

## NOTEBOOK

October 1996 : Number 123

### *In This Issue.....*

- page 2 Kingston Cross Post  
3 Suburban Offices From December 1856  
16 London Date Stamp Codes  
17 A Size Variation David Shaw  
    "In For A Pound" Donald Farmborough  
18 Newspaper Branch Charge Stamp Bill Hardy  
19 Croydon's First Type C.S.O. Date Stamp Arthur Moyles  
20 Meeting Dates 1997 and 1998  
    86 Hackney Road  
    And Finally.....

© 1996 LPHG

Editor : Peter Forrestier Smith  
64 Gordon Road, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey SM5 3RE

### KENT POSTAL HISTORY GROUP : AUCTION

The group are holding an auction, on 9th. November, with a good range of  
London Postal History  
and  
reference books.

LPHG members who would like a copy of the catalogue should send  
a large prepaid at 31 pence envelope to

Mr G. A. Kemp,  
16 Coppergate,  
Hempstead,  
GILLINGHAM  
Kent  
ME7 3QN

Your Editor has marked his copy heavily and will be delighted if  
you fail to get a copy, put in bids and push up the realisations.

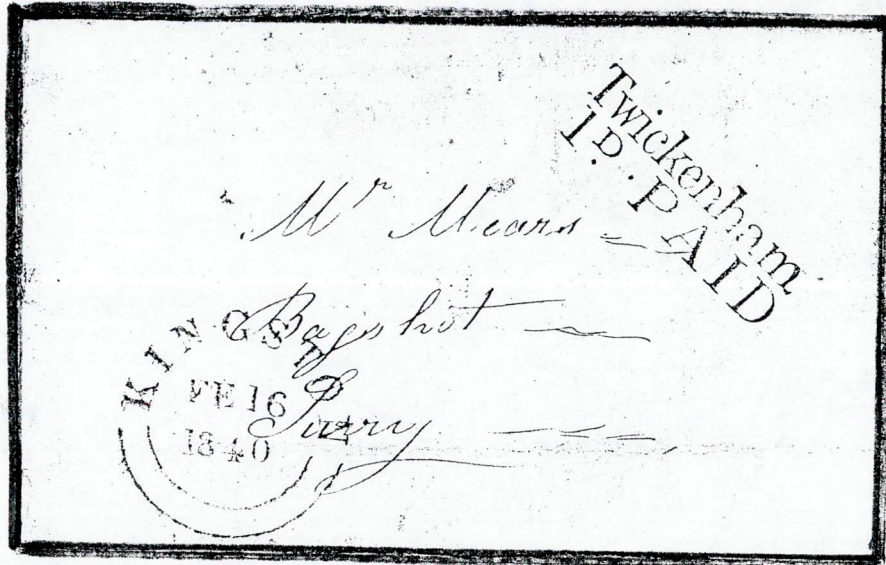
Please note the date of the L.P.H.G. November meeting is the 16th.  
and not the 6th.

"Parliamentary and Government Mail"



# KINGSTON CROSS POSTS

The Kingston double arc date stamp was applied to the Down Mail and this example, being in the Uniform Penny Post period, carries the Twickenham 1<sup>o</sup>-PAID receiving stamp from whence it started en route to Bagshot in Surrey.



The letter is of interest on two counts, the attempt to become a Post office employee and the sound advice on the making of a will.

Feb<sup>y</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 1840

Sir,

Not having received any letter from the Post Office I despair of ever getting a situation in it, I do not know of any way of knowing whether my name is Inserted in their list or not, perhaps you would be kind enough to Inquire for me, or some friends of yours might let you know, & then perhaps you could let me know where I might apply to gain that Intelligence, I would not mind going to London to know.

As you think it best for father to make a Will, I think \* as you say there may be a dispute between Turner & Meat some future time I have sent a list of all father's Effects although he has given them to me Twelvemonths ago there is all his

Coopering tools	) and if Turner cannot be found
Small bed	) at the Time appoint me Executor
3 Chairs	) to see every thing properly settled
Bureau	) any thing else that you wish to be
Cut down Tent Bedstead	) Inform'ed off I will send you word
Bedding	) with pleasure, Work is very scarce
Tea Kettle	) with us i should be happy &
Fryan pan	) comfortable if I could get into any
Bellows & Sundries	)

bustling sort of businefs in any way to make myself useful and get a Comfortable living, Father agrees with me with all I have wrote & will do any thing you think necefsary In regard of burying Expenses let them be Equally paid between us or the bill settled by you as you when sent from me -

Your Humble Ser<sup>t</sup>

F Draywater



## SUBURBAN OFFICES FROM DECEMBER 1856

### A Report and Survey Arising from the July Meeting

Despite the Handbook showing the continued use of the London District Post series after the establishment of the London Districts (a slightly confusing use of the same word for quite different purposes), the members at the meeting were firmly of the opinion it was the upright single killers and later horizontal ovals only which were to be shown.

Despite the scarcity of this material, several displays were offered and much discussion generated as to the use of the various stamps. It was quite clear the Suburban Offices were apparently indiscriminate in their use of their Suburban Office cancellations, appearing for both local London mail and throughout the British Isles.

