## Great Britain Stamped to Order Postal Stationery and Royal Household Official Mail





Revenue Stamps

Embossed revenue stamps were introduced in 1694.

Left: Embossed without colour from reign of King George I (1714-1727)

Right: Embossed with colour issued in 1883.



## **High Value Embossed Stamps**

6d issued 1854 on "V R" watermarked paper 1sh issued 1847 on Dickinson "silk" thread paper



Envelopes with embossed stamps were issued from January 1841. There was no differentiation in the dies for regular or stamped to order usage until 1881.







EMBOSSED POSTAGE STAMPS to be struck upon Paper and Envelopes.

26th November. 1855



Stamps from the first Postmasters' circular, unfortunately cut down. Although the circular is dated 26 November 1855, the stamps are dated 5-12-55 (6d) and 7-12-55 (4d and 1s).













Embossed Dies dated 22-8-77



Three stamped to order envelopes





2 ½ d Stamped to Order, regular issue of this denomination did not happen until 1892.

Three examples of envelopes with two stamps.



## **Example of misalignment**

All four stamps are dated 26-1-75





Stamps made on different days: the 1d on 27-4-75, and the 1 shilling on 26-4-75.



Different arrangement of the two stamps. On the left envelope the 1 ½ d is dated 27-4-75 while the 2d is dated 26-4-75. Both stamps on the right envelope are dated 13-5-75.



A used example (overpaid?)



Another used example, sent to Saxony (Germany)



An example with three stamps: a 1 sh and two 2 ½ d. From 1884 the date plugs were replaced with florets.



A three color example.



Queen Victoria 10d embossed 'SPECIMEN'. This die was also used for the embossed adhesives in 1848, but it was not brought into use for STO work until 1892. It was never drilled for date plugs.



A large envelope with ten different stamps. The stamps do not have date plugs and the 10d is included, so it is 1892 or later.

A proof sheet of STO dies, 1892 or later.



Table I: Board of Revenue Records, July 1, 1862 to June 30, 1863.					
1d	6,214,710	9d	45	2/6	226
2d	167,841	10d	11	2/8	292
3d	196,524	1/-	1,682	3/-	40
4d	8,038	1/4	7,426	3/4	575
6d	2,808	1/6	100	4/-	750
9d	17,112	2/-	850	27	

For this one year time period:

STO total orders 6,619,221 P. O. issues 1d 12,998,880

2d 120

Thus, about 1/3 of all stationery was STO

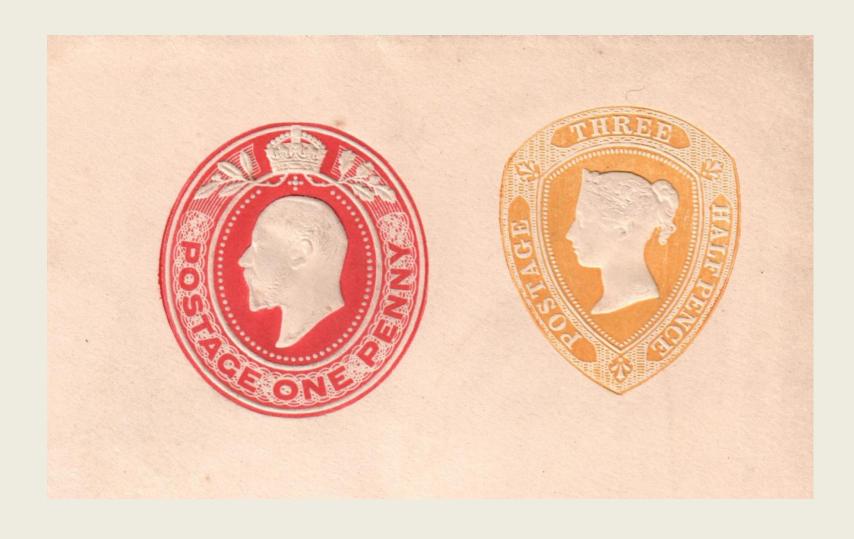
Two combination STO covers with  $3d + 1 \frac{1}{2} d$ , one with Victoria and one with KEVII.



