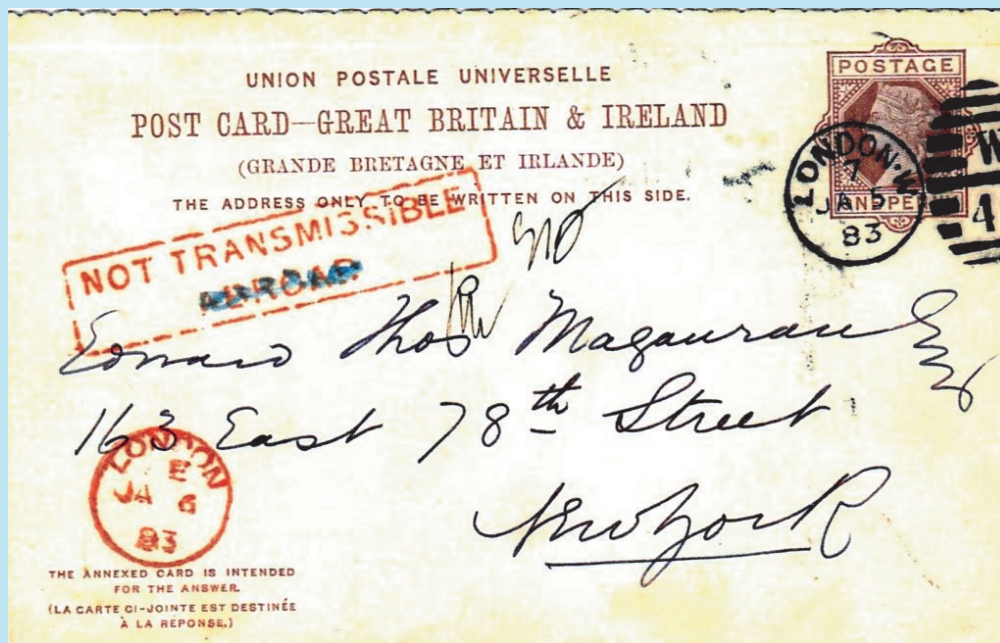




THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 23, No. 1
(Serial number 73)

February 2015



The First Issue of Reply Paid Postcards for Overseas Use
See page 13

CONTENTS

Page		Page	
2	Society Information and News	11	Great Britain Postal Stationery News
3	Chairman's Chat		Alan Huggins
3	Secretary's Notes	14	Post.A.Book : The Padded Envelope Story
4	Illustrated and Advertising Postal Stationery - KEVII Envelopes		George King
7	Is This The Biggest Ever GB Post Office Stamp	18	Commercial Late Usages of George V and George VI Stationery
	George King	20	Indian George VI Postal Stationery
8	Indian Victorian Postal Stationery used Abroad		John Jennison
	Sandeep Jaiswal	22	Notes From The Editor's Desk



The Postal Stationery Society (Founded 1992)

For collectors of postal stationery worldwide no matter what their area of interest.

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The Postal Stationery Society Journal **EDITOR: John H. Barker**

The Journal is published four times a year and distributed free to members. Contributions for publication in the Journal should be sent to the Editor, John H Barker, 35, Portia Avenue, Shirley, Solihull. B90 2NW. or via email:

johnhbarker@btinternet.com

Articles on any aspect of postal stationery are welcomed. Items for illustration should be good quality colour scans or photocopies or should be sent to the Editor for scanning.

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Society Calendar 2015

The programme of meetings for 2015 is included in the 2015 programme booklet sent to you with this February 2015 issue of the Journal.

Postal Stationery Commission Newsletter

The January 2015 issue is available on the FIP Postal Stationery Commission website:

www.postalstationery.org

Exhibition successes of PSS members.

PhilaKorea 2014:

Keith Hanman	United Kingdom	Bahamas Postal Stationery 1881---1940	90 G
Sandeep Jaiswal	USA	British India Queen Victoria Postal Stationery	82 V
Ross Towle	USA	Chile. "Presidente" Postal Stationery 1911---1929	90 G

Auctions

The May 2015 Auction list has been sent to members with this February 2015 issue of the Journal.

Could members keep lots coming in for future Society auctions. If possible put each lot in a plastic protector with a brief description and a reserve. Post to the Auctioneer, Neil Sargent, 24, Wheal Regent Park, Carlyon Bay, Cornwall PL25 3SP

Library

The Society Library holds over 200 items on many areas and aspects of Postal Stationery, see the latest list on the Society Website

Postal Stationery Society Website

Did you know that there are links to 40 Top Class Postal Stationery Exhibits covering a wide range of subjects. The contents of the Postal Stationery Society Journals for the past 10 years are also listed together with articles selected from past issues. Visit the Society's website:-

www.postalstationery.org.uk

Copies of past issues of the Journal are available from the Editor at £1.75 each plus postage.

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - FEBRUARY 2015

Following publication of the Chairman's Chat in the last issue of the PSS Journal, two very helpful members contacted me on the subject of newspaper wrappers. Both provided very useful information, for which I thank them once again through this column. Putting together a catalogue of newspaper wrappers based on an extensive collection of wrappers and the many hundreds of sources of literature still leaves many unanswered questions. If it were not for the many individuals with the specialist knowledge and scarce material, who have helped and continue to help, these questions would remain unresolved. In this manner much information has come to light which has never been published.

Focussing on completing the catalogue I sometimes do not pay much attention to other aspects of a wrapper. Recently an Austrian item came up for sale on an internet auction, it was a newspaper wrapper which had additional franking to send it by express post. This item did grab my

attention immediately, maybe because of the large "Express" label. Since I started collecting wrappers this was the first time I had seen a wrapper used express from anywhere in the world. I prepared myself for some serious bidding, but it didn't happen. There were three other bidders but none, it would appear, were serious; the item sold for under £20.

The wrapper itself is a relatively common 3 heller brown violet, which was first issued in 1908 and continued to be available till Austria discontinued selling newspaper wrapper on 10 April 1916. It is postmarked PRAHA PRAG 2c on 19 October 1913 and is addressed to a newspaper in Leitmeritz. Leitmeritz is the German name for the town of Litoměřice in present day Czech Republic and it is located some 40 miles north west of Prague. The wrapper has a total franking of 35 heller. At the time the express rate was 30 heller and 5 heller was the newspaper rate for an item weighing between 50 and 100 grams.



Jan Kośniowski

SECRETARY'S NOTES - FEBRUARY 2015

Apart from wishing everyone a very happy new year, there's little for me to say this time.

2015 Meetings.

Don't forget the four meetings that we have organised this year. The first two, one at the Royal Philatelic Society and one at London 2015 (The Design, Centre London) are set to be very enjoyable with four excellent speakers and displays. The third meeting will be at Swinpex in June; more of this in the next Journal. But just to say that the Swinpex meetings are always very friendly and informative, with a great deal of information and opinions exchanged between everyone. The final

meeting of the year will be our annual AGM and popular autumn auction.

I can only encourage all of you to try to attend at least one of these during the year.

Our Membership Secretary.

Congratulations to **Edward Caesley**, our Membership Secretary, on being made a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society. This is a much deserved reward and recognises all his hard work for the Society over many years. Congratulations also to **Edward Klempka** (GB) and **Erica Genge** (New Zealand), who have also been made Fellows of the Royal.

ILLUSTRATED AND ADVERTISING POSTAL STATIONERY in the period up to the First World War. K.E. VII - Envelopes: Part 2

The first series of listings of QV stationery was initiated by Colin Baker and published in the Postal Stationery Society Journal commencing in May 2009 and continuing through subsequent issues. This second series covers KE VII stationery. Part 1 of K.E. Envelopes was published in the November 2014 issue of the Journal. For details of the criteria used in drawing up the list readers are referred to the initial listing of May 2009. It is hoped that members will search their collections and send in details of new items, or add to the known details listed in this Journal.

[Editor's note:-

Material is listed in alphabetical order by the user's name as printed on the item. Stamp types are taken from the Huggins & Baker catalogue (2007) and are given in **bold type**. Earliest and latest dates of use are abbreviated to 'Earliest d/u:' & 'Latest d/u:' respectively.]

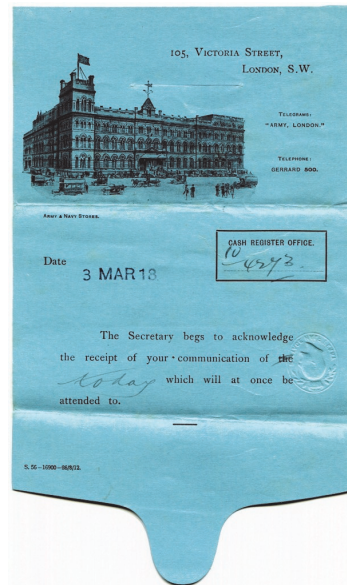
Update:

Following the publication of the first part of KE VII Envelopes in the previous issue of the Journal, members have sent further information:

Dates of use:

- Anglo Swiss Condensed Milk ... Latest d/u: 21 July 1904
- John Oakley & Sons ... Latest d/u: 20 May 1911
- J S Fry & Sons ... Latest d/u: 4 December 1912
- Mabie Todd & Co ... Earliest d/u: 8 November 1911

Additional items:

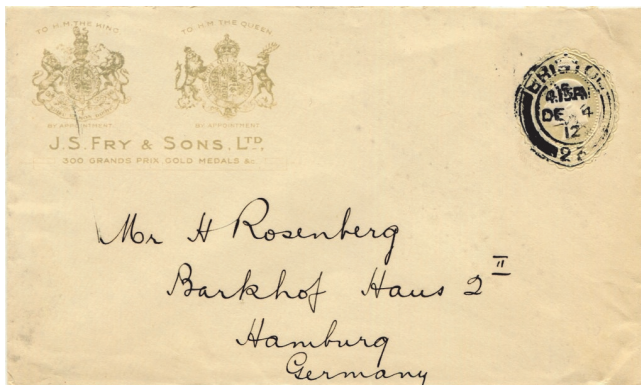


Army & Navy Co-operative Society Ltd

STO tuck-in letter sheet with large circular trade mark top left and picture of premises inside.

Stamp 1/2d blue-green type 19

Earliest d/u: 3 March 1913 Latest d/u:



J S Fry & Sons Ltd

STO envelope with two Royal Coat of Arms on front and one on upper back flap. 'Capt. Scott Antarctic Expedition 1910 on lower back flap

Stamp 2 1/2d grey-blue type 23

Earliest d/u: 4 December 1912 Latest d/u:

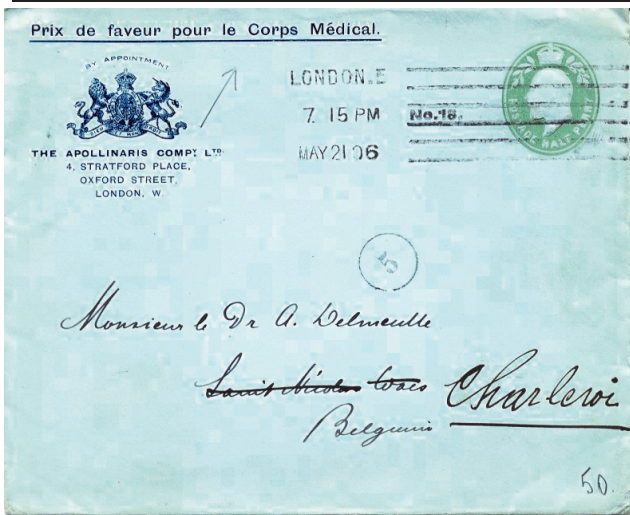


Barclay, Perkins & Co Ltd.

