

# REVIEW



# GREAT BRITAIN

## DEFINITIVE SETS

		U/m	M/m			U/m
<b>QUEEN VICTORIA</b>						
1887-1900 Jubilee(14v.)		-	£135	1939-48 High values (6v.)		£165
				1941-42 Light colour (6v.)		£ 1.10
				Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)		£ 4.75
				Ditto, watermark sideways (3v.)		£ 7.50
<b>KING EDWARD V11</b>				1950-51 New colours (6v.)		£ 2.00
1902-10 De La Rue (0) (15v.) ½d. x 2, 4d. x 2		£195	£115	Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)		£ 6.00
1905-10 De La Rue (c) (9v.)		£195	£115	Ditto, watermark sideways (4v.)		£ 1.00
1911 Harrison (perf. 14) (5v.)		£50.00	£32.00	1951 "Festival" high values (4v.)		£47.50
1911 Harrison (perf. 15 x 14) (5v.)		£30.00	£20.00			
1911-13 Somerset House (8v.)		£85.00	£50.00			
				<b>QUEEN ELIZABETH 11</b>		
<b>KING GEORGE V</b>				1952-54 Tudor (17v.)		£50.00
1911-12 Downey Head series (12v.)		£20.00	£14.00	Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)		£13.00
1912-24 Royal Cypher (14v.) 9d. x 1		£65.00	£35.00	Ditto, watermark sideways (3v.)		£ 1.75
Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)		£13.50	£ 8.75	1955 Waterlow "Castles" (4v.)		£125
1913 Multiple Cypher (2v.)		£175	£95.00	1955-58 Edward (17v.)		£110
1918 Bradbury "Seahorses" (3v.)		-	-	Ditto, watermark inverted (7v.)		£ 5.75
1924 Block Cypher (12v.)		£70.00	£40.00	Ditto, watermark sideways (5v.)		£ 5.75
Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)		£ 1.75	£ 1.35	1957 Graphite (6v.)		£ 7.50
Ditto, watermark sideways (4v.)		-	£45.00	1958 1st De La Rue "Castles" (4v.)		£435
1934 Photogravure, large format (2v.)		65p	45p	1958-65 Crowns, ordinary (17v.)		£ 3.50
Ditto, watermark inverted (2v.)		£115	-	Ditto, watermark inverted (7v.)		£45.00
1934-35 Ditto, intermediate format (4v.)		£ 6.00	£ 3.75	Ditto, watermark sideways (7v.)		£ 5.50
Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)		£30.00	£20.00	1958-61 Graphite (8v.)		£50.00
1935-36 Ditto, small format (11v.)		£40.00	£22.00	Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)		£40.00
Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)		£ 7.00	£ 5.00	1959 2nd De La Rue "Castles" (4v.)		£75.00
Ditto, watermark sideways (4v.)		-	£55.00	1959 Phosphor-graphite (8v.)		£45.00
1934 Re-engraved "Seahorses" (3v.)		-	-	1960-67 Crowns, phosphor (17v.)		£ 2.50
				Ditto, watermark inverted (6v.)		£ 6.00
				Ditto, watermark sideways (6v.)		£ 5.25
<b>KING EDWARD V111</b>				1963-68 1st Bradbury-Wilkinson "Castles" (5v.)		
1936 K. E. V111 (4v.)			35p	2/6 x 2		£ 7.50
Ditto, watermark inverted (3v.)			£ 5.50	1967 Machin gum Arabic (9v.)		£ 3.00
				1967-70 Ditto, P.V.A. (16v.) 4d. x 2, 8d. x 2		£ 3.50
				1967-68 Bradbury-Wilkinson no watermark		
<b>KING GEORGE VI</b>				"Castles" (4v.)		£ 6.00
1937-47 Dark colours (15v.)		£14.50	£14.50	1969 Machin high values (4v.)		£10.50
Ditto, watermark inverted (5v.)		£60.00	£60.00	Ditto, Decimal high values (4v.)		£ 4.50
Ditto, watermark sideways (5v.)		£40.00	£40.00	1971 Machin Decimal gum Arabic (7v.)		£ 2.45

**CANDLISH McCLEERY LTD.,**  
**40 WHITELADIES ROAD, BRISTOL BS8 2LG. Tel: 35038-**

# the PHILATELIC REVIEW

Volume 1

Number 4

October 1977

Editor: Mike Jackson

## CONTENTS

### EDITORIAL

### ROLLS

*The introduction of stamps in rolls [Part 3].  
Mike Jackson.*

### BOOKLETS

Booklet stitching - New and Old.  
Booklet with Sideways Watermark.

### POSTAL HISTORY

*Reformed Parliamentary Mail.  
John Forbes-Nixon.*

### Book Reviews

### Correspondence

### GEORGE V NOTES

### GB AUCTION PRICES

### GB AUCTION DIARY

*Cover illustration :*

*1871, Foreign Bill Revenues. We illustrate the 1d, 4/- and £5 showing the three different designs used. The complete set comprises seventeen values between 1d and £5.*

## Page

57

58

64

66

68

68

69

71

72

## EDITORIAL

On the 23 August, the Daily Telegraph reported the acquisition by Stanley Gibbons International of all the share capital, assets and stock of Charles Nissen. This will be incorporated in the Rare Stamp Department at Gibbons. The consideration of £861,000 was paid in cash. Nissen's stock contains one of the finest accumulations of Penny Blacks, as well as other GB issues.

I find it sad that the firm of Nissen should come to an end, but take consolation in the certainty that the name of Charles Nissen will always be remembered, chiefly for his major part in producing the Plating of the Penny Black (published by Nissen in 1922, and written in collaboration with Bertram McGowan), and for his long-running monthly journal, the British Philatelist.

It is in the tradition of the British Philatelist that we have tried to direct the spirit of the Philatelic Review.

The British Philatelist first appeared in March 1908, and continued until the fifties. In its pages can be found the first mention of almost every major GB discovery made during these years, and is un-paralleled as a chronicle of the development of GB philately.

- M.J.

Published quarterly by Candlish McCleery Ltd., Price 50p.

Annual subscription (four issues): Inland £2.00. Overseas (sea) £3.00, (airmail) £4.00.

Editorial correspondence: 23 Craven Street, Melton Mowbray, Leics., LE13 0QT.