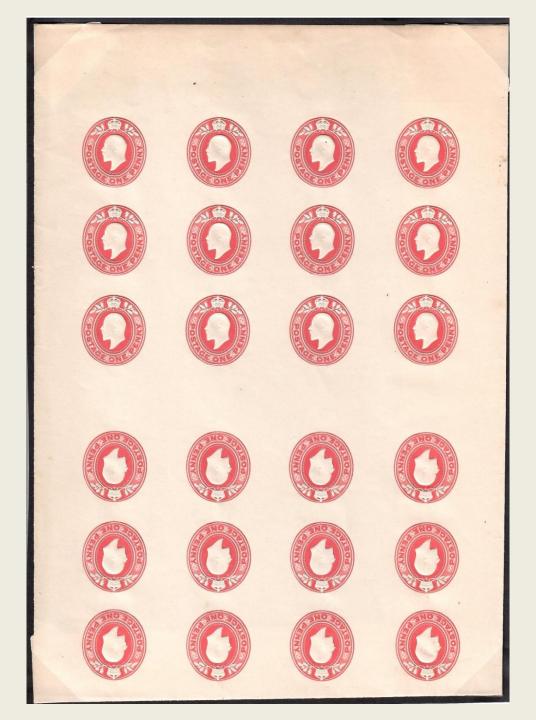
A two-reign STO, used and unused examples.

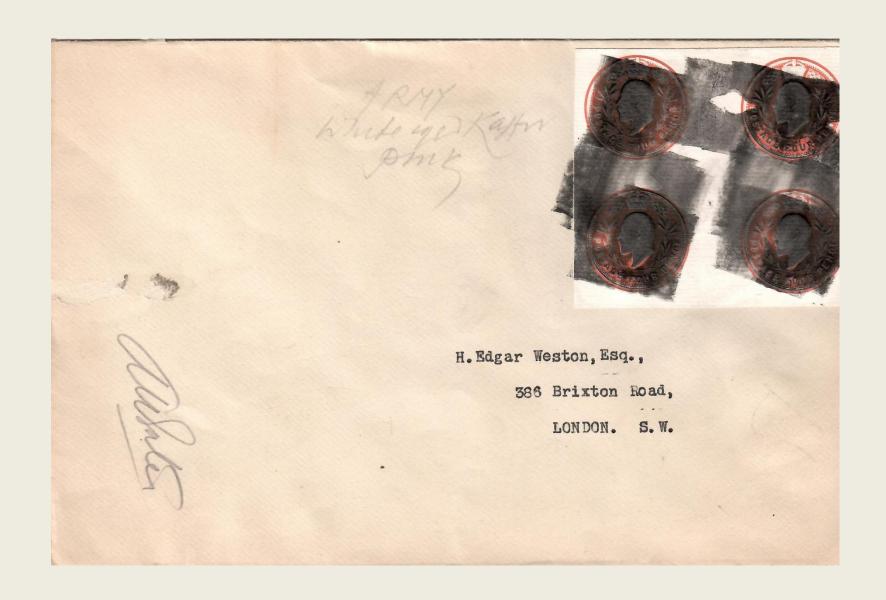






KGV STO stamps in sheet form per order of Edgar Weston





Letter posted to Edgar Weston from the BEF in France during WW1



Another Weston cover which also includes the first airmail label issued by the GPO on 17 August 1920





A King George VI STO Envelope



A KGVI STO cover with three indicia



A piece of a King George VI wrapper for printed papers.



These letterpress dies were used for postal cards, wrappers and lettersheets. A Victor Marsh persuaded H.M.S.O. Press at Harrow to print stamps in these abnormal positions. Marsh marketed these as "proofs".