STO Lawton's Patent Envelope advertising Barclay's stout and pale ale.

Stamp 1d carmine type LW 6

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:



Apollinaris Compy. Ltd. 4, Stratford Place, Oxford Street London, W

STO envelope with Royal Coat of Arms & By Appointment.

Stamp ½d blue-green type 19

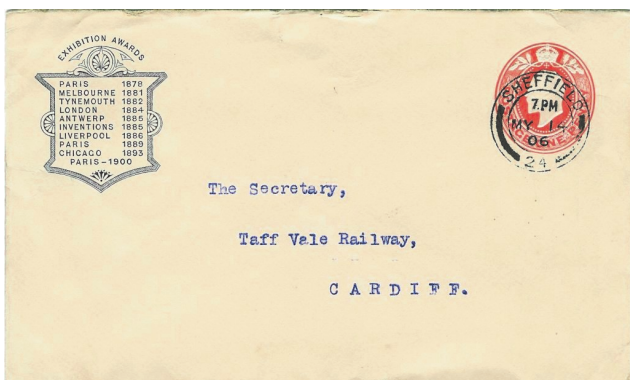
Earliest d/u: 21 May 1906 Latest d/u:



STO envelope with 'Prix Spécial pour le Corps Médical.'

Stamp ½d yellow-green type 19

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:

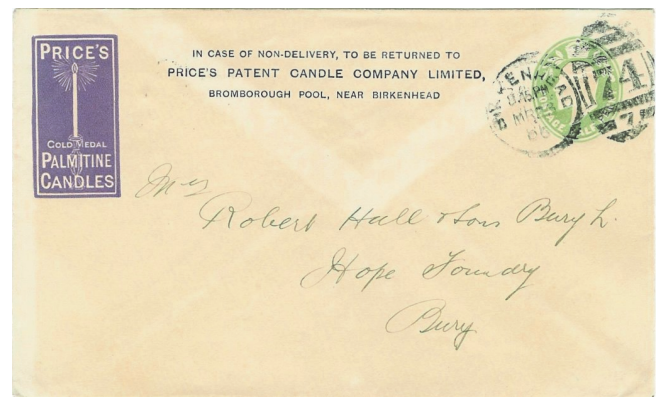


W Jessop & Sons Ltd, Brightside Works, Sheffield.

STO envelope with shield of exhibition awards at top left. Fancy logo on back flap.

Stamp 1d carmine type 20

Earliest d/u: 14 May 1906 Latest d/u:

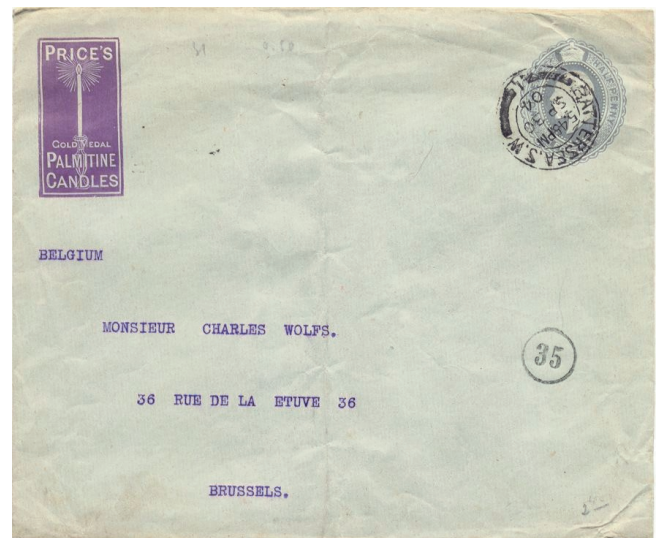


Price's Patent Candle Company Limited, Bromborough Pool, Near Birkenhead.

STO envelope with vignette for Palmitine Candles in the top left corner.

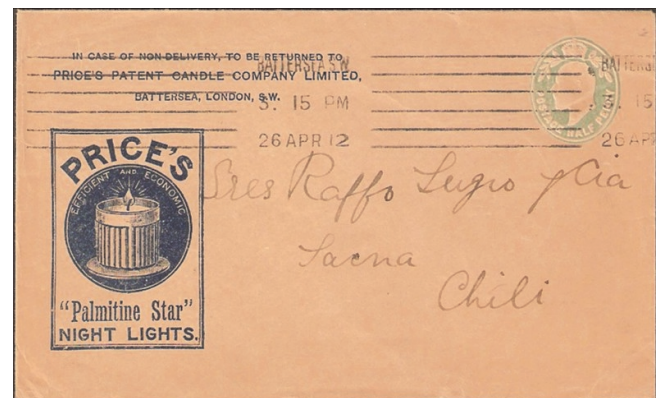
Stamp ½d yellow-green type 19

Earliest d/u: 23 March 1906 Latest d/u: 31 Jan. 1907



Stamp 2½d grey-blue type 23

Earliest d/u: 30 Sept. 1904 Latest d/u: 22 Jan. 1906

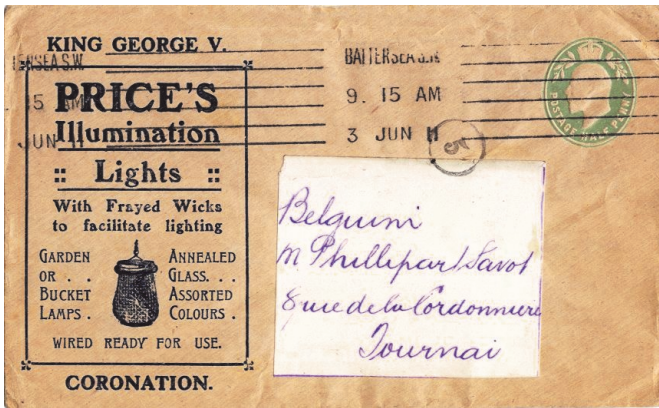


Price's Patent Candle Company Limited, Battersea, London S.W.

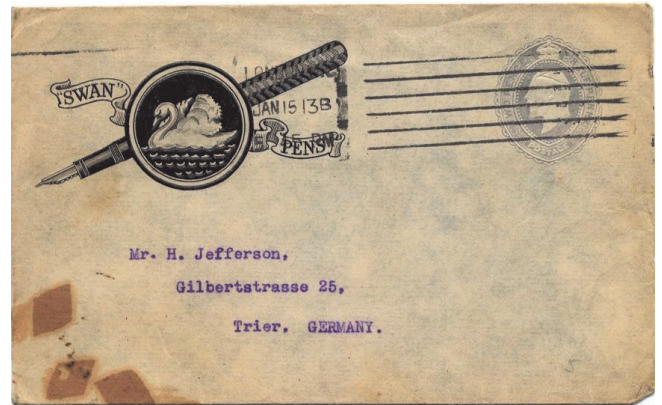
STO envelope with advert in rectangle lower left for Price's "Palmitine Star" Night Lights

Stamp ½d yellow-green type 19

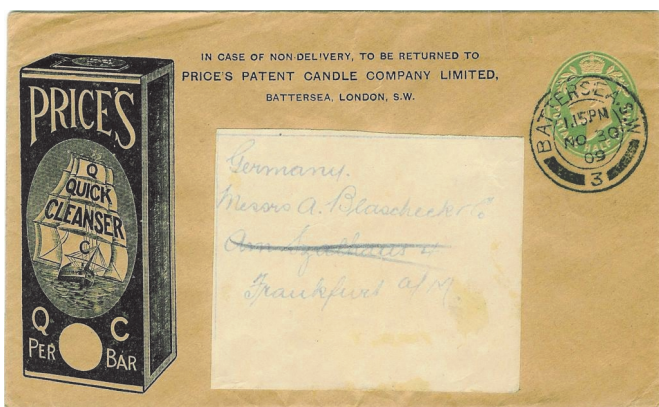
Earliest d/u: 26 April 1912 Latest d/u:



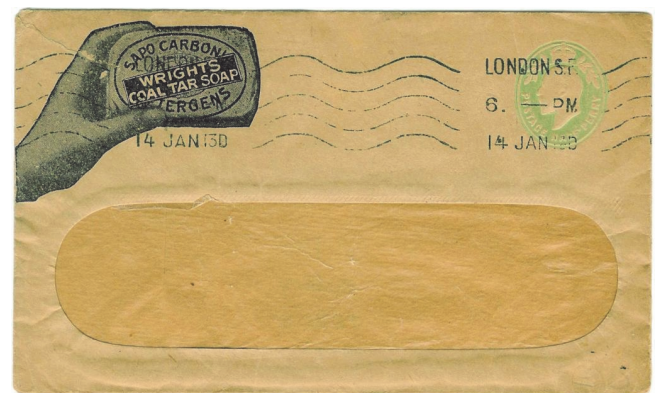
STO envelope inscribed 'George V Coronation' with advert in rectangle at left for Price's Illumination Lights
Stamp 1/2d yellow-green type 19
 Earliest d/u: 3 June 1911 Latest d/u:



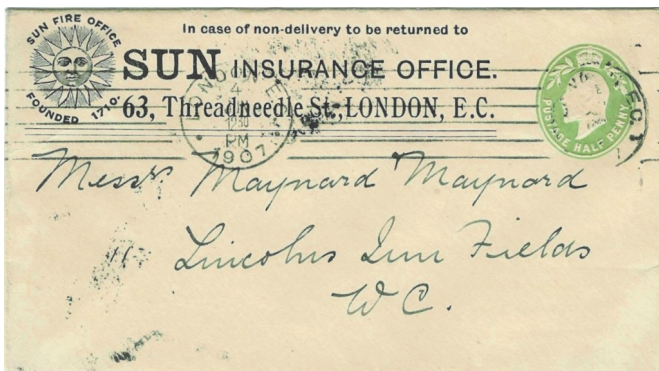
Swan Pens (Mabie & Todd & Co.)
 STO envelope with Swan and Pen logo at top left.
Stamp 2 1/2d grey-blue type 23
 Earliest d/u: 15 January 1913 Latest d/u:



STO envelope with vignette of a box of Price's Quick Cleanser at left.
Stamp 1/2d yellow-green type 19
 Earliest d/u: 30 Nov. 1909 Latest d/u



Wright's Coal Tar Soap, London
 STO window envelope with vignette of a hand holding a bar of soap
Stamp 1/2d yellow-green type 19
 Earliest d/u: 14 Jan. 1913 Latest d/u:



Sun Insurance Office, 63 Threadneedle Street, London EC
 STO envelope with vignette of a sun within the words 'Sun Fire Office Founded 1710' at top left.
Stamp 1/2d yellow-green type 19
 Earliest d/u: 4 June 1907 Latest d/u:



M, B & L. Ltd. 114 Southwark Street, London SE
 STO envelope with 1628 & 1730 logos at top left and B, M & L initials on the back flap.
Stamp 1d carmine type 20
 Earliest d/u: 10 April 1906 Latest d/u:

Editor: Many thanks to all those members who have contributed to these listings, past, present and future. The next article will move on listing other types of King Edward VII advertising Stationery.
 If you have any additions to the list or can add to the dates of usage of those listed, please contact the editor with details and if possible a scan/photocopy of the item concerned.

