



THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 26, No.3
(Serial number 87)

August 2018



Formula Registered Envelopes - See page 21

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The Postal Stationery Society (Founded 1992)

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

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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

Saturday October 6th 2018 at the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY

10.30am Viewing of the society's auction lots for the auction to be held in the afternoon.

11.00am Society's Annual General Meeting.

12.00 Tony Chilton competition judging, followed by the presentation of the Tony Chilton salver.

12.30pm Lunch in a nearby restaurant. All members are invited to join in and the cost should be about £17 each, including wine.

2.00pm The society's "live" auction to be conducted by Neil Sargent.

The meeting is expected to close by about 4.00 pm

Saturday April 6th 2019 at the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY starting at 10.30 am. Details to be announced.

Saturday 8th June 2019 Swinpex, Members Displays. St Joseph's Lower School, Octal Way, Swindon SN3 2LR, 2-4.00pm. Details to be announced

Saturday 6th July 2019 Midpex at the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, Leamington Spa. Details to be announced.

Saturday October 19th 2019 at the Royal Philatelic Society, London at their new premises: 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW The Society's AGM, Tony Chilton Competition and Auction.

Postal Stationery Society Journal Index - Updated

With many thanks to Frank Walton FRPSL, the index has been brought up to date.

Members wishing to locate articles in past issues of the Journal will find these on the RPSL web site:

<http://www.rpsl.org.uk/home.asp> Click on the tab 'Catalogue', in the left box enter 'Postal Stationery Society Journal' as a search term; in the middle box select 'Cumulative Indexes' and in the right box click on 'search'. In the new window click on the word 'Indexes' on the blue bar. In the next window click 'Click here to show articles'.

The contents of all PSS Journals up to 2018 should appear!

Past issues of the Journal are available from the Editor: See page 23 for details

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

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - AUGUST 2018

And so we come to the final Chairman's Chat of my two years of ... erm, chairmanning. This is definitely one of those "seems like it was only yesterday I started doing it" moments! Although most of my collection is GB, I've tried to mix things up in these pages by including non-GB material, and so to sign off with I've picked some items to illustrate from my two collections with worldwide scope.

One of those is "National Airmail Stationery of the World", as mentioned in a previous chat in February last year – airmail stationery (stamped or unstamped) printed in national colours, instead of the standard red and blue. I have to confess that before taking this up I'd never really found aerogrammes or indeed airmails all that interesting, so clearly what it needed was a theme to get my attention.

It turns out that a fair number of aerogrammes are very hard to find commercially used, especially from smaller countries. One recent acquisition is this first issue 1961 45c aerogramme from the Republic of Guinea (the former French Guinea, if that helps to distinguish it from the other Guineas out there). It's used in 1963 to Yugoslavia with a long letter written in Serbo-Croat, uprated for express post with a 1959 stamp showing the new flag. The decorative border is printed in the same three colours of red, yellow, and green (Fig 1).



Criteria for collections often seem to have a certain amount of "slippage", and this one is no exception. Where there doesn't appear to be any national-colours stationery for a particular country, I'll occasionally include something with a national symbol instead. One such example is this item from Iraq, sent registered to Cambodia in 1998 (albeit a philatelic use); two of the adhesives featured the flag, but the aerogramme itself went with a map of the country instead (Fig 2).

My other worldwide collection has also featured here on a number of occasions. This 1907 Argentine item registered to London was originally picked up largely because its four-colour combination looked attractive – a 5c red envelope (with a printed note at the top to the effect that an additional 1c was charged for the envelope itself under the Tariff Law) uprated with pairs of 1c green, 4c yellow and 6c black adhesives. As it's addressed to the pioneer



stamp dealer Alfred Smith, it ended up in my "Philatelic Mail" collection (Fig 3).



Finally, a big vote of thanks to you the members for supporting the PSS (and of course for ploughing through these quarterly ramblings), and in particular to Neil, who has carried out the role of society secretaries everywhere by doing most of the actual work! I'll leave you in the capable hands of Adrian Parker who will be taking over this job at the AGM, and wish him the very best for the next two years.

Maurice Buxton

SECRETARY'S NOTES - AUGUST 2018

Can I remind members that our October meeting and auction are taking place a little earlier than usual on the 6th October. The auction catalogue is now being sent out and postal bids need to be received by Wednesday 3rd October. This meeting is also our AGM and if anybody would like an issue to be raised at the meeting please email well advance, so it can be included on the agenda. At the meeting we will be holding the Tony Chiltern competition so please start thinking about your entries. This is for a single frame 16 sheet exhibit and hopefully many of you will submit entries. Overseas members can send me colour scans of their exhibits. Our Swinpex meeting is reported following these notes, the next big event for collectors is of course Stampex from the 12th to the 15th September, otherwise look forward to meeting up then.

When preparing the auction catalogue I was thinking about what items people collect and how specialised, in some respect, the hobby of stationery collecting has become. I have a copy of Dr Gray's Illustrated Catalogue of Postage Stamps, issued in 1875 which also includes stationery from around the world. His comments in the GB stationery section were illuminating! After listing the early sto embossed envelopes he writes a brief explanation of the ordering of sto material and I quote part of his writings as follows



“These facilities were originally granted for the benefit of the business community, but they have been turned to account by speculative stamp dealers, who have had supplies of all values struck off on envelopes,

*respectively tinted blue, straw, rose and lilac, and also envelopes with two stamps on them in every possible combination. Thus, there are envelopes with two penny stamps side by side, a penny and a threepenny, a sixpenny and fourpenny, and so on ad nauseam. The taste for these worthless varieties has been fostered by allotment of spaces for them in some well-known albums; but it should be borne in mind they have no official importance whatever. A set of stamps on rose-tinted envelopes will do as well as set on white, **but there is no reason for collecting both sets.** It is stated the facility of stamping tinted envelopes has been withdrawn.*

*Several private firms have had supplies of the envelopes stamps struck off, encircled with their name and address in relief. The best-known sets of envelopes thus modified are those issued by Messrs Grindlay & Co; Smith, Elder & Co; W H Smith & Son and Stafford, Smith & Smith. As these superadded inscribed bands are simply advertisements, **there is no real reason for collecting the envelopes which show them.**”*

The sentences in bold are my highlighting. Interesting he believed advertising rings not worth collecting considering how expensive they have now become. Similar comments were stated for sto compound envelopes and different papers – oh how times have changed! Dr Gray was a curator at the British Museum and the catalogue was published by Alfred Smith & Co of Bath.

SWINPEX 2018

For those who haven't been before, Swinpex is really a worthwhile visit. Held in a modern school, tables are set in 2 long lines running through a central open space. This means easy access for everyone and you can make your way up and down the 2 rows knowing you have seen all the dealers. Attendance seemed very good despite being a lovely sunny day.

Several societies have meetings during the morning and afternoon and the PSS has one from 2pm to 4pm, meeting in one of the classrooms. 6 members turned up for the afternoon – George King, John Barker, Edward Caesley, Vickie Archard and Crawford Alexander on behalf of his wife Jean, and myself.

After a general chat about stationery, life and dealers' high prices, everyone put up a display of various sheets. Vickie started with registered envelopes of BEA including sizes F & G with different headings, 2 different printings of size J plus used items. This led to a lengthy discussion on various aspects including printing dates, folding of envelopes, overprints etc.

George put up 2 original PO Gazettes which he had only just acquired and dealt with the re-use of the stamped telegraph cards.

John's display covered the different types of postal stationery and the potential different formats from a wide variety of countries. Ed Caesley followed with 3 items from stamp dealers including exceptionally rare metal tokens given out by dealers and Cinderella stamps issued by dealers.

George King popped up again with an extensive showing of mint Victorian advertising rings on envelopes, wrappers and cut-outs including compounds

I then put a display of GB KEVII lettercards with a variety of usages and private printings. Lastly Crawford put up an extensive display of Argentina postal stationery all with pictures of warships on envelopes, lettercards, wrappers & new year lettersheets. This reflected the

Argentinian navy in 1900 and the variety of items was both fascinating and interesting with items rarely seen.

We packed up around 4pm leaving a quick half hour to spend the last of my pocket money with the dealers. This afternoon meeting is more of an enjoyable social event with like minded friends rather than a formal meeting – try and join us next year.



In looking through some of my old boxes, I found a couple of small items of interest. The first is a magazine front page. It is the Silver jubilee May 1935 edition of Stamp Lover. The front page as you can see is framed by pictures of the embossed stationery imprints and 6 registration dies of King George V. There is no particular reference to them inside but nice to see stationery making the front page for a change!