Of particular interest was an analysis made of the material on show, the following listing being confined to the single upright oval stamp. There is a certain degree of double counting in that the stamps appeared to have been used in more than one category.

Registered	17	
Adhesive value greater than 2d	2	(a)
Overseas destinations	9	(b)
Local London Mail	17	(c)
Wrappers/Bulk Postings	16	
Cross Posts	3	(d)

(a) also in overseas destinations

(b) 4 of these also in wrappers

(c) 5 of these also in wrappers

(d) stamps were 32B; 41; 42B

Having decided there was, apparently, no restriction on which mail was processed by the Suburban Offices (perhaps a reader researching in the area can turn up some official Post Office instructions), it would be of value to examine all the material throughout members' collections with a record made of the type of transaction, using the categories shown above.

By way of refreshing the reader's memory an updated abstract from Section K of single stamps issued after 1856 is provided. We ask for both the transaction detail and any date extensions to be advised. The sequence used in the Handbook is retained. The list starts with the Central London stamps, then Northern, followed by the rest of the districts in clockwise compass order.

The first date shown is the date of entry in the Proof Impression Books. Dates in brackets are the recorded use. Rarity is shown as :

G.P.O. = Never Seen

H \* = Seen on loose adhesive only

H = one or two dated covers known

The illustrations appear on the facing page to the listing.



CENTRAL LONDON

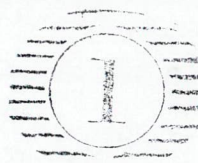
NORTHERN DISTRICT



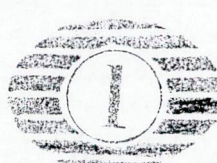
14A



16A



1C

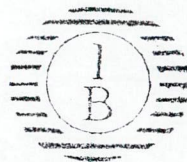


1D



1E

NORTHERN DISTRICT



1B.A



2B.A



3B



3B.A



4B.A



4B.B



5B.A



5B.C



5B.E



7B



7C



74A



8C



10C



75B



11B

*Tottenham  
12 June 73*



11C



19B



51B.A



51B.B



51B.B



51B.C



52B.A



52B.B



53B.A



53B.B



64A



## CENTRAL LONDON

14 ST MARTIN'S PLACE	14A	2. 4. 4. 2	Nov. 75	H *
16 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET	16A	2. 4. 4. 2.	Aug. 76 (Feb 78- Oct 80 )	H

## NORTHERN DISTRICT

1 HIGHGATE	1C	1. 9. 9. 1.	Jan. 60	H *
	1D	2. 4. 4. 2.	Aug. 67	GPO
	1E	2. 4. 4. 2.	Feb. 78	GPO
1B PONDERS END	1B. A	2. 7. 7. 2	May 61	GPO
2B COLNEY HATCH	2B. A	2. 7. 7. 2.	May 61	GPO
3 WHETSTONE	3B	2. 4. 4. 2	Nov. 77	GPO
3B HORNSEY	3B. A	1. 8. 8. 3	May 61	GPO
4B SOUTHGATE	4B. A	2. 7. 7. 2	May 61	GPO
	4B. B	3. 3. 3. 3.	Jun 71	GPO
5B HOLLOWAY	5B. A	2. 8. 8. 1.	May 61	GPO
	5B. C	2. 4. 4. 2.	Jun 72	H *
	5B. E	2. 4. 4. 2.	May 79	H *
7 STOKE NEWINGTON	7B	2. 11. 11. 2.	Jul 58	H *
	7C	2. 3. 3. 2.	Jun 71	GPO
8 and 74 TOTTENHAM	8C	2. 4. 4. 2.	Jun 73	GPO
	74A	2. 4. 4. 2.	Jun 73	GPO
10 and 75 EDMONTON	10C	2. 4. 4. 2.	Jun 73	GPO
	75B	2. 4. 4. 2.	Jun 73	GPO
11 ENFIELD	11B	2. 9. 9. 2.	Aug. 60	H
	11C	3. 9. 9. 3.	Sep. 70	GPO
19 FINSBURY PARK	19B	2. 4. 4. 2.	Feb 79	GPO
51B WINCHMORE HILL	51B. A	2. 7. 7. 2.	May 64-Aug. 65	GPO
	51B. B	2. 5. 5. 2.	Aug. 65	GPO
	two entries in Proof Books, different sizes			
	51B. C	3. 3. 3. 3.	Feb. 68	GPO
52B WOOD GREEN	52B. A	2. 7. 7. 2.	May 64-Sep. 65	GPO
	52B. B	2. 5. 5. 2.	Sep. 65	GPO
53B UPPER HOLLOWAY	53B. A	3. 3. 3. 3.	Apr. 66 (Apr' 72 but	
	53B. B	2. 4. 4. 2.	Jun. 71 which one MCG)	H
64 CHESHUNT	64A	2. 6. 6. 2.	Oct. 63	GPO



## NORTH EASTERN DISTRICT



7B.A



17B



53A

## EASTERN DISTRICT



6B.A



6B.C



8B.A



8B.B



9B.A



10B.A



11B.A



11B.C



13C



13B



13D



13E



14B



17E

The numbering is  
reversed, error,  
in the Handbook.



17E Recut?



