING THE INITIAL SIX MONTH PERIOD. A



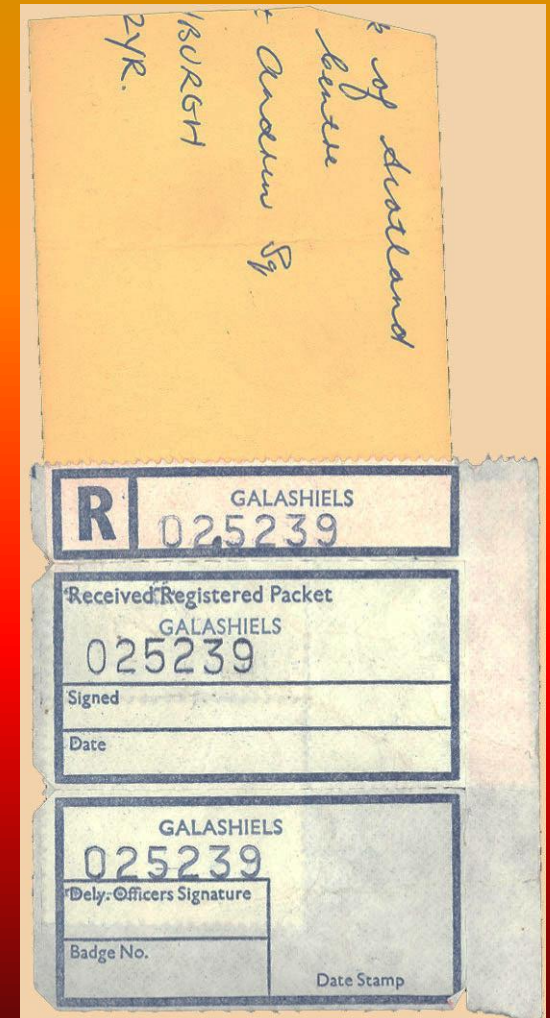
COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS USED FROM LAUDER (GALASHIELS) AFTER THE EXTENDED TWELVE MONTH PERIOD (AFTER MID-1974) A

Some of the items were potentially very fragile. Their survival has something to say about the handling of some of the packets. Here the franking has been attached partly to the back of the registration label.



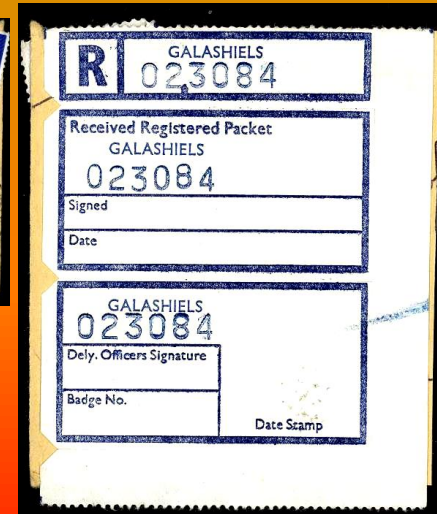
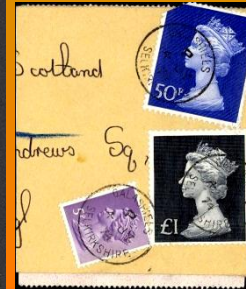
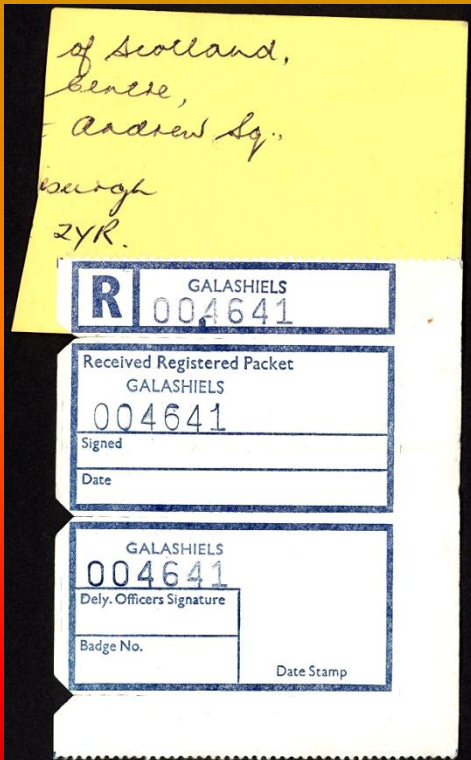
25/6/1974 Part of tag to BoS Edinburgh, no HVP label, with Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Galashiels #02,5239 protruding and attached only by number portion. Franked pair redrawn £1 (SG 831b), pair 50p (SG 831), and 10p UPU commemorative (SG 957) making up the £2.30 rate for a 4 lb 8 oz packet. Cancelled four strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Lauder Berwickshire'.