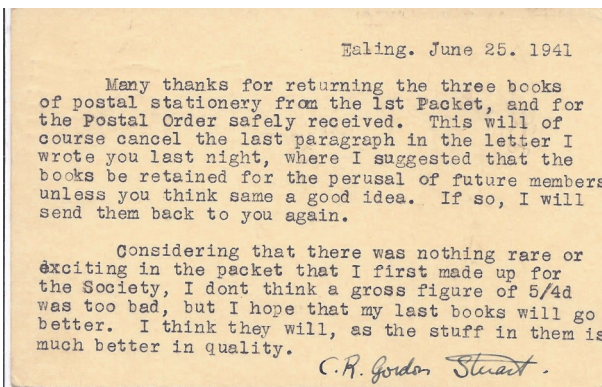
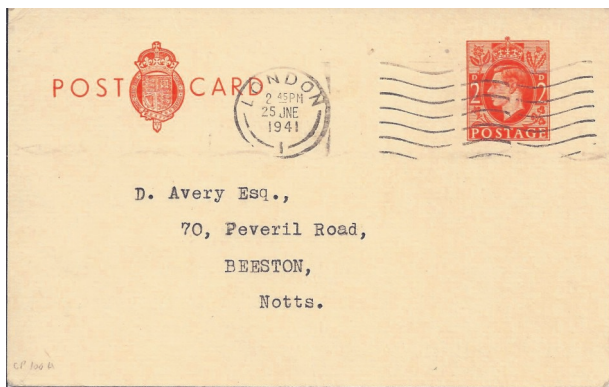
[Editor's Note: The National Philatelic Society was Established in 1899 by the journalist Fred J Melville, who was then aged 17 years. The magazine has appeared regularly without a break for over 90 years, even through two world wars.

Currently it is issued 6 times per year in February, April, June, August, October and December.

It is available issued free to members of the National PS as part of their annual subscription.]

The second item is a KGVI postcard used 25 June 1941 to D Avery from C Gordon-Stuart. It refers to the sending of postal stationery books for a circulating packet – first stationery society? Sales were 5/4d but should be more next time as last books have stuff in them of much better quality.

[Editor's Note: Mr D. Avery was editor of the Bulletin of The Postal Stationery Society of Great Britain inaugurated in 1941. For more information on this Society please see the note on page 10 of this issue of the Journal]



Neil Sargent

BRITISH GAS PRIVATISATION ENVELOPES - POSTAL STATIONERY OR NOT?

Maurice Buxton

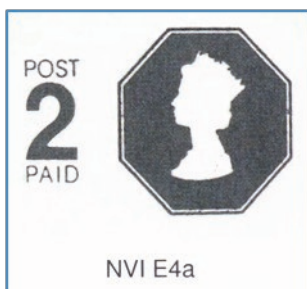
Background

The British Gas Corporation (BGC) was a public corporation responsible for the development and maintenance of the gas supply to Great Britain, and was formed under the Gas Act 1972 by merging the previous area gas boards. Another Gas Act of 1986 provided for it to be privatised, and on 8th December it floated on the London stock market as British Gas plc, at that date the highest ever equity offering at £9 billion.

The political climate of the time meant that individuals as well as institutional investors were to be encouraged to buy the shares, and the offer was heavily advertised. TV viewers may recall the amusing/exasperating catchphrase "If you see Sid, tell him" that ran across a series of commercials, but more traditional methods were also used:

Seventeen regional co-ordinators were appointed shortly after Easter 1986 covering the whole country to assist in marketing the issue to retail investors and financial intermediaries such as accountants and bank managers. In addition, the beginning of August saw the start of the [then] largest ever single mailing to take place in the UK. Over a number of days letters went out with details of the share offer to BGC's 16 million or so customers along with their gas bills, in what was referred to as the "bill stuffer". Four million registrations were received as a result of this mailing. A separate "solus mailing" to customers was also undertaken, handled by Burrup Mathieson & Co who had been responsible for printing work during the privatisation of BT, in the form of a letter signed by Sir Denis Rooke [BGC chairman 1976-89]. In addition, Burrup Mathieson was responsible for the mailing of prospectuses and offer guides to nearly 7.7 million people in mid-November.

The Official History of Privatisation Vol. I: The Formative Years 1970-1987 by David Parker (2009), p372.



The "solus mailing" (an advertising term of art for a single-issue mailshot) was sent out in envelopes of the kind shown above, with a rather basic version of the octagonal Queen's head design. In *Collect British Postal Stationery* (2007), they are mentioned in a footnote to the listing of ES133 (NVI type E4a in green): "In 1986 British Gas sent out facsimile PPI impressions in green without a service indicator". In other words, these items have always been considered to be postage paid impressions that merely *resembled* postal stationery, printed and paid for under the PPI rules.

An Archive File

However, while looking for something else on the Postal Museum archive web search, I came across a file POST 52/1221, "*Stamped stationery – British Gas privatisation envelopes*", recently made available under the 30-year rule. The description was "*A very small correspondence file on this subject*". Intrigued by the classification, I asked for it; they weren't kidding about the size, as all it contained was Xerox copies of three letters, together with a Post Office compliments slip dated 14th August 1986 with a note "*You will be interested in the attached!*" The letters were indeed of interest, although telling a frustratingly incomplete story, and since they're short are transcribed below.

From: David Dale, Manager, Definitive Stamps, Post Office Headquarters,
22-25 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1PH
To: Rupert Steele, Department of Energy
Date: 24th July 1986

Dear Mr Steele

BRITISH GAS PRIVATISATION ENVELOPES

I promised you an outline of our security requirements for the printing of a stamp impression on the envelopes. I have had to evaluate these from scratch since we have made an unprecedented concession in allowing the printing of stamp impressions in this way. As I have explained, our standard security requirements for stamp printing are very strict indeed and would preclude the printing of the envelopes in the timescale required unless the work is given to an approved printer (eg McCorquodales)

We are prepared to relax our standard requirements but in view of the use of the Queen's head and the stamps we must seek assurances from you which you in turn can pass on to your contractors. These are:-

- 1 That only 16m envelopes should leave the contractor(s). Written confirmation of the precise number leaving each separate contractor to be made by a senior member of the Contractor's Management on their own paper and sent to the Post Office.*
- 2 The printing and making up of the envelopes to be carried out within secure areas and under security conditions within the contractor's works.*
- 3 Provision to be made for Post Office staff to inspect the printers before and during printing. Reasonable recommendations by the Post Office on security matters to be carried out by the contractor. The Post Office to charge the Department of Energy for all costs involved in such inspections.*
- 4 All printer's waste, printing plates, cylinders, overs and other such material to be destroyed and written confirmation made by a senior member of the Contractor's Management on headed paper end sent to the Post Office.*
- 5 A penalty clause to provide that should any of the above conditions be broken leading to a major release of good or any release of waste envelopes or other printers' material to the public or philatelic trade a penalty of £100,000 to be payable to the Post Office.*
- 6 Ten pre-production proofs or samples to be provided to the Post Office from each separate contractor to show the print quality of the stamp impression. The Post Office to have the right to accept or reject these on grounds of quality and require further proofs. The printer to match to the approved proofs with the Department of Energy being responsible for further checks on the quality of the finished product and particularly the treatment of the Queen's head.*
- 7 The Department of Energy to pass on these terms and conditions to all Contractors and Sub-Contractors.*

I have not had time to have these conditions cast in legalese but this would be done for the contract. Meanwhile I set them out in straight forward terms for your immediate information whilst reserving our position on the precise wording.

To refer back to McCorquodales, I am told that they have tendered for the work and do have the capacity. It seems that the envelopes could be printed in the UK and by an approved printer. Perhaps you will consider this.

Yours sincerely

DAVID DALE
Manager, Definitive Stamps
Royal Mail Stamps & Philately
cc Mr Newman, SSD
Mr Marr, NSD
Mr K Martin

From: Burrup Mathieson & Company Limited, Crane House, Lavington Street, London SE1 0NX
To: Rupert Steele, Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank London SW1P 4QJ
Date: 13th August 1986

Dear Rupert,

Thank you for your letter and subsequent communications regarding the Post Office security requirements for envelope production.

I should like to answer their points as raised by them.

1. All orders have been placed for production of the revised quantity of 16.35 million envelopes. However I must stress that we will require more than 16.35 million ie a percentage of overs are required for things such as spoilage or damage in transit and obviously we will confirm the exact number that leave our separate contractors manufacturing units and these will be confirmed to yourself and the Post Office in writing.
2. The printing and making up of the envelopes are being carried out within secure areas under secure conditions at our contractors units.
3. Whilst I appreciate that the Post Office may well wish to carry out spot checks on our sub-contractors I must emphasise that these envelopes are being manufactured in two locations in West Germany and at one location in Belgium. All three of these units operate a 24 hour, 6 day a week working shift. We will be quite happy to make arrangements for the Post Office to visit these plants as and when required and we shall give detailed information as to the site locations and the anticipated times that these envelopes will be on press.
4. All printers waste, printing plate cylinders, overs and other such material will be held in secure premises at the production sites, destruction of these materials will take place on instruction from the Post Office. All such operations will be closely checked and monitored if necessary, materials can be returned to Burrup Mathieson and the Post Office can collect and destroy whichever elements they feel may be relevant.
5. The penalty clause relating to £100,000 payable to the Post Office is not, we feel, acceptable in its present format. Our legal advisers agree with us that a loss or damage agreement would be more acceptable.
6. Pre-production proofs or samples will be provided to the Post Office and to your department for approval. Should the Post Office reject these on grounds of quality and require further proofs these costs will obviously be passed on to The Department.
7. We shall be passing on these terms and conditions to our sub-contractors.