Advertisement enquiries: 40 Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 2LG. (telephone 0272 35038)

# ROLLS

## The Introduction of Stamps in Rolls [part 3]

Mike Jackson

### The End Papers

The end papers not only formed the core of the roll, but also ensured the safe delivery of the last stamp in the roll. To avoid fouling up the machinery of the affixing machine, the end paper was perforated  $15 \times 14$ , and so appears as a strip of stamp-sized, buff labels. I have two examples of end papers with the words; JOINED BY ..... and DATE ..... printed upon them. (One is a 1d. Multiple Cypher, delivery top end first, dated 24 April 1913, dated and initialled in pencil; the other is a ½d. Multiple Cypher, delivery top end first, initialled and dated in pencil, 1 May 1913).

This writing is on the backs of the end papers, in the first example across the 6th. and 7th. 'label' (counted from the stamps), and in the second, across the 5th. and 6th. 'label'. The fact that it occurs on the back, and is not found on all end-papers, suggests that a) the long sheet of joined panes of stamps was assembled face-down, and b) that the printing under discussion occurred perhaps once on the end-paper sheet, before splitting. That it was necessary for this expedient to have been carried out is something of a mystery, as it was the end paper that was wound first, and so the initial and date would be 'lost' as soon as reeling began. However, it would make some sense if, as is probable, the large uncut joined sheet was itself reeled and stored until such time as it was required to make individual rolls from it. Such a roll would have

been reeled 'in reverse', with the end paper on the outside. In fact, unless the rolls were being joined together at one end while the reeling went on at the other, they would have to be reeled in the uncut state to enable them to be stored, as the longer ones would have been over 100 feet long!

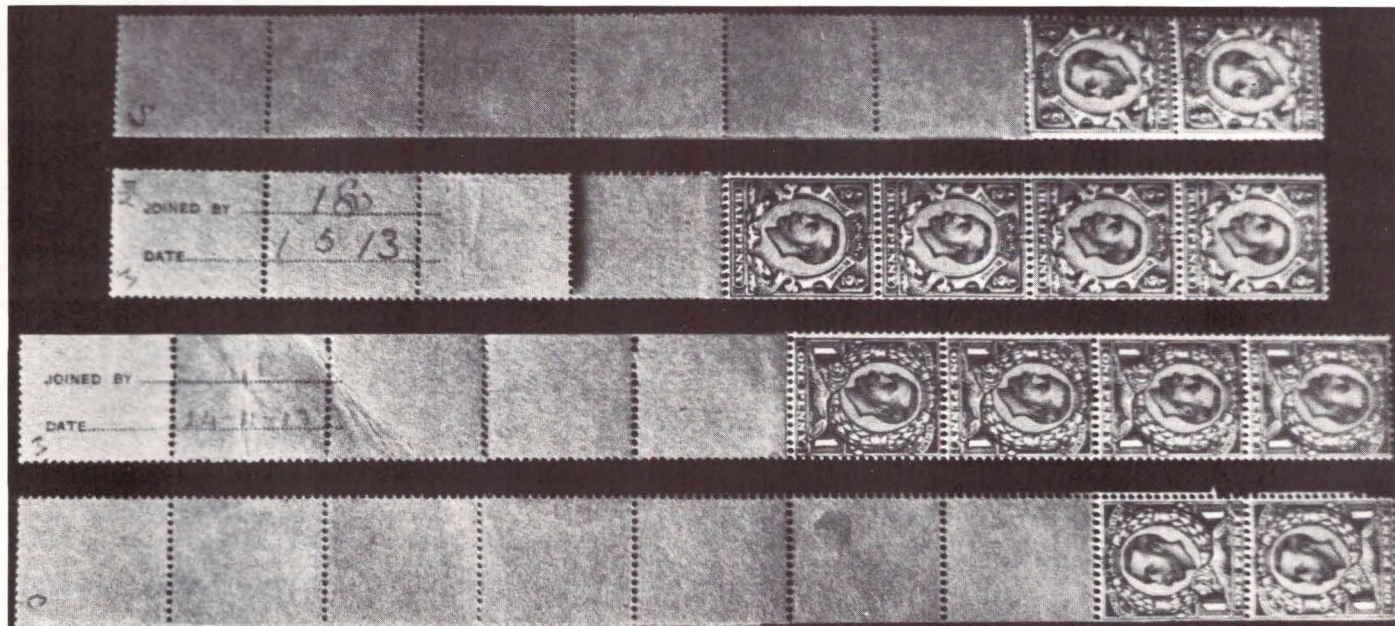
Before leaving the subject of end papers, mention should be made of their lengths. Of the examples I have, the longest is  $11\frac{1}{2}$ " , but the lengths vary. It would have been easy for an end paper to have 'lost' a few labels from its length over the years. However, there must have been minimum lengths required for the different machines, and originally the lengths would have been standardised.

### Notes on mounting

It seems pertinent to include a few words about mounting a collection of wrappers and end papers, and the problems involved. Because of the lengths of some of the pieces, folding is necessary to accommodate them on standard sized sheets. Folding and re-folding the wrapper, 'concertina-style', to effectively shorten it is one method. I have also varied the arrangement on some sheets; where I have extremely long items - for example, a wrapper attached to a strip of twelve stamps. In this case, I have

folded the wrapper down over the stamps, putting the crease about 2" from the stamps themselves, then putting in a diagonal crease to place the printed part of the wrapper perpendicular to the rest. I then folded up the end four stamps to show the roll-join on the back, and mounted the piece so that the stamps were vertical, the piece forming a 't' shape. The wrapper is mounted on the back of a black

album leaf using as many hinges as is necessary to hold it down. It is then carefully cut out to leave a narrow black margin all the way round. My collection is mounted on quite thick white cards - the stiffness of which lends itself well to accommodating large, floppy items such as roll wrappers. The card is then slipped into a 'Cumberland' protector, after suitable writing-up has been added.



