

MIDLAND MAIL

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDLAND (GB) POSTAL HISTORY SOCIETY

www.midlandphs.org.uk



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Number 202, April 2019



Viewing and discussing some of the wonderful items at the *Villages – any period* meeting in April

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ANNOUNCEMENTS – As the AGM and auction are not taking place until the 25th May meeting this year, the minutes of the AGM and the accounts of the auction will not appear until the end of July edition of Midland Mail instead of the April edition, wherein they usually appear.

AGM and AUCTION – Don't forget these important events on 25th May at the Friends Meeting House, Cotteridge, Birmingham, B30 1JB. As I have previously written, there is ample parking, easy access from Kings Norton station (5 minute walk) and there are nearby cafés for those not bringing their own lunch. The AGM begins promptly at 1pm with the auction following as soon as the AGM finishes. Rumour had it that the auction was likely to be a special event, containing some wonderful items and, indeed, it seems the rumours were correct as I have received my auction catalogue with many items catching the eye, none more so than the final lot, the 1850 unique 2 mark of Halesowen (see front of MM 201) and some early, previously unrecorded Bewdley marks were also noted. If you haven't received your copy of the catalogue by the time you read this, please contact the Chairman for a copy.

MIDPEX – With the demise of WORPEX the only chance left before summer arrives of examining a dealer's stock at a major show is at the biennial Midpex, to be held, again, at the Warwickshire Event Centre, Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN on Saturday 6th July 2019 from 10:00AM to 4:30PM. Spokesperson, Steve Harrison, commented '*I have been very pleased with the immediate take up of dealer spaces and Society tables by past supporters. This clearly shows that the format works and that attendance levels have enabled everyone to benefit from taking part*'. The list of dealers attending is long and impressive. There is ample parking or there is a shuttle bus from Leamington station for those trusting the rail service! The Midland (GB) Postal History Society will have a table, so do make yourself known to us if you are a new member or don't regularly attend meetings. There are over 30 other societies in attendance as well, so it should be an excellent day.

JON BAKER TROPHY – Please remember to vote for the best article in Midland Mail in 2018. You can send an email to the editor at sniktab@gmail.com or contact anyone on the committee, who will forward it. It would help if you would send your vote by the middle of May as the results of the voting will be announced at the AGM on 25th May. You can vote for any article you deem worthy of such an accolade but you might like to consider:

The Postal History of a Private Bank	John Calladine	MM 197 / 10
Postal Rates Charged on Country letters	Ian May	MM 198 / 8
Mail on the Midland Railway & its Constituents, Part 6	John Soer	MM 198 / 13
The Use of Computed Miles by the British Post Office	Ian May	MM 199 / 10
A Few Snippets Associated with the Mail of Bingham	Alan Marshall	MM 199 / 19
Computed Miles and John Ogilby	John Calladine	MM 200 / 20
An Aborted Robbery from the Lincoln-Tamworth Bag Tender	John Soer	MM 200 / 28

RESEARCH NOTES – **Ian Baker** writes - Included with this edition of Midland Mail is a page of fourteen self-adhesive labels which members may like to use, in case the worse should happen, to identify working files of research notes. Although these will have no monetary value in themselves, the information they contain could be important to other members of the society in the study of your particular collecting area.

ADDENDUM – John Soer has requested that the following be added to his article on page 21 of the previous Midland Mail, viz: '*In October 1981 Mr Pullen moved the post office to 1, Jenny's Lane where it remained until January 1993, three months after Mr Pullen's retirement.*' He writes that he '*chopped out a sentence which means that part is nonsensical*' and offers his apologies.

ABPS NEWS – In the Spring edition **Clive Jones** makes the centre-fold pointing out his display of Great Britain Travelling Post Offices given at the President's Evening at Southampton.

PROGRAMME 2019 / 2020 – It is usual for the Programme for the following year not be finalised until after the AGM, which is later than usual this year being in late May rather than April but I would still hope to get the programme to you with the end of July edition of Midland Mail.

If sending articles or accounts of displays at meetings to Midland Mail by email please use:

Microsoft WORD	I have opened all versions sent....so far!
Font	Times New Roman, Size 10
Margins	2.54cms (Top), 2.2cms (Right, Left, Bottom)
Scans	300dpi Do it, Sort it, DONE!

THE 9th FEBRUARY MEETING at THE FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, COTTERIDGE – Once again our ‘new’ venue, with plenty of parking and easily accessible by road or rail proved to be an excellent setting for the 17 members and two guests who presented themselves for displays of *Illustrated or Advertising Covers & Postcards*.

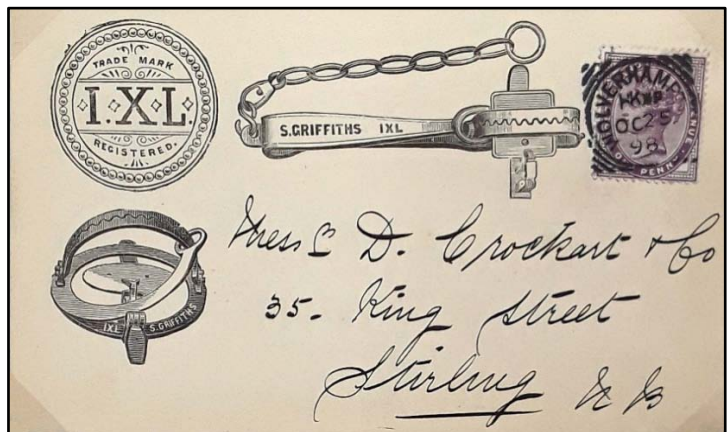
Malcolm Allinson began proceedings with a 7 May 1840 Mulready used in London but as he had but the one item, ‘his’ board was filled by **Brian Atkins** who proved to be creative by showing items related to William Jones & Son, Rug Wool Merchants of Bridgnorth beginning with a 1910 invoice, which included a charge of a 1d for a ‘pattern’, duly displayed, as well as covers from Ceylon, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Barbados, Zoppot (Danzig Free Zone) and Basutoland, many of which were registered.



1899 cover from Buxton to Wilmslow

Roy Summers first cover was dated 1894 advertising the Midland News Association, printers of the Express & Star. Two covers (1898 & 1900) from the company of S. Griffiths, ClydeWorks, Wednesfield had illustrations of animal traps (see left). A 1925 invoice was from William Careless, Funeral Director and his final cover showed C. H. Edwards, Brass Founder, Millfields, nr Wolverhampton.

Guy Bridges’ first item was an 1871 cover from a member of the Oxford Light Infantry in Malta to London, 6d stamp cancelled A25.



1898 Wolverhampton to Stirling, North Britain!



1 June 1907, A local Shrewsbury illustrated cover

Gordon Hardy started with two illustrated covers to Streatham drawn by a Mr Stinson to his wife, both of whom were repertory actors. An 1899 cover from Buxton showed the Hydropathic Hotel on the cover as well as the letterhead. A 1929 cover from Derby advertised Qualcast Lawnmowers.

Alan Godfrey began with two 1871 fronts from Coventry to London illustrated by W. G. Fretton,. An 1880 cover from Leamington showed two small boys attempting to climb a wall. A 1904 cover from Kenilworth was illustrated by Leighton Ward and a 1913 stationery postcard had a picture made from cut-out stamps.