21C



22D



29C



43D



44D



45B.A



50D



53D



55B

## SOUTH EASTERN DISTRICT



12B.A



13B.A



14B.A



## ***NORTH EASTERN DISTRICT***

7B LOUGHTON	7B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
17B CHIGWELL	17B 2. 7. 7. 2. Jun 61 (Oct. 1868)	H
53 WOODFORD GREEN	53A 3. 14. 15. 3 Jun 58	H *

## ***EASTERN DISTRICT***

6B CLAPTON	6B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (14 Jun 62 : Lower Clapton back stamp)	H
	6B. C 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 80	GPO
8B HACKNEY	8B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (Sep. 69 to Dec. 71)	G
	8B. B 2. 4. 4. 2. May 76	GPO
9B CANNING TOWN	9B. A 1. 8. 8. 2. May 61	H *
10B CHADWELL	10B. A 1. 8. 8. 2 May 61	GPO
11B POPLAR	11B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
	11B. C 2. 5. 5. 2. Feb 71 (20 Jan 73)	H
13 STRATFORD	13B 1. 9. 9. 1 Nov. 59	H *
	13C 2. 6. 6. 2. undated	H *
	13D 3. 2. 2. 3. Mar. 72	GPO
	13E 2. 4. 4. 2 Mar. 76	H *
14 LEYTON	14B 2. 7. 7. 2. Dec. 59	H *
17 LEYTONSTONE	17E 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec. 76 (2 sizes)	H *
21 WANSTEAD	21C 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec. 76	GPO
22 PLAISTOW	22D 2. 4. 4. 2. May 60	GPO
29 FOREST GATE	29C 2. 4. 4. 2 June 60	GPO
43 ALDGATE	43D 2. 4. 4. 2 July 83 (25 FEB. 84)	H
44 MANOR PARK	44D 2. 4. 4. 2 Sep 83	GPO
45B BARKING	45B. A 1. 9. 9. 1. May 61 (24 AUG. 65)	H
50 VICTORIA DOCKS	50D 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 83	H *
53 HOMERTON	53D 3. 4. 4. 3. Sep. 70	H *
55 LEYTON STREET	55B 2. 10. 9. 2 June 58	H *

## ***SOUTH EASTERN DISTRICT***

12B CHARLTON	12B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
13B CHISLEHURST	13B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
14B ERITH	14B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO



SOUTH EASTERN DISTRICT



15B.A



16B.A



17B.A



18B



18D



18B.A



19A



19B.A



20B



20B.A



21B.A



21B.B



21B.D



22C



22B.A



23B



23C



24B



24F



25B



25E Jul.1879



25E Jan.1882



30B

25 Dec.1870



30B

25 Oct.1870



30G



48B.A



48B.C

Jul.1876



48B.C

Jul.1879



49B



49B.A



49B.D

Oct.1877



49B.D

Jul.1879



49B.F



52A

Nov.1885



Nov.1889



54E



65A



65C



65G



66A



66G



15B FOOTS CRAY	15B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
16B LESSNESS HEATH	16B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
17B LEWISHAM	17B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (Feb. 74)	H
18 DEPTFORD	18B 2. 10. 10. 2 Apr. 58 18D 2. 4. 4. 2. Sep. 79	H * GPO
18B PECKHAM	18B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
19 HALFWAY STREET ELTHAM	19A 2. 4. 4. 2. May 75	H *
19B PENGE	19B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
20 GREENWICH	20B 2. 4. 4. 3 Jan. 69 (Nov 81)	H
20B PLUMSTEAD	20B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
21B ROTHERHITHE	21B. A 2. 7. 7. 2 May 61 (01. 11. 90) 21B. B 2. 4. 4. 2 Dec. 81 21B. D 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec. 84	H GPO GPO
22 ELTHAM	22C 3. 3. 3. 3. Mar 73	GPO
22B WELLING	22B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
23 BEXLEY	23B 1. 11. 11. 1 Jan. 58 (Apr. 58)	H
23 BROCKLEY	23C 2. 4. 4. 2. June 77	GPO
24 DULWICH	24B 2. 5. 5. 2. Dec. 70 24F 2. 4. 4. 2. Sep. 89	H * GPO
25 SYDENHAM	25B 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 25E 2. 4. 4. 2. July 79 (16 JAN. 91-Nov 91) H	H *
30 LEE	30B 3. 9. 9. 3. Nov. 70 30G 2. 4. 4. 2. not in PIB	H * H *
48B FOREST HILL	48B. A 2. 6. 6. 2. May 64 48B. C 2. 4. 4. 2. July 76	GPO GPO
49 ROYAL HILL GREENWICH	49B 3. 3. 3. 3. 60-70 (JAN 67)	H
49B SOUTH NORWOOD	49B. A 2. 7. 7. 1. May 64 49B. D 2. 4. 4. 2. Oct. 77 49B. F 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec. 87	H * GPO H *
52 HERNE HILL	52A 2. 5. 5. 2. Nov. 85	GPO
54 NORWOOD	54E 2. 4. 4. 2. Oct. 77 (1885 - 20. 10. 90)	H
65 CAMBERWELL	65A 3. 4. 4. 2. Jan. 69 65C 2. 4. 4. 2. June 74 65G 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec. 81	GPO GPO H *
66 LEWISHAM	66A 3. 4. 4. 2. Jan. 69 (04 AUG. 77) 66G 2. 4. 4. 2. May 80	H H *