*The four types of end paper.*

**CHECK LIST OF DOWNEY HEAD ROLLS ISSUED BY THE POST OFFICE**

STOCK LETTER	DENOMINATION	NUMBER OF STAMPS IN ROLL	METHOD OF DELIVERY	PRICE	APPROX. LENGTH OF WRAPPER	APPROX. DIAMETER OF CORE	APPROX. EXTERNAL DIA. OF ROLL	WATERMARKS
1. (A)	1d.	1000	top end first	£4.3s 6d.	10¼"	1¼"	2¾"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher
2. (B)	1d.	1000	lower end "	£4.3s 6d.	10¼"	1¼"	2¾"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher
3. (C)	½d.	1000	top end "	£2.1s 10d.	10¼"	1¼"	2¾"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher
4. (D)	½d.	1000	lower end "	£2.1s 10d.	10¼"	1¼"	2¾"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher
5. (E)	1d.	500	top end "	£2.1s 9d.	6¾"	½"	1⅝"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher
6. (F)	1d.	500	lower end "	£2.1s 9d.	6¾"	½"	1⅝"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher
7. (G)	½d.	500	top end "	£1.0s 11d.	6¾"	½"	1⅝"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher
8. (H)	½d.	500	lower end "	£1.0s 11d.	6¾"	½"	1⅝"	Crown, Simple Cypher, Multiple Cypher

CHECK LIST OF ROLL TESTING LABELS

PRINTER	DESIGN	WMK.	PERF.	JOIN	No. IN ROLL	WRAPPER	CM DESIGNATION (see p. 35)
De La Rue	Head of Britannia in scarlet (various backgrounds to head)	-	13¼ x 14	sideways at 6th. (BP)	-	-	G
De La Rue (BP)	Plain, white paper	-	13¼ x 14	lengthwise at 10th. (BP)	-	-	E
De La Rue (BP)	Plain, white paper	-	14 x 14	sideways at 12th.	-	-	F
Harrison (BP)	Overprinted CANCELED in green diagonally	Crown	15 x 14	lengthwise at 21st.	1000 (BP)	As official rolls (C) (BP)	B
Harrison (BP)	- ditto - but in red	Crown	15 x 14	- ditto -	1000 (BP)	As official rolls (A) & (D) (BP)	B
Harrison (BP)	Plain, white paper with thick, yellowish gum	'Cooper' in script (but not on every label)	15 x 14	lengthwise at 20th. (BP)	1000 or 500	As official rolls (C) & (M) (BP), and (A), (E) & (G)	A
Harrison	Plain, white paper	multiple 'Harrison & Sons London'	15 x 14½	lengthwise at 20th. (BP)	-	-	D
Harrison?*	Plain, white paper	EXTRA STRONG sideways down seven labels	14¾ x 14	lengthwise	-	-	C
Harrison	Head of T.R. Harrison in scarlet, dull-purple, bistre or bistre-brown	-	15 x 14	lengthwise	-	Plain, buff paper (BP)	H
Harrison	Coat of Arms (shield in dull green, violet, light blue or rose)	-	15 x 14	lengthwise at 20th. (BP)	500 (BP)	Plain, buff paper (BP)	J
Harrison	Seated figure of Britannia in chocolate brown	multiple 'Harrison & Sons London'	15 x 14	lengthwise	-	-	I
Kermode* (B.S.T.A.D. Co. Ltd.)	Plain paper	-	15 x 14	lengthwise	500	Plain, buff paper	-

(BP) refers to information taken from the British Philatelist, vol. 27, p. 78, (Dec. 1934).

\* the 'Kermode' labels described are taken from the B.P., and may well be the same as Type C, above.

## STAMPS IN ROLLS - A BIBLIOGRAPHY

### A. Articles appearing in *The British Philatelist*, published by Charles Nissen.

1. Vol. 18, p. 5, (March 1925), *A British Coil-Stamp Essay*. An example of a label, printed in scarlet, from a trial roll produced on the 'Grover' reel-printing machine, was affixed to the page. The following description includes some interesting notes on early continuous reel-printing.
2. Vol. 18, p. 83, (Dec. 1925), *Rolls of Stamps*, by L.J. Worthington. Short article, mainly notes on the (then) new Waterlow printings.
3. Vol. 25, p. 93, (Feb. 1933), *Stamp Rolls for Automatic Machines*, by C.F. Dendy Marshall, M.A. Part one of a two-part article. Probably the first attempt at a comprehensive listing (of wrappers), although, as in the author's own words; "I have 82 specimens, but they are only representative, and probably do not include more than about a third of the total number of varieties, perhaps not even that".
4. Vol. 26, p. 4, (March 1933), part two of the above. Part one had covered issues from 1912 to 1921, part two, 1922 to 1930.
5. Vol. 26, p. 7, (March 1933), *Stamp Rolls*, by the Editor. Additional notes to the above articles.
6. Vol. 27, p. 77, (Dec. 1934), *Rolls of Stamps. TRIAL ROLLS*. An important listing, in table form, of the trial rolls, including details of the wrappers. Also, lists of the manufacturer's sample rolls and the rolls of foreign and colonial stamps prepared by the British Stamp and Ticket Automatic Delivery Co. Ltd. in their attempts to secure contracts abroad.
7. Vol. 27, p. 87, (Jan. 1935), *Rolls for Stamp Affixing and Selling Machines*. Notes on Mr. Dendy Marshall's article.

### B. Articles appearing in other Journals.

8. H. Couche-Baker, *Coil Stamps of Great Britain*. The Strand Stamp Journal, October 1959. This is part two of an article and deals with stamp affixing machine manufacturer's sample labels.
9. Tony Wiseman, *Great Britain, the Introduction of Coil Stamps*. The Stamp Lover, (Jan/Feb, July/Aug, and Sept/Oct 1970). Deals primarily with USED stamps for machines, with conclusions, implications and speculations derived from their study.
10. A. Branson Mills, *Experimental Coil Stamps of Great Britain*. Stamp Collecting, Sept. 11th, 1975. Largely notes on Tony Wiseman's article, above.
11. Robson Lowe, *Britannia Dummy Stamps*. Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, vol. 86, pp. 14-19. Comprehensive study.
12. Dr. Jean Alexander. *Who was Mrs. Kermodé*. GB Journal, vol. 13, pp. 122-123. Background information to the formation of the British Stamp and Ticket Automatic Delivery Co. Ltd., and personal details of Mrs. Kermodé.
13. G.H.R. Homer-Wooff and Peter J. Jones, *British Coil Stamps*, GB Journal; Part 1 (vol. 15, pp. 29-31) - the start of a well-researched series covering (so far) the historical background to the introduction of stamps in rolls, with particular emphasis on the machines which used them. This first part involves itself with the British Stamp and Ticket Automatic Delivery Co. Ltd., and as stated in the article, should be read in conjunction with Dr. Jean Alexander's article, above.  
Part 2 (vol. 15, pp. 51-54) - deals with the second vending machine to receive an official public trial; the 'Abel' machine. Also described is the formation of the Abel Company's U.K. Subsidiary - the British Electric Automatic Machine Co. (BEAM).  
Part 3 (vol. 15, pp. 72-75) - dealing with three other



machines which, although subsequently rejected by the Post Office, were given official trials; the 'REX', 'KINGSWAY', and 'WILKINSON' machines. The Wilkinson machine automatically franked the letter being posted and so eliminated the need for adhesives. The Kingsway was a vending and advertising machine, fed by sheets of stamps, and the Rex was a vending and affixing machine, again fed by sheets. (In both cases it was necessary to form continuous rolls from the sheets of stamps).