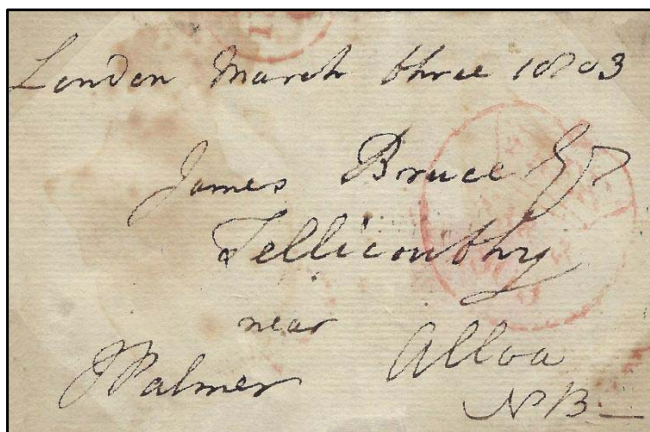
Guy continued with a 1909 Anti-Free Trade covers showing ‘Market Place, Wokingham in 1800’ and ‘Market Place, Wokingham in 1909’, painted by Arthur Fredericks noted as AF on the covers, both of which were sent from London to Reading. Four comic hand painted envelopes were sent to a Miss Woodhouse, Ellesmere Road, Shrewsbury in 1907 (see illustration) He concluded with two attractive envelopes to a member of No 8, Naval Squadron, R.N.A.S. to B.E.F. in France in 1917

Alan Spencer displayed a range of advertising items produced by Cadbury Brothers Ltd., including an underprint on a 1d Queen Victorian stamp of New Zealand; a Cadbury

Coupon issued in exchange for their product; an envelope and letter from the Cadbury Cubs and a range of post cards. The post cards comprised colourful 'Reward' cards and promotional cards illustrating the Recreation Grounds, the factory, the offices and the rail system that linked to the cross city line.

Brian Purcell showed the following: a newspaper wrapper from Cannock to Kidderminster, a postcard of Whitehouse Engineering Works, Cannock Chase Colliery, John Salmon & Co., advert for Horniman's tea and the Festival of Flowers in Cannock of 1977.

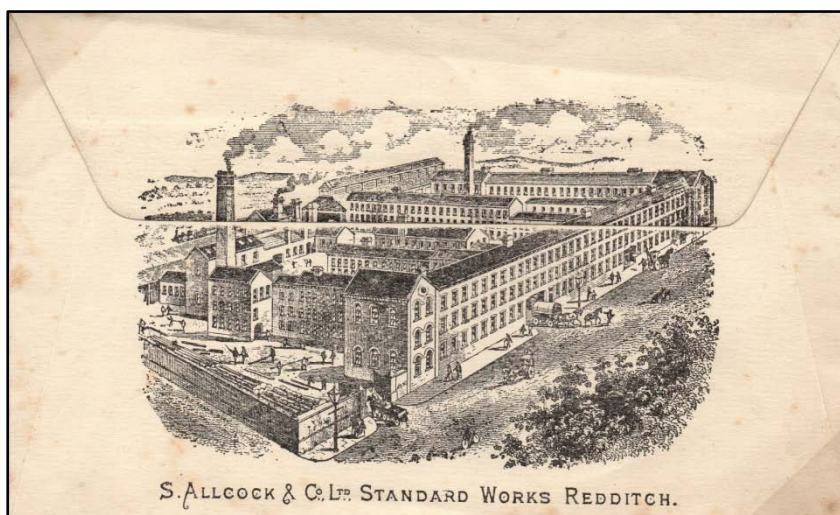
John Calladine stated that as he was unable to meet the meeting's brief to show advertising envelopes and postcards, he chose to show Coaching Ephemera, each item advertising stagecoach or mailcoach routes and timing. They included several receipts, principally for parcels carried by coaches. In connection with these, he showed a 'free front' with the authentic signature of John Palmer, the instigator of the mailcoach service, sent in 1803 when he was an MP for a Bath constituency.



1803 free front with signature of J Palmer and sketch of said gentleman at age 65

Clive Jones showed one board of Sheffield's proud metal history, not forgetting another famous product, *liquorice allsorts*, which are still made there today. Clive's other board featured varied illustrated items from 1751 onwards, including hand drawn TPOs, Southgate caricatures, campaign envelopes, postal stationery envelopes, and some local industry of the Black Country. A cover from 1889 showed that Lye Co-operative Society actually **manufactured** all sorts of nails, and was not just a retail outlet.

Chris Jackson showed advertising material from Redditch relating to the Fishing Industry. The most famous of the fishing industry manufacturers were Samuel Allcock & Co who had premises on Clive Road. The first item was an unused envelope with a super steel engraving of the factory, which Chris explained was rather larger than in reality. An 1882 envelope followed with a rubber stamp listing the gold and silver medals won at international shows. A similar item from 1893 has the envelope printed with 12 medals from all over the world. An envelope and billhead from George Moore Ltd showed the factory and trademarks. An envelope from Thomas Murdoch was accompanied by an ink blotter with a cartoon by the noted artist Lawson Wood and a final envelope from John Smallwood & Co showed their patent 'Ready Case' which delivered fish hooks attached to nylon one at a time from the packet.



The reverse of an unused Allcocks envelope showing the company's factory, albeit somewhat enlarged by the artist.



Chris later showed the front of an 1895 envelope showing the advertising ring for A.G. Baylis and their Sphinx trademark, 1887 Benjamin Jones Shoes, Malvern, 1908 E. Collins, Fruit, Pea and Potato grower, and, perhaps, the most remarkable of all a cover with a 10/- London, Midland, Scottish parcel stamp commercially used (see saved from a GOAT on page 13).

Richard Farman produced extra large sheets sent with free fronts including an 1833 'Reading the Will' tableau, the print altered to be a political cartoon. He also displayed an 1816 A3 size picture of a soldier, also sent free. 'The Old Hunter Consoling the Donkey' was another political cartoon.

Stuart Geddes put up covers of Jones, Florists, Newport, Mon; a 1934 Pwllheli cover showing a Dental Provider and Equipment, a US cover advertising dentistry, adverts for toothbrushes and a card of Tooth Rock, Scilly Isles.

Jan Young showed advertising cards for Bromsgrove Museum, which has reopened after a chequered few years. She showed cards of Bromsgrove Laundry, closed in the 1960s, also cards of Messrs Wright who made gramophones and flash lamps, a market gardeners who made and sold wheelbarrows and 'Messenger' Co. Ltd., who were printers, stationers and booksellers and producers of post cards of Bromsgrove and environs during the early 1900s.

Tom George showed printed matter items with advertising used between 3rd and 31st May 1951 bearing GVI 1d ultramarine stamp used singly. He also showed Birmingham advertising covers for Cadbury, a Birmingham music shop and a 1926 card of the Hen & Chicken Hotel (pictured reduced) but now demolished. A Parcels Post advert envelope for Hawkes and Son Music bore a QV 3d Jubilee with a '21 Regent Street BO' parcel post label attached.



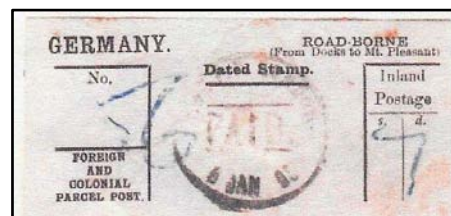
Alan Godfrey and Brian Purcell also displayed second time around

THE 9th MARCH MEETING at the LADYBIRD INN, BROMSGROVE when 12 members and 2 guests were in attendance for displays of *Parcel Post Labels, including Feedback on the Parcel Post Book.*

Richard Farman began proceedings showing Foreign & Colonial Parcel Post labels to and from the UK. On 25 June 1885 it became possible to send parcels through the post to India, Gibraltar and Egypt as British troops were stationed in those countries, they were soon followed by Germany and Belgium in December 1885. The Post Office had a very complicated system of handling foreign parcels, which included Ordinary Parcels, Insured Parcels, Express Parcels and Registered Parcels, all of which had to be logged onto many different Post Office forms but a 'common or unique number', usually written in blue crayon, was used throughout the journey of the parcel.