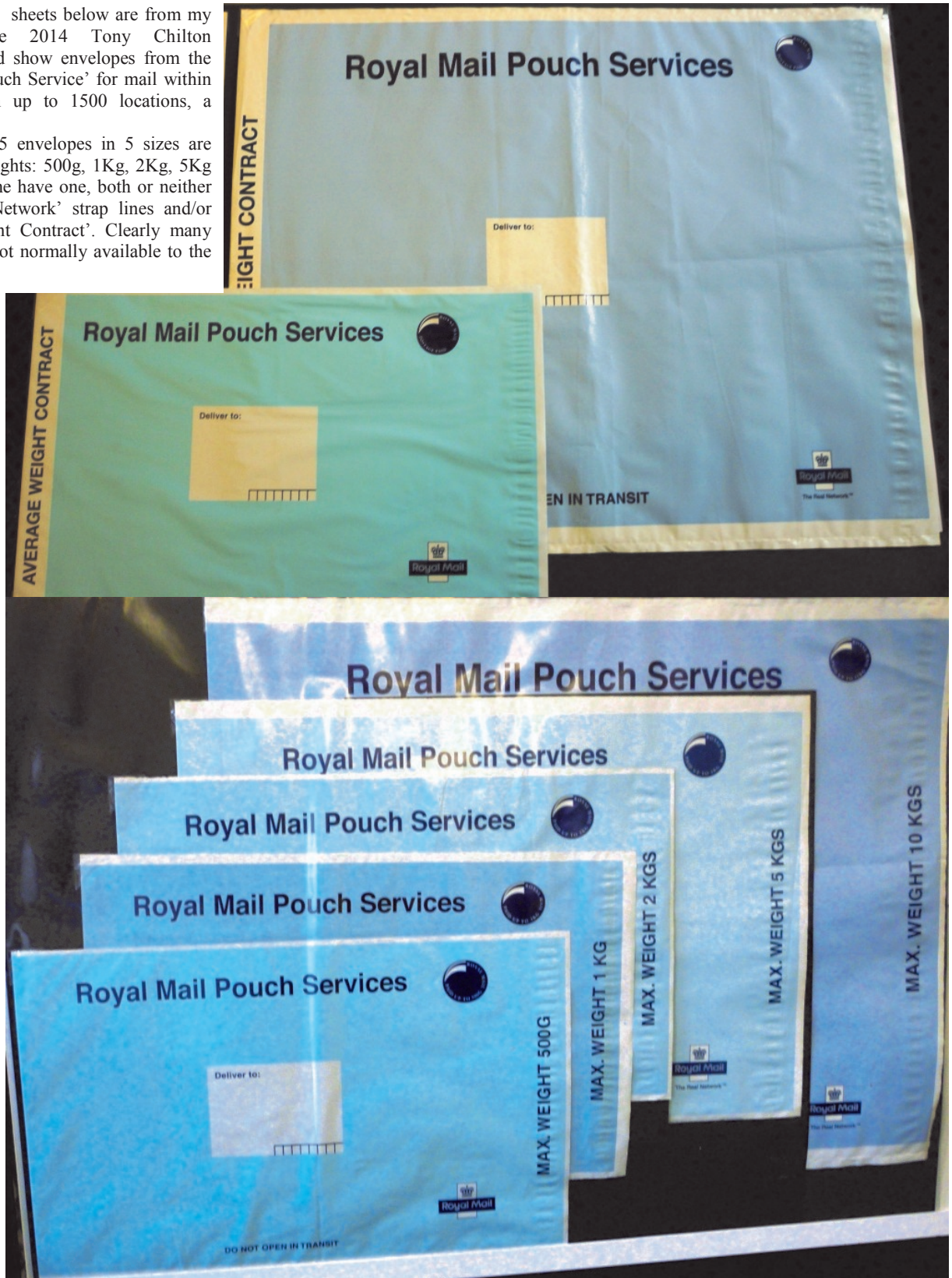
IS THIS THE BIGGEST EVER G.B. POST OFFICE STAMP

George King

Collecting information on contemporary postal stationery is difficult. Since 1986 and the publication of the last Post Office Guide, finding out about all Royal Mail Services has been quite difficult. The information has been scattered, and since the Post Office Act 2000, much has been considered by the Post Office as commercially sensitive. Currently, public services are provided under a scheme (published in the London Gazette) and available on line. However Post Offices, Delivery Offices and Scale Payment offices don't always seem to be aware of this. In the last few years, the Post Office seems to have been removing all business services from the general scheme and negotiating contracts directly with customers: perfectly legal and probably wise in their increasingly competitive environment, but problematic for philatelists interested in Postal History etc.

The two sheets below are from my entry for the 2014 Tony Chilton Competition and show envelopes from the 'Royal Mail Pouch Service' for mail within companies with up to 1500 locations, a contract service.

So far, 5 envelopes in 5 sizes are known with weights: 500g, 1Kg, 2Kg, 5Kg and 10 Kg. Some have one, both or neither of 'The Real Network' strap lines and/or 'Average Weight Contract'. Clearly many variations and not normally available to the public



INDIAN VICTORIAN POSTAL STATIONERY USED ABROAD

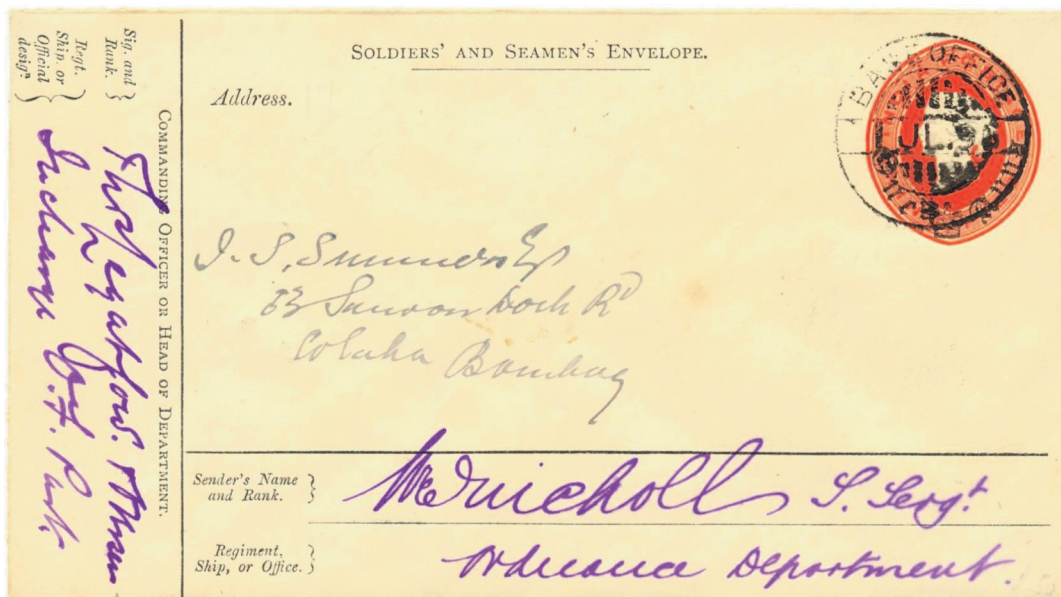
Sandeep Jaiswal

Indian Victorian postal stationery are known used from several foreign countries including Aden, Bahrain, Bandar-Abbas, British Somaliland, British East Africa, Burma, Bushire, Busrah, Guadur, Jask, Linga, Mahommara, Muscat, Nepal, Omara, Pasni and Zanzi-bar. In such cases, the postal administration of said countries was under the direct supervision of the Indian Postal Administration prior to these countries starting their own postal administration.



1893 2a6p postal stationery envelope (Pratisad 1 # EN18) uprated with two Y anna adhesives, sent from the German Consulate in Bushire to Germany paying 2 annas Registration fee and 1 anna postage with blue seal of the Vice Consul on reverse.

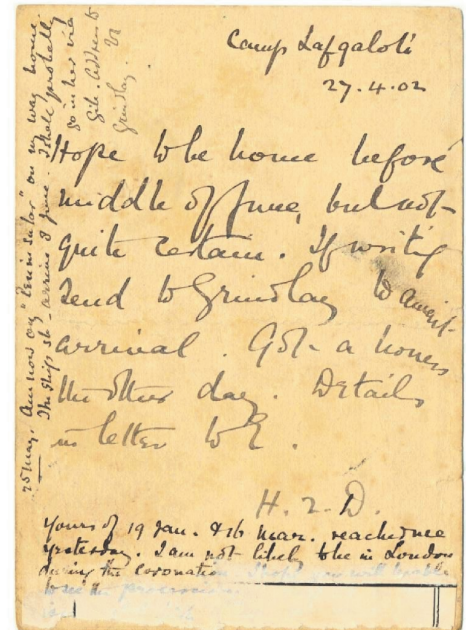
Another area of “India Used Abroad” resulted from the various military campaigns that Indian troops participated in including The Afghan Wars, The Chinese Expeditionary Force, The Suakim Field Force, Somaliland Field Force, The Tibet Expeditionary Force.



1895 1 anna on 9 pies Soldiers' and Seamen's postal stationery envelope (Pratisad 1 # MEN2) from The Sudan Campaign to Bombay cancelled by Suakim “BASE OFFICE / B / 1 JL. 96” cds and with Bombay delivery cds on reverse.

The use of Indian Postal Stationery on board of a ship could sometimes result in what would appear to be “India Used Abroad”. In such cases the article of mail could either have been written in (a) the country of origin but posted on a ship or (b) on board of a ship and posted on the ship or (c) on board of a ship but posted at the port of arrival.

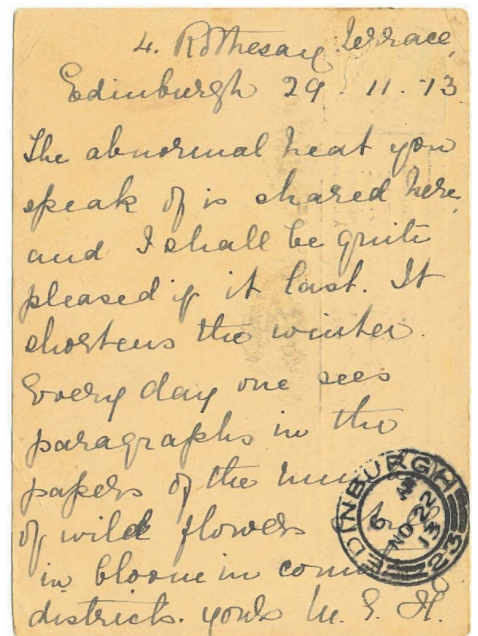
In such cases the mail would be cancelled with, what would appear to be at first glance, an “India Used Abroad” cancel.



1892 1anna on 1½ anna UPU postal stationery postcard (Pratisad 1 # PC11) written on 27 April 1902 but posted on 25 May 1902 on board the “S.S. Peninsular”. The postcard was cancelled at the Suez Port of Call “Port-Said” on 27 May 1902 and sent to London and re-directed to Isle of Man.

Reverse of the postcard reads “Camp Lafgaloli / 27.4.02” and “25 May I am on Peninsular on my way home. The ship arrives 8 June”

The use of a reply portion of an Indian UPU postcard by the recipient, in a foreign country, to respond to the sender (in India) re-sulted in “India Used Abroad”. Per UPU rules, attached reply cards were deemed postage pre-paid so long as they were being sent back to the country of origin.