#### C. Books.

14. Stanley Phillips, *The Stamps of Great Britain 1911-1921*. Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 1921. Short section on Rolls.
15. T. Todd, *A History of British Postage Stamps*. Published by Duckworth, 1941. No text on rolls, but contains one photograph, 'Preparing rolls for stamp selling machines' (plate 37).
16. Patrick Hamilton, *British Stamps*. Published by Peter Davies, London, 1948. Contains a comprehensive appendix on rolls, with much information.
17. K.M. Beaumont and J.B.M. Stanton, *The Postage Stamps of Great Britain, Part 4*. Published by the Royal Philatelic Society, 1957. Contains a chapter on booklets and rolls, including a now incomplete listing of Georgian rolls.
18. C.M. Langston and H.C. Corless, *Stamps of Great Britain Issued in Rolls and the Machines which use them*. Published by C.M. Langston, 1960. Indispensable little book, even though confusing to read (to this writer). Over half of the 48 pages are devoted to a check-list of the rolls issued between 1938 and 1960.
19. W. Ward, *A book about British Books of Stamps and Rolls*. Published by Lytham, 1925. (Haven't seen it).
20. Great Britain: *Reel Printing for Postage Stamps*. A small booklet, printed for private circulation in 1924 by Charles Nissen (presumably), describing and illustrating the reel-printing and the coiling machines for the Great Britain rolls. (I haven't seen it, but obtained the reference from p. 7 of vol. 26, of the *British Philatelist*).
21. C.F. Dendy Marshall, *The British Post Office from its beginnings to the end of 1925*. Published by the Oxford University Press, 1926. Mr. Marshall, in his article on rolls in the *British Philatelist* (see no. 3 above), refers to a photograph of a set of the first rolls, on plate XII of this book.
22. W.G. Stitt Dibden, *Early Stamp Machines*. Published by The Postal History Society, Bath, 1964. (Not seen).

#### D. Other sources.

23. 'Contract for supply of Adhesive Stamps Etc.' of Waterlow & Sons Ltd. with His Majesty's Postmaster General, 2nd. April 1925. Contains details of requirements and specifications of the rolls. Other contracts must also have much information of this kind.

# WANTED

ARTICLES, CONTRIBUTIONS, OPINIONS  
AND OBSERVATIONS.  
ON ANYTHING TO DO WITH  
GREAT BRITAIN PHILATELY.

# BOOKLETS

## Booklet Stitching - New and Old

These two photographs showing the stitching of booklets are reproduced by courtesy of the Post Office. Having no information to go on, other than the photographs themselves, I cannot put an exact date on them. The more recent of the two shows 4/6 Wilding Type D (large GPO Cypher) booklets, which were issued with or without phosphor bands, between December 1960 and March 1965.

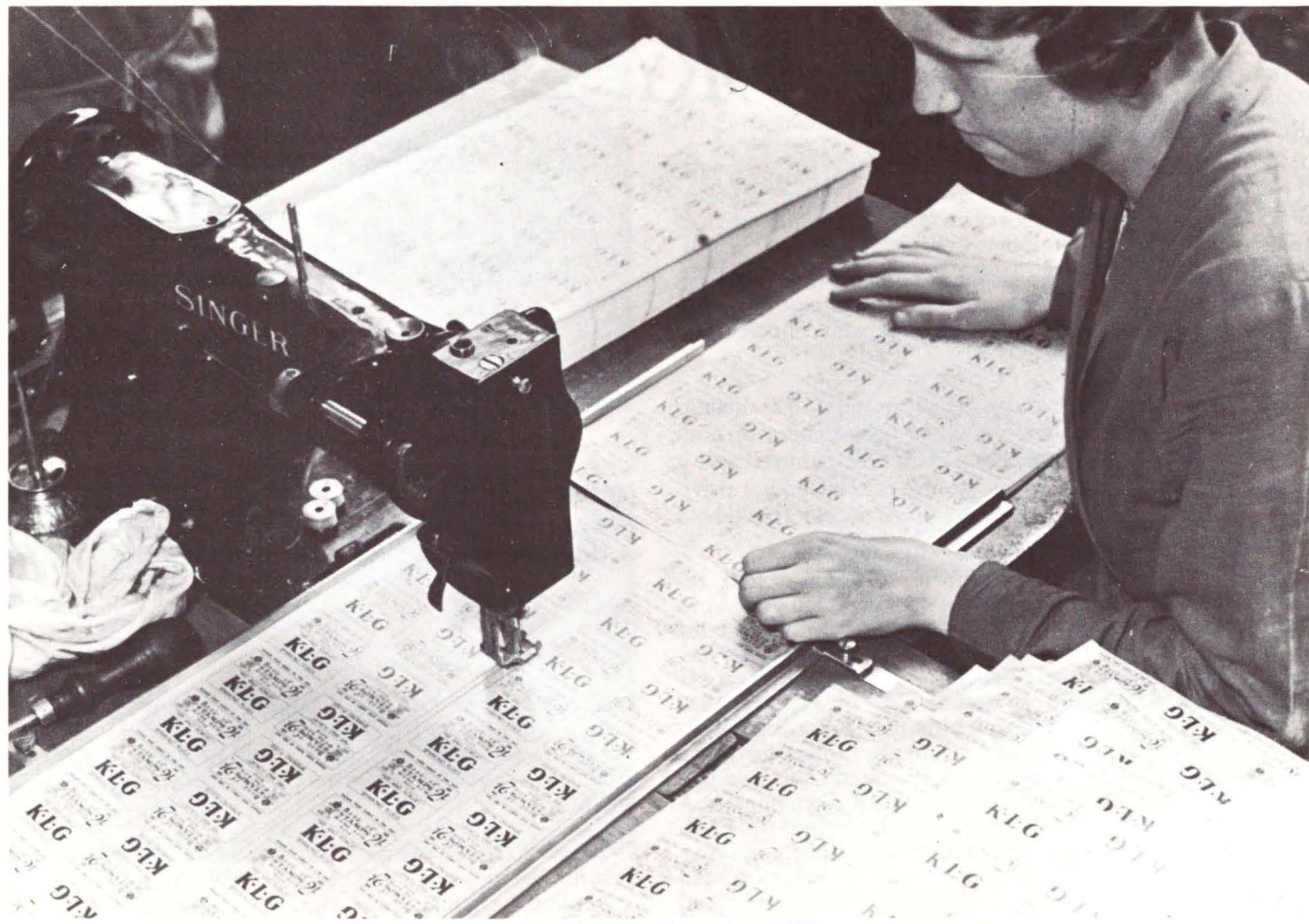
The older photograph shows the same operation being carried out on George V booklets, SG Type 11. This type of cover was in use from February 1924 to July 1935, and during this period, contained at one time or another; Royal Cypher, Block Cypher (Waterlow), Block Cypher (Harrison) and Photogravure stamps. This fourth series of booklets brought in the introduction of the 1½d. advertisement pane (four stamps plus two advert. labels), a sideways-watermarked pane (Block Cypher) of which was illustrated and described in the last issue (p. 50-51).