*SOUTH EASTERN DISTRICT*



67A



Aug. 1875



67D

Aug. 1882



68A



69A



69C



Apr. 1872



70A

Sep. 1879



71A



72A



73A



76A

*SOUTHERN DISTRICT*



24B. A



29B



29B. A



30B. A



43A



54A

*SOUTH WESTERN DISTRICT*



8A



23B. A



25B. A



26B. A



26B. B



26B. D





67 PECKHAM	67A 2. 4. 4. 3. Jan. 69	H *
	67D 2. 4. 4. 2. Aug. 75	GPO
68 KENNINGTON	68A 3. 4. 4. 2. Jan. 69 (22 JUL. 78)	H
69 BLACKHEATH	69A 2. 5. 5. 2. May 70	H *
	69C 2. 4. 4. 2. May 79 (09 APR. 88)	H
70 ANERLEY	70A 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 72	H *
71 CATFORD	71A 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 72 (May 92-Oct 92)	G
72 NORWOOD	72A 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 72	H *
73 SHOOTERS HILL	73A 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 72	GPO
76 NEW CROSS	76A 2. 4. 4. 2. Sep. 73 (16 FEB. 81)	H

### ***SOUTHERN DISTRICT***

(Offices marked \*, for illustration, see SOUTH WESTERN, transferred there in 1868)

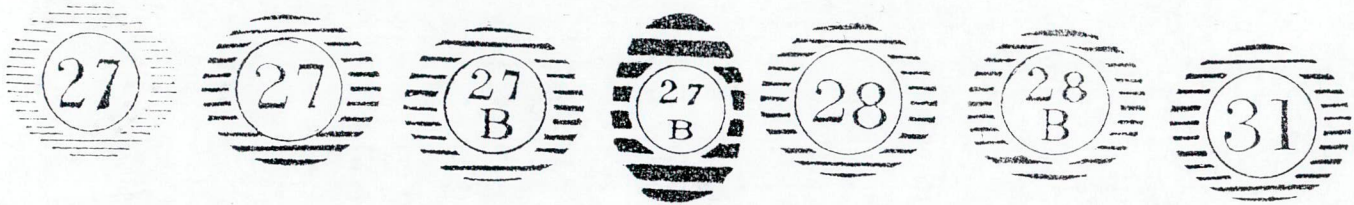
23B BRIXTON *	23B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
24B CAMBERWELL	24B. A 2. 6. 6. 2. May 61	GPO
25B MERTON *	25B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
26B SOUTH LAMBETH *	26B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
27 CLAPHAM *	27B 3. 13. 13. 3 May 58	GPO
	27C 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (22 SEP. 62)	H
27B STOCKWELL *	27B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (MAR. 82)	H
28 TOOTING *	28B 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
28B STREATHAM *	28B. A 2. 7. 7. 2 May 61 (Jan. 80)	H
29 MITCHAM	29B 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
29B THORNTON HEATH	29B 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
30B WALWORTH	30B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
43 SUTTON	43A 3. 9. 9. 3. Apr. 61	GPO
54 NORWOOD	54A 2. 11. 11. 2. June 58	H *

### ***SOUTH WESTERN DISTRICT***

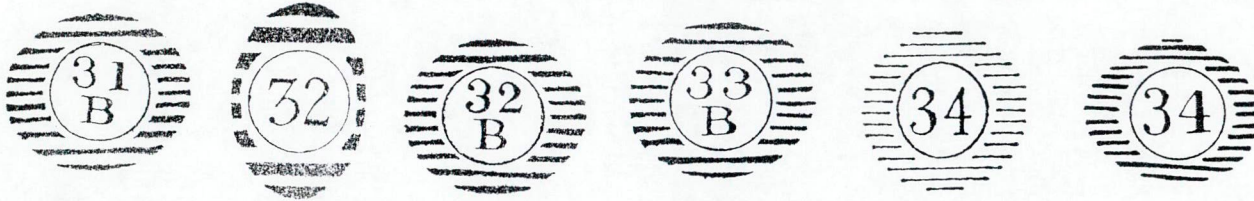
8 WEST BROMPTON	8A 2. 4. 4. 2. Jan. 75	GPO
23B BRIXTON	23B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
25B MERTON	25B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
26B SOUTH LAMBETH	26B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
	26B. B 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec 71	H *
	26B. D 2. 4. 4. 2. Nov. 92	H *