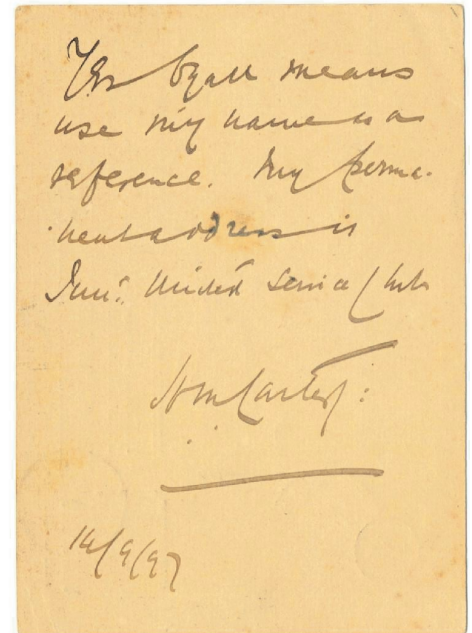
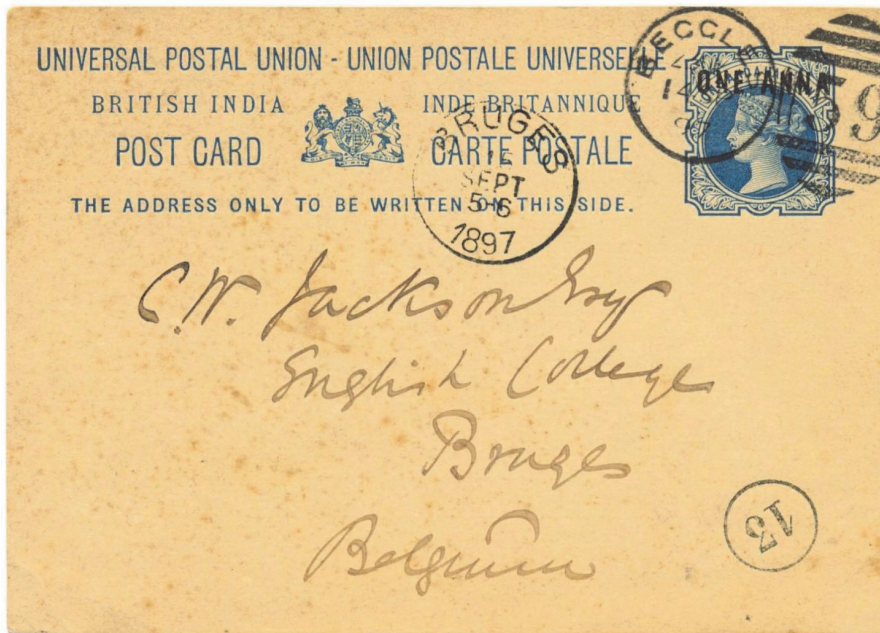
1901 1 anna + 1 anna UPU Reply postcard (Pratisad¹ # PC15) reply portion used on Nov. 29, 1913 from Edinburg, U.K. to Larkana, India and re-directed to Khairpur Nathoshan, India.

Reverse of postcard shows the card was written & posted from Edinburgh, U.K.

¹ Postal Stationery of British India 1856-1947 by Pratisad Neugaonkar

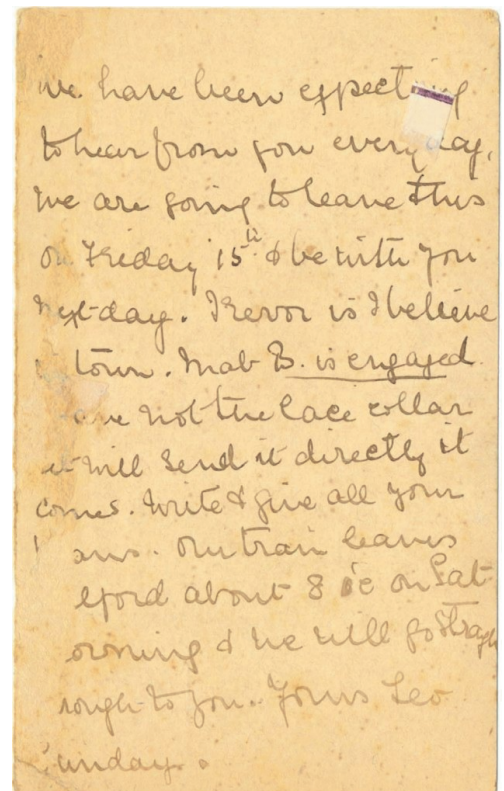
Perhaps the most unusual and interesting of the “India Used Abroad” postal stationery items are those that were a result of human error. Below are images of two such postal stationery postcards that were mistakenly posted into the British postal system and were erroneously allowed to pass through the system by the U.K. postal officials.

The author believes that the color and the design of these postcards, being very similar in appearance to those issued by Great Britain, may have led to the oversight.



1892 1 anna on 1½ anna UPU postal stationery postcard (Pratisad 1 # PC11) from Beccles, U.K. to Bruges, Belgium bearing a duplex strike of “BECCLES / 14 SP 97”.

Reverse of the postcard dated 14 September 1897; the same day as the duplex BECCLES postmark.



1884 ¼ anna + ¼ anna Reply postcard (Pratisad 1 # PC5) reply portion used on 8 July 1892 from Queenstown, Ireland to Worcestershire, England.

The message on the card reads: “We have been expecting to hear from you everyday, we are going to leave this Friday 15th & be with you next day. Trevor is I believe in town. Mab B is engaged. Have not the lace collar, I will send it directly when it comes. Write and give all your, Our train leaves ...eford about 8 on Sat morning & we will go straight to you. Yours Leo, Sunday” - clearly a non-philatelic item.

GB POSTAL STATIONERY NEWS

Alan Huggins

NEW ITEMS REPORTED

Envelopes - Stamped to Order Issues Queen Elizabeth II

Following on from the last issue of PSS which gave information about the Manila STO envelopes used by the House of Commons and House of Lords there are a number of other comparable envelopes on white or pale cream paper in the British Postal Museum & Archive Collection, and also in some private collections which have yet to be recorded in used condition. These listed below are unused but I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has similar examples in either used or unused condition.

Envelopes with blue airmail etiquette 'By air mail/Par avion' at top left; and 'UNITED KINGDOM' under stamp.

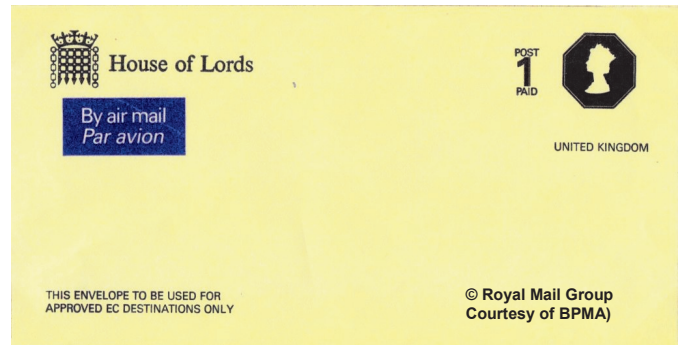
With House of Commons & portcullis symbol on front at top left & 'THIS ENVELOPE TO BE USED FOR APPROVED EC DESTINATIONS ONLY' at bottom left.

Pale cream paper, size 113 x 222mm (DL self-seal), 1st class black NVI stamp 23 x 23mm type E3a (with wide white frame line); 'SENDER' on back flap, pale yellow phosphor bands with B 3/92 print code inside (Arthur Roberts Collection).

Pale cream paper, size 113 x 222mm (DL self-seal), 1st class black NVI stamp 24 x 24.5mm type E3b (with thin white frame line); 'SENDER' on back flap, pink phosphor bands without print code (BPMA & John Holman Collections).

With House of Lords & portcullis symbol on front at top left & 'THIS ENVELOPE TO BE USED FOR APPROVED EC DESTINATIONS ONLY' at bottom left.

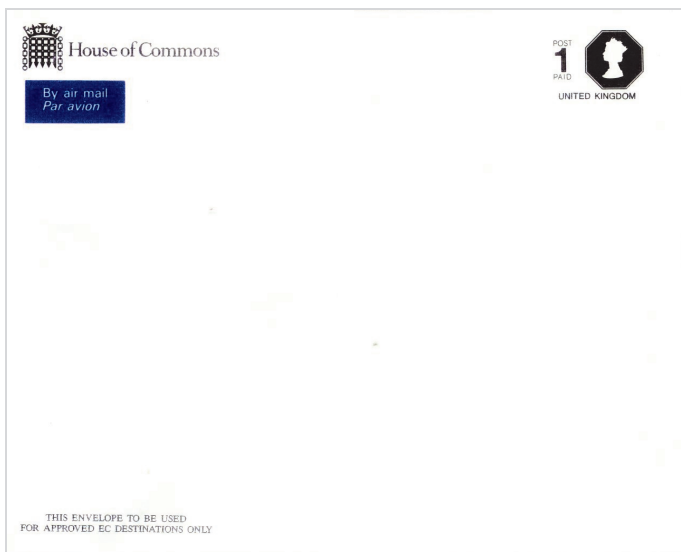
Pale cream paper, size 113 x 222mm (DL gummed flap), 1st class black NVI stamp 24 x 24.5mm type E3b (with thin white frame line), House of Lords insignia in red on back flap, no phosphor bands (BPMA & John Holman Collections).



White paper, size 217 x 273mm (gummed flap), 1st class black NVI stamp 23 x 23mm type E3a (with thin white frame line), 'SENDER' on back flap, no phosphor bands (BPMA Collection).

With House of Commons, 'FOR ALL EUROPEAN DESTINATIONS' & portcullis symbol on front at top left.

Pale cream paper, size 113 x 222mm (DL self-seal), 1st class black 25mm NVI stamp type E7, pale yellow phosphor bands with 38/98 print code inside (John Holman, Alan Huggins & Arthur Roberts Collections).



Postcard with blue airmail etiquette ‘By airmail/Par avion’ at top left; ‘THIS POSTCARD TO BE USED FOR APPROVED EC DESTINATIONS ONLY’ across bottom and ‘UNITED KINGDOM’ under stamp.

With House of Commons & portcullis symbol on front

Pale cream card 94 x 142mm, 1st class black NVI stamp 23 x 23mm type E3a (with thin white frame line), with text acknowledging receipt on reverse, clear or greyish-blue phosphor bands (BPMA & John Holman Collections).



Additional Parliamentary manila paper envelopes have now been reported are as follows:-

Stamped to order Parliamentary envelope with octagonal 1st class NVI stamp type E3a (with thin white frame line), with ‘House of Commons’ and with ‘Portcullis’ symbol at top left on front.

Manila paper, size 305 x 405mm., black & grey black* 1st class 23.5 x 24 or 24 x 23.5mm NVI stamp, no recycle symbol, no phosphor bands - * used 1995 (George King Collection).