## Booklet with Sideways Watermark

Dr. Jean Alexander has written to me concerning the Block Cypher 1½d. advert. pane with sideways watermark, described in the last issue (p. 50). It is now agreed that Gibbons' 'Specialised' volume 2 is in error on page 131 in stating that the sideways pane has advert. No.15. The confusion arose because the booklet concerned is No.15, containing advert. pane No.3. The only booklet pane known to exist with watermark sideways is this advert. pane No.3 (AIR MAILS/Cable via IMPERIAL).



*Booklet stitching, circa 1960.*



*Booklet stitching, circa 1930.*

# POSTAL HISTORY

## Reformed Parliamentary Mail

John Forbes-Nixon

Within a collection, a sub-theme or side-line is always popular and for this reason post emanating from the Houses of Parliament has always been well collected and sought after.

The event of Postal Reform on 10 January 1840 dispensed with the free franking privilege of members of both Houses of Parliament which had been much abused and it is interesting that Queen Victoria also renounced her privilege on the same day, since when all Royal Household letters have been fully paid.

Even before the Postal Reform the House had re-established the appointment of its own postman on 9 April 1839 and the Treasury had fixed the salary of this Letter Carrier at 10 shillings a week paid by the Post Office. When the House reassembled after the Christmas recess Members had available to them from 15 January 1840 envelopes on sale for posting within the Houses of Parliament. They were of one and twopenny values for those headed Houses of Parliament and House of Lords and one penny only for those headed House of Commons. A Treasury minute dated 17 January 1840 informed the PMG ..... "that printed covers for Members of both Houses may be purchased on the spot and used only for letters posted at either of the two Houses .....". These envelopes ceased to be used after 6 May 1840.

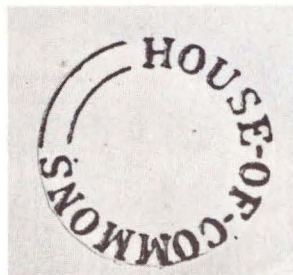


Fig.1



Fig.2

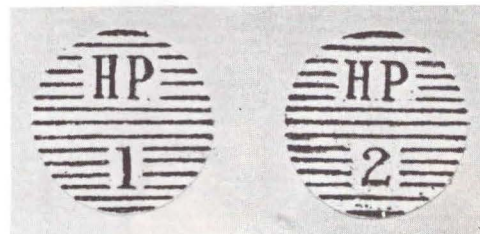


Fig.3

Figure 1 shows a special circular handstamp that was issued from the Post Office to the House of Commons on 10 February 1843. It read "HOUSE-OF-COMMONS" which was undated and, strangely, used as a cancellor for both Houses.

The Lords took exception to this which resulted in new stamps being issued on 23 March 1859. These comprised a separate circular date stamp worded "HOUSES-OF-PARLIAMENT S.W." (fig.2) and was applied to the

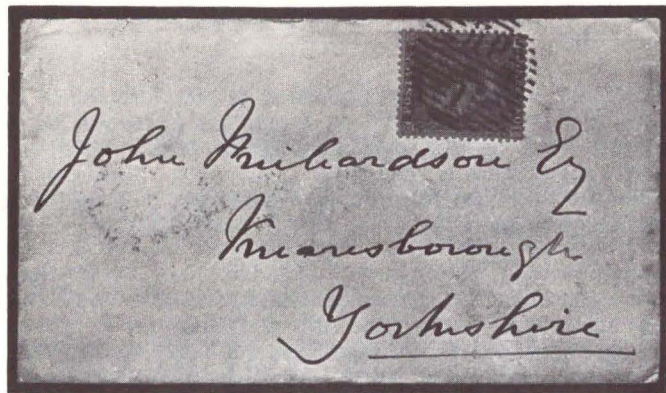


Fig.4

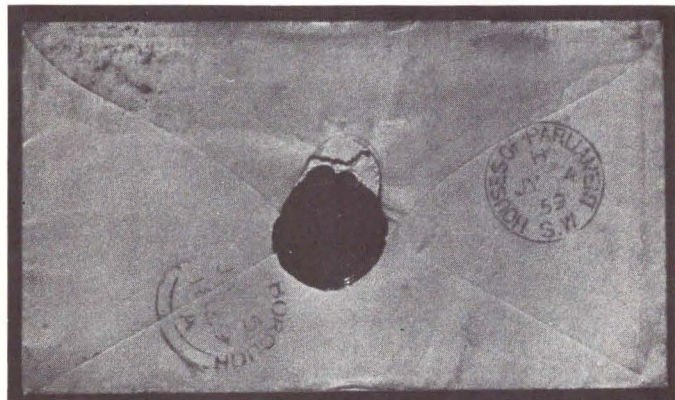


Fig.5

reverse of the letter and an adhesive obliterator comprising HP over either 1 or 2 (fig.3) in a circle of horizontal bars. Figure 4 shows the front of a letter using the HP over 1 obliterator and figure 5 the reverse with the Houses of Parliament date stamp in red for 4 July 1859 but with a code H rather than a time mark as from the G.P.O. Records. It appears Members could post mail at their private Parliamentary Post Office until very late yet attracting no late fee: from the scarcity of the HP 1 and 2 marks it may be that not all Parliamentary mail was posted here or its use was for special letters only.