16 Apr 1886, the earliest label recorded, no 'Inland Postage' shown



6 JAN 1906, PAID and ROAD BOURNE (from Docks to Mt. Pleasant) – railways received 55% of postage!

There were also Insurance Receipts, Despatch Notices, origin Number labels, Customs / Insured / Registered Labels, all having Post Office numbers. Richard noted that Inland Postage was the amount due to the British Post Office from the sender's postage, recorded on the Country of Origin label.

		PARCEL POST. (To be used for Parcels to and from the Channel Islands, and for Colonial Parcels.) FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION.		P.P. No. 20. F.&C.P.P. No. 1. Place to which the Parcel is addressed. <i>Chirnside</i>	
Gross weight of Parcel. <i>2 12</i> lbs ozs.		CONTENTS <i>Iguana</i>		Net Weight of Contents lbs ozs.	
Value as Merchandise £ s. d.		Cape of Good Hope. No. <i>147</i>		Inland Postage. s. d.	
Date Stamp of Office of Exchange (For use of Post Office of Exchange)		Parcel Bill No. _____ No. of parcels _____ Entry No. _____		FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PARCEL POST.	

Richard pointed out a 2lb 12oz parcel label showing the carriage of an iguana from a Boer War FPO (above)!

Mick Gill reported two new labels for Nottinghamshire – a B2 **NORTH MUSKHAM** on a parcel tag with a manuscript date of 19 SEP 1899 and a B2 **WHATTON** on a parcel tag dated 25 AUG 1905. The earliest and latest Notts labels were an A3 **Nottingham Station Street** of 1886 and an E2 **Thurgarton** of 1921. These were followed by a 1930s leaflet promoting the free collection of parcels and letters. Moving North, Mick showed a receipt for a parcel conveyed by mailcoach to Retford in 1924 along with a range of labels from **Retford** and **London Road** and **Westfield** TSOs. Labels from **Babworth**, **Barnby Moor**, **CLAYWORTH** (one a Retford label with Clayworth added in manuscript, **ORDSALL** and **Rampton** followed. A **SOUTH LEVERTON** / (**Under Lincoln**) dated 1901 related to a time when some offices under Retford circulated via Lincoln. Finally we saw labels from **Everton**, **MISTERTON**, **RANSKILL**, and **Walkeringham** in the far north of the county.

Mick Gill's second display comprised eight sheets of parcel post labels from offices in central and south Nottinghamshire including Nottingham itself. Among the most interesting were three blank labels, one with **EBW** in manuscript and a good G29 Eastwood 3VOD, another with a hand stamped MANSFIELD and the last with an SNY (Southwell) triangular telegraphic hand stamp. A Southwell label from 1893 had a 1/- stamp, which may have been previously used, suggested in that it was almost completely obliterated by ink. To round off his display Mick produced some other examples of rubber parcel cancels from Newark and Nottingham offices between 1925 and 1992.



Chris Jackson showed the only new PPL he had acquired since the publication of our book, Mount Pleasant Redditch with 6d KEVII (see left). It was not a completely new entry for the book as an earlier one had been recorded from the same office, but was a new type and date. He also showed a number of PPLs which although being geographically in Herefordshire were sub offices of Malvern or Worcester Main Offices. The rest of the display consisted of PPLs from Dudley Evesham Malvern and Worcester.

Brian Purcell exhibited a reproduction of a 1906 **STAFFORD, Railway Station, B.O.**, label, a new item, as well as 4 Cannock PPLs. He also produced

6 sheets from Roger Broomfield's collection, with labels from Ross, Kington, Ledbury and Hereford (Eign Rd).

Brian Atkins began with a lovely 28 AUG 1884 **PARCELS POST** label from Shrewsbury with the address label to Towyn also attached. Other Shrewsbury labels were from TSOs Mardol, Kingsland, The Mount and the **PARCELS OFFICE**. There were also labels from Prees, Whixall (see below), Wem, High Ercall, Whitchurch and Ellesmere.



Whixall is, by land area, the third largest inland village in England and a civil parish in Shropshire west of the road from Whitchurch to Wem. It is documented in the Domesday Book as having been in existence in 1086.

The KEdVII 5d purple and blue (SG 293) paid for a 3lb parcel on a C3 label dated 13 November 1912. It is the only label recorded from Whixall, which had an undated D1 issued as WIXHALL (note the spelling) on 23 JUL 1859, it has not been recorded. Mail from Whixall is very difficult to find.

Clive Jones displayed a series of private carrier letters from 1741 onwards, where the letters travelled free as they accompanied a parcel, as per the 1711 Act. The goods were noted were as diverse as a clock bag, tea, dried fish, hens and a hare, the latter a gift to celebrate the birth of a son. From the Post Office period of Parcels Post, the Chief Regulations were shown, as issued in July 1883, and a PPL was shown on a wrapper sent from Ross on 21st August 1883, the first month of the service. Another letter / parcel referred to carrying 4 dozen lemons and bitter oranges, presumably to make marmalade (*you can buy a tin of orange pulp at Sainsbury's to make your own marmalade these days, just add sugar – Ed*)!! As well as an August 1883 **PARCELS POST** label from **ROSS** (Herefordshire), there was a similar 1885 **PARCELS POST** label from **REETH** (Under Richmond, Yorks) with three 1d lilacs all cancelled by the single ring, code B. Other highlights were early examples of the registered parcels post, including examples from 1891, the first year of this service.

Alan Godfrey brought along some Railway Parcel labels / stamps, some loose, others on cover; Alan stated the LMS were used all over Warwickshire. The LNWR was represented by a block of six 1d parcel stamps and a pair of 1/- stamps cancelled at COVENTRY. The Stratford-on-Avon & Midland Junction railway and the Leamington & Warwick Tramways Ltd were also represented. Birmingham Tramways Parcel Express labels were in evidence as were Midland Red (Bus Company) parcel labels.

Our Chairman concluded by stating he had recorded 5 'new' labels during the afternoon.

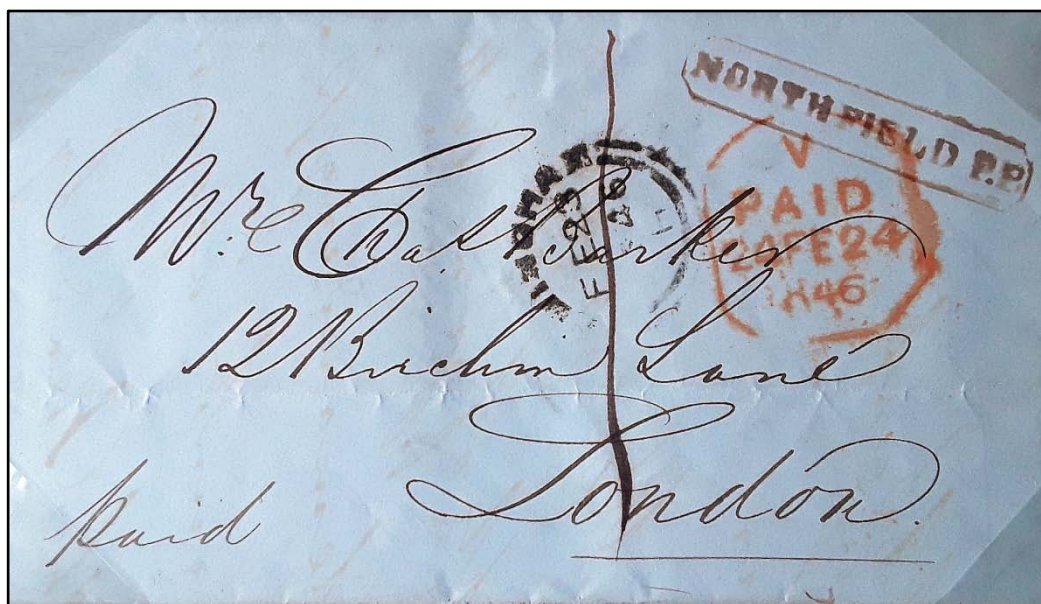
THE 13th APRIL MEETING at the LADYBIRD INN, BROMSGROVE. 14 members and 2 guests gathered to display *Village Postmarks – any period*.