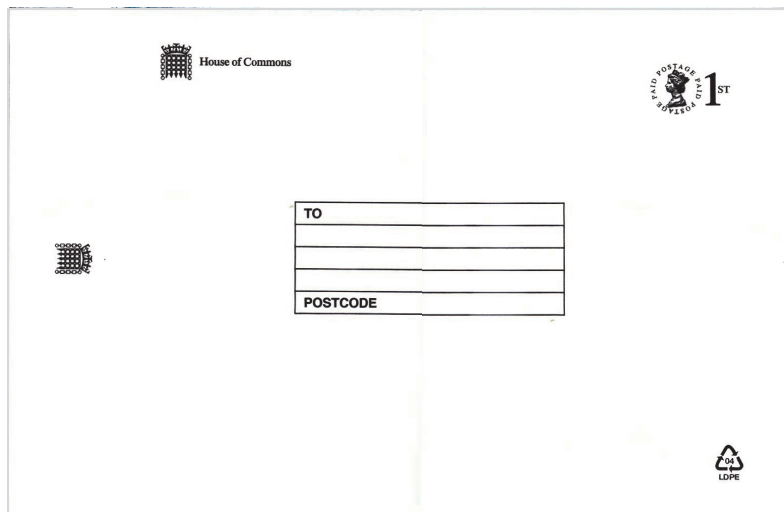
Stamped to order Parliamentary envelopes with circular 1st class WI stamp type E7 or E8, and with ‘House of Commons’ and ‘Portcullis’ symbol at top left on front and on back flap, and 14.5mm. ‘Recycled Paper’ symbol on front at bottom left.

Manila paper, size 256 x 383mm., black 1st class 21mm. NVI stamp type E7 with ‘POSTAGE PAID’, two 6mm. phosphor bands and 50mm. back flap with curved or pointed corners - used 1998 (George King Collection).

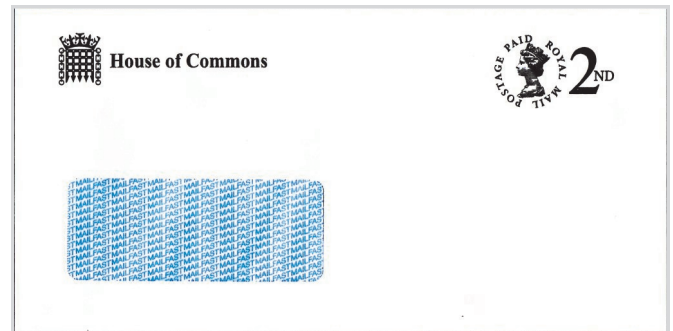
Manila paper, size 305 x 405mm., black 1st class 26mm. NVI stamp type E7 with ‘POSTAGE PAID’, two yellow 4mm. phosphor bands and 40mm. back flap with curved corners - used 2001 (George King Collection).

Manila paper, size 305 x 405mm., black 2nd class 26mm. NVI stamp type E8 with ‘POSTAGE PAID’, two yellow phosphor bands and 40 or 45mm. back flaps (George King Collection).

Several House of Commons white plastic envelopes have also come to light with impressions of black 1st class 25mm. NVI stamp type E7. These vary slightly in size from 246 - 253 x 322 - 326mm. have black insides, portcullis symbols on the front and the back flap, have no phosphor bands. They are known used from 2002, with and without ‘LDPE’ symbol at bottom right (Alan Huggins, George King & Arthur Roberts Collections)



George King also reports a House of Commons WDL envelope with black 2nd class 25.5mm. NVI stamp type E12 on white with 'MAIL FAST' in a blue continuous patterned interior, instead of pale cream paper; with pale blue green phosphor band and 'Mailfast 9 CLWKO' print code.



Postcards — Post Office Issues Queen Victoria

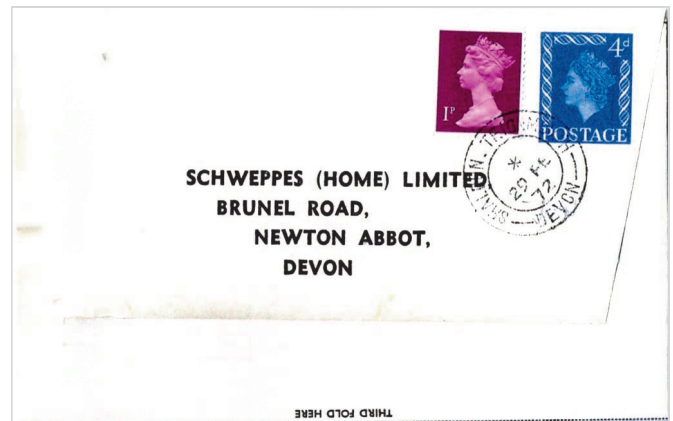


The first issue of reply paid postcards for overseas use took place on 1.1.1883 and comprised 1d, 1½d & 2d denominations to meet the different regional rates required. The 1d card illustrated with London Western District duplex dated 5.1.83 is the earliest date of use I have seen. Interestingly it also has a strike of the boxed instructional marking 'NOT TRANSMISSIBLE / ABROAD' in red and a red cds dated 6.1.83. Although 'ABROAD' has been crossed out in crayon, presumably the application of this marking was in error which is surprising since postal officials should have been aware of the expansion of the inland reply paid facility to other countries.

Wrappers - Stamped to Order issues



Queen Elizabeth II The item illustrated is a 4d Farleigh design on a Schweppes STO order form cancelled on 29 February 1972 in combination with a 1p decimal



adhesive. Although technically a letter sheet and not a wrapper it is an interesting example of WS54S.

The second item is actually a large gummed label with a previously unlisted compound stamping of ½p + 3p Machin letterpress dies and with a cachet indicating an apparent link to the wedding of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips on 14.11.1973 (courtesy George King).

AN EXPERIMENT FOR THE USE OF EMBOSSED POSTAL STATIONERY STAMPS AS ADHESIVES?



The previously unrecorded item illustrated which appeared in a recent auction is very much of a mystery. The pair of impressions of the 1d pink embossed type 2 die 151w.w. dated 14.10.69 have been struck almost centrally on perforated paper which has the same dimension and perforation (15.5 x 15) as the 1860-64 adhesive revenue stamps and the 1867-78 5s - £1 adhesive postage stamps. The purpose behind such a production is unknown but the speculative title used above suggests one possibility. (illustration courtesy of Robin Swaffield)

POST·A·BOOK - THE PADDED ENVELOPE STORY

George King

I now see the Post A Book envelopes as part of a series of Post Office ‘padded envelopes’, starting with the ‘Cassette Envelope’ **EPC1** in 1983, which uses an undenominated Frama as a stamp (**Fig 1**). Following on, the early ‘Post A Book’ using the same NVI Frama as a stamp.

These were followed with versions of the Post A Book envelopes with Octagonal NVI stamps, catalogued under **ES124**, [but which I now believe should be part of a Post Office sequence of padded envelopes]. **Fig 4, 5 & 6**

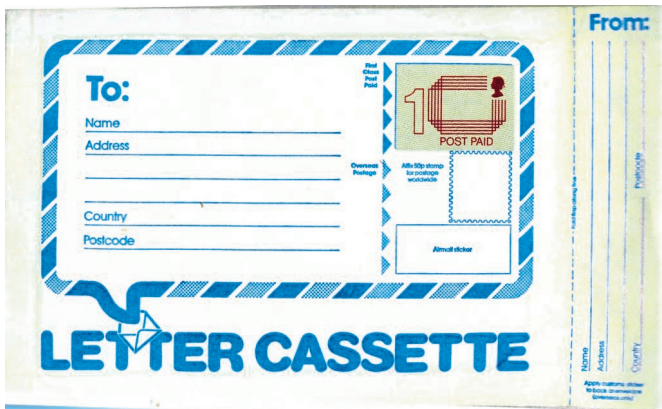


Fig. 1

This only makes sense when you can see all of the designs, not just the stamps or labels. I know of two basic designs for this Post A Book envelope. (**Fig 2 & 3**.)

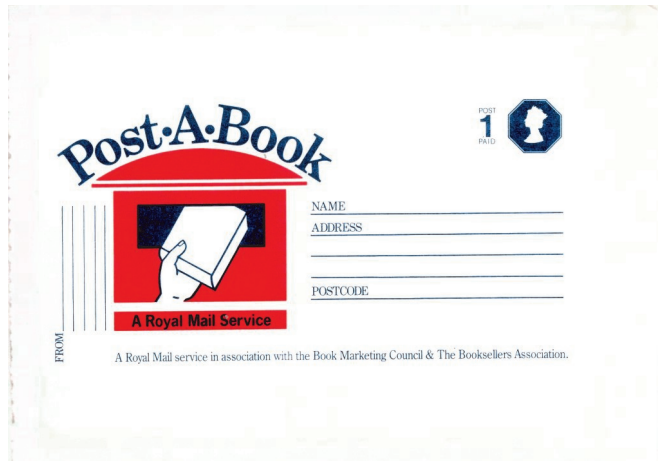


Fig. 4/5

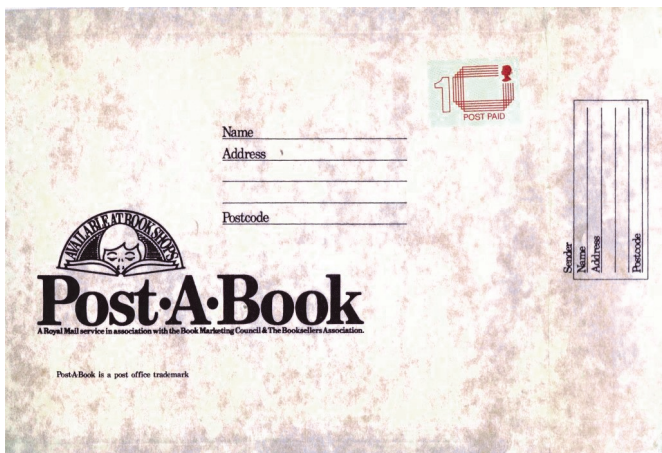


Fig. 2



Fig. 4 (back)



Fig. 3

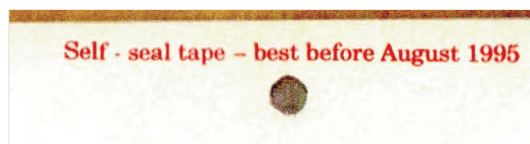


Fig. 4 detail - best before date

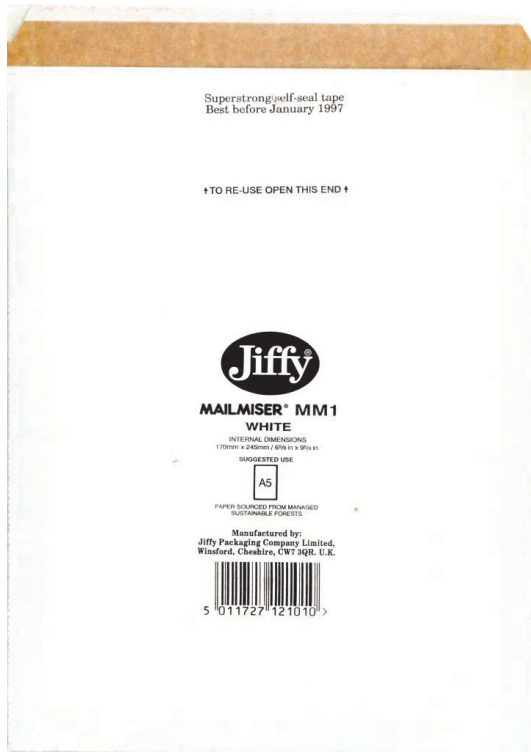


Fig. 5 (back)