I trust that these points are of assistance. If you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

pp JU Jenkins [? – scrawled signature]

Alan Crabbe
Logistics Manager

[Burrup Mathieson was a long established printing firm that traced its roots to a London print shop founded in 1628. It appears to have subsequently been taken over by the St Ives Group]

From: Department of Energy, Thames House South, Millbank London SW1P 4QJ
To: David Dale Esq, Manager, Definitive Stamps, Post Office Headquarters,
22-25 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1PH
Date: 13th August 1986

Dear Mr Dale,

BRITISH GAS PRIVATISATION ENVELOPES

Thank you for your letter of 24 July; I am sorry that it has taken some time to reply, but a number of your points have necessitated referral to Burrups, and thence to their sub-contractors, as well as to lawyers here. However, you will be pleased to hear that Burrups and ourselves are able to agree to the major part of the suggestions that you made, and I attach a letter from them confirming specific points.

- 2 Taking your requests in order:

- (i) *the exact number of envelopes will not of course be 16 million, since there are not exactly that number of British Gas customers, and there will be a requirement for a small excess of envelopes for wastage or damage in transit. Burrups' letter is however clear that the exact number that leave their separate sub-contractors' manufacturing units will be confirmed in writing to the Post Office and this Department;*
- (ii) *Burrups' letter confirms that the printing and making up of the envelopes is being done within secure areas under secure conditions at their sub-contractors' units;*
- (iii) *Burrups' letter offers to make arrangements for Post Office representatives to visit the manufacturing plants as and when required and says they will give detailed information as to the site locations and the expected times that these envelopes will be on press. We are prepared to discuss with you how the costs of visits by Post Office representatives to each of the manufacturing plants should be borne, although we are not committed to paying for them;*
- (iv) *Burrups' letter also confirms that all printer's waste, printing plate cylinders overs and other such material will be returned to them by their sub-contractors and that the Post Office may collect and destroy whichever of those materials they may wish to;*
- (v) *I am afraid that we have some difficulty on the penalty clause. It is partly a matter of principle, under which the Government normally only accepts liability that is related to the actual damage that may be done, rather than fixed as in a penalty clause. We would be prepared to accept, and pass on to Burrups and their sub-contractors, any liability arising from our negligence leading to the loss of these materials, in terms of actual damage done to the Post Office. Burrups letter confirms that they will accept this liability and pass it on. However, an arbitrary fixed penalty of £100,000 would not be appropriate;*
- (vi) *I understand that Burrups will shortly provide you with proofs as requested, so that you can compare them with the colour example already approved by the Post Office.*

3 *On your point concerning the production of envelopes by McCorquodales, the choice of envelope supplier is of course a commercial matter for Burrup Mathieson.*

Yours sincerely,

Rupert Steele

[Mr Steele, according to his LinkedIn profile, was a civil servant from 1983-99 in various roles relating to UK energy policy, and has subsequently worked for energy companies in the private sector]

Discussion

While these letters are clearly only a chapter from the middle of the story, they do have the interesting implication that as far as the Post Office was concerned, the BGC mailing would be using stamped envelopes (with unused examples therefore having a potential cash value) rather than PPIs (counted and charged in bulk, with individual envelopes having no franking validity). Consider that the contact official was the manager of Definitive Stamps, who insisted that the envelopes should be limited in number, printed to Post Office specifications and under security conditions; also, there was considerable concern that there should be no leakage of completed envelopes, nor indeed proof material of interest to those pesky philatelists.

On the other hand, the actual design is a curious mixture, “neither fish nor fowl”, that doesn’t seem to bear out Mr Dale’s concerns. Notably, although it incorporates the octagonal Queen’s head, that is overprinted with a mock “machine cancellation” that also includes a PHQ licence serial number – which normally indicates a PPI. The wording at the bottom is “POST 2 PAID” as with the stationery die, however, rather than the PPI-standard “2 POSTAGE PAID”.

That gives rise to some obvious questions. Why include the serial number if it wasn’t a PPI? But if it was, why all the worries about security? Was that simply because the use of the Queen’s head meant it *looked* like a stamp? Did somebody at a later date suggest (or insist) that the design be revised to add the mock cancellation as a sort of “precancel”, or in order to change the mailing onto a PPI basis?

So should these envelopes be considered as postal stationery? There’s certainly a case for that, although hardly a cast-iron one! They would as far as I know be the only GB stationery items printed abroad, albeit by subcontractors of a firm hired by a Government department.

The Postal Museum search turns up no other references to the matter, but it’s possible that the rest of the story has been retained in files from the Department of Energy. The corresponding National Archives web search produced over 250 files relating to the British Gas privatisation, but unfortunately with no information about their contents other than the (usually rather general) titles – about 30 of which suggest to me that they might (or might not) have a reference somewhere. Ploughing through them would be quite a project if anyone wanted to take it on. “If you see Sid, tell him ...”

THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN (1941)

John Barker

Reading about the KGVI postcard used on 25 June 1941 to D Avery in Neil Sargent's notes on page 5 turned my attention to some bulletins filed in one of my 'old boxes' and in a brief note in our Postal Stationery Society Journal, Vol 21 No. 2 page 5 (May 2013). The latter reads:

'The Postal Stationery Society of Great Britain

This title may sound familiar, but it refers to another society formed in 1941 that lasted but a few years. Alan Huggins has a set of their newsletters which he is going to copy and place in the Royal Philatelic Society's library and in our library. Any member who would like to view these newsletters will soon have two places to access copies.

If you have any publications like this relating to postal stationery or have knowledge of societies which have closed down, we would like to hear from you. Please get in touch with the secretary.'

A concise account of the Society can be found on Wikipedia '[Postal Stationery Society of Great Britain](#)'

As far as I am aware our Secretary at the time, Colin Baker, received little feedback from his note so I thought that some details gleaned from these bulletins may prove of interest to some of our readers.

Officers of the Society

Although I cannot find a list of Officers of the Society, it would appear that from the information on Neil's card (page 5) that D. Avery was the organiser of the Exchange Packet, and from the Bulletins, he was also Editor and most likely performed the role of Secretary and maybe Treasurer!

Membership

I have not found a membership list, but the balance sheet published in July 1946 (Bulletin 20) showed an income of 4 pounds ten shillings being the subscriptions from 18 members. The subscription was 5 shillings (= 25 pence in terms of decimal coinage) per year. Relating the cost of the subscription to the cost of posting an inland letter in 1946 (2½d), a year's subscription was equivalent to 24 inland letter stamps. In terms of today's cost for an inland letter, the equivalent annual subscription would work out at just over £16.00.

The Bulletin

The Bulletins ran from 1941 to number 29, October 1948. These were usually two sides of 'foolscap' paper produced on a 'Gestetner' or similar machine. The cost of producing the 4 issues for 1945/6 was recorded as £2. 0. 0.

Amongst the contributors to the Bulletin, and presumably members of the Society were:

Lieut. Col. C.R.B. Spain who wrote on 'George V Series of Registration Embossed Stamps'

Mr. P.G.M. Dickinson 'Compounds'

Mr. B.F. Hounsell Dammers helped re-write the Postal Stationery section of Robson Lowe's 'Great Britain Specialised Catalogue'

Mr. O.P. Kennedy 'Tentative Check-List of the Postal Stationery of Eire'

Mr. Wm. Falconer 'Service Envelopes'

Major O.C.G. Nicolls 'Listing of 75 Compound Stampings of QV envelopes'

Mr. W. Tunstall (of Kenya) 'Check List of Postal Stationery GVI issues of Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika'

The Exchange Packet

In Bulletin 8 (July 1943) the Editor reports that there would be '*no July packet owing to the lack of said material. I'm sure you will all agree that to maintain our interest we must maintain our only source of supply today and that is the Exchange Packet.*' A further appeal was made in the following Bulletin (October) which extended to asking for any member who knows of anyone who may have Stationery for sale to be approached to become a Selling Member. In Bulletin 10 (January 1944) the Exchange Packet must have received much more material as the Editor / Exchange Packet Secretary reports '*Due to the fact that the majority of members only collect the Stationery of one or a group of countries I am endeavouring to split the **monthly** Packet up into the under mentioned groups. This will mean a saving in postages but it will also mean that some groups may not receive a packet every month.*

The Groups were 1) Great Britain, 2) British Colonials and 3) General, including Foreign, Service Envelopes, Censored Covers etc. In the year 1945/6 twelve packets were circulated, however there are no references to sales, but commission to the Society of £2. 3s. 2d. was reported for that year.