Brian Purcell was first up showing some Staffordshire items including a cover from Bridgtown to Stafford station, then back down the railway to Walsall. A Chasemoor Mulready to Church Bridge via Cannock was noted as were Hednesford Camp, Huntington, Pye Green and Rawnsley items

Roy Summers displayed an 1837 undated GORNAL, a Breewood Mulready, an 1845 undated CLAVERLEY, a Tettenhall 1d black and Mulready.

Tom George showed village rubber cancellations on GV 1d stamped envelopes for Denford/Thrapston and Islip/Thrapston (Northamptonshire); a village skeleton of South Wigston (Leicestershire) on a foreign rate postal stationery card to Lisbon; a double arc UDC of Husbands Bosworth, Leicestershire; a violet rubber cds of Farnham/Bishops Stortford on EdVII 1d PS envelope and a cds of Kings Langley on 1d pink QV PS envelope (both Hertfordshire); the double ring UDC of Mountsorrel on an entire dated 1838 and a UDC in blue of Humberstone Gate on the reverse of a 1d pink stationery cover to Leicester. Also shown was a Post Office circular dated September 13th 1887 with details of ship sailings abroad for mail, instructions with regards parcel posts, corrections of the locations of village post offices in Wales (Rhosgoch RSO) and an advert requesting applicants for the position of sorting clerk at Droitwich.

Pete Elms showed some wonderful items of the straight-line NORTHFIELD P.P. (PENNY POST) of 1839, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1846 (see below), 1847 and 1853. He explained that the first known office in the village was part of a villa at the far end of the village. Joseph Joice was postmaster / receiver in 1841 and possibly earlier, followed by George Dutton from 1854 to 1877 and Miss E. Pardoe to 1892, when the office relocated to the Institute building in Bunbury Road, when Mr and Mrs Hall were appointed. Pete's second display was of postcards of Northfield village and of Cadburys.



Brian Atkins decided to illustrate the 19th century marks from one village in each of his displays, beginning with HANMER, in the old county of Flintshire but a sub-office of Whitchurch (Shropshire), being 5 miles west of the town. The office was first issued an undated circle on 28 August 1848 with examples in black (1849) and blue (1853) on view. The scarce split-ring (two known) of 30 July 1867 (earliest) was followed by the earliest small single circle dated 4 July 1884, likely used until well into the 20th century. To complete his 9 sheets he presented 3 items from Hinstock, including an undated circle, the only known use of the **J20** 3VOS and two square circles of 1905 and 1910.

For his second display, Brian used a similar process, this time showing the postmarks of Prees, (under Whitchurch) 1844 to 1907 and finishing with three sheets of PRESTON GUBBALLS, or was it COBBALDS or GOBALDS or GOBBALDS, the Post Office didn't seem to know! It is, of course, PRESTON GUBBALLS and a pretty village it is.

Mick Gill likened postal history to the major supermarkets: postal historians sought clearly struck upright postmarks whilst supermarkets (and the EU) sought to have only perfectly formed fruit and vegetables. However there is

nothing wrong with 'wonky' fruit just as there is nothing wrong with wonky postmarks, especially if it is the only one available. Some of the wonkiest postmarks were from rubber date stamps distorted by the incorrect use of oil, rather than water-based inks. We were treated to examples from the Nottinghamshire villages of EMANTON, HARBY (under Lincoln), KINGSTON-ON-SOAR (under Derby), LANEHAM, NUNCAR GATE and ORSTON.

For his second display, Mick showed examples of good strikes of rubber date stamps from BRADMORE < CROMWELL, GRANBY, NEWSTEAD COLLIERY, PERLETHORPE, and SHELFORD. To end Mick presented three of the five known rubber skeleton stamps of Nottinghamshire – BURTON JOYCE (O of Burton missing), GRANBY and SOUTH MUSKHAM. If anyone has the North Muskham and Thurgarton examples, Mick is interested!

Clive Jones' first half display focused on the sub-offices of the Isle of Axholme, an area in charge of Bawtry, Yorkshire although the subordinate offices were in the northern part in Lincolnshire, and in the southern part in Nottinghamshire. Six earliest usages of UDCs were shown, including unique examples of Walkeringham and West Butterwick. The latter featured on a cover with two other UDCs, Owston & Haxey (all places to the west of the River Trent) on a cover arriving at Derby Station on 31st May 1846 (see next page).

Clive's second half showed an area further north, including Rawcliffe from 1756 (the earliest known by 24 years), Snaith & Thorne. Finishing off almost back to the Nottinghamshire border, 3 sheets were shown of Maltby (under Rotherham), including an unpaid **three** pence rate on a letter addressed to Wath in 1844 with the notation '*To be forwarded immediately*', thus an early form of Express Mail! (scan 2). Maltby was still using a Maltese Cross canceller in 1852. The final sheet was of Tickhill, which once had a Penny Post with Worksop, Notts, then was under Bawtry, before unofficially moving under Rotherham in 1847 due to the railway connection. An example of the latter route from August 1849 was shown (scan 3) in an entire from Sandbeck, via Rotherham (655) to Doncaster.

Guy Bridges showed the village of Llanfyllin, in Montgomeryshire but under Shropshire towns. Prior to September 1808, Llanfyllin, 25 miles west of Shrewsbury, received and sent its mail to and from Shrewsbury by an unofficial local post. To illustrate this Guy showed a letter from Llanfyllin to London, charged 6d, with a two-line SHREWSBURY (SH638) and a 22 November 1793 letter to Llanfyllin from Salop (Shrewsbury), charged 1d with a 'horseshoe' Shrewsbury (SH640). An official Fifth-Clause post was established between Oswestry and Llanfyllin on 25 October 1810 and a letter sent under this system was viewed. As with other Fifth-Clause posts, this one didn't last and from 1 April 1814, Llanfyllin was established as receiving house in the Oswestry penny post and issued with a boxed No2, illustrated by a 16 May 1814 letter to Oswestry with the boxed No2 and red OSWESTRY / Penny Post. The Oswestry penny post was reorganised in August 1829, when Llanfyllin was provided with a boxed No3, shown on a 15 January 1830 letter to Shrewsbury, although the boxed No2 was used on a 24 August 1832 letter. On 13 September 1842 Llanfyllin was issued with an undated circle, seen struck in red on an 8 November 1842 letter and in black on a stunning 12 June 1843 letter to Welshpool, franked with three 2d blues, plate 2 (NI-NK – see below).