[51Sag] 25/6/1974 Part of tag to BoS Edinburgh, no HVP label, with Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Galashiels #02,5239 protruding and attached only by number portion. Franked pair redrawn £1 (SG 831b), pair 50p (SG 831), and 10p UPU commemorative (SG 957) making up the £2.30 rate for a 4 lb 8 oz packet. Cancelled four strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Lauder Berwickshire'.



COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS USED FROM LAUDER (GALASHIELS) AFTER THE EXTENDED TWELVE MONTH PERIOD (AFTER MID-1974) B

3/9/1974 Part of tag to BoS Edinburgh, no HVP label, with Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Galashiels #00,4641 protruding and attached only by number portion. Franked redrawn £1 (SG 831b), pair 50p (SG 831), 3 x 9p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X882), and regional 3p centre phosphor band (SG S16) making up the £2.30 rate for a 4 lb 8 oz packet. Cancelled three strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Lauder Berwickshire'.



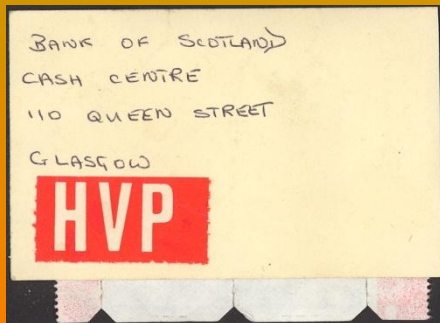
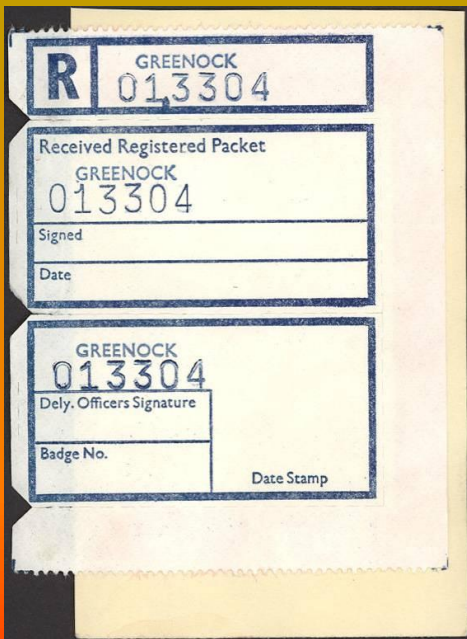
A complete registration label applied robustly to the card tag background was used from Galashiels during the extended experimental period.

17/9/1974 Part of tag to BoS Edinburgh, no HVP label, with Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Galashiels #00,4676 protruding and attached only by number portion. Franked pair redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831), 6½p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X871), and pair regional 8p two phosphor bands (SG S26) making up the £2.72½ rate for a 5 lb 8 oz packet. Cancelled four strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Lauder Berwickshire'.

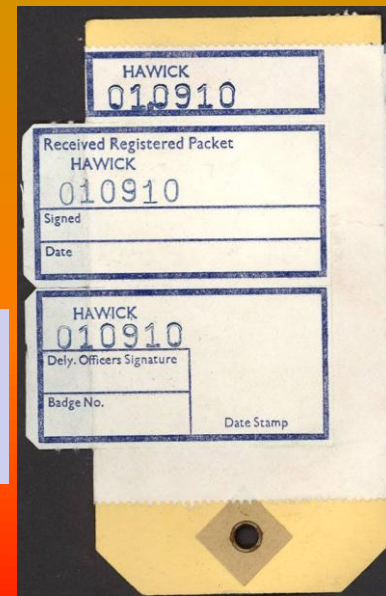


4/7/1974 Part of tag to BoS Edinburgh, no HVP label, with Scottish experimental registration label (S10) Galashiels #02,3084. Franked redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831 torn), 5p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X866) making up the £1.55 rate for a 3 lb packet. Cancelled three strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Galashiels Selkirkshire'. The 'P' code may have some significance.