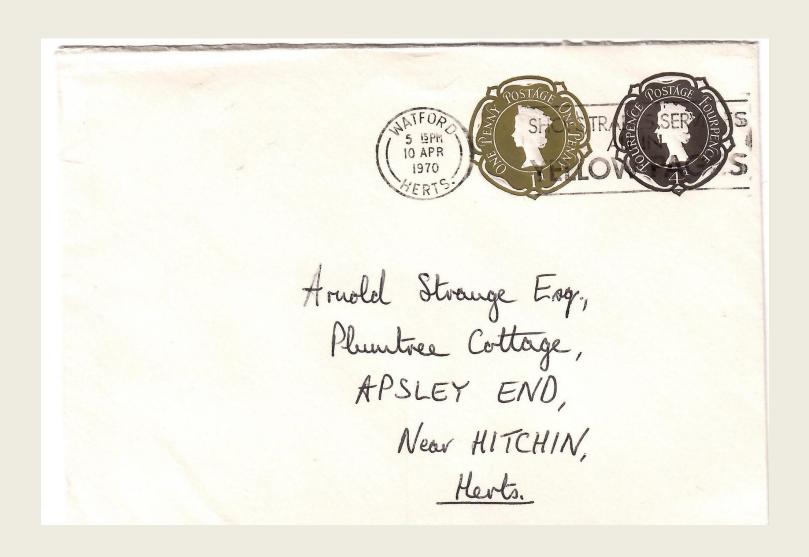
When "proof" sales flagged, Marsh used some from remote islands to prove postal validity



Victor Marsh "Proofs"



An envelope with six stamps, three QEII and three KGVI



## 1970 Sterling Denominations







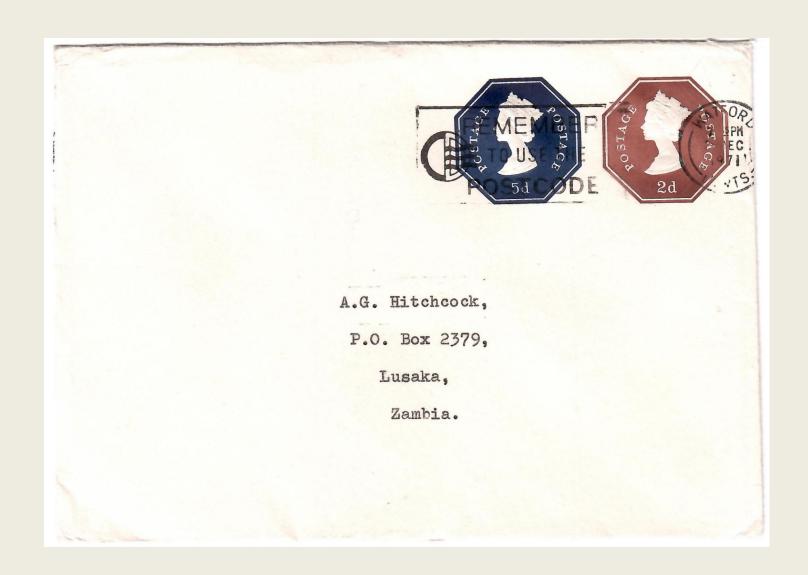




1971 Decimal Currency



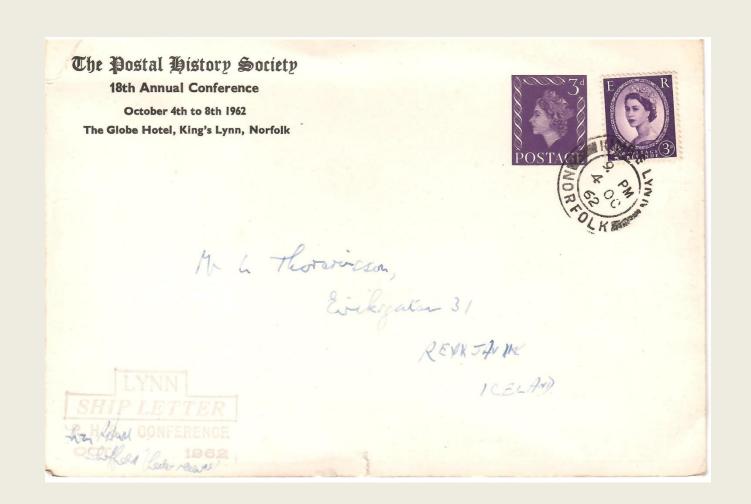
1971 Decimal Currency



1970 Sterling denominations - Interesting destination



1971 STO Postal Cards. Indicia similar to stamped envelopes, but without embossing



1956-68 QEII STO postcard stamp used with 3d adhesive.