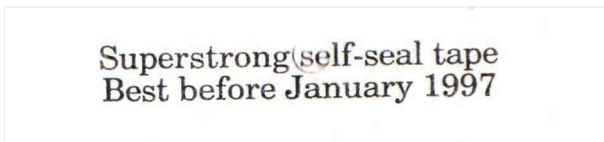


Fig. 5 detail - best before date



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

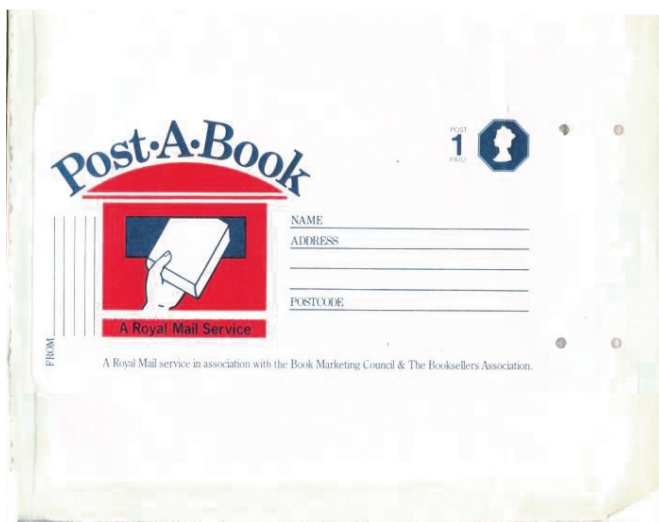


Fig. 6

In addition, there are the 'Post Office Mail Packs' 1982 EPM1 (Fig 7 & 8) [The back of 7 and 8 are the same], and also 'Post Packs' (Fig 9). Not to forget the 'Airpacks', which I'm not covering here. Some of these have already been illustrated in the Journal.

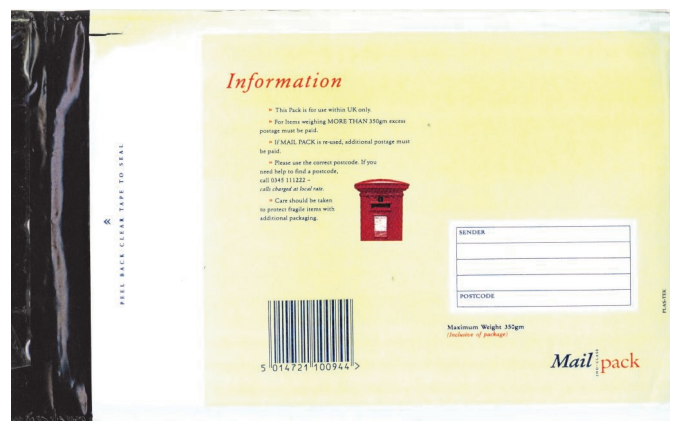


Fig. 7/8 (back)

The padded cassette envelope exists with the back text upright (compared to the front), and inverted.

The Post A Book envelopes using Octagonal stamps have different backs, and I probably haven't seen them all. In particular all of the best before dates (which are printed on the back of the envelope). (Fig 4 back & 5 back). The back of the larger size (Fig 6) is like a black Fig 5 back, but with MM2 and date of December 1996. For simplicity I've only copied those items A4 or less.

The stamped to order padded CD envelopes sold by Sainsbury's ES160c aren't part of this sequence, but are



Fig. 9

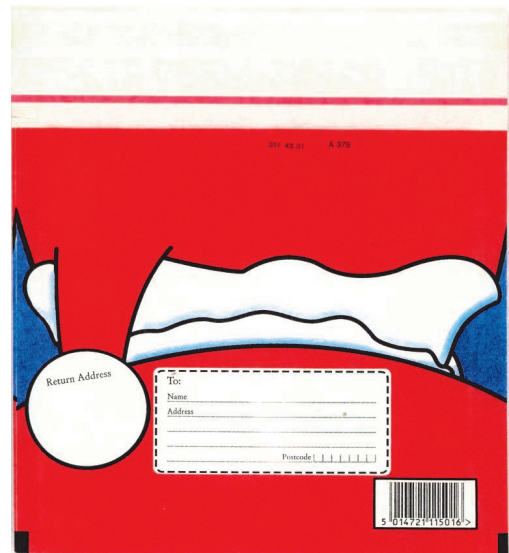


Fig. 10 back

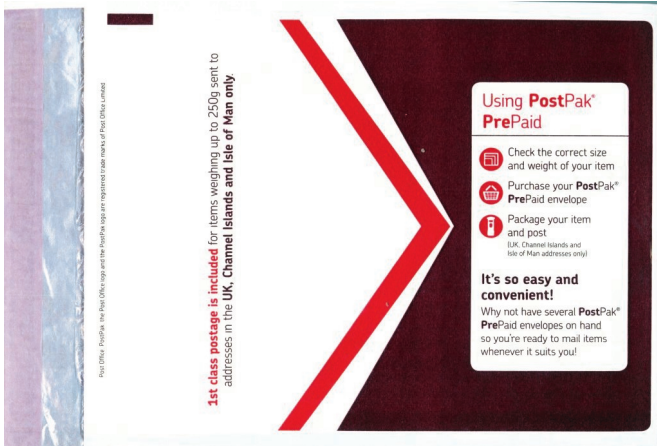


Fig. 9 (back)

part of the story of padded envelopes. I'm not sure if they have been illustrated in colour in the journal before) (Fig. 10 & Fig. 11).



Fig. 11

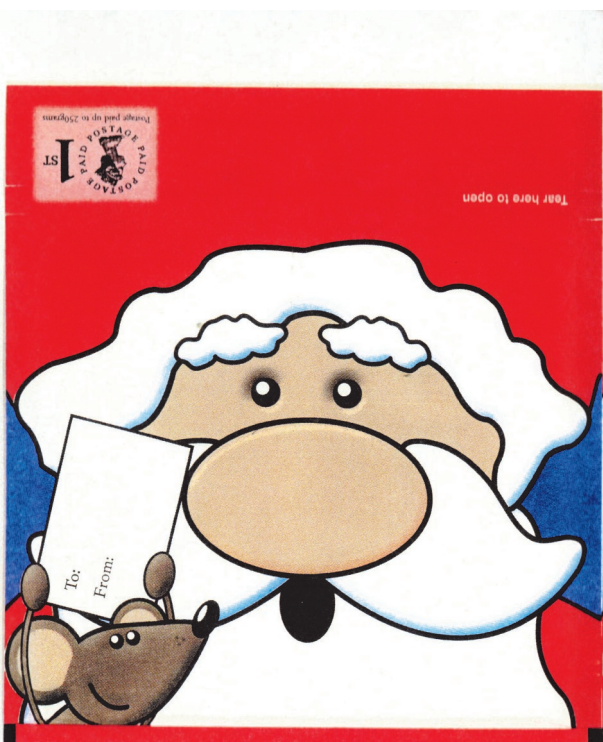


Fig. 10

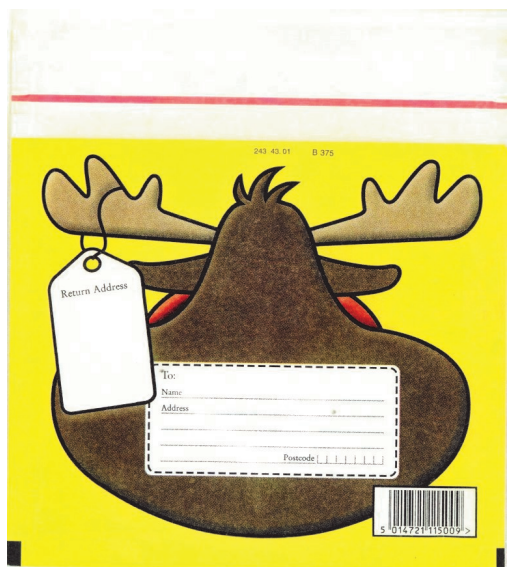


Fig. 11 back

Some information about these services can be gleaned from Post Office Gazette Notices:-

First Class Stamp Book Promotion **12 September 1984**

Letter Cassette

The first class stamp book issued on 3 September 1984 contains a promotional offer for customers. By sending 68p in stamps (4 x 17p) to a freepost address customers will receive a 'letter cassette' package containing a blank 30-minute cassette, a greetings card and special packaging with postage paid (within the UK). An international facility has been added which allows customers to post their cassette anywhere in the world if they affix a 50p stamps to the packaging.

Any customer requiring any further information about the offer or who wish to complain about late or non-delivery of their cassette should be encouraged to write to the freepost address on the stamps book:

Letter Cassette Offer (FA 3.4)
 FREEPOST (no stamp required)
 Chetwynd House
 Chesterfield
 Derbyshire
 S49 1BR
 or may telephone 01-235 8000 ext 4511

The offer is open until 31 March 1985, is limited to one per household and customers should allow 28 days for their cassette to arrive.

Post-paid label **28 August 1985**

{picture Frama NVI label}

Officers should note that the post-paid label (above) is only valid when attached to either the Letter Cassette envelope or Post-A-Book envelope. Once separated from this packaging this label has no postal value at all. Packets bearing the label are, therefore, liable to be surcharged for the full amount or returned to sender.

Post A Book **23 June 1982**

From 30 June, 1982, the new Post-A-Book service will be available to the public. Booksellers will buy special first class postage paid padded envelopes from a Central Post Office store and sell them to customers. Booksellers will hand in packs, addressed and sealed at Post Office counters.

There are three sizes of pack. Each pack carries the new postage paid symbol illustrated below which indicates that first class postage has been paid. The symbol bears no monetary value, but the price the bookseller pays for the pack covers the full postal rate. Each pack should therefore be treated as a fully paid item and does not need to be weighed. The postage paid symbol is printed in red

{follows diagram of Frama, but with solid '1', and POST/PAID in the centre of the rectangle}

Post A Book

7 July 1982

Over 1,100 bookshops are now involved in the new Post-A-Book service and it is likely that many Post Offices have already handled Post-A-Book packs.

To recap, booksellers should hand Post-A-Book packs (addressed and sealed) over counters. There are three sizes of Post-A-Book packs, each displaying the new postage paid symbol printed in red as illustrated below. Officers should note that the symbol has been slightly revised from the illustration that appeared in the Gazette of 23 June 1982.

{illustration of frama as issued - outline '1', and 'POST PAID' at bottom of design}

All Post-A-Book packs are fully paid first class letter packet items and no special handling is required. The postage symbol must be date-stamped/cancelled as a normal stamped item.

The G.B. Post Office was the first, but not the only Post Office to issue pre-paid cassette envelopes. The Irish Post Office issued theirs on 17.11.1987 {Jung U18} and re-printed it 1995 & 1999, with minor differences {Jung U18a,b, & c}. (Fig. 12). In April 1988 this envelope was distributed free to customers containing a cassette and advertising text.