Fig.6

Remarkably after having obtained this omnibus stamp to deal with the mail of both Houses, on 2 March 1882 a duplex handstamp (fig.6) was issued incorporating the number '40' of the London suburban series but reverting back to the inscription "HOUSE-OF-COMMONS" which prevails to this day!

Acknowledgement:

The Philatelist - "The House of Commons Post Office" by Barbara Whittingham-Jones.

# BOOK REVIEWS

**Picton's Catalogue of British Postcards and their Postmarks [1894-1939]**, 4th. Edition, compiled by M.R. Hewlett B.A.

102pp. Designed and printed by Picton Print.

Full of useful information, this book includes lists of magazines, books, sources of supply and clubs likely to be of interest to the postcard collector. Its scope is of the British postcard scene from 1894 to 1939, and although not an exhaustive catalogue, only having generalised lists of postcard themes, it is a start towards a comprehensive listing. As Mr. Hewlett says in his preface, 'The ultimate in the not too distant future will be a series of catalogues arranged according to manufacturer with all their various series and individual cards described in detail .....'. Such a catalogue, of obvious importance to the deltiologist (postcard collector), may or may not be of interest to students of British philately, but what is of relevance are the postal history aspects of the postcard. Mr. Hewlett, in the present work, does devote a large section of these aspects, and it is therefore likely to appeal to philatelists and postal historians.

- M.J.

**Collecting Postmarks**, by R.K. Forster.  
Published by Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd. Price 75p.

This 32 page booklet is the latest in Gibbons' 'Collecting' series and aims to show in a practical way, the approaches available to the newcomer to the hobby of postmark collecting. It has been written by that well-known authority on

the subject, R.K. Forster, in a clear, lucid style and is profusely illustrated with material from the author's own collection.

Postmark collecting has increased in popularity over the past few years, probably as a reaction to trends in the stamp world. In this booklet the author tends to deal with the subject from a 'thematic' viewpoint. However, he does show to the reader that postmarks and their study are an integral part of the wider field of Postal History.

- J.W.J.

---

## CORRESPONDENCE

### Late use of the Maltese Cross

Mr. R.G. Plint, of Kendal, has written to me with some further information on the late use of the Maltese Cross obiterator;

Dear Sir,

With reference to your article on the late use of the MC, Milnthorpe (530) had 7 offices under its control - Lindal, Newton, Cartmel, Flookboro, Newby Bridge, Backbarrow and Penny Bridge - all situated on the road to Ulverston and these were issued with MC handstamps on 14-1-1842, which some continued to use after Milnthorpe received its '530' handstamp. I have covers showing the double cancellation from Lindal 22-8-1846, Newby Bridge 5-7-1844, Backbarrow 2-6-1846 and Penny Bridge 18-2-1846.

Yours faithfully,  
R.G. Plint.

-J. F-N.

# GEORGE V NOTES

## ½d. Die 2 - wmk. Simple Cypher TYPE 2.

I have been experimenting with photographing stamps using back-lighting, which, as can be seen from these illustrations, works really well in showing up the marginal watermarks. The ½d. Die 2 with Simple Cypher Type 2 wmk. has long been known to occur, although it is quite scarce. It is only known with control B 13. For some reason, it never made the catalogue, despite the fact that the wmk. types on the Royal Cypher issues are dealt with quite thoroughly. A major find indeed would be the 1d. Die 2 on this paper, but it does not want to show itself.



## ½d. Block Cypher - NO WATERMARK.

The 2d. and 2½d. values without watermark on Block Cypher paper from controls C 25 and B 24 respectively are well known. An example of the ½d. from control D 25 has recently come into the possession of our publishers. It would appear to deserve the same standing as the other two values. It is photographed alongside a normal example from control D 25 for comparison, the photograph again being taken with back-lighting. (It has always struck me as being curious, that no-wmk. varieties are invariably identified by the watermark that they don't have!)



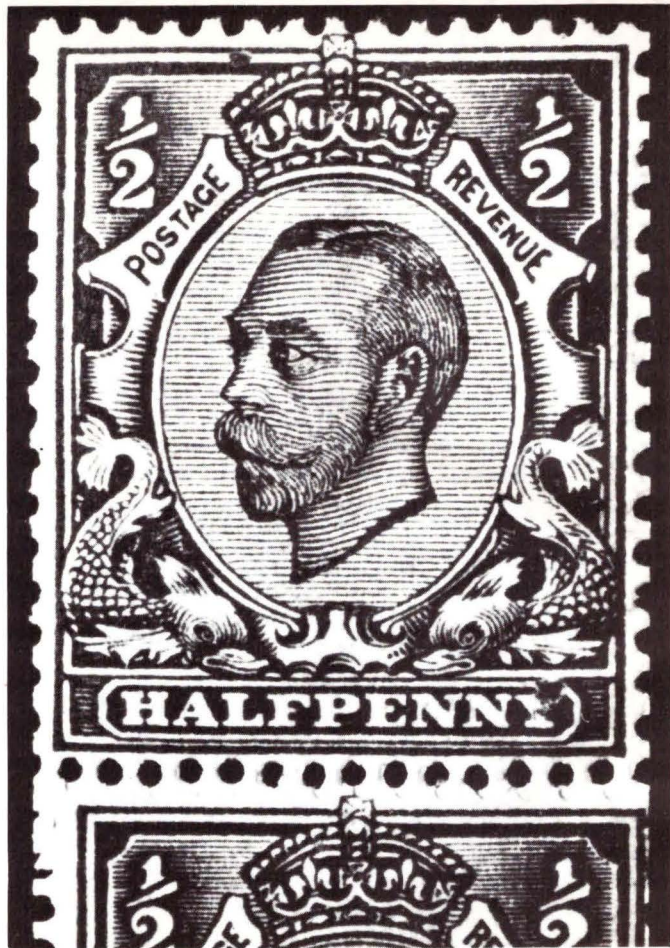
**1d. Die 2, wmk. Crown, with pink label in margin.**

An illustration of this, and a brief note, appeared in the last issue (p.54). I have since come across an early reference to this in the *British Philatelist* (vol. 6, p. 73, Dec. 1913) which I quote; "THE VANISHING CONTROL - every 500th. sheet of watermarked paper has a little tab of coloured paper affixed to the lower margin, just where the control subsequently appears. A block of six Georgian penny stamps, Die II, (convalescent lion), before us, shews the lower edge of the control, "B12", printed on the tab; and it is conceivable that the impression might be so low, or the tab so far on, that the entire control might alight on the tab itself, making a "no-control" variety when the piece of paper is removed."