1956-1968 STO Postal Cards



Postal Card with combination 1d (1954-68) and 4d (1968-69)



Compound Cards 1968-69

THE ANNEXED CARD IS INTENDED FOR THE ANSWER.

LA CARTE CI-JOINTE EST DESTINÉE À LA RÉPONSE.

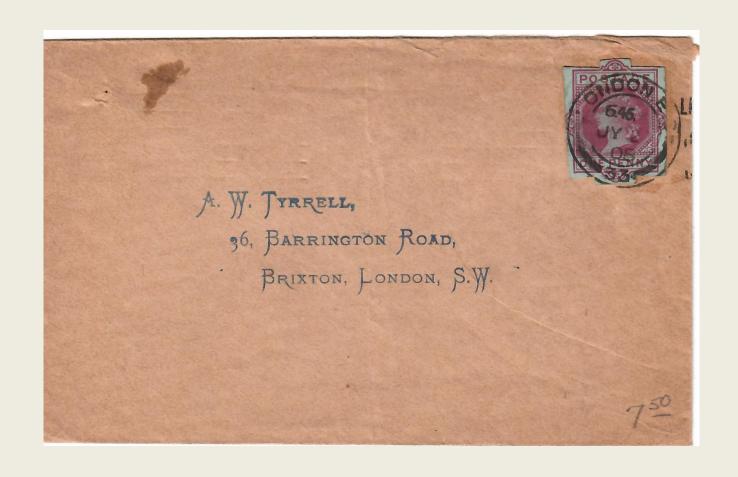
## PRINTED PAPER







Wrapper with 6d (1968-9) and 2p (1971) Cancelled by Stamford *Mercury* private cancel



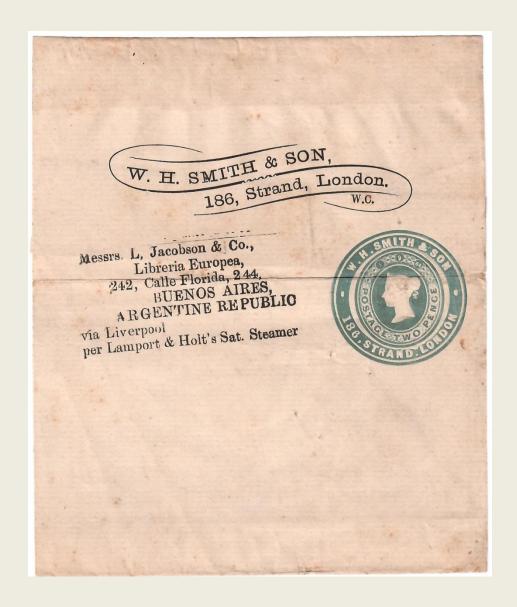
QV stationery cutout used on letter 1908. Cutouts were legal until prohibited by the PO Act of 1870, however their use was again permitted after January 1, 1905







1 ½ d QV STO cutout plus 3 halfpenny QEII adhesives used to pay the 3d rate in 1963. Unfortunately, the QV STO had been demonetized decades earlier.



An advertising ring could be added to your STO stationery order.

From 1857 to 1888 companies were allowed to place a collar/ring around STO embossed stamps. This could be done (for a fee) by the government printer, Somerset House, in one operation at the same time as the stamp was printed, or it could be applied subsequently by a private printer.

Only nine companies availed themselves of the official facility, and about fifty companies added rings privately.

The most prolific user of the rings was W. H. Smith and Son, newsagents, primarily on wrappers. 1d wrappers are relatively common, but higher value wrappers and any value stamped envelope are relatively scarce.