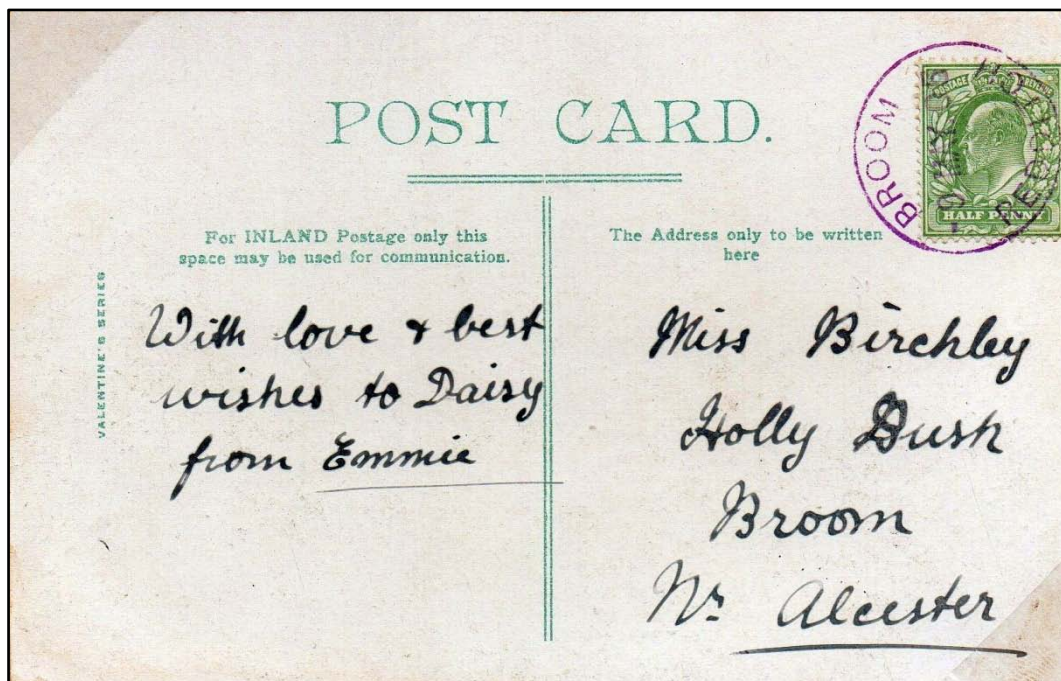


Alan Godfrey regaled us with 'wobbly rubbers', including Haselor 5 examples with distortion, Dunnington, Cookhill (in Worcestershire), Broom / Redditch (redundant handstamp) in violet ink, Dorsington / Stratford-on-Avon in violet ink; Wolverton / Stratford-on-Avon in violet ink; Clifford Chambers 3 examples with distortion; Sherborne / Warwick; Wasperton; Binton / Stratford-on-Avon; Shrewley / Warwick; Ashorne / Warwick, 3 examples including a Thunderstorm Census Organisation card; Broadwell / Warwick; Loxley / Warwick; Ufton / Southam; Oxhill / Warwick, in violet; Oxhill / Kineton / Warwickshire; Lighthorne / Warwick; Gaydon / Kineton; Wormleighton / Leamington Spa; Hampton Lucy / Warwick; Great Wolford / Shipston-on-Stour / Worcestershire in violet ink; Honington / Shipston-on-Stour / Worcestershire, 3 examples (one in violet ink on envelope); Darlingscott / Shipston-on-Stour / Worcestershire; Tredington / Shipston-on-Stour / Worcestershire in violet ink; Stretton-on-Fosse / Moreton-in-Marsh; Upper Brailes / Banbury; Fillongley / Coventry, skeleton rubber dated 21st October 1911 (only in use 5 days) and various cut-outs of villages under Leamington Spa in violet ink 1895-1901.

The final types of undated circles were the subject of **Chris Jackson's** display. The society's UDC book lists 71 of the small type hand stamps issued to offices in Worcestershire from July 1857. Of the 71 only 28 have been recorded in use and of these 11 have only been recorded as a single copy. Chris showed 23 of the 28 recorded hand stamps and included no less than 9 of the 11 single recorded copy's.



A stunning 31 May 1846 cover from Clive Jones showing three undated circles including the unique WEST BUTTERWICK as well as HAXEY and OWSTON



Alan Godfrey's card showing a superb 1906 BROOM / REDDITCH rubber cancel in violet

THE JACK BARLOW COLLECTION – An Unexpected Find

by Marion Turner

Living abroad and collecting postal history from Leicestershire means that any new additions are often obtained via other collectors or from searching the internet sites such as eBay etc. Visiting a stamp or collectors fair in the UK is therefore a real treat, so naturally when returning to England I always try to combine my visit to coincide with a philatelic event. Unfortunately this is not always possible as was the case earlier this year, when having agreed to attend a reunion in Leicester I had googled extensively hoping to find a postal history / postcard event somewhere in the neighbourhood. Nothing was to be found (no MPHS meeting in Loughborough!) and so I was forced to accept my disappointment and concentrate on other aspects of my trip.

On the Monday after the reunion I had arranged a short 'Hello' meeting with a volunteer in the local studies department at the library in Loughborough. This is someone who had been most helpful with my enquiries concerning an address in Loughborough. It transpired that we had been classmates at the junior school so naturally we had a lot of catching up to do. On mentioning my interest in postal history one of the lady volunteers chirped up with '*Oh, the library has a Postal History Collection*' and then on seeing my reaction '*Yes, the Jack Barlow Collection*'. While I was still digesting this news she went on to tell me the shocking fact that about 20 years ago items had been stolen and others damaged. Wanting to look into the collection immediately I had to wait a while as the library was about to close for lunch. Returning an hour later I found myself sitting opposite local studies volunteer Jane Shaw, who, on turning to the shelves behind her, bent down and opened one of the lower cupboards thus revealing the 22 black albums forming the collection. In the time available it was obviously not possible to look through what must be in the region of a thousand pages. Starting from the beginning seemed the best option and so I opened the first album.

The Jack Barlow collection begins with a facsimile of a 1622 decorated map of Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire by Michael Drayton, where Loughborough is situated on the wrong side of the River Trent! This is followed by a list of Post Masters for Loughborough starting with Mr Bunnis (1673) right through until Norman Morpeth (1960-69), the last person to hold this position before control passed to Leicester. The first cover appears on page 3, a letter from Peter Wood in Loughborough dated Nov 25th 1672 '*for my good friend John Morris Esquire at Sir Robert Clayton's house in the Old Jewry near Cheapside London*'. Postage 3d, single letter rate with a fine 13mm Bishop Mark dated Nov 27th on the reverse. We move on to a 1694 postage 6d. single rate and into the first type of Provincial town stamp, a 1706 straight line LOUGHBOROUGH (BCC 74b) with a clear 14mm Bishop Mark. Discrepancies in sizes quoted in the BCC were noticed, a millimetre here and there, but not enough to make comparison with the catalogue difficult.

The different London Receivers marks are well written up and it is a nice touch that on the upper right hand side of each page he states the reigning monarch, quite a list from 1622! One is then immediately drawn into the period and further quotes from letters add to the enjoyment. Here is an example from a letter dated 12th August 1714 with a fine London General Post date stamp for Aug 16th sent from the 1st Earl (Robert) Ferrers to Madam Shirley at Staunton Harold (Hall) Leics. He writes '*The Coronation will be as soon as they can get ready for it, but he (George 1st) is very stately and everything must be very fine. He speaks neither French or English – he won't be very good company.*' The Coronation took place on Oct. 20th. 1714.

As to be expected in such a collection one progresses through the many types of hand stamps, into the mileage period where there are examples of both distances 110 and 109 miles, different colours and sizes are also displayed. Lovely examples of the popular convex form plus free franks brings us up to 1830 and here we have two examples of the mileage erased of 1831, which opens with an early March 29th striking example of town and date stamp type H1. A disinfected cover sent from Genova on Aug 13th 1835 to Broombridge, Woodhouse near Loughborough shows a Genova straight line in red and a Foreign Post Office circular mark. A note is added that cholera was rife on the continent at that time.