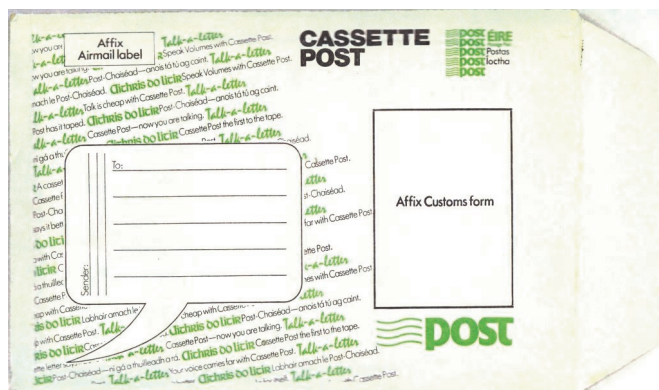


Fig. 12

[Editor's note:-

Cassette envelopes were issued by a number of countries including the following:

- Denmark 1985
- Faeroe Isles 1986
- Finland 1986
- Netherlands 1985
- Sweden 1984

The most prolific use of Cassette envelopes was in Egypt in the 1990s. Many different issues were made, all with imprinted stamps similar to the contemporary adhesives stamps. This was unlike the European Countries listed above whose Cassette envelopes simply carried an inscription that postage had been paid.]

COMMERCIAL LATE USAGES OF GEORGE V AND GEORGE VI STATIONERY

Maurice Buxton

This article illustrates and comments upon three KGV postcards and one KGVI envelope uprated with adhesive stamps. All four were stamped with dies that had been superseded – i.e. no longer needed for the rate in question and/or replaced by an equivalent die for the succeeding reign – and used several years after they were “current”. They initially appear philatelic, but on closer inspection give every sign of being commercial.

The common link between these items is an inherent problem with postal stationery: it’s stamped for a particular rate, so if the rate changes you need to add more postage. Basic rates had been stable in the interwar period, but most were increased on 1st May 1940 to raise revenue, with further regular increases from 1948. One method was of course to take everything back for additional stamping to order, although double stampings of this kind tend to be relatively scarce. You can certainly imagine that many users with a large quantity of stationery on hand would have blanched at the logistics of transferring it back and forth, especially under wartime conditions!

The alternative was to use adhesives, as with the first item in chronological order here, a KGV printed matter STO card, size ‘d’, H&B CS60. It’s a standard acknowledgement of a letter received, stamped for the Canada Life Assurance Company, and used with an additional KGVI ½d in 1945:

The card must have been stamped before 1st May 1940, when the inland printed matter rate was increased from ½d to 1d. (The KGVI ½d letterpress STO die was not available until later.) Presumably the company ordered a large stock of these cards some time before the rate increase was announced, and needed to uprate them before use. The ½d adhesive is the pale green type first issued in 1941, which suggests they were uprated as and when used.

However, that method loses one of the main advantages of postal stationery – the ability to just pick up a card or envelope and use it as is without further ado. An alternative that would usually be more efficient would be to stamp them in bulk in advance:

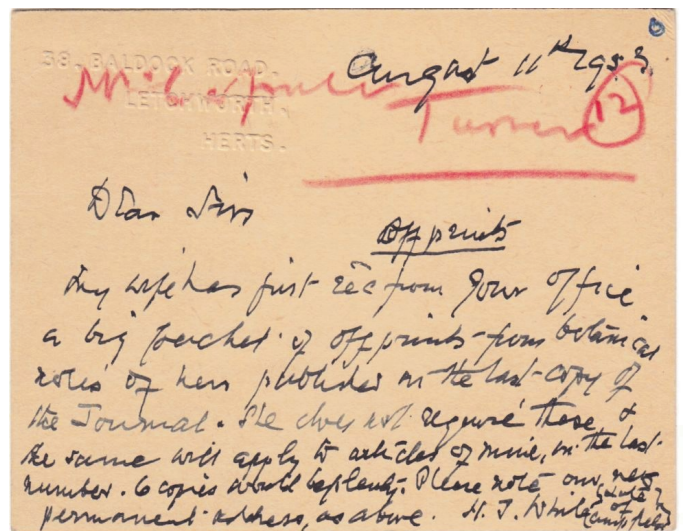
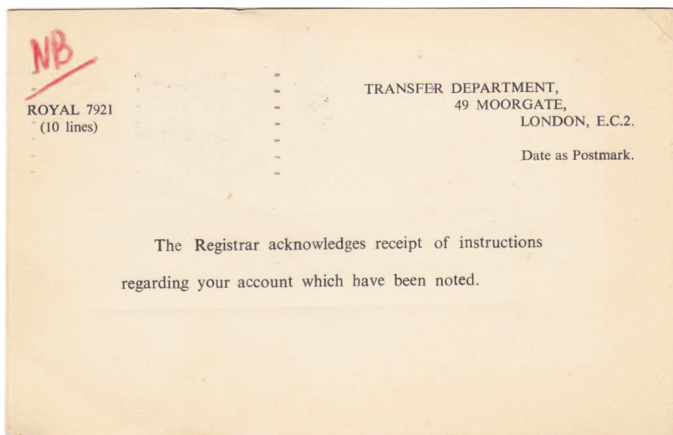
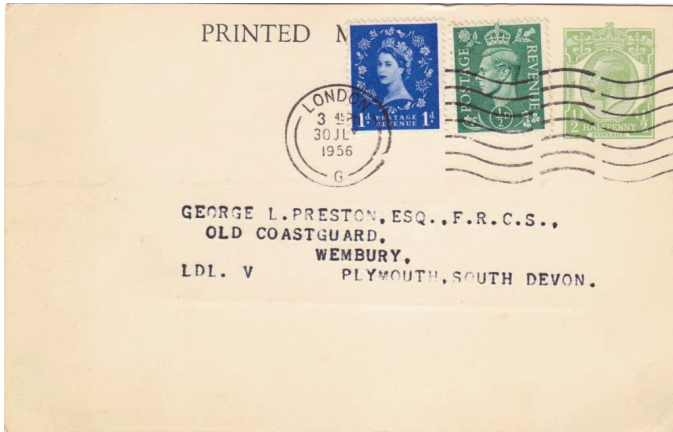


This KGVI envelope is H&B ES62, stamped for the merchant bankers Baring Brothers at the 1½d inland letter rate, and uprated for the new 2½d rate of 1st May 1940. The 1d adhesive used was from the Postal Centenary set issued on 6th May. The surprising thing is that it was posted in 1947, long after these stamps went off issue.

As the addressees are a firm of upmarket solicitors founded in 1715, and the envelope was not directed to a specific person who might be a collector, this appears to be an entirely commercial late use of both embossed and adhesive stamps. It seems likely that some hapless office junior was given the task of pre-uprating a large number of envelopes in 1940 using the adhesive stamps on hand, and that these were still being used up as late as 1947!

Sometimes you can get both methods at once – two upratings with adhesives done at different times. This KGV printed matter STO card, size ‘f’, H&B CS61 is used in 1956, uprated with both a 1941 KGVI ½d pale green and a 1953 QEII 1d blue Wilding for the 2d rate of 1st June 1956:





Philatelic “triple reign” items from 1937 with KGV, KEVIII and KGVI stamps are fairly common (and commercial ones can be found). This however is a more unusual KGV, KGVI, and QEII triple reign usage. That wouldn’t be especially noteworthy if it was obviously philatelic, but here it appears not to be – the item is another standard acknowledgement card, and has clearly been addressed using a commercial addressing machine.

Again, it must originally have been stamped before 1st May 1940. The KGVI ½d uprating was surely done in bulk at some point – the green ½d was long out of issue by 1956 (superseded by the pale orange version in 1951 and then a Wilding in 1953), so cards stamped with it must have been “held in stock”. However, as the inland printed matter rate was increased to 1½d in 1951 and the card had not been uprated for this rate in the interim, it seems likely that the company had by then reverted to uprating as and when needed.

The final item shows that late uses are not necessarily seen only on stamped to order material – similar circumstances can apply with Post Office cards. It is a KGV 1d card on pale buff, size ‘d’, H&B CP73, issued for the internal postcard rate of 1918-21 and 1922-40, and used in early August 1953 uprated with a 1951 KGVI 1d light ultramarine for the 2d postcard rate of 1940-57:

The message is non-philatelic (a request to a publisher not to send as many offprints of articles in future, and to note the new address embossed on the back of the card), and the KGVI stamp was still current at this time (the 1d Wilding was not issued until 31st August). So here the sender seems to have made a bulk purchase in the late 1930s that was still being used up many years later.

Late usage items such as these are unusual and cast an interesting sidelight on the way stationery was used in the mid 20th century, and are well worth looking out for. Comments invited.

[Editor’s Note: Perhaps members would like to report examples of commercial late use of stationery from other countries and/or periods with a view to publication]

INDIAN GEORGE VI POSTAL STATIONERY

John Jennison

In the course of building up a collection of George VI postal stationery one is often faced with items which are difficult to find or are uncatalogued. India is a good example of this and although it is a rich area for postal stationery (only letter cards and wrappers were not issued) there are items which are very difficult to obtain.

My first example is illustrated in **Figures 1 and 2**, which show a nine annas embossed stamped telegraph form used from Agra, 4th October 1948, some time after partition from India in 1947 to Karachi, Pakistan. This has recently been catalogued by Neurgaonkar¹ under Telegraph Forms as TLF7.

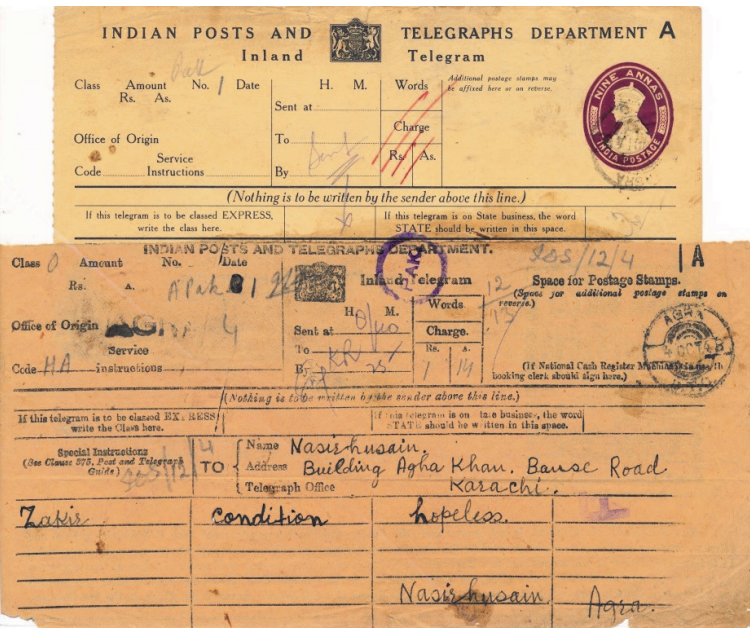


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

This is the only stamped telegraph form of George VI that I know of outside Great Britain. No prices are given for this item which is hardly surprising as only a handful of unused and used have come to light. All the known used examples have been sent to Pakistan, and perhaps due to the administrative problems after partition, may account for why they were not destroyed. I wonder whether any of these forms would have been overprinted Pakistan as with other British Indian Stationery after partition, but so far no examples have appeared. This particular item has an extra form attached to the stamped form with the chilling message: Zakhir condition hopeless. One rupee and five annas were affixed in stamps to pay the fees.

I purchased this particular item from an Indian dealer on ebay some 12 years ago. It was listed as a buy only item and after a couple of weeks it did not attract any takers. After a couple of months it was relisted and I purchased it. It is doubtful if that scenario would repeat itself today!

The second example of stationery fits into the uncatalogued status and is illustrated in Figures 3, 4, 5. This card is based on the nine pies postcard (Neurgaonkar **PC59**) overprinted PRISONER OF WAR POST and address and service as shown in **Figure 3**. The return address label, affixed by the Japanese, has been turned over to expose the full front face of the card. The card was posted from Naushahra Shahpur 1st August 1942.