HMS Neptune, an iron steam powered battleship, originally ordered by Brazil but acquired for the Royal Navy in 1878. Commissioned in 1883 into the Channel Fleet. Transferred to Mediterranean Fleet in 1885. The 4d stamp (B) is dated 24-10-84, the 3d stamp (T) is dated 5-4-86



Coloured advertising ring printed by a private printer for Browne, Rosenheim & Co., London. Stamp dated 7-6-86, cancellation is dated AU 12 86

# ROYAL OFFICIAL MAIL



Cover with KEVII monogram postmarked 03 Jan 1906 at Kings Lynn, so presumably from Sandringham House



Cover with KGV monogram postmarked 20 JY 1914 at Kings Lynn



#### BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

Private

The Private Secretary is

commanded by The Queen to

thank Mis Mellie Chaplin

for her letter of May 11 ll. with its enclosures.

The Puralé Secretary

is to express Her

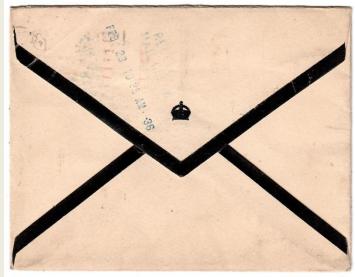
Majesty's regret at

being emable to comply

with Miss Chaplins Leguest.







1936 Royal Mourning cover with Official Paid machine postmark used to Canada after death of King George V.



Registered cover dated 11 Nov 1936.
He abdicated the throne on 11 Dec 1936.
The inset is a postcard showing Edward as
Prince of Wales in the uniform of the
Chief Scout of Wales.





MARLBOROUGH HOUSE

S.W.l.

Dear Canon Sillingham Quein May desores une I send you the suclosed cheque to hispart or presents for your Christmas Tree in St. Tichael! Is succeed Margarethynshaw

# From a Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Mary the Queen Mother in 1945





Mrs. Coldwell,

6, Snydale Hall,

Old Snydale,

Nr. Pontefract, Yorks.





#### BUCKINGHAM PALACE

27th April, 1948.

Dear Madam,

I am desired by The Princess
Elizabeth to thank you for your letter and to say
how very sorry Her Royal Highness is to hear that
you have so recently lost your husband.

The Princess has asked me to convey her deepest sympathy with you in your sad loss and to say that Her Royal Highness very much hopes that you will find the parcel useful.

Yours truly,

Tean Uphinstone

Lady-in-Waiting.

Mrs. Coldwell,
6, Snydale Hall,
Old Snydale,
Nr. Pontefract, Yorks.



### BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Many hand friends overseas sent me gifts of food at the time of my wedding I want to distribute it as hest I can, and to share my good fortune with others I therefore ask you to accept this parcel with my very best wishes.

L.A.J. Stribley,

Mr. Customs & eine,

Custom Adelaide House,

King William Skeet,

3.C.4. MASTER OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

1

The Town Clerk,

County Borough of Grimsby,

Town Clerk's Office,

Municipal Offices,

Town Hall Square,

GRIMSBY, Lincolnshire.

Private Secretary to the Queen.











Chief Warrant Officer A.D. Rodgers, C.D.,
Regimental Sergeant Major,
The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada,
4781 St. Catherine Street West,
MONTREAL 215,
Quebec.



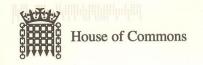
CANADA.