The Secretary also reported '*Approx. hours of work (I'm a conscientious secretary) 72. At that rate I hope no one tells my union.*'

In a latter Bulletin (January 1948) the Editor reported *'Firstly I must apologise for the absence of Bulletin 25 which should have appeared in October (1947), this was entirely due to the lack of suitable material'*

To obviate this necessity in future I should be pleased to receive any information about NEW ISSUES, VARIETIES you may have discovered, cuttings about stationery and articles or CHECK-LISTS of any country in which you are interested.

REMEMBER! Your Fellow-Collectors may not have heard about it! Queries will also be published with pleasure.

Concluding the First Stage of the Re-birth of Postal Stationery Collecting

In Bulletin 29 (October 1948) the Editor writes *'Assuming that one can define stages in progress it is with this Issue of the Bulletin that I think we have concluded the first stage in the re-birth of Postal Stationery collecting. The reason for my assumption is that this issue of the Bulletin will be the last in its present form. In place of same, members of the Society will receive a copy of the Society's Official Organ, the 'Essex Philatelic Contact'. This is a quarterly magazine containing, in addition to the one or two pages devoted to Postal Stationery edited by your Secretary, many articles and news items of interest to philatelists in general.*

Regarding notices etc., of interest to Society members only, it is my intention to publish when necessary a Society News Sheet for circulation to members

It was on the suggestion of the Editor of the Essex Philatelic Contact and in view of the fact that the magazine reaches over 1000 subscribers, in towns in Britain and Overseas other than those in Essex and London, that I decided to make this change with the hope that it would bear fruit in regard to the aim of our Society namely "the furtherance of Postal Stationery Collecting"'.

What happened after this date, I do not have any record. Did the Exchange Packet continue? Did the Essex Philatelic Contact contain 'one or two pages devoted to Postal Stationery' and if so for how long?

I would be interested to hear from anyone who can throw a bit more light on the promotion of Postal Stationery Collecting in the years to follow. A number of articles on Postal Stationery appeared in the Stamp/Philatelic magazines of the day, but is there any evidence of the 'organised' promotion of Postal Stationery Collecting (in the UK). Members may have 'old boxes' of cuttings, covers, Dealers' lists etc amongst which some reference to Collecting Postal Stationery may be found. If so please pass on the information with a view to publication in a future issue of the Journal. Any information, however small may be useful. E.g. Neil's small item on page 5 has led to a two page article!

Looking Beyond the United Kingdom

In the second half of the 1940s, our fellow collectors in both Germany and the United States of America were well catered for:



Germany

Postal Stationery Societies had already been established in the early part of the twentieth century:

the **Berliner Ganssachen-Sammler-Vereins von 1902 e.V.** and

the **Münchner Ganssachensammler-Vereins 1912 e.v.**

In January 1948 Julius Müller published the Walter Beckhaus *'Illustrierter Ganssachen-katalog Deutsche-postkarten ab 1945'*, a catalogue of the numerous emergency and provisional postal stationery issues of post war Germany.

United States of America

The **United Postal Stationery Society (UPSS)** was formed July 1, 1945 from the merger of the **Postal Card Society of America**, in existence since 1891, and the **International Postal Stationery Society**, founded 1939.

GB POSTAL STATIONERY NEWS

Alan Huggins

NEW ITEMS REPORTED

Envelopes – Stamped to Order Issues

Queen Victoria 1s green + 3d carmine (ESC347L) used (courtesy **Michael Mood**).

Change NR to **** in Collect British Postal Stationery page 30.

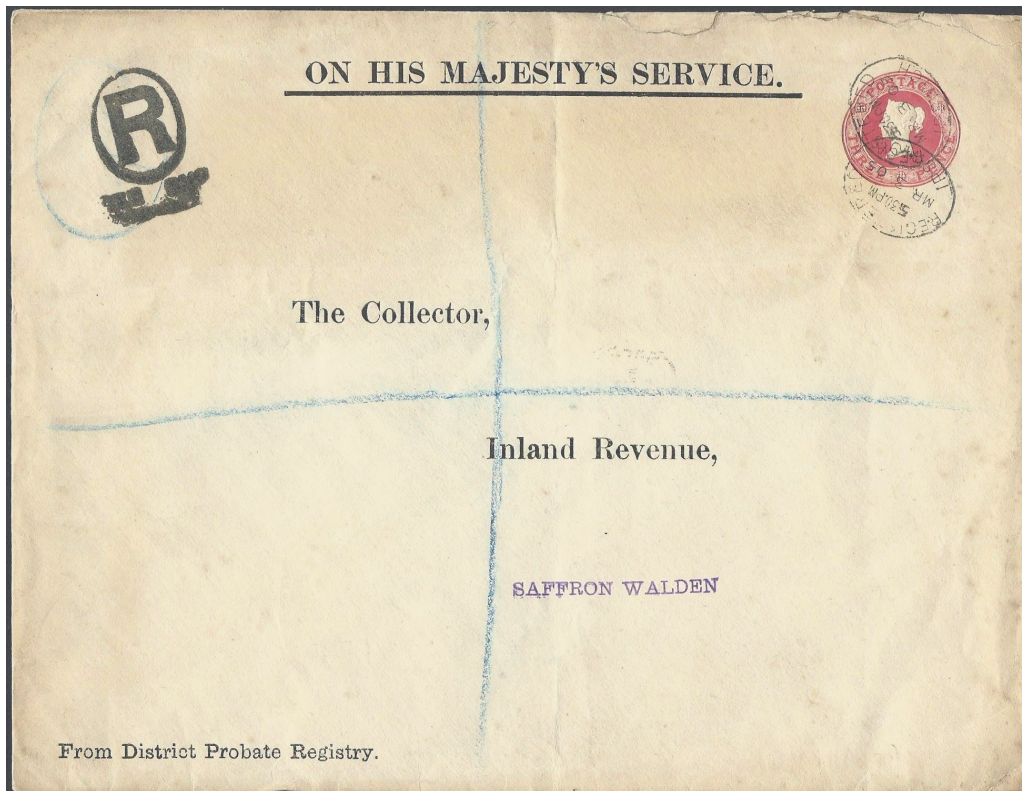
Queen Elizabeth II 2018? DL House of Commons window envelopes on cream paper with black 25mm 1st and 2nd class NVI stamps with a new portrait – see illustration below.



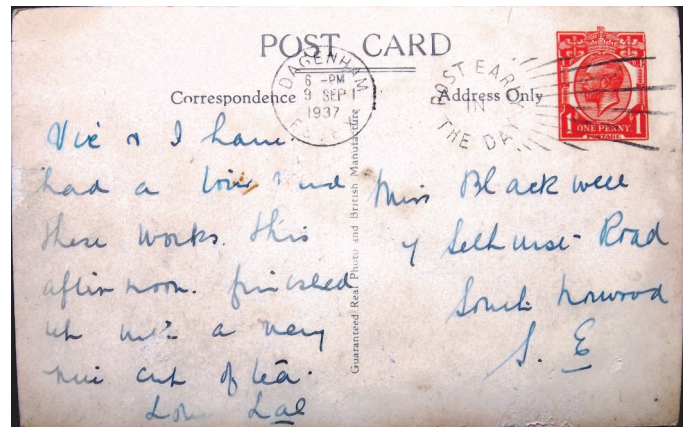
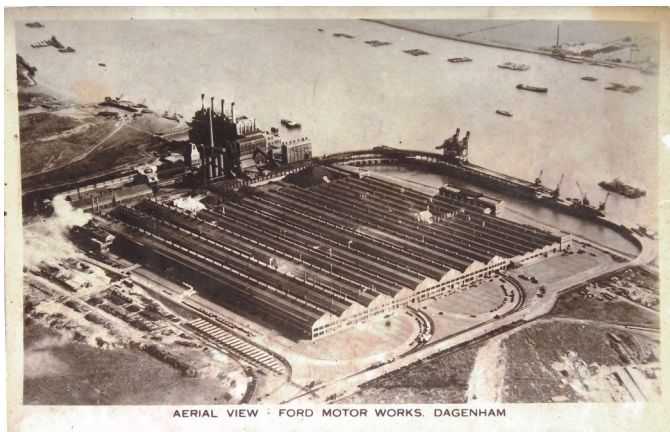
These have 'Premium / BUSINESS' on reverse of front and the 1st class has B/Z and 1GZ code letters inside. Unfortunately the description of the 2nd class manila version postmarked 6.1.2016, which was published in the May 2018 PSS News omitted the change in the NVI portrait and thus is not a phosphor band variety of **ESC173**. Since it is not yet clear whether the change in NVI stamp will be adopted across both STO and Post Office envelopes catalogue numbers will be assigned at a future date.