Volume 3 of the collection begins immediately with Uniform Penny Post of 1840. Here I was surprised that before this there was no example from the 4d rate introduced in December 1839. However before those magical stamps are introduced there is a most attractive cover dated 2nd April 1840 sent from Hastings to Loughborough, with a Hastings cds in black and a fine circular London Post Paid mark in red, cancelled with a manuscript 1. Turning the page one is dazzled by not one but two Mulready envelopes. Examples with a red Maltese cross and Loughborough date stamp for May 27th 1840, yes, a May date, plus a black cross with date stamp Nov 1st 1841. What an overwhelming sight, but what follows is shocking. The next page is headed 1840 July 9th / 10th entire from Canterbury to Loughborough with QV penny black plate 6 cancelled with red Maltese cross. The upper right hand corner has been torn off leaving a damaged cover without a stamp. What a terrible sight!

While looking through the collection my interest and enthusiasm had attracted the attention of other volunteers present and from them I heard about how the collection had been on show for some time until a well known local philatelist, Brian Williams, had noticed that a number of envelopes had been damaged by having their stamps torn off. It seems that the perpetrator was only interested in the Queen Victoria period, where between 1840 and 1870 a total of 48 stamps have been removed. Since then the collection has been kept safely under lock and key but sadly the damage had already occurred. One of the ladies present suggested that I speak to Mr Williams and on my agreement she promptly telephoned him. After a short conversation he said that he would be happy to answer my questions and so I suggested that I write to him on my return home. Already I had found myself wondering about the man who had formed such a wonderful collection and donated it to the people of Loughborough. It was then that I decided to write this article.

It was almost closing time at the library and so the albums were replaced in the cupboard. Beforehand I did quickly peruse a little further and came upon a selection of penny reds on cover, some nice embossed penny pink envelopes and a page with two of the hand struck 2 postage due marks dated 22nd and 25th March 1841. Sadly I also came across more envelopes with the corners torn off. Yes, definitely time to leave. On returning home I wrote to Mr Williams who was true to his word and sent me the information I requested.

Jack Barlow was born in 1899 and grew up in Derby. He moved to Loughborough to follow an engineering apprenticeship with Messrs Herbert Morris Ltd., an international firm manufacturing cranes, pulley blocks and hoisting systems. He developed considerable knowledge of the commercial side of the business and worked in several branches of the firm. He became a director and after some years departmental head of Messrs Craven Brothers Ltd., a Manchester firm making machine tools, who transferred their crane division to the Herbert Morris group in 1931. During the 2nd World War he served as an air raid warden in one of the central areas of the town and in 1949 became the deputy chief warden, and later chief of the newly reorganised Civil Defence Corps. The chief warden at the time, Mr C. E. Huston, known to all as Captain Huston, was a world renowned philatelist, having won, among others, a gold in Norway and a silver trophy in South Africa for his remarkable collection of Cape Triangulars. Jack Barlow was also interested in philately and it was after Captain Huston gave an inspiring display to a group of philatelists in the public library that the two men decided to found the Loughborough and District Philatelic Society. The initial meeting took place in the Local History Room of the Library on July 23rd 1947. Capt. Huston was made the first President and Jack Barlow the secretary, a post he ably filled for the rest of his life. Towards the end of 1947 Jack Barlow, being well aware of the benefits of philately to the younger generation, wrote to all the heads of the local schools to encourage a younger membership of the society. Regular meetings were held and Mr Williams informs me that he became a junior member in this first intake.

The Loughborough collection of Jack Barlow was formed from a number of letters given to him from the solicitors Woolley, Beardsley and Bosworth in Rectory Place Loughborough, whose foundation goes back to the important Cradock family in the 18th cent. Any collector of Leicestershire Postal History, including the writer, will be familiar with the Cradock name and will most certainly have covers sent to or from them in their collection. Jack Barlow continued to build up this collection through the numerous reigns until June 1970. Apart from his work and family, a married man with two children plus the society in Loughborough, he was also a member of the Postal History Society of GB and well known in the philatelic world. He was a key organiser of the East Midland Federation which functioned for many years before merging with the East Anglia Federation in 2013 to become the Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation. Jack Barlow did not live to a grand old age and died in 1972 aged 72. Born at the end of the Victorian period his life covered 6 reigns including the two world wars. The world of philately was gaining in popularity and through people like him we have wonderful collections to study. He was a public spirited man and it was his personal wish that the postal history collection should be donated to the Public Library, a very generous gift. After his death the Loughborough Philatelic Society decided to honour his memory by purchasing a presentation cup to be awarded annually for the best display of the year. This tradition is still continued.

Now more than 45 years later the collection sees very little daylight. The fear of further theft and damage means that it is only available on request. Very understandable, but this situation does raise the question of how sensible is it to give ones collection to a public library? These days most libraries survive on a skeleton staff and many hard working volunteers. One can hardly expect that an employee can be spared for a couple of hours to act as a 'watch dog' to a postal history collection. Food for thought and perhaps comments from other members. Even with the damage the collection has much to offer and is well worth a visit. I for one shall certainly be returning to continue looking through the albums. Special thanks go to local philatelist and historian Mr Brian C. J. Williams for his help and patience in answering my many questions concerning Jack Barlow and the collection. Also to the Public Library in Loughborough for permission to scan pages from the collection, the local studies group and in particular to Nigel Bampton for co-ordinating the enterprise and taking so much trouble to scan 3½ volumes of old paper.
www.gracesguide.co.uk/craven



Fig. 1, The Andrew Carnegie Library opened 22nd.June 1905 shown on an undated ppc.



Fig 2, Page of the two Mulready envelopes of 1840 and 1841 from Barlow's collection

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL CONSECRATION COVERS

by Ian M. May

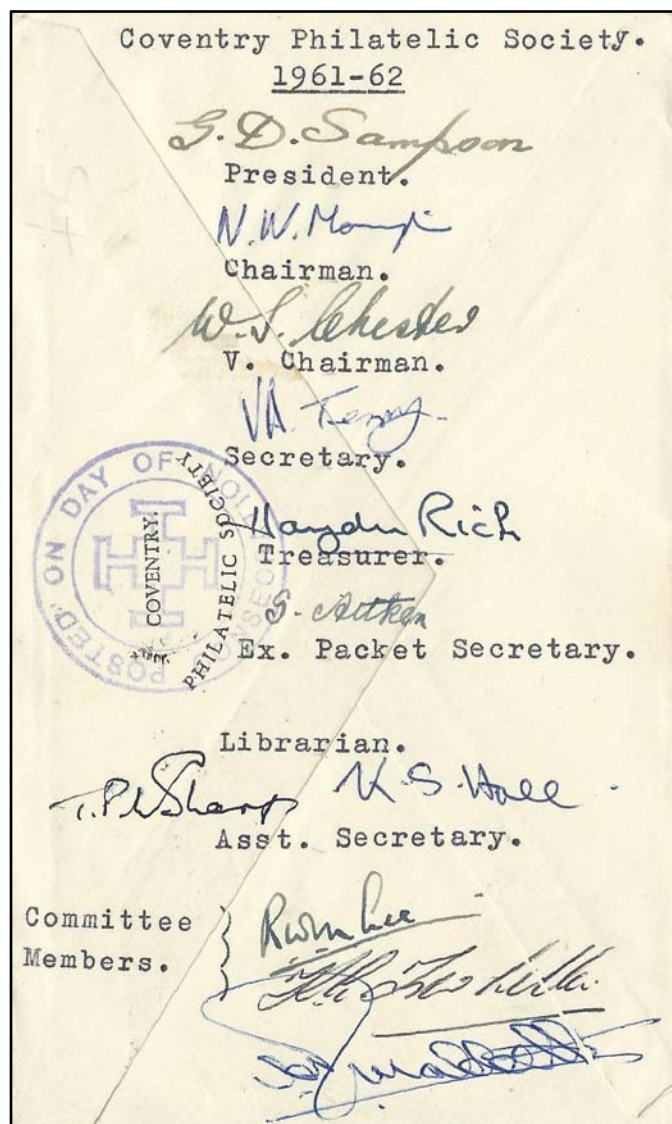


Fig 1, Reverse of a single rate 3d cover, front not shown

I recently acquired the Coventry Cathedral Consecration cover, the reverse shown in Figure 1, which prompted me to look at other similar covers I had in my collection.