# SOUTH WESTERN DISTRICT



27B      27C      27B.A      27B.B      28B      28B.A      31B

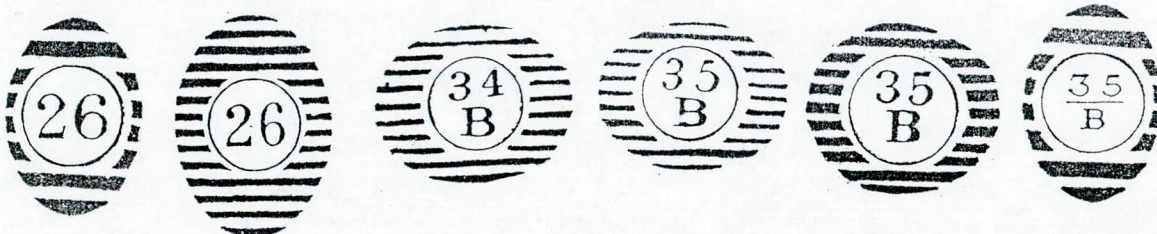


31B.A      32D      32B.A      33B.A      34B

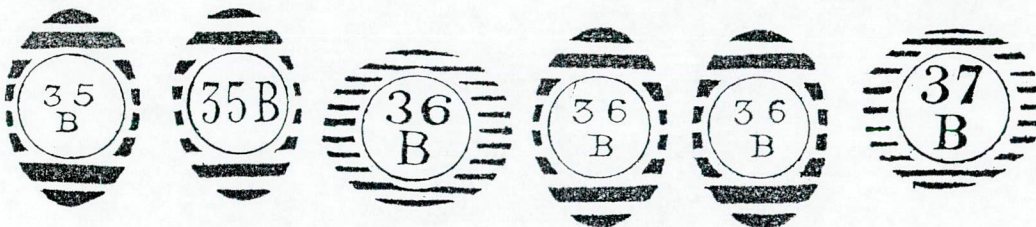


36B      44B      46B.A      47B.A      58A

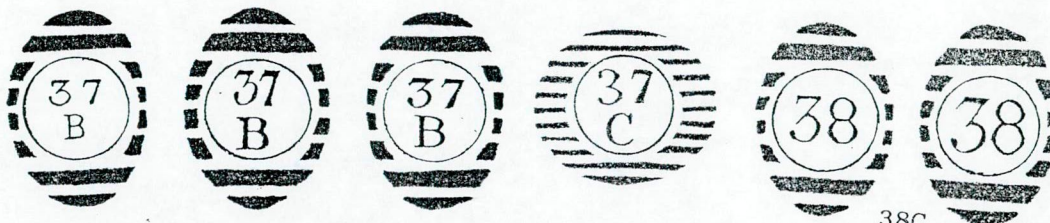
# WESTERN DISTRICT



26B      26D      34B.A      35B.A  
May 1861      35B.A  
Mar. 1870      35B.B



35B.C      35B.G      36B.A      36B.B      36B.B      37B.A



37B.D      37B.D      37B.D      37C.A      38C  
Apr. 1876      Feb. 1884      Jul. 1879      Apr. 1876      Jul. 1879



27 CLAPHAM	27B 3. 13. 13. 3 May 58 27C 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO H *
27B STOCKWELL	27B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 27B. B 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec. 71 (Mar. 82)	GPO G
28 TOOTING	28B 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
28B STREATHAM	28B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (Jan. 80)	H
31 WANDSWORTH	31B 2. 8. 8. 2. May 61 (15 NOV. 80-16 AUG. 82)	H
31B BATTERSEA	31B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
32 PUTNEY	32D 2. 4. 4. 2. Jun. 79 (09 APR. 83)	H
32B PETERSHAM	32B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (Jun-Nov. 77)	H
33B TEDDINGTON	33B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
34 RICHMOND	34B 3. 9. 9. 3. 61 (Aug-Oct. 66)	H
36 HAMPTON	36B 2. 9. 9. 2. Nov. 58	H *
44 and 58 WIMBLEDON	44B 3. 9. 9. 3. Apr. 61 58A 3. 3. 3. 3. Jun. 70	H * GPO
46B WALHAM GREEN AND FULHAM	46B. A 1. 9. 9. 1. May 61 (May 80)	H
47B SUNBURY	47B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. Jul. 61	GPO
<b>WESTERN DISTRICT</b>		
26 KENSAL TOWN	26B 2. 4. 4. 2. Jun. 61	GPO
26 NORTH KENSINGTON	26D 4. 6. 6. 4. Jan. 93	GPO
34B ACTON	34B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 34B. C 2. 4. 4. 2. Jun 76	GPO GPO
35B EALING	35B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 35B. B 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 73 (11 Nov. 89 -Nov. 90) 35B. C 2. 4. 4. 2. Mar. 76 35B. G 2. 4. 4. 2. Dec. 90	H * H H * GPO
36B HANWELL	36B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 36B. B 2. 4. 4. 2. Jul. 76	GPO GPO
37B NOTTING HILL	37B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 37B. D 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 76 (Sep. 79) Jul. 79 Feb. 84	GPO H GPO H *
37C NOTTING HILL	37C. A 2. 7. 7. 2. Jul. 61	H *
38 KENSINGTON	38C 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 76 (Jan. 86) Jul. 79 (13 Dec. 82)	H H



# WESTERN DISTRICT



38B.A



38C.A



39B



39D



Jul. 1879



39F



39B.A



39B.D



Jun. 1877



Jun. 1879



40B.A



55B



56B



57B



64B

# NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT



4B



4B



4D Nov. 1877



4D Mar. 1879



4D Apr. 1884



4D Apr. 1884



5B



5D



6B



9D



41B.A



41B.B  
Jun. 1872.



41B.B  
Sep. 1879.