Envelopes – Official Issues Queen Victoria 1903? 3d carmine stamp 12b (9dots) District Probate Registry envelope as **EO41** with 'The Collector' but with 'ON **HIS** MAJESTY'S SERVICE' instead of 'ON **HER** MAJESTY'S SERVICE' used from Ipswich to Saffron Walden on 3.3.1905 - see illustration below. The discovery of this item raises the possibility that envelopes **EO42** with 'The Supervisor' and **EO43** with 'The Officer' may also have been produced with amended headings.



Postcards – Stamped to Order Issues 1937? King George V 1d carmine Ford Motor Company picture postcard without arms (**CS69**) used on 9.9.1937 (courtesy **David Huggins**). This is the first used example of these cards I have seen and the message side confirms that card was sent following a tour of the Ford Motor Company works. The picture side shows an aerial view and is from the second series of cards described by **George King** in the August 2017 issue (vol.25 pp.20-21) of the PSS Journal.



Queen Elizabeth II 1972 Machin octagonal stamps 5p + 5p + 5p + 5p +3p struck on plain white card 110 X 150mm (size g). This very philatelic item was sent at 23p registered postal rate within Berlin from the British Forces Post Office at the 5th German Youth Philatelic Exhibition on 26.10.1972. This card will be temporarily assigned the number **CSP287**.

BRITISH INDIA VICTORIAN ENVELOPES Part 1.

Col Jayanta Dutta & Dr Anjali Dutta

Introduction

The envelope form may be called a stamped envelope or, alternatively, a postal stationery envelope (PSE for short). In August 1852 an act of the U.S. Congress authorized the Postmaster General to provide “*suitable letter envelopes with such watermarks or other guards against counterfeits... with the addition of the value or denomination of the postage stamps so printed or impressed thereon...*” The first result was the 1853 Nesbitt issues of stamped envelopes, named after the contractor who produced them for the government.



1853 Nesbitt issue of 3c stamped envelope and 1853 George F. Nesbitt & Co Proof

29 November 1856 Issue.

These 1 anna brown envelopes were designed and embossed by De la Rue & Co, London on bluish wove paper 121x71 mm in size. The flap was gummed and rounded with lion and palm tree seal embossed. The embossed stamp bears die numbers 1 and 4. The left flap bears the name De la Rue & Co, London in small Roman capitals in plain relief 24 mm in length.

15 September 1857 Issue

These ½ anna blue envelopes were designed and embossed by De la Rue & Co, London on thin yellowish to white paper 102x65 mm in size with blue seal on the gummed flap. The embossed stamp bears die numbers 1 and 2.



1871 Issue

Same 1 anna brown as the first issue but printed blue paper laid obliquely and the seal is in brown. The left flap bears the name Thomas de la Rue & Co, London in block capitals. The embossed stamp bears die numbers 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 2 or 21. 121x71 mm in size.



Wrapper 16 one anna envelopes

1874 Issue

Same as the previous issue except that the value is ½ anna blue and paper is white laid obliquely. The seal is embossed in blue on the flap. The maker's name 'Thos de la Rue & Co' is embossed in block letters with a foliate ornament. The embossed stamp bears the numbers 3 and 4. 121x71 mm in size.

1875 Issue

Smaller than previous issues 116x66 mm in size. The seal on the flap is in embossed in blue or in plain relief.



There is no maker's name on left flap. The embossed stamp is ½ anna blue on white obliquely laid paper. The stamp in this and in subsequent issues do not have the die number.



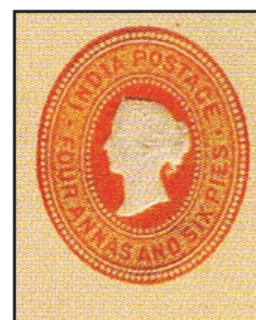
1877 Issue

The ½ anna blue (size 118x66 mm) has no seal on the flap while the 1 anna brown (size 121x71 mm) has brown seal on the flap. Both are on white obliquely laid paper.



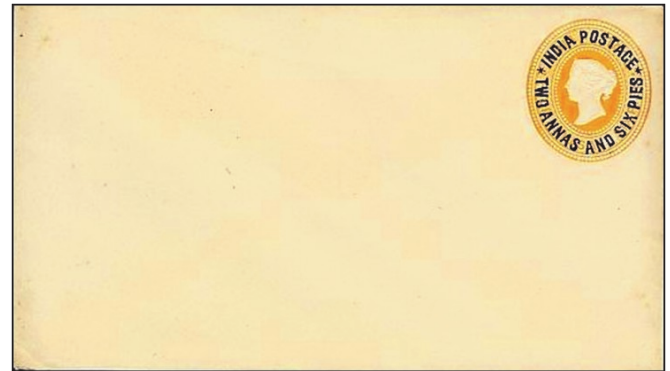
1 July 1881 Issue

The embossed stamp 4 annas 6 pies is oval on white wove paper. The stamp is known in two colours orange and yellow, the flap is pointed. 133x76 mm in size.



1883 Issue

A new colour in the form of ½ anna green on white obliquely laid paper. 1 anna brown is also on white obliquely laid paper. Both are of size 118x66 mm.



1 May 1886 Issue

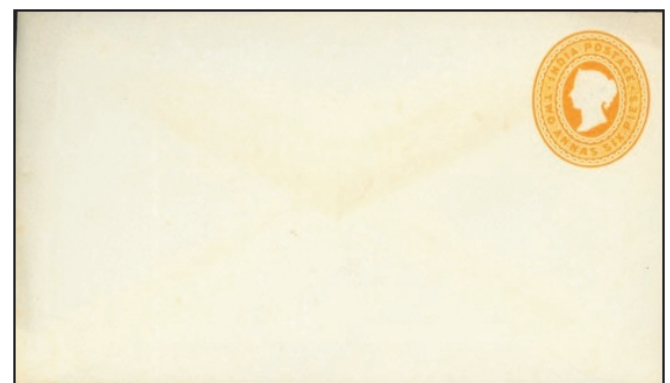
½ anna green and 1 anna brown on thin white laid paper. Both are of size 120x95 mm.



Wrapper for 25 envelopes

1892 Issue

According to Pratisad Neurgaonkar these were issued on 1 January 1893. The embossed stamp 2 annas 6 pies are oval on white wove paper with yellowish gum. We have however found these also on white diagonally laid paper. These are of size 146x83 mm.



1 January 1891 Issue

This is a provisional issue in that 4 annas 6 pies issue was surcharged 2 annas 6 pies in block letters 2½ mm high. Shifted overprints are known. The overprints were on both yellow and orange embossed stamps.



1892/ August 1899

In the same year according to Manik Jain and in August 1899 according to Pratisad Neurgaonkar the 2 annas 6 pies envelope was surcharged ONE ANNA



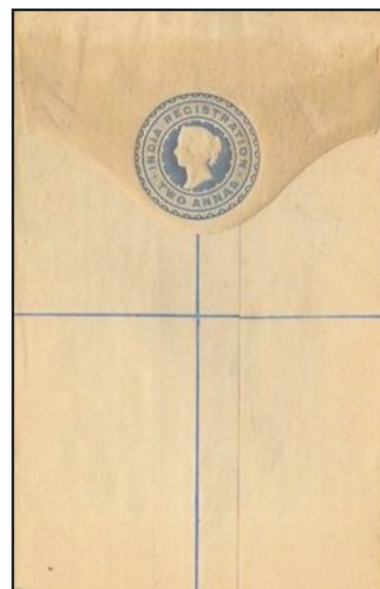
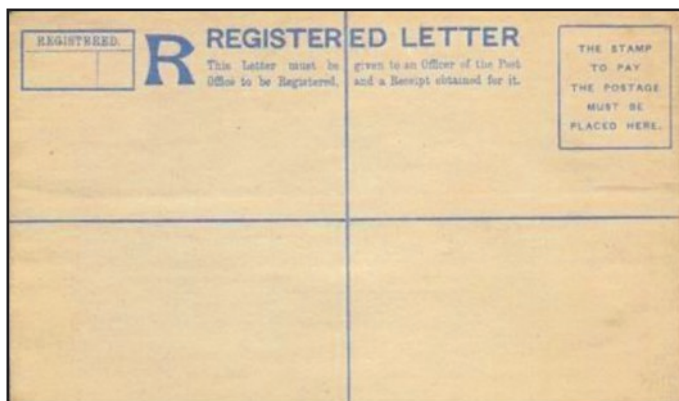
Registered Envelopes

These were issued on 1 May/November 1866 on yellowish white wove paper backed by linen. The face of the envelope had three lines of inscription beginning with REGISTERED LETTER in thick block letters. The second and third lines read “This letter must be given.....” On the left of the inscription is a fancy R. Two lines cross each other and divide the face into four equal parts. The embossed 2 annas stamp is on the flap.