The second St Michael's Cathedral, a 14th-century Gothic cathedral, was destroyed by bombing during the Second World War and now remains as a ruined shell. A competition to design the third St Michael's Cathedral was won by Sir Basil Spence^{[1][2]}. Its construction commenced in 1956 and the Cathedral was consecrated on the 25th May 1962. The unconventional spire, known as a fleche, is about 80 feet tall and weighs about 3200 lbs and was lowered onto the flat roof by a helicopter, flown by Wing Commander John Dowling, followed by the lowering of the Flying Cross weather vane which is mounted on the fleche and is about 10 feet tall and weighs about 1320 lb, in April 1962^[1].

To mark the occasion of the Consecration the Coventry Philatelic Society produced a cover, Figure 2, designed by Frederick Lomas^[3]. The covers have the inscription Coventry Philatelic Society on the flap, Figure 1. The Post Office produced a slogan cancellation for the Coventry Cathedral Festival which was in use from 1st to the 31st May^[4] in the Coventry sorting office, and was therefore used on the Consecration covers on the 25th May 1962. There is an additional hand-stamp applied to the covers to indicate posting on the day of the Consecration.

The covers are franked in numerous ways including the inland letter rate, the printed matter rate, no postage with postage due, the overseas surface rate and the airmail rate. The covers were obviously sent all over the world.

Of particular interest are the six covers of which either the front or reverse are illustrated in Figures 1 to 6. Figure 1, sent at the letter rate of 3d and sealed (front not shown), is signed on the reverse with members of Coventry Philatelic Society including a couple of names of founder members of the Midland Postal History Society. Figures 2 and 3 (front of Fig 3 not shown), both sent at the printed matter rate of 2½d, and hence unsealed are signed by some of the Bishops attending the Consecration.

The cover shown in Figure 4 is signed by the crew of the Belvedere Helicopter used to position the flèche and weather vane on the roof of the Cathedral on the 27th April. The pilot carried four of the covers in his pocket which were signed by himself, Sqn. Ldr. J.B. Dowling, his co-pilot, Flt. Lt. R.M. Salt, and crewman, F/O J.H. Martin. The covers were posted a month later, on the day of consecration^[5].

The cover shown in Figure 5 is signed by Sir Basil Spence, the architect of the new Cathedral, and a similar cover (not shown) is known signed by the Right Reverend Cuthbert Bardsley, the Bishop of Coventry. On the fifth anniversary of the Consecration, 25th May 1967, a special cover and hand-stamp were produced for the Cathedral, this was modified in order to be used as the Post Office Official First Day Cover on the 5th June 1967 for the release of the first of the Machin definitives, the 4d, 1/- and 1/9. There were still some unused Coventry Philatelic Society Consecration Covers as examples exist used on the fifth anniversary with the adhesives cancelled with the special

hand-stamp. The cover also appears for a few more years after being used at other special events with a Cathedral relevance.

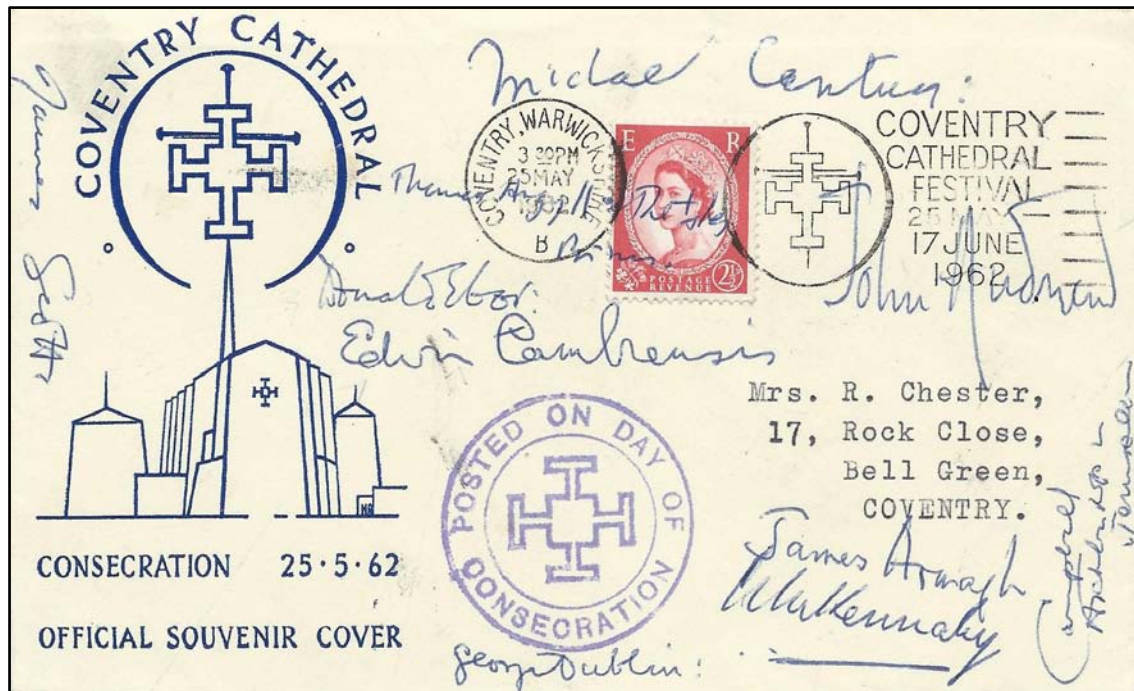


Fig 2, 25 May 1962 Official Souvenir Cover of the Consecration of Coventry Cathedral (2½d printed matter rate)