42B.A



42B.B



43B.A



44B.A



60D



60E



63A



38B PADDINGTON	38B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
38C PADDINGTON	38C. A 2. 7. 7. 2. Jul. 61	H *
39 HAMMERSMITH	39B 2. 9. 9. 2. not in PIB	H *
	39D 2. 4. 4. 2. Apr. 76	
	(18 Jun. 79 - 2 Nov. 85)	H
	39F 2. 4. 4. 2. Jun. 91	H *
39B SHEPHERDS BUSH	39B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
	39B. D 2. 4. 4. 2. May 76	GPO
	39B. E 2. 5. 5. 2. Jun. 77 (19 Jul. 87)	H
40B SOUTHALL	40B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (NR)	H *
55 WEST KENSINGTON	55B 2. 4. 4. 2. Mar. 89 (Oct. 89-Nov. 90)	F
56 SMALLBURY GREEN ISLEWORTH	56B 2. 9. 9. 2. Oct. 58 (Apr. 69-Jun. 70)	G
57 CHISWICK	57B 2. 4. 4. 2. Nov. 89 (29 Jul. 92)	H
64 EALING DEAN	64B 5. 9. 10. 5 Sep. 92	GPO

#### **NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT**

4 HAMPSTEAD	4B 2. 7. 7. 2. Jun. 61	
	(22 Jan. 72 - Apr. 81)	H
	4D 2. 4. 4. 2. Nov. 77	H *
	Mar. 79	
	Apr. 84	H *
	Apr. 84	
5 HENDON	5B 1. 6. 6. 1. Jan. 62	GPO
	5D 2. 4. 4. 2. Mar. 79	GPO
6 EDGWARE	6B 3. 9. 9. 3. Jan. 61 (Jun. 73-11 Jul. 75)E	
9 KENTISH TOWN	9D 2. 4. 4. 2. May 1884	H *
41B ST. JOHNS WOOD	41B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61 (13 May. 65)	H
	41B. B 2. 4. 4. 2. Jun. 72	H *
42B STANMORE	42B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	
	(15 Jan. 60 - Aug. 73)	G
	42B. B 2. 4. 4. 2 not in PIB	H *
43B SUDBURY	43B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	GPO
44B THE HYDE	44B. A 2. 7. 7. 2. May 61	H *
60 KILBURN	60D 2. 4. 4. 2. no dot: Nov. 78	H *
	60E 2. 4. 4. 2. dot Dec. 78 (Feb. 82)	H
63 ELSTREE	63A 2. 6. 6. 2. Sep. 63	H *

.....

EVEN IF YOU HAVE BUT A SINGLE ITEM, DO SEND DETAILS  
A PHOTOCOPY WITH THIS TYPE OF MATERIAL IS VERY HELPFUL



## LONDON DATE STAMP CODES

It must be admitted, the pursuit of a range of General Post date stamps verifying the date code letters has not featured greatly in the pages of "Notebook" over the years. However, a letter to your Editor from the Railway Philatelic Group concerning an article, or rather short note, which appeared in the June edition of their journal "Railway Philately", caused him to refer to the book by Stitt Dibden "London Date Stamp Codes", republished by LPHG. To quote from page 9 of Stitt's book:

"On 29th. April, 1844, two letters were introduced into the morning duty stamps (fig.21) the first letter distinguishing the particular handstamp and the second the date code. They continued in use until 1858."

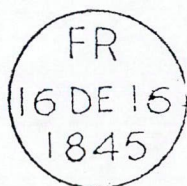


fig. 21



fig. A



fig. B

To quote from the R.P.G. letter:

"The apparently reduced "Y" (fig A above) suggested these index letters might have been an abbreviation for 'Railway' but with only a single copy this might have been wishful thinking on the owner's part as it could have been the product of a poor strike and not a really reduced size 'Y' at all....."

"The second response was more intriguing as it produced another example of the same postmark with exactly the same small 'Y' and amazingly used on the same date. This second example was formerly part of the late Norman Hill's collection who had written it up as a railway item. This cover was addressed to Liverpool so would have travelled by a different railway and would have left from a different London station than the first example which was destined for Wellington via Paddington terminus."

The problem comes when examining the listing given by Stitt, his code B2 which ran from 29.4.44 to 10.4.46. He starts with a "Z". the 29th April. Frankly, this does not make sense. Given the introduction of a new stamp on the Monday, "A" would make a logical opening date code. This is confirmed by the "EB" in fig B above, struck in red. As further evidence of this apparent error, the illustration given by Stitt, fig.21, has "FR" for the 16th. December, 1845. The "R" fits IF ONE STARTS WITH "A" on the 29th. April, 1844.

Given an "A" start, then the 26th. August would have been "Y", which makes fig A no more than a truncated "Y" caused by a missing stem.

It is not intended to fill a couple of pages with a code check listing but if readers would look through their collections for these single ring, double coded, date stamps and drop a note to the Editor giving both codes, the date and the colour it should be possible to answer the secondary question of the accuracy of the "A" start for the B2 codes.

Needless to say, if you can demonstrate an "RY" code and a railway connection. then this will be most interesting, if confusing.



## A SIZE VARIATION

David Shaw

Although one must be careful over the single mm size difference, the example of the "4" shown here varies in both vertical and horizontal from any given in the Jay listing.

