



Security Punch

By Jeff Turnbull

Perfins on Great Britain Silver Jubilee Stamps of 1935

Interest has recently been shown in perfins that appear on the GB Silver Jubilee issue of 1935.

Some years ago Mr. George Greenhill of the GB Perfin Society produced a small publication depicting and listing the various different Company dies, which have so far been recorded as appearing on the Silver Jubilee stamps.

The list, which was last up dated in (2006) has at the moment approximately 1200 different dies, it is by no means complete, but it gives the enthusiast some indication as to the amount of firms using perfins on the Silver Jubilee stamps during the short time that the issue was in use (approximately two months).

The stamps were designed by Mr. Barnett Freedman, and printed in photogravure by Harrison & Sons in sheets of 120 stamps (20 rows of 6) the watermark was GvR block cypher. There were four values and they were issued on the 7th of May 1935.

Quantities.

- ½d green 353,000 000.
- 1d red 150,400 000.
- 1½d brown 490,000 000.
- 2½d blue 14,200 000.

The stamps were also produced in booklet form with inverted and upright watermarks.

There were two booklets,

2/- booklet (May 1935 blue on buff) containing,

- 12 x 1½d, 4 x 1d, & 4 x ½d.

3/- booklet (May 1935 red on buff) containing,

- 20 x 1½d, 4 x 1d, & 4 x ½d.

No perfins have been recorded on booklet stamps.

Note.

It must first be noted that the perfin is not always found in a readable position, owing to the fact that the sheets of stamps were often folded before placing them into the perfin machine. Thus leading to perfins that are upside-down, back to front, and even reversed and sideways.

Whilst being found in various positions, there are also various formats.

IE: ---

- Single letter, Two or more letters in a single line, Two or more letters in two lines,
- Two or more letters in three lines, Monograms, Numbers, and Designs.
- In the letter format a forward slash “/” denotes one or more lines.
- In the Catalogue Number “v” denotes variable position. & “m” Multi Headed Die.

The following examples may help the collector.

Single Headed Die.

1) Single Headed Die (where only one perfin of the die is found on the stamp)

Single letter “M” Cat No M 0010.12 remains unidentified at the present time.



2) Single Headed Die two letters “C&W” Cat No C 8310.04

User, Cable & Wireless 1933-1939.



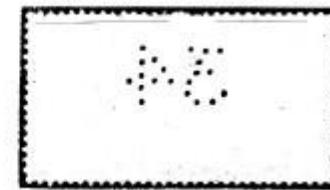
3) Single Headed Die three letters on two rows, “BC/Ld” Cat No B 1410.02

User, Borax Consolidated Ltd London EC2. 1905-1935.



4) Single Headed Die Number “34” Cat No Num 0270.01

User, Sheppey Glue & Chemical Works Ltd, 34 Mark Lane London EC3.1903-1939.



Multi Headed Die.

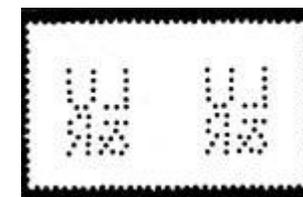
The size and positions of the Multi Headed Die was so as to perforate sheets of the more common definitive stamps of the day with one die on each stamp.

So when the much larger Silver Jubilee stamp was introduced, two of the same perforate dies can be found on the same stamp.

5) Multi Headed Die two letters also two impressions; one line, “H&P” Cat No H 5690.02M. “M” signifying multi die. User, Huntley & Palmer Ltd, Reading. 1890-1969.



6) Multi Headed Die three letters, two impressions, two lines, “LU/&R” Cat No L5600.02M. User, Law Union & Rock Insurance Co Ltd London WC2. 1925-1945.



7) Multi Headed Die four letters, two impressions, three lines,
“c/AN/s” Cat No C
0270.02M. User, Army & Navy
Cooperative Society Ltd 1890-1969



8) Single Headed Die Design. Single Design of a Coat of Arms Cat No Des
0140.01M User, City of
Leicester, Leicestershire County Borough
Council, 1890-1939.



If any Silver Jubilee Collector is interested in the perfin listing, then please contact me by email as I can provide a copy of it.

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For collectors of Silver Jubilee stamps, it is also worth noting that perfins also appear on the Silver Jubilee sets from many of the Commonwealth countries of the time.

There are Catalogues of course which list the many different perfin dies, although it may be difficult to find the required information. If any collector has perfins and does not know who the user is, I would be happy to help in the identification. A scan of the stamp in question would be ideal, or a description may be good enough.

Some typical examples of Commonwealth perfins.



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NB

Jeff has written to say that a new updated version of the GB SJ Catalogue for perfins is now to be found on the

Perfin Society web site: <http://www.angelfire.com/pr/perfinsoc/surveys/0307list.pdf> and adds that this updated version covers much more detail and, hopefully, readers will be able to add to it. Contact addresses for new information are on the pages listed.