The envelopes are of three types

- Type 1 Two annas light blue inscription with ultramarine stamp size 132x82 mm.
- Type 2 Two annas ultramarine inscription and stamp size 132x82 mm.
- Type 3 Two annas ultramarine inscription and stamp but size 254x105 mm.

Type 1 according to Pratisad Neurgaonkar was issued on 1 May 1866 while Type 2 and 3 were issued in November 1866.



To be continued in the November 2018 issue of the Postal Stationery Society Journal

POSTAL ORDERS ON POSTCARDS

Dr John Gledhill

This article has also been submitted to "Postal Order News"

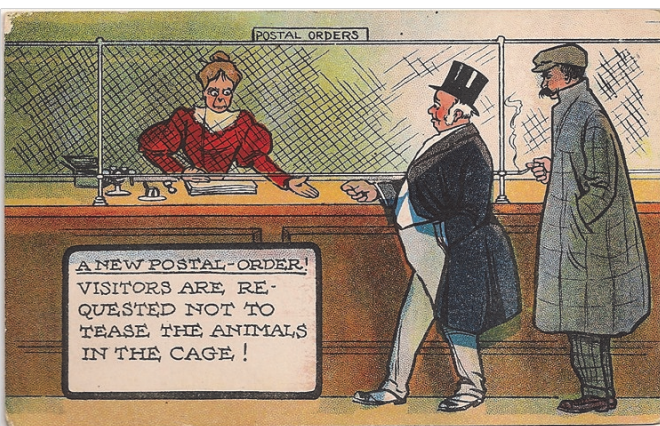
Pictures of postal orders on postcards are few and far between. This article makes the unusual connection between postal orders (accepted for postal stationery competitions by the FIP) and postcards (mostly the picture side, but some reverses for the aficionados).

In the years between 1912 and 1917, in the heyday of postal orders, five comic picture postcard designs were issued, though the precise dates of issue aren't known. Some of them seem to date from the World War I period. Add to that a comic picture postcard from the Edwardian period (based on first-known datestamps), making 6 designs. Recently discovered (May 2018) on an eBay item is a Christmas issue postcard, based on one of the earlier designs. And many years later, in 1984 the Exhibition of Postal Orders at the then National Postal Museum (6 November - 28 December 1984) issued a souvenir postcard showing a very early unadopted design for GB postal orders (provisionally called "Post Office Notes"). One of the postcards is known in more than one version; and some backs are in different shades of blue/green etc. It is quite likely that several of the other known designs exist in slightly different settings on the front, and on the back.

Postal Order images can also be found on GPO publicity leaflets, but that falls outside this collection.

Not a lot really! But difficult to find in pristine condition (which, alas, some of the ones shown here are not).

[Reference: "Postal Order News" 33, July 1994, p.9; all illustrations from the author's collection apart from examples 3 and 4 and the items in section 8 "and finally" below]



1 "A New Postal-Order".

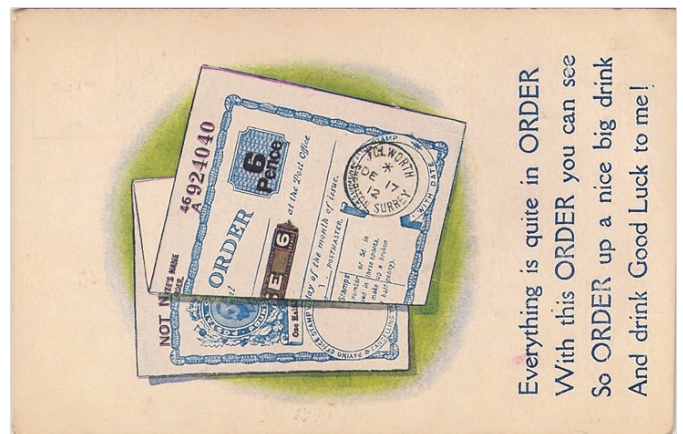
Postmarks on used copies are known from the Edwardian period. This particular copy is dated November 1911. On the reverse it is described as "THE 'CROWN' SERIES. No. 1008". The caption continues "Visitors are requested not to tease the animals in the cage!", ie the postmistress

2. "Everything is quite in ORDER", 1912

The caption continues:

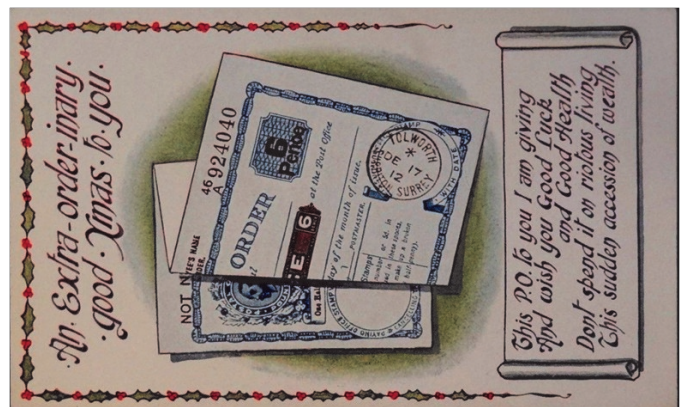
"... With this ORDER you can see
So ORDER up a nice big drink
And drink Good Luck to me!"

The postal order is based on Brill type **BPO 7.1**, showing the King George V Downey head. The poundage "One Half-penny" is correct for a 6d postal order. The facsimile postmark is "Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey, DE 17 12". There is no maker's imprint on the back, other than "No. A. 1026 Printed in England". An article in the Postal Order News gives a different serial number "WB74", possibly postcard publisher William Brooker (1904-1924).



3. Christmas promotion, "An extra-order-inary good Xmas to you"

I have no information on the reverse, or of any postmark. What is striking is that the postal order illustrated is the same one as used in example 2 above, so it is presumably from the same publish.



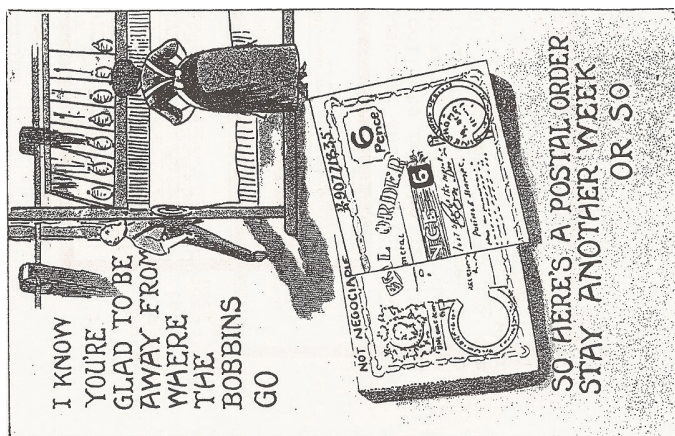
[with acknowledgement to eBay seller dicko1010]

4. "I know you're glad to be away", 1916?

The caption continues:

"... From where the bobbins go
So here's a postal order
Stay another week or so".
The picture shows workers busy at the bobbins on a loom."

The postal order is possibly based on Brill type BPO7.1, showing the King George V Downey head, or the Mackennal head type **BPO 7.2.1**. The poundage “One Half-penny” is correct for a 6d postal order. The facsimile postmark is not legible. There is no maker’s imprint on the back, other than “No. A. 1026 Printed in England”.



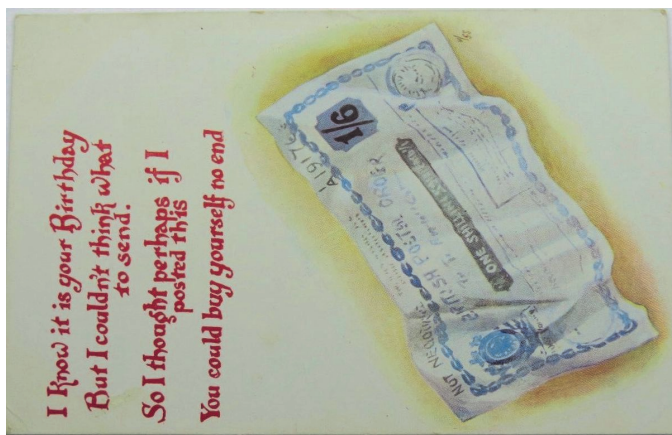
[Image from *Postal Order News* 33, which describes the imprint as “B&C No. 40”]

5. “I know it’s your birthday”

The caption continues:

“... But I couldn’t think what to send.
So I thought perhaps if I posted this
You could buy yourself no end.”