Mr & Mrs David Upson Stoke Fruit Farm Battisford STOWMARKET Suffolk IP14 2NA







Ms Rebecca Upson

Stoke Farm

Straight Road

Battisford

Stowmarket

Suffolk

-----IP14 2NA

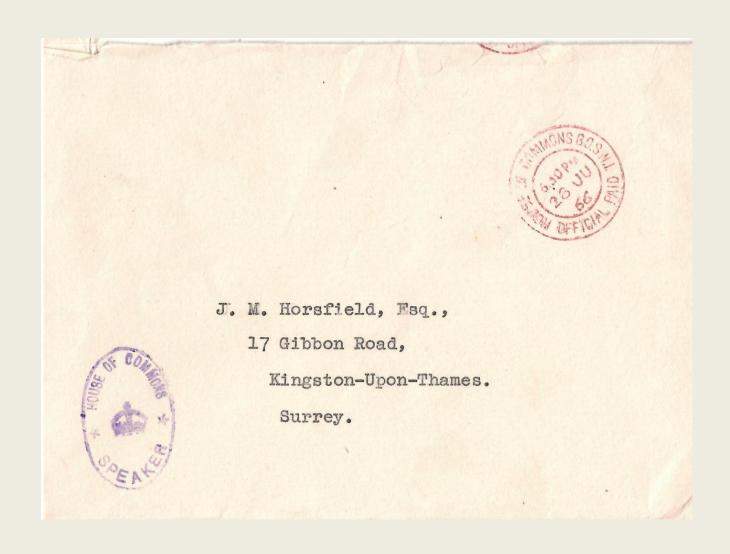
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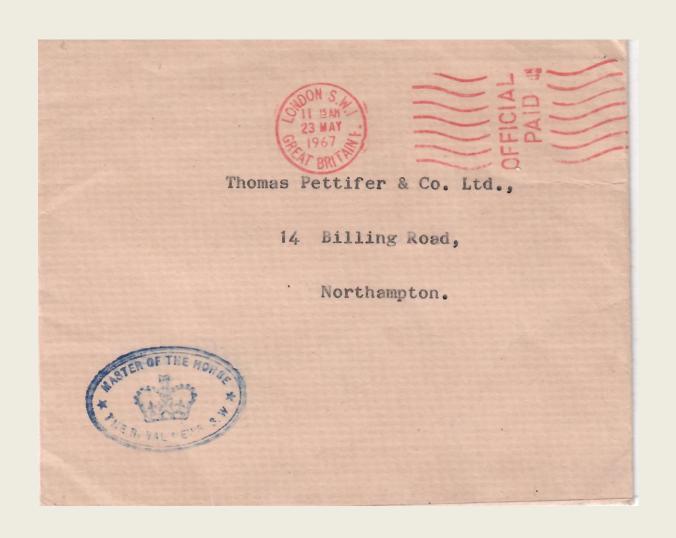


Royal Mail supports mental health awareness





"House of Commons / Speaker"



"Master of the Horse / The Royal Mews SW" 23 MAY 1967





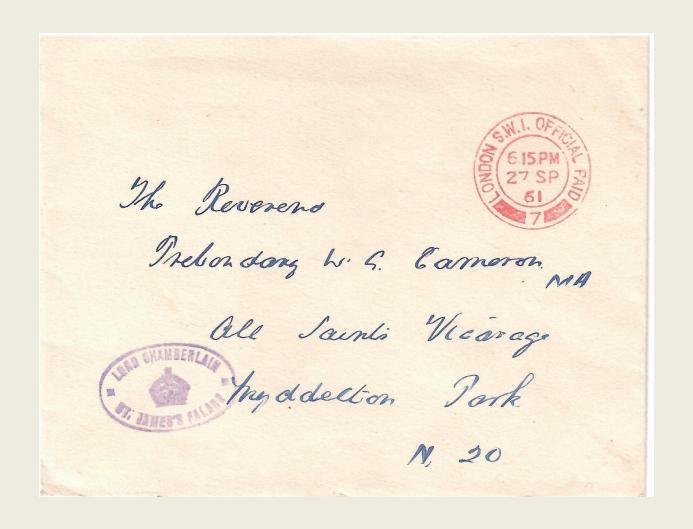
Messrs. Thomas Pettifer & Co. Ltd.,

Accounts Department,

14 Billing Road,

NORTHAMPTON.





"Lord Chamberlain / St. James Palace"



"Flag Officer / Royal Yachts" 29 JUL 1969









"Post Office / Secretary"

Address reply to-"The Secretary, General Post Office," quoting Registered No. 2.3.

General Post Office, London,

22, Jely 1913

I am directed by the Postmaster General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst, and to inform you that it shall receive attention.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. F. KING,

Secretary.

7.m. No. 34.