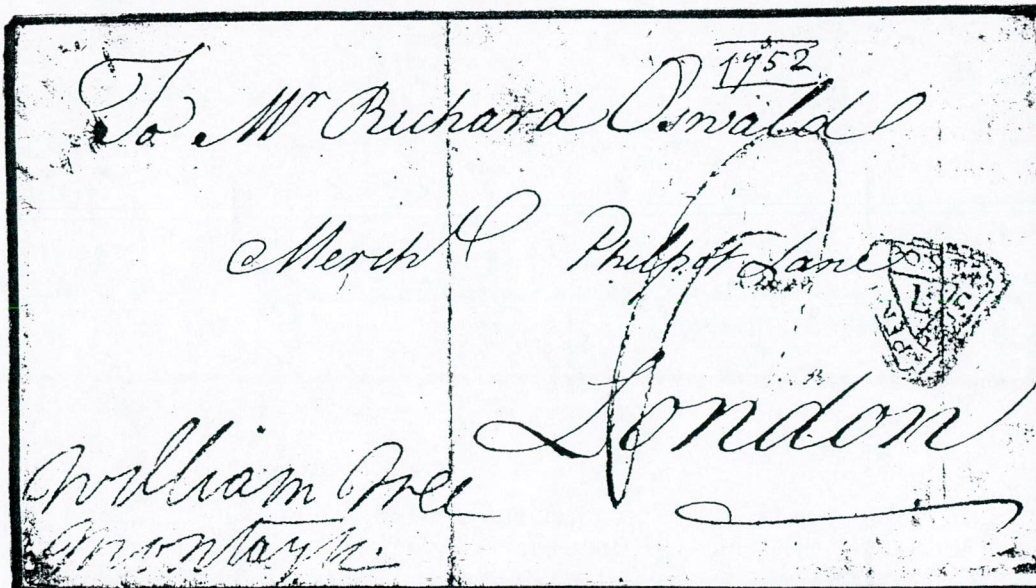


The closest size is L624, quoted at 20 x 28 against 19 x 27 for this example. Whether one should concern oneself over such small differences is a matter for the individual collector but, for some, enjoy.

.....  
"IN FOR A POUND....."

Donald Farmborough

The item shown was purchased for the princely sum of £1 at a local fair earlier this year. It is not the period I collect so I am curious to





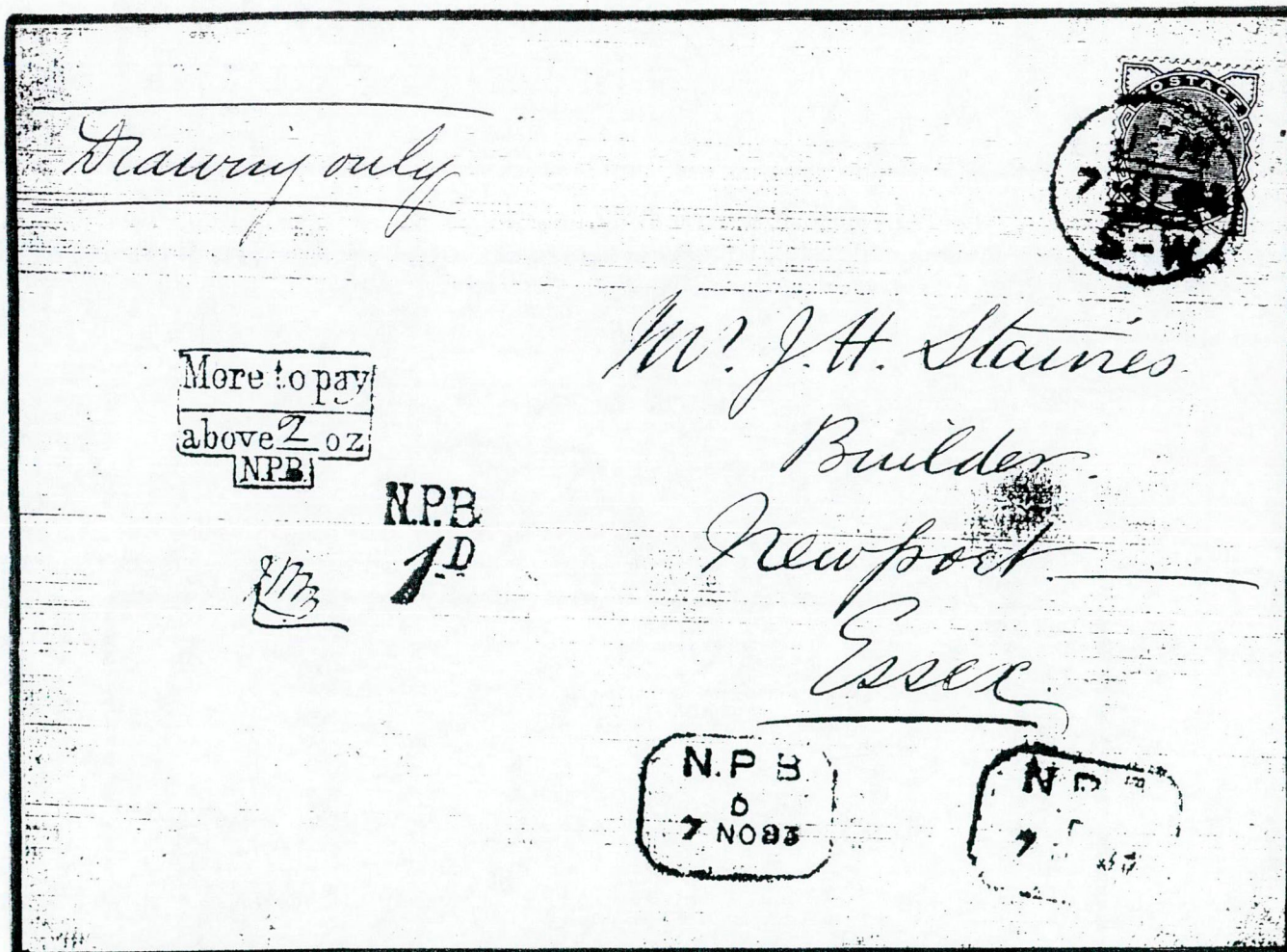
hear readers' reactions as much as anything. It is, of course, far from clear and, at first glance *appears* to have a capital "L" in the centre, the base of which is towards a corner, not a line. The reverse carries part of the letter, which the address "Darlington 29 July, 1752".