The postal order is based on Brill type **BPO7.2.1**, showing the King George V Mackennal head. The poundage “One Half-penny” is correct for a 1/6d postal order, though scarce. The facsimile postmark is illegible. There is no maker’s imprint on the back, other than “Printed in England CPC Series No 444”. Two versions are shown here, varying in the shading round the postal order and the position of the text relative to the postal order. An article in *Postal Order News* 33 describes the two versions as having black or brown text on the back, but both of these examples are printed on the back in grey-blue.



This second example shows the text better centred, and more shadow round the postal order. The sender has also added “In War Time” after the last line of the caption.

The postmark on the back is 9 October 1916, sent from Sheerness.



6. “Don’t spend all your money... Ole Fren”

The caption continues:

“... On stamps, or ink, or pen
But buy a bit of paper,
And send it quick ole Fren”

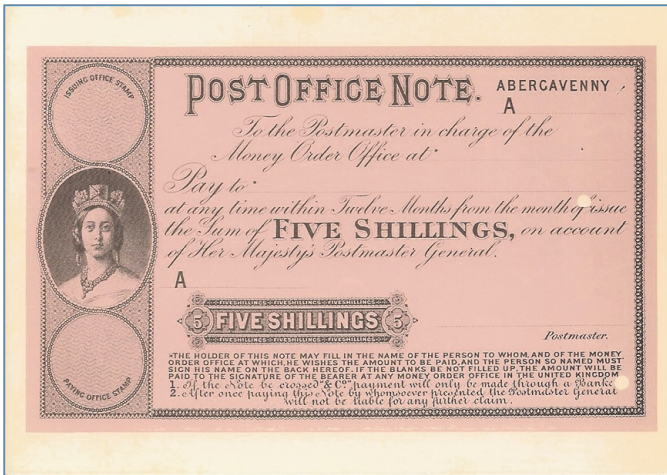
The postal order is probably intended to be based on Brill type BPO7.2.1, showing the King George V Mackennal head, as do the stamp illustrations. However a 10/- postal order would have been red rather than blue. The poundage and facsimile postmark are illegible. There is no maker’s imprint on the back, other than “W812 Printed in Great Britain”. This particular copy is postmarked 28 May 1917.



7. NPM exhibition souvenir card, 1984

The description on the rear reads:

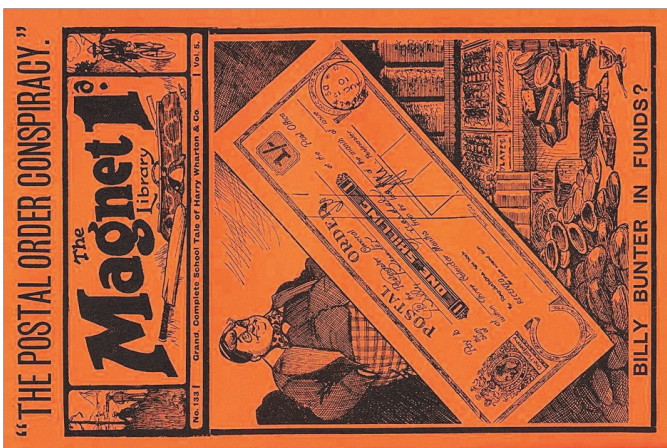
“This card is issued to commemorate the exhibition of Postal Orders at the National Postal Museum - 6 November 1984 to 25 December 1984. The card depicts a design for a Post Office Note of c. 1874, the proposed forerunner of a Postal Order issued in 1881; they were printed by Bradbury Wilkinson. This card will also be available in the Midlands and North East Postal Regions.” Followed by a description of the NPM, and “Printed at the House of Questa, London, England SE5 7TP”.



8. And finally in literature...

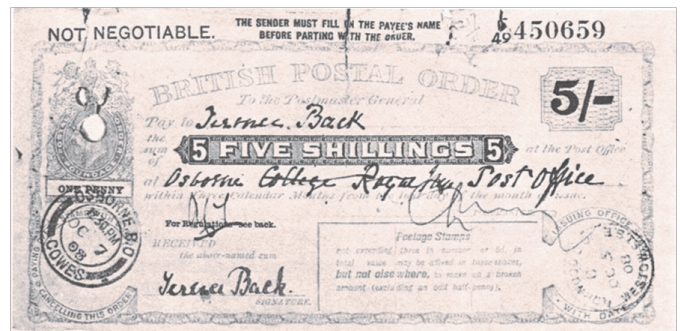
“Billy Bunter’s Postal Order”, by Frank Richards, was a best-seller right from when it was published in 1951. Billy was perpetually in debt, promising that he would pay off these debts when a postal order from one of his “titled relations” arrived. But it never did ... leading to many “yaroos”, “get off you brutes” etc.

The book was foreshadowed in The Magnet: “The Postal Order Conspiracy” in 1910. The cover shows a 1/- King Edward VII postal order based on Brill types 5 and 6, rather loosely probably so as not to infringe GPO copyright. Various other editions of this story and book were published but this issue is the only one I’ve seen with a facsimile postal order.



[Further information from : <http://www.friardale.co.uk/Magnet/1910/1910.htm>]

More famously the play “The Winslow Boy” by Terrence Rattigan (1946) tells the true story of a young boy expelled from prep school in 1908 for suspected theft of a postal order from another boy; a QC was engaged by his father who maintained his son’s honesty, and succeeded in proving his innocence in the high court.



[image from Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postal_order]

And off to Discworld!

The Discworld series of adventures by Sir Terry Pratchett included many tales of postal matters, including the book “Going Postal”: this is a phrase more widely used in the USA than in the UK and originally described the utter chaos arising from a post office staff strike in 1986: “in American English slang, [it] means becoming extremely and uncontrollably angry, often to the point of violence, and usually in a workplace environment.” [Wikipedia]

The Discworld books also generated a wide number of fantasy stamps, illustrated well in:

<http://www.discworldstampcatalogue.co.uk/index.php>

But only one copy seems to have survived from a short-lived issue of an accompanying postal order. It’s even difficult to find the image online using most search facilities

<http://www.discworldstampcatalogue.co.uk/extras/scr0009postalorder.gif>

Even the above sales site has no records of when it was issued, and has no copies for sale - it’s not even in the catalogue...



Auction

If you are unable to attend the Auction at the AGM meeting on Saturday 6th October, make sure that your bids are with the Auctioneer before the closing date,
5pm Wednesday 4th October 2018

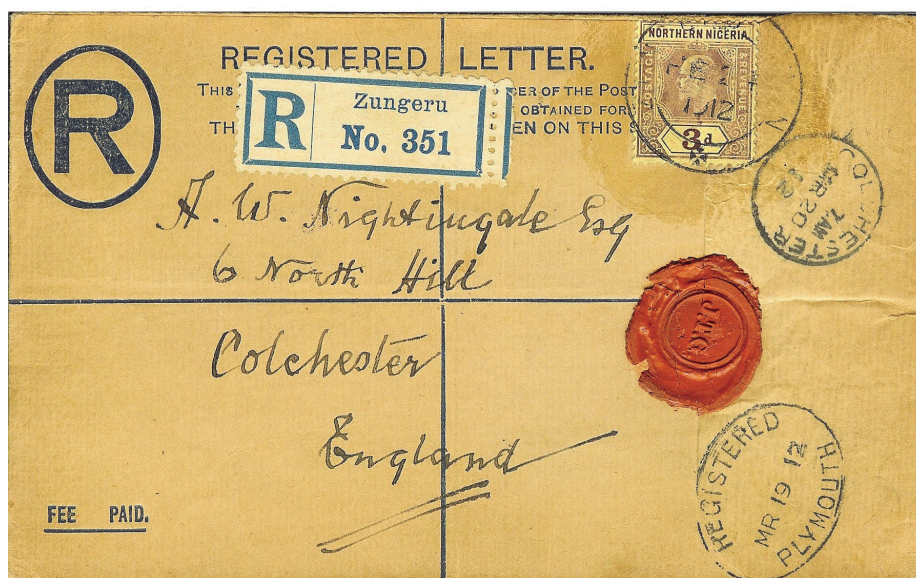
FORMULA REGISTERED ENVELOPES

Ray Harris and Peter Hørlyck

[Adapted with permission from Cameo vol.13, no.1 January 2012, West Africa Study Circle]

Jeremy Martin's article on this subject (Ref. 1) identified an example of a G size envelope in the Crown Agents archive at the British Library, from requisition R 1090/26. The requisition number refers to the year 1926. However, the authors of this article each have an earlier G size formula registration envelope – that is, with no imprint of prepaid postage – posted in Northern Nigeria, one in 1909, the other in 1912. The two are not identical as can be seen from the font and length of "REGISTERED LETTER", 64mm on one and 61mm on the other, and of "FEE PAID".