Some years ago, I remember a control strip of the ½d. Die 2, wmk. Simple Cypher, with just the B of the control showing, quite possibly as a result of the removal of a pink tab.

**½d. Die 2, wmk. Multiple Cypher - 'Damaged Y' variety.**

This printing variety shows damage to the letter Y, together with a noticeable blob in the top frame line of the stamp. It was probably caused by foreign matter on the plate, but I have three identical copies, indicating some degree of constancy. These three examples are all roll-join pairs, the defective stamp having the small piece of margin used to effect the join. Careful examination of this margin reveals the top portion of the control, B 12(w). The variety could quite possibly turn up on a sheet-issued control piece, so keep your eyes open for it.



*Damaged Y' variety.*

M.J.



# GB AUCTION PRICES

## BRUNEL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS

29th June

1924 Block Cypher 1½d red-brown, printed on the gummed side. SG 420c.

Est £160 .....£175

1934 Photogravure 1½d colour trials in mint pairs. Blue, green, red and brown.

Est £225 .....£245

1939 10/- Dark blue with "dot on scroll" variety. SG Spec. Q32d.

Est £75 .....£80

## ROBSON LOWE LTD

27th July

1882 Wmk. anchor on blued paper £5 orange, AA, mint, some slight creasing.

Est £1,700 .....£3,750

1880-81 Wmk. Imperial Crown 5d indigo, a fine mint block of four.

Est £250 .....£550

1913 Waterlow: 2/6., an imperforate plate proof in red on thin "Weighley" paper, a few tiny surface marks.

Est £175 .....£185

1915-18 De La Rue 2/6 very deep brown, a horizontal pair with inverted watermark, one stamp with short rear.

Est £75 .....£320

## BOURNEMOUTH STAMP AUCTIONS

3rd, 4th August

"The Work of Jean de Sperati", text and plates and "La Philatelie Sans Experts" by Sperati; good condition.

Est £350 .....£260

1911-13 £1 deep green with "SPECIMEN" overprint, very fine.

Est £200 .....£185

1911 (June 22nd) Coronation day ½d on printed envelope produced by the Junior Philatelic Society with details of Coronation on inside flap.

Est £30 .....£35

## PHILLIPS

2nd September

1841 Postal notice complete (with original wrapper) bearing 2d blank corners, lower right corner copy, 1d NK, both "SPECIMEN" envelopes are a little soiled but generally in very fine condition.

Est £750 .....£720

1841 2d small trial plate of twelve impressions in deep blue without corner letters, very fine.

Est £2,000 .....£2,500

1841 2d plate 3 OA-PB exceptionally fine block of four showing trace of marginal inscription, PB showing further wear on repaired profile.

Est £175 .....£550

1848 Archer rouletted 1d plate 70 TC, fine mint, slight crease and faint scuff at top.

Est £450 .....£500

1854 SC16 2d plate 4 AB-AG remarkable brilliant mint strip of six showing five stamps in their fully repaired state, just a few perfs with traces of rust.

Est £2,000 .....£2,800

Ditto TC showing late repair, fine fresh mint, only mint example so far known.

Est £400 .....£2,000

1867-80 3d plate 8 MK superb mint.

Est £75 .....£125

Ditto 6d plate 8 NK fine mint, centred to left.

Est £75 .....£130

Ditto 1/- plate 5 EA Stock Exchange forgery, fine, centred to right.

Est £100 .....£125

1867-78 Maltese Cross 10/- mauve CG imperforate colour trial opt. "SPECIMEN" type 9, fine with gum.

Est £225 .....£250

1911-13 Somerset House 6d bright magenta fine unmounted marginal mint showing cuts of plate 11, very fine fresh mint, mounted in sheet margin only.

Est £700 .....£800

# GB AUCTION DIARY

## OCTOBER 1977

- 5 VESSEY AUCTIONS (Croydon)  
Bank House,  
High Street,  
Whitstable,  
Kent. CT5 1BE.
- 5-6 BOURNEMOUTH STAMP AUCTIONS  
The Auction House,  
39 Poole Hill,  
Bournemouth, BH2 5PX.
- 7-8 JAMES-NORWICH AUCTIONS  
33 Timberhill,  
Norwich, NR1 3LA.
- 8 WESTERN AUCTIONS (R)  
Bank House,  
225 City Road,  
Cardiff.
- 11 ROBSON LOWE LTD.,  
50 Pall Mall,  
London. SW1Y 5JZ.
- 13-14 STANLEY GIBBONS AUCTIONS  
Drury House,  
Russell Street,  
London. WC2B 5HD.
- 19 H.R. HARMER LTD.,  
41 New Bond Street,  
London, W1A 4EH.
- 28 PHILLIPS  
7 Blenheim Street,  
New Bond Street,  
London, W1Y 0AS.

## NOVEMBER 1977

- 2 N. W. P. AUCTIONS LTD.  
West Kirby,  
Merseyside.
- 3-4 STANLEY GIBBONS AUCTIONS  
address as above.
- 4-5 JAMES-NORWICH AUCTIONS  
address as above.
- 11 PHILLIPS  
address as above.
- 15-16 H.R. HARMER LTD.,  
address as above
- 29-30 H.R. HARMER LTD.,  
address as above

## DECEMBER 1977

- 2-3 JAMES-NORWICH AUCTIONS  
address as above
- 7 N. W. P. AUCTIONS LTD.,  
address as above
- 9 PHILLIPS  
address as above
- 13-14 H.R. HARMER LTD.,  
address as above

## JANUARY 1978

- 4 BRUNEL PHILATELIC AUCTIONS  
559 Fishpond Road,  
Bristol, BS16 3AF.