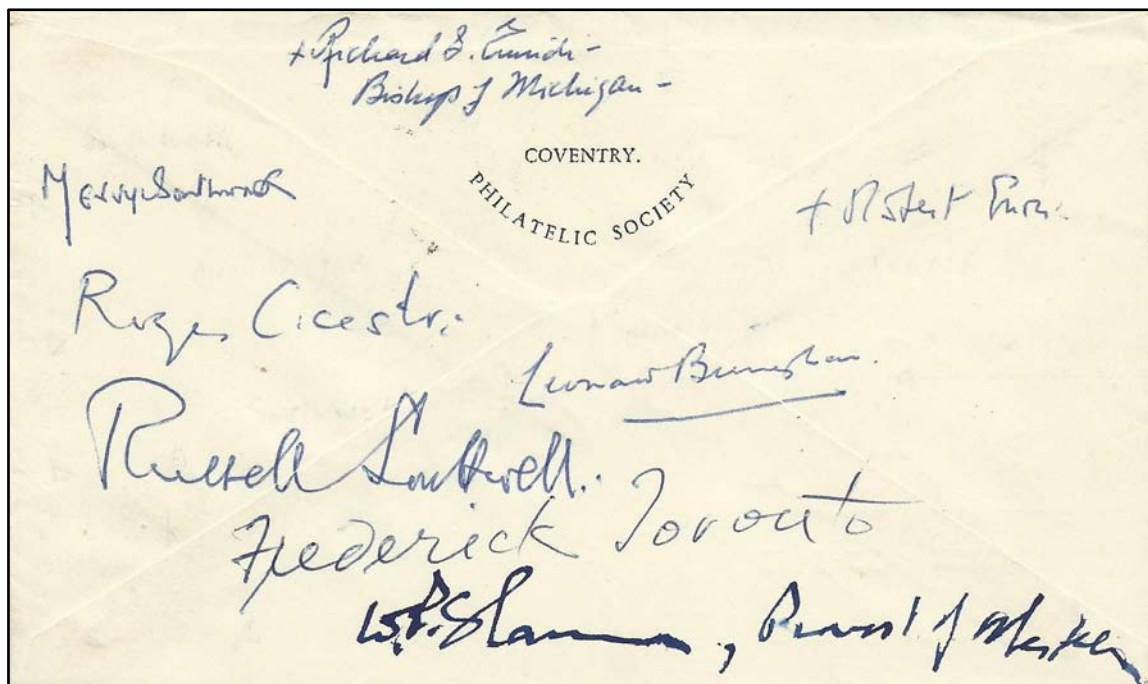


Fig 3, Reverse of a Cover signed by some of the Bishops present at the Consecration (2½d printed matter rate)



Fig 4, Consecration celebration cover with the signatures of the crew of the Belvedere Helicopter

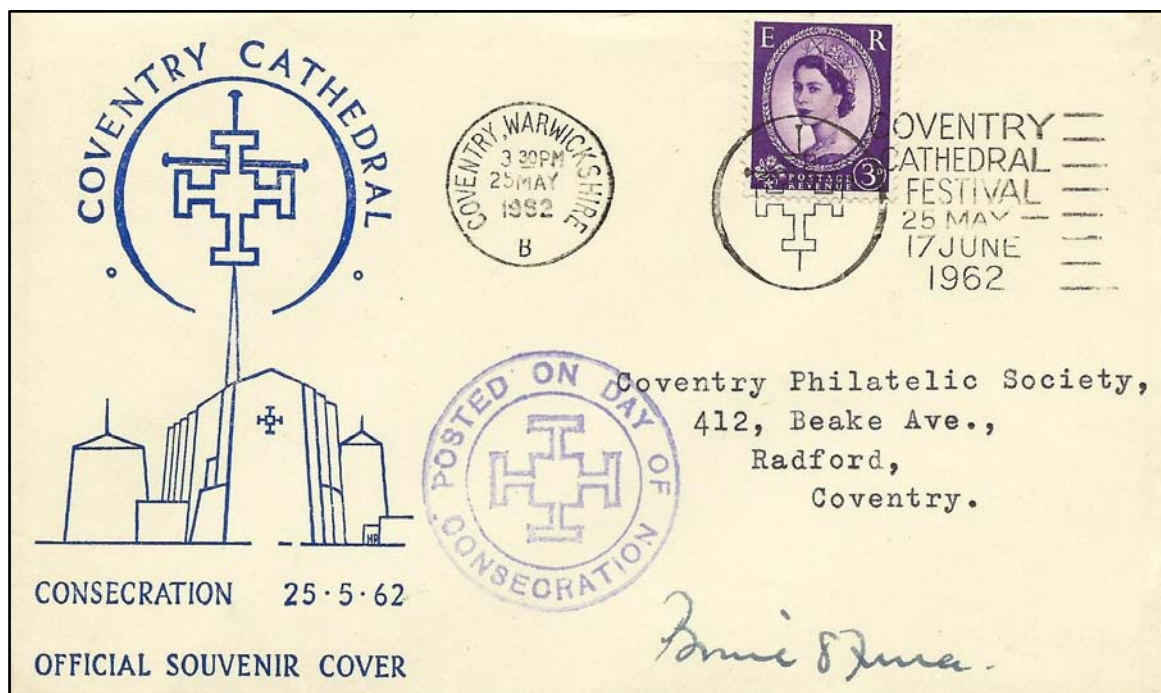


Fig 5, Cover signed by Sir Basil Spence, Architect of the Cathedral



Fig 6, Cover signed by Right Reverend Cuthbert Bardsley, the Bishop of Coventry

I am not aware of any further anniversary covers until the 25th anniversary, 25th May 1987, when Coventry Philatelic Society produced a modified version of the original cover, Figure 7. This cover also records on the flap of the envelope that it was the 40th anniversary of the Coventry Philatelic Society.

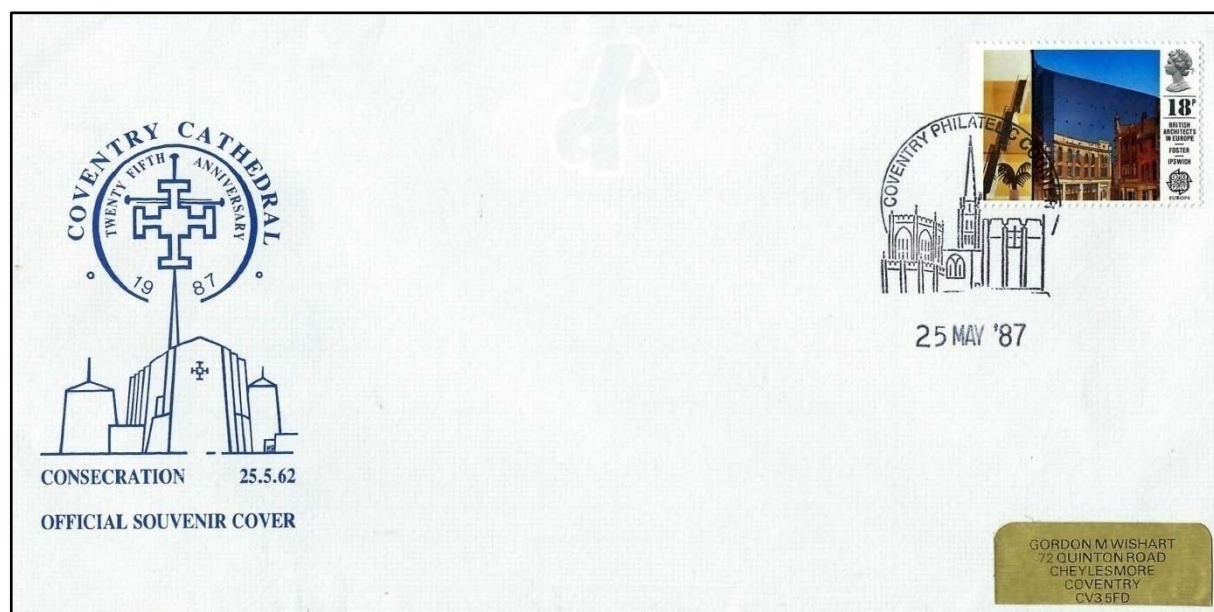


Fig 7, Cover for 25th Anniversary of the Consecration of Coventry Cathedral (reduced to fit the page)

Postscript:

Writing this prompted me to look through my collection to see if there were any other covers produced by the Coventry Philatelic Society. I have copies of two, Figures 8 and 9, both designed and signed by Frederick Lomas, who also designed the commemorative hand-stamps. The first, Figure 8, was for the 900th Anniversary of Lady Godiva and include the inscription "A Coventry Philatelic Society Souvenir Cover" and a hand-stamp of 10th September 1967. The second was to celebrate 100 years of the Coventry Cycle Industry with a hand-stamp of 2nd June 1969. Both include descriptive inserts.