The prosaic explanation is a poorly struck stamp from some unidentified office but please note "PAID" seems to sit on the outer line, not face in as is the case with all the examples illustrated in Jay for the 1750s. The Dockwra-Murray-Chamberlain stamps DO show "PAID" on the outer line.....???

# NEWSPAPER BRANCH CHARGE STAMP

Bill Hardy

Last year I was given a set of plans for the reredos in our church (Thorley, Bishop's Stortford) by a churchwarden who "found" them in an old document chest. Imagine my delight when I opened up the plans and found the postal treatment still in place.



The date is 7th. November 1883 and was prepaid by just one halfpenny adhesive. Endorsed "Drawing only" it was cancelled by the Book Post obliterator for the South Western District office and, despite not being a newspaper, was examined by that office.



The NPB, code D, date stamp for the same day was struck poorly, then repeated, the weight checked and the inverted step type " More to pay / above oz / N.P.B. " with a "2" inserted applied. The charge mark for 1d placed close by and the inspector's initials entered to confirm the charge.

In 1883 the Printed Paper Rate was ½d per 2oz and then an additional ½d for each 2oz. This item was rated at between 2 and 4 ounces and, with double the deficiency, the appropriate 1d shown. It is worth noting the Printed Paper Rate facility was introduced in 1848 as "Book Post".



.....

### ***CROYDON 'S FIRST TYPE COUNTRY SORTING OFFICE DATESTAMP***

Arthur Moyles

It is now well established many offices had both replacement and recut stamps. Some are detectable at a glance, others go unremarked. For the Country Sorting Office datestamps, especially those from the outer parts of the London area, there is the problem of the scarcity of surviving examples, whatever the Post Office returns suggest may have been the potential numbers actually struck.

The present major research project is Croydon and although seriously collected for many years the number of C.S.O. stamps are altogether too few. There are two sub - types recorded thus far; both are illustrated with the dates seen.

Type	Illustration	Size mm	Date known
1		34 dia.	9.4.1822
2		31 dia.	28.11.1832

Willcocks and Jay list Croydon first type used from 1816 to 1837 and I would very much appreciate a note of examples in readers' collections which may give a date span for these two sub types. It may be noted the second shows no collection time: is this an error on the day or was it a change in practice at the Croydon office ? Only other examples reported will help to resolve this.



## MEETING DATES 1997 and 1998

Much to the Hon. Secretary's chagrin, the selected dates for 1997 were not all available, despite booking at about the usual time of the year. As a result, the dates for 1997 tend to wander around rather a lot. To make sure for 1998, the Burns room at the Union Jack Club, Waterloo, has already been reserved.

Perhaps members would like to enter the dates at the end of their 1996 diaries to be carried forward for the following two years.

1997 :

January	18th.	Silver Jubilee Meeting
March	1st.	Machinery and Cancellations - a survey of mechanical aids in cancellations.
May	17th.	Annual Auction
July	19th.	Cancellation of Newspapers, Circulars and other Printed Matter.
September	13th.	Too Late, Late fee, Delayed, Undelivered and Damaged Mails
November	15th.	London Cross and Bye Posts

1998

January	17th.	
March	21st.	
May	16th.	Annual Auction
September	19th.	
November	21st.	

There is plenty of scope to fit in what YOU would like to see as the subject for the afternoon. It is not really practical to have something absolutely new but there must be many areas of London for which you have a particular liking. Why not a specialised study for your own local study ? Do send the Editor your suggestions as soon as possible.

.....  
JUST TO MAKE THE DAY CLEAR.....

THE JUBILEE DAY IS SATURDAY 18TH. JANUARY 1997  
.....

### 86 HACKNEY ROAD DATE STAMP

We have featured the double arc date stamp used at a very few London offices and can offer an example of 86 Hackney Road to add to the list so far. Several are recorded in the London proof Impression Books which will be included in Notebook next year.



.....  
**AND FINALLY.....**Your views on the present location for STAMPEX are sought. The organisers are reported to be very content with the location and facilities, though comments overheard by your Editor suggest they are perhaps lacking in "visitor input". Do write with your comments, favourable or otherwise.