## GREAT BRITAIN FINE STAMPS

**1840 1d Black plate 4, lettered PJ.** A superb four margin mint original gum example of excellent colour and appearance. SG 2. **£675.00**

**1840 1d Black plate 7, lettered GA.** A superb used example with huge margins all round and an excellent strike of the black M.C. SG 2. **£75.00**

**1841 1d Red, lettered RA.** A huge four margin example with a superb strike of the Stratford no.13 cancel in black. SG 8. **£8.50**

**1841 1d Red, lettered OA.** A superb four margin copy with a neat upright strike of the no.6 in M.C. SG 8m. **£13.50**

**1841 2d Blue, plate 4, lettered LF-LG.** A superb used pair, good margins all round and neat 424 duplex of Knaresborough. SG 14. **£28.50**

**1870 1½d Lake red, plate 3, lettered ND.** A very fine mint single with almost full O.G., good colour. SG 52. **£45.00**

**1862 6d Deep lilac, plate 3, lettered DF.** A magnificent mint example of outstanding quality. SG 83. **£245.00**

**1862-64 1/- green, plate 2, lettered CC.** A very fine mint example. SG 90. **£155.00**

**1866 4d Dull vermilion, plate 8, lettered JJ.** A superb lightly mounted mint example with excellent perfs. SG 93. **£85.00**

**1870 4d dull vermilion, plate 12, lettered MG.** A superb lightly mounted mint example with excellent perfs. SG 93. **£75.00**

**1870 3d Rose, plate 6, lettered MA.** A very lightly mounted mint single. SG 103. **£85.00**

**1869 6d Dull violet, plate 8, lettered OG.** A very fine mint single. SG 108. **£105.00**

**1871, Foreign Bill Revenues.** The complete set of 17 values from 1d to £5 in bottom left corner pairs, with marginal plate nos., overprinted "SPECIMEN". Scarce. **£195.00**

**1874 5/- Pale rose, plate 2, lettered AF.** A superb used example with a clean strike of the London C.D.S. dated OC 12 82. SG 127. **£75.00**

**1873 3d Pale rose, plate 11, lettered HC.** A superb mint single of fresh colour. SG 144. **£75.00**

**1874 3d Rose, plate 15, lettered AB.** A superb mint single with good colour and perfs. SG 143. **£80.00**

**1875 6d Grey, plate 14, lettered JF.** A very fine mint example. SG 147. **£70.00**

**1878 6d Grey, plate 16, lettered LB.** A very fine mint example. SG 147. **£70.00**

**1873 1/- Pale green, plate 8, lettered HK.** A superb mint single without faults. SG 150. **£105.00**

**1881 5d Indigo.** A very fine lightly mounted mint single. SG 169. **£100.00**

**1884 4d Dull green, lettered DF.** A very fine mint single with perfect centring and perfs. SG 192. **£55.00**

**1891 £1 Green, lettered RB.** A fine used example with part of three oval registered cancels showing; good colour and perfs. SG 212. **£115.00**

**1905 De La Rue 2/6 slate-purple on chalky paper.** A very fine used example of excellent colour. SG Spec M49 (3). **£14.50**

**1902 De La Rue £1 dull blue-green.** A superb mounted mint example, well centred with perfect perfs. SG 266. **£495.00**

**1911 Somerset House 1/- deep green and scarlet.** A lightly mounted mint example with inverted watermarks. SG 313. **£35.00**

**1911 Downey Head ½d green and 1d carmine-red, die 1a, crown watermark.** Unmounted mint blocks of 60. SG 322 and 327. Cat. £156.00 **£100.00**

**1912 Downey Head ½d Green, die 2, multiple cypher.** A lightly mounted mint imperforate marginal single. SG 346b. **£40.00**

**1912-24 Royal Cypher 1d scarlet "Q for O".** A lightly mounted mint single of this variety. SG 357a. **£65.00**

**1912-24 Royal Cypher 1½d chocolate brown, no watermark.** An unmounted mint block of four from the rare sheet printing. SG 363a. **£325.00**

**1912-24 Royal Cypher 3d violet.** A lightly mounted mint control (J17) strip of three, left hand stamp with double frame break at left side. SG 375. **£20.00**

**1912-24 Royal Cypher 7d bronze-green.** An unmounted mint control (G15) strip of three of this distinctive shade. SG 388. **£50.00**

**1913 Royal Cypher 2/- red booklet no.16.** A complete booklet in very fine condition. SG Spec B12. **£26.00**

**1913 Waterlow 5/- rose-carmine "seahorse".** A lightly mounted mint example, well centred with perfect perfs. SG 401. **£127.50**

**1929 P.U.C. 1½d booklet pane of six with inverted watermark showing on stamp R2/3, an interesting and as yet uncatalogued variety;** the second "N" in "UNION" completely broken resulting in "UNIOIT". Unmounted mint with good perforations. SG Spec N Com B3a. **£75.00**

**1947 Light Colours 1/- booklet.** All panes having cylinder numbers (1½d - 185, 1d - 160 and ½d - 137 dot) and therefore scarce. Complete and in fine condition. SG Spec B64. **£10.00**

**1955-58 Mixed watermarked "Wilding" design set of 19** includes 2d light and 4½d values) overprinted with vertical black bars used for Post Office training. Unmounted mint blocks of four. **£30.00**

**1958 3d Graphite with two misplaced graphite lines at left clear of the perforations.** Unmounted mint. SG 592a. **£55.00**

**1965 Post Office Tower (a) set overprinted "CANCELLED"** Unmounted mint. SG 679-80. **£15.00**

**1969 August 10/- booklet cover sample proof on thin white card and unissued bright-purple card featuring "Shackleton".** Cover type E (type 1) approx. 66mm x 46mm. SG XP9. **£15.00**

# WANTED

## GREAT BRITAIN STAMPS

Mint or used

**We must buy, and cash is readily available, should you wish to dispose of the following:-**

ISSUED STAMPS (on or off cover), PROOFS, ESSAYS,  
SPECIMEN AND CANCELLED OVERPRINTS,  
POSTMASTERS' & POST OFFICE NOTICES  
WITH OR WITHOUT STAMPS,  
OLD POSTAL PAMPHLETS, BOOKLETS, COILS ETC.

We also purchase collections etc.,  
general or specialised of Great Britain

Please send details in the first place, and, if suitable, arrangements can be made for one of our buyers to evaluate your collection. Alternatively, stamps can be sent by registered post and an offer made by return.

**CANDLISH, McCLEERY LTD.,**  
40 Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 2LG  
[phone 0272 35038]