West of Scotland sources (Arran, Ayr, Islay, Mull, Oban) were not normally sending to Edinburgh. How this tag to Glasgow ended up in the Edinburgh accumulation is unexplained. The other Greenock label recovered (01,2548) appeared to be used from Rothesay



Coldstream was a rare contributor to the mail incoming at Edinburgh. This item was used during the initial experimental period.

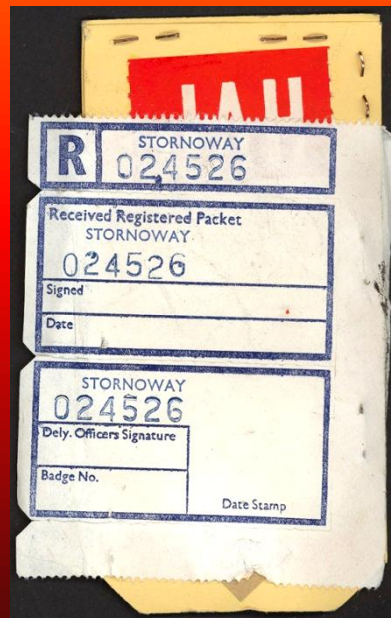


COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS USED FROM NEWCASTLETON (HAWICK) DURING THE EXTENDED PERIOD



Newcastleton was a frequent contributor, commonly using parcel cancellations and distributing the parts across several small tags. This item was used during the extended experimental period

8/8/1973 Parcel tag no address, HVP label, complete Scottish tripartite experimental registration label (S10) Hawick #02,0896. Franked £1 (SG 790*, U41), 20p (SG 830), 10p and 1p Machins both two phosphor bands (SG X885, SG X844) and regional 7½p two phosphor bands (SG S25) making up the £1.38½ rate for a 3 lb packet. Cancelled three strikes of the circular steel counter datestamp 'Newcastleton Roxburghshire'.

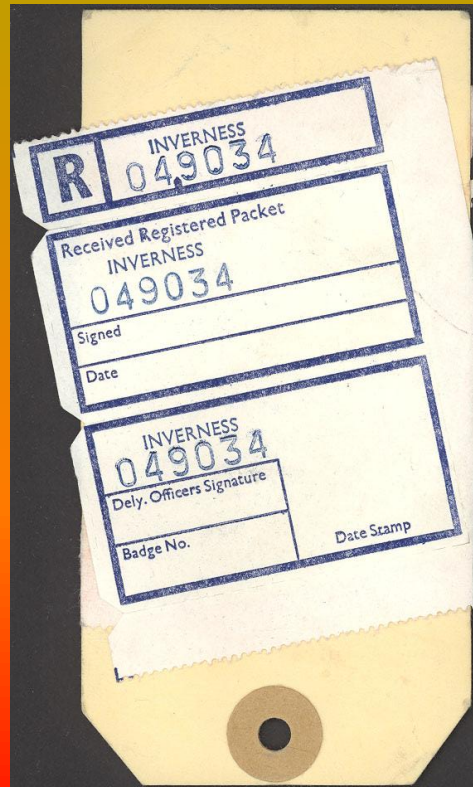
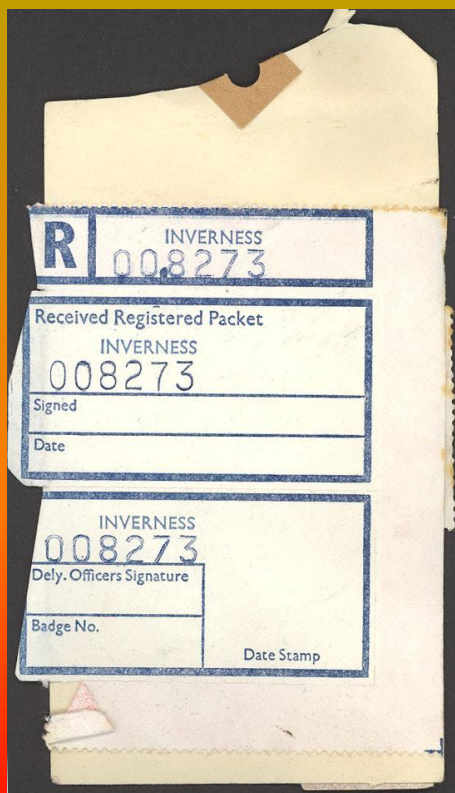