Wayne Menuz wrote an article on these cards in the United Postal Stationery Journal² and I use his article for my comments. This card was created for family members to write to their POW relatives in the 15th Punjab regiment, which was deployed in Malaya early 1941. By early 1942 the Japanese had overrun Malaya and had set up POW camps in Burma, Malaya and Borneo. The survivors of the Regiment were taken prisoner in Dutch Borneo and eventually imprisoned in Kuching, Sarawak. These cards are similar in principle to the British POW card (Huggins & Baker **CP103**). As far as it is known no cards were actually delivered to prisoners. The card bears a Simonoseki Nippon transit mark from 29th October 1942. The Japanese attached a small piece of paper over the address (**Figure 4**) and wrote there is no applicable person, hence return. A purple Japanese rectangular boxed stamp refers to the Borneo POW camp. The red INCONNU handstamps were applied in India. The reverse of the cards had a generic message in English (**Figure 5**) which was repeated in Punjabi on the face of the card to the left of the dividing line. Apparently ten of these cards were discovered in the British Indian archives sometime after the British had turned the administration of India over to the Indians and then sold to a dealer. It would appear from this that none of the cards were

returned to the senders. No unused cards are known and this card is different from the two illustrated in the UPS journal². I have seen one other for auction in England some years ago so there are perhaps up to another six cards existing.

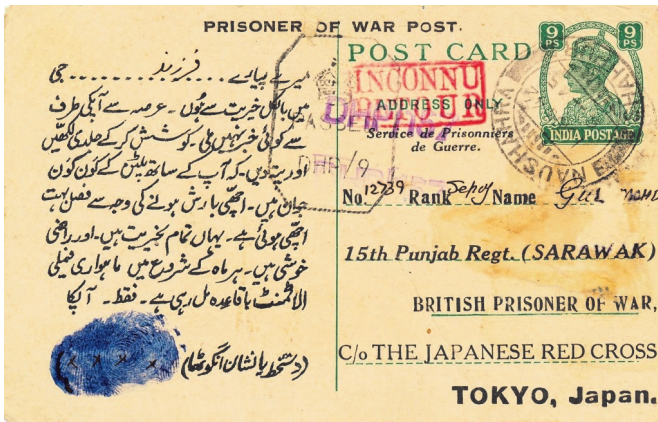


Fig. 3

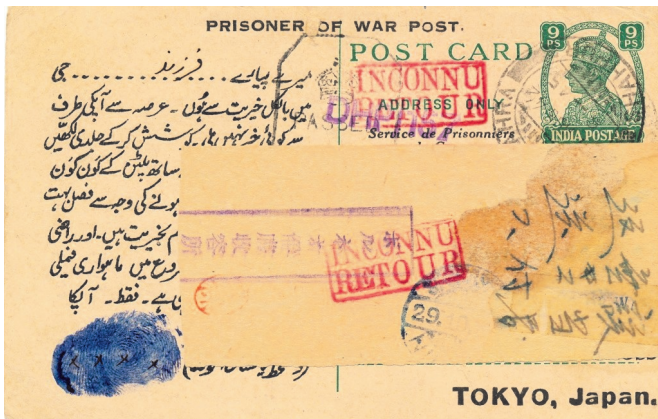


Fig. 4

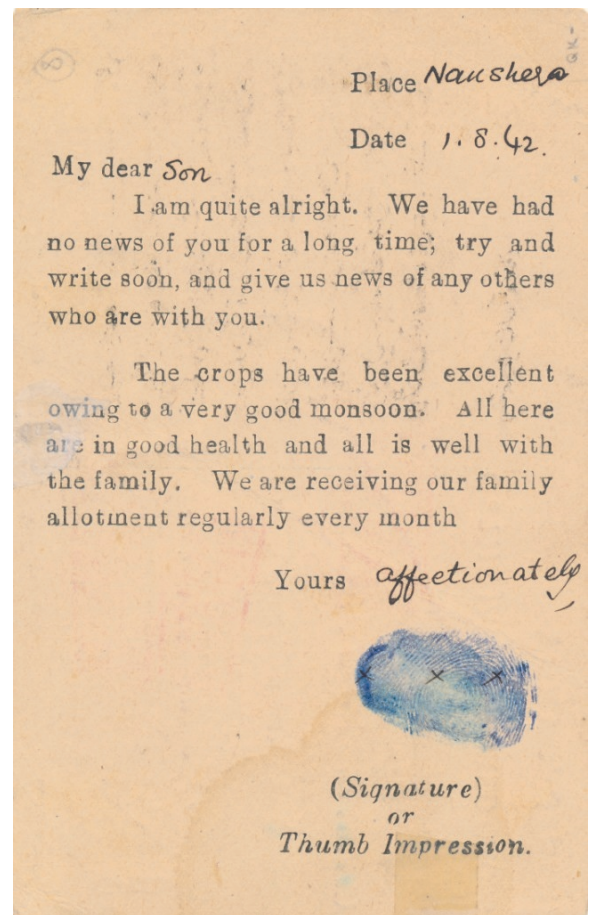


Fig. 5

References

1. Postal Stationery of British India 1856-1947, Pratisad Neurgaonkar, India 2009
2. Wayne Menuz, Postal Stationery, Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society, Volume 50, Number 6 (Nov-Dec 2008), pages 161-2

Share your interest with other members!

I am always pleased to receive article, notes, comments etc on all aspects of postal stationery collecting and on individual items of postal stationery.

Please send copy for the May issue of the Journal to reach the Editor by Monday 6th April 2015

Contact details on Page 2 of this issue of the Journal.

John Barker

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Recent Articles from the Philatelic Press

Gibbons Stamp Monthly (December 2014)
 "Postal Stationery Matters" Peter van Gelder

Postal Stationery November/December 2014 (USA)
 "A New Classification of the Tax Notice Forms of Hungary" Paul de Leeuw van Weenen
 "Letter Sheet or Letter Card?" Wayne Menuz
 "Zanzibar Overprinted Indian Envelopes, an update" George T. Krieger
 "Barbados Envelope Overprints" Ray Biemiller
 "RPSL Founder's Stationery" Wayne Menuz
 "Peruvian Postalk Cards Authorised for New Denominations in 1902" German Baschwitz

Postal Stationery Collector February 2015 (Australia)
 "Australian Aerogramme, An Unrecorded Essay" Joan Orr
 "Current Malaysian Postal Stationery" Ian McMahon
 "Wrapper Hall of Fame: High Sales Realizations" John Courtis
 "Christmas Card Pre-Paid Envelopes and Maximum Cards"
 "New Regional Postcards"
 "Listing of Australian Non-Denominated Postal Stationery"
 Ian McMahon

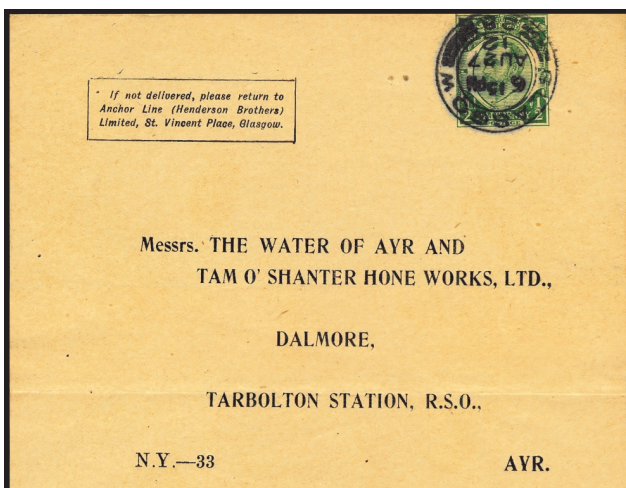
Ganzsachensammler December 2014 (Switzerland)
 "Die Privatganzsachen der Firma A. Franke in Bern" U. Fehlmann
 "Zweiländerfrankaturen? Korrespondenz von Vergesslichen" Von G. Schild

Auction Realisations:

Australia military letcard: "A.I.F., Abroad" with 1d red KGV imprinted stamp cds Auburn NSW 14 January 1917 sold by Prestige Philately for £5,563. This item was from the Tony Finlayson collection and although 80,000 were printed, this is reputed to be first used copy to come onto the market.

Australia stamped-to-order 1916 Kreglinger & Fernau 'Wool Sample only' envelope with 6d blue Kangaroo imprint, unused sold by Phonix for £3,312

GV Newspaper Wrappers in Uncut Sheets.
 Jan Kościowski (jan@stampdomian.com) writes:



Mention was made in the May 2014 issue of the PSS Journal that GB newspaper wrappers were probably available in uncut sheets. Recently, a little bit of checking soon revealed that this was indeed the case. Harry Dagnall (H Dagnall, Postal Stationery Wrappers, self published, June 1993) was perhaps the first to mention that uncut sheets of wrappers were available from

1877 onwards. A General Post Office "NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC", which is illustrated in Dagnall's booklet, dated 26 November 1877, stated that "The public can also obtain these Wrappers uncut in quarter reams, containing 120 sheets of 14 wrappers on each sheet, by making special application for them at the Post Office at which they wished to obtain them.". Other similar worded notices have appeared from time to time as new wrappers were issued. The Post Office Guide for 1913 also has similar wording regarding uncut sheets. On that basis it is fairly certain that all GB wrappers from 1877 onwards were available in uncut sheets. The difficult task is to find them.

Although I have gone through many GV wrappers this is the only example I have been able to find which has come from an uncut sheet. It is a Die II example and the die is without a dot. The overall size is 128mm x 306mm, square cut at the top and it is printed on a paper which is the same as normal post office issue wrappers."

George King has spent some time looking through P.O. Notices and Guides and has sent these extracts relating to Private Chamfering - Jan Kosniowski's note in PSSJ May 2015 No.70 p.9.

Some Post cards and newspaper wrappers were available in sheet form as can be gleaned from the following:

Post Office Guide 1913 Page 149
 Uncut sheets of the stout cards can be obtained at any Post Office by giving two or three days notice. They are sold only in quarter reams of 120 sheets, each sheet containing 42 cards. The price is £11.5s per quarter ream.

Post Office Guide 1913 Page 151
 Uncut sheets of wrappers, impressed with halfpenny postage stamps, can be obtained at any Post office by giving two or three days notice. They are sold only in quarter reams of 120 sheets, each sheet containing 14 wrappers, and the price per quarter ream is £3.16s

So I believe much, if not most, of the private printing on Post Office Post Cards and Wrappers was done on complete sheets. I believe available for most of their life in the above way, even if not specifically mentioned in most of the Post office Guides.

George King

Query:

Peter O'Keeffe

The card is the response part of H&B CP63 (R) with a one penny 'Downey Head KGV issue, which I had assumed would not have needed uprating for its return.



However this has a GB KGV 1½d adhesive stamp added. Might this have been due to an increase in postal rates, or maybe to speed up its return by paying the 2½d letter rate. Perhaps one can provide, or suggest the reason?

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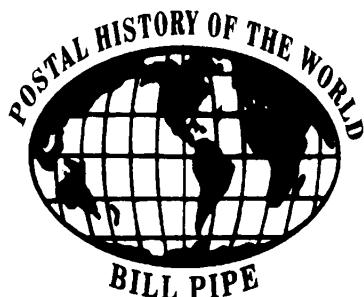
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