The earlier cover was sent from Kano, having postmarks of Kano 9th June 1909, then Zungeru, Lokoja, Plymouth and London Paddington (21st July). The later cover was registered at Zungeru on 24th February 1912 and has a transit mark at Plymouth, 19th March, and arrival mark at Colchester, 20th March.



Another cover, identical in layout to the latter and opened on three sides, has been seen from Lagos on 12th May 1920 to Huddersfield. The impression of the R in the oval and of the lines are clearly pressed through the scrim to the inside; additionally the blue lines on the front and back do not match up. It seems therefore that the printing was done after the envelope was made up, which is in contrast to the printing of the registered envelopes of Southern Nigeria and of Nigeria. Northern Nigeria was not issued with any pre-paid registered envelope, but so far neither of the two layouts has been matched exactly to any pre-paid envelope.



The question should arise, to whom was the stated fee paid? Were these ordered properly, or perhaps created by unauthorised printers copying a known layout? Any further information will be welcomed.

[Please contact the Editor: details on page 2 of this Journal]

Reference

1. Martin, J., "Formula Registered Envelopes", *Cameo*, Volume 12 p24, WASC, January 2011

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Recent Articles from the Philatelic Press

Gibbons Stamp Monthly May 2018

"Post Office Issued Postcards During the Reign of Queen Victoria" Edward Klempka

"2017 Commonwealth Postal Stationery"

Gibbons Stamp Monthly June 2018

"2017 Foreign Postal Stationery" Geir Sor-Reime

"Postal Stationery Matters" Peter van Gelder

Gibbons Stamp Monthly July 2018

"Official Stamps and Postal Stationery of Great Britain: Part 1" Edward Klempka

"2017 Foreign Postal Stationery" Geir Sor-Reime

Gibbons Stamp Monthly August 2018

"Prepaid (Stamped) Official Postal Stationery of Great Britain"

Edward Klempka

"2017 Foreign Postal Stationery 2017" Geir Sor-Reime

Postal Stationery May-June 2018 (USA)

"The Watson Postcards Part 2" Wayne Menuz

"Folk Art Eagle Envelope EFOs" Thomas Galloway

U.S. Administrative Area Overprints - Canal Zone" Lewis Bussey

Postal Stationery Collector August 2018 (Australia)

Obituary: John Anthony Sinfield 1942-2018 - Mark Diserio

"UK 9d Air Latter Crash Mail" Joan Orr

"The Flap Seals on the Envelopes of Victoria" W.P. Costerus Edam

"The Lucy Osburn Pre-Stamped Envelope" Marilyn A Gendek RN FACN

"Nicaraguan Proofs, Hamilton Bank Note Company and the German Master Engraver and Die Maker Rudolf P. Laubenheimer" Ross Towle and Glen Stafford

"High-end Postal Wrapper Realizations: Attributes Justifying Premiums" Dr John K Courtis FRPSL

Postal Stationery Notes [BNAPS] February 2018 (Canada)

"Postage PrePaid Boxes"

"Printings of the Railway Advice Flimsy Forms" Robert Lemire

"Christmas Cards from Canada Post"

"Uses of the 1 Cent Leaf Post Card" Vic Willson

"Canada Post Postage-prepaid Registered Mail Envelopes 2010-2017"

"The White-Paper Post Bands from the 1950s - Private Order or Official?" Robert Lemire

Postal Stationery Notes [BNAPS] May 2018 (Canada)

"A Previously Unreported Set of George V Envelope Press Proofs" Jean Levesque and Richard Logan

"The 2017 Santa Letter Stationery"

"Printings of the Railway Express Company Advice Flimsy Forms - Part 3: The 2¢ printings for CP" Robert Lemire

The Overprinter - Great Britain Overprint Society (Summer 2018)

"Cyprus ½d, 1d, 1½d Postcard Packet Bands" Robin Davis

"Zululand Manuscript "Specimen" on Postcard" Tony Stanford

Ganzsachensammler (Switzerland) June 2018

"Die Gratispostkarten der Schweizer Post von 2012" W. Menuz

"Schweizer Postkarten als Sackquittungen" U. Fehlmann.

Die Ganzsache (Germany) 1/2018

"Elemente einer Archäologie der Ganzsachen 1: Die Italienischen 'Cavallini' von 1818" Reinhard Krüger

"Zwei frühe Marine-Schiffspost-Brief" Winfried Leist

"Die Auflagenhöhe der Dienst-Rohrpost-Umslage des Admiralstabs der Marine" Ludger Breil

"Die Rohrpost-Ganzsachen im Ziffer-in-Raute Muster" Ludger Breil

"Nachrichten aus den deutschen Kolonien" Winfried Leist

"Social Philately und Geschichtswissenschaft. Gedanken zu einem Buch von Heinz Wewer" Winfried Leist

"Plusbriefe Alte Buchenwälder mit Stehboden Papier und Fluoreszenzvarianten" Linus Lange

New Issues of Postal Stationery, Europe and Overseas - Martin Radtke

Souvenirs of the 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee

John Davies is compiling a book on the philatelic history of the 1890 Penny Postage Jubilee.

He would be grateful for details and scans of any rarities or unusual items that relate to the celebrations at any of the associated events, such as the Guildhall and South Kensington exhibitions and formal dinners. These might include registered covers but also ephemera such as invitations or tickets, if you feel you are able to contribute, please contact John by E-mail: davies1890@btinternet.com

The Tilleard Medal for the best afternoon display given to the RPSL was presented to **Dr Alan Huggins** RDP, Hon FRPSL for 'Embossed Stamps of Great Britain'

Postal Stationery Card CS72.

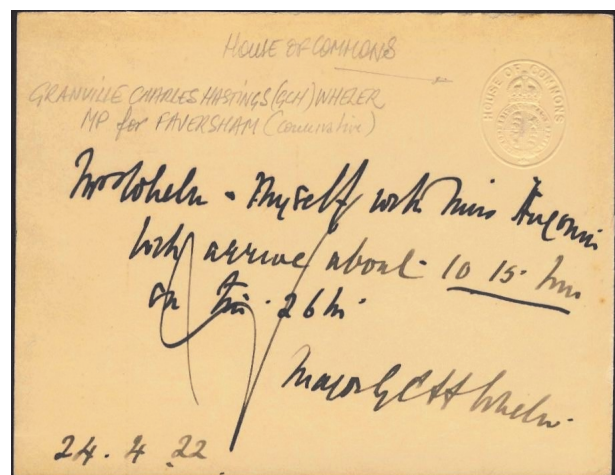
Anders Ugglä writes: "I have found what I think is a not recorded Postal Stationery Card CS72.

It is on a thick buff card with the seal of the House of Commons embossed on the reverse at the top right corner.

The card is addressed to the Grovesnor Hotel in London, and it is signed on reverse by "Major GCH Wheler".

Granville Charles Hastings Wheler was MP for Faversham (Conservative).

It is dated and cancelled (Castleford) of 24 April 1922"



GROSVENOR

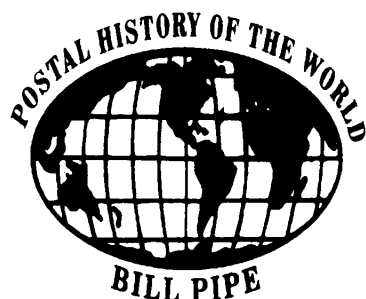
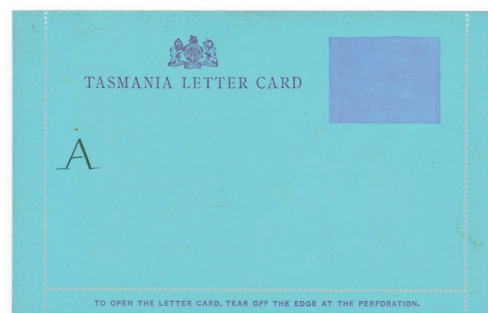
Postal Stationery at Auction

Specialised items and collections of postal stationery feature regularly in our popular London auctions and our carefully crafted catalogues are enjoyed by collectors around the world. Each sale is available to view, fully illustrated, on our website, www.grosvenorauctions.com, together with advice on attendance and bidding options, including live participation online.

Commission rates for vendors are negotiable and fully inclusive, with no hidden extra charges appearing after sale. Settlement payments are renowned for their promptness and reliability.

Our Autumn 2018 Auction Season is now in preparation and consignments are cordially invited. Contact **Andrew Williams, Tom Margalski** or **Constanze Dennis** at the address below for friendly, confidential advice and all assistance.

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