One complete experimental tripartite label was recovered from Stornoway, used well after the end of the extended experimental period.



COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS USED FROM AVOCH AND FORTROSE (BOTH INVERNESS) BETWEEN LATE 1972 AND MID-1973.

This complete Inverness tripartite label is the sole example which came from Avoch. Used in the extended experimental period.



This complete Inverness tripartite label is the sole example from Fortrose and was used within the initial experimental period.



COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABEL USED FROM DRUMNADROCHIT (INVERNESS) IN MID-1975.

This complete Inverness tripartite label is one of three examples from Drumnadrochit and was used long after the extended experimental period. Note the manuscript "HVP" tied by stamp, registration label and postmark.



[51Sah] 6/2/1975 Tag to BoS Edinburgh, no HVP label but ms. 'HVP' tied by stamp and complete Scottish experimental tripartite registration label (S10) Inverness #09,5513. Franked redrawn £1 (SG 831b), 50p (SG 831) and 5p Machin two phosphor bands (SG X866) making up the £1.55 rate for a 2 lb 8 oz packet. Cancelled four strikes of the steel double circle obliterator 'Drumnadrochit Inverness'.

COMPLETE EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS USED FROM COUPAR ANGUS (PERTH) IN LATE 1974.

One of a few complete labels from Perth used in the extended experimental period. Two others were also used from Coupar Angus in October and December of 1974



INTRODUCTION AND DURATION OF USE OF THE TRIPARTITE SCOTTISH EXPERIMENTAL REGISTRATION LABELS 1972-1980

Dedicated reels of labels provided to some banks?

The Galashiels labels displayed above show that in the 43 days between 28 November 1972 and 9 January 1973 inclusive, Lauder despatched 68 registered packets – fewer than 2 per day on average – far too few to represent public mailings from a substantial town over Christmas and New Year. That low rate of usage and the distinctive characteristics of the six mailings preserved point to the provision of a dedicated reel of registration labels used by a single individual in the Bank of Scotland branch in Lauder.

Other complete labels recovered, in conjunction with those displayed, suggest average registered mailing rates in the order of 0.5 per day from Fort Augustus and Galashiels itself over 14 and 13 month periods respectively, through about 1 per day at Stornoway and 2 per day at Edzell to 3 per day at Mallaig. Only the rates from Edzell and Mallaig are perhaps compatible with the total public mailings from these locations.

The observations are consistent with the larger provincial branches of Bank of Scotland, as large and regular customers, being provided with their own coils of registration labels (not used exclusively for HVP and BSP mailings). Probably these were accompanied by their own dedicated receipt and record books and the control of these is likely to have been the responsibility of a single individual in each bank. The central conjecture here is strongly supported by the next two items displayed.

1968 to 1985 was a time of rapidly changing postal rates, stamp issues and evolving types of registration label (at least five types, S8 – S12, and many sub-types were in use). If some banks were using stocks of older type registration labels and using them at a much lower rate in relation to supply than the post offices, then some anomalously late dates for use of older types and appearance of new types will be encountered in the Bank of Scotland banknote mail.

Mackay (1982 p 136) states that the tripartite experimental labels were scrapped about July 1974.

The items displayed above demonstrate their continuing use by bank branches into early 1975, and they were used at Portree both early and late in 1975 (a separate case study) but their use (number portions only) into 1977-1980 at Broadford, Galashiels, Peebles, Pitlochry, and Stornoway is illustrated elsewhere. One tag from Lauder in July 1975 demonstrates issue of old (S8) labels between reels of experimental labels (in the 9 months between 01,5735 in February and 01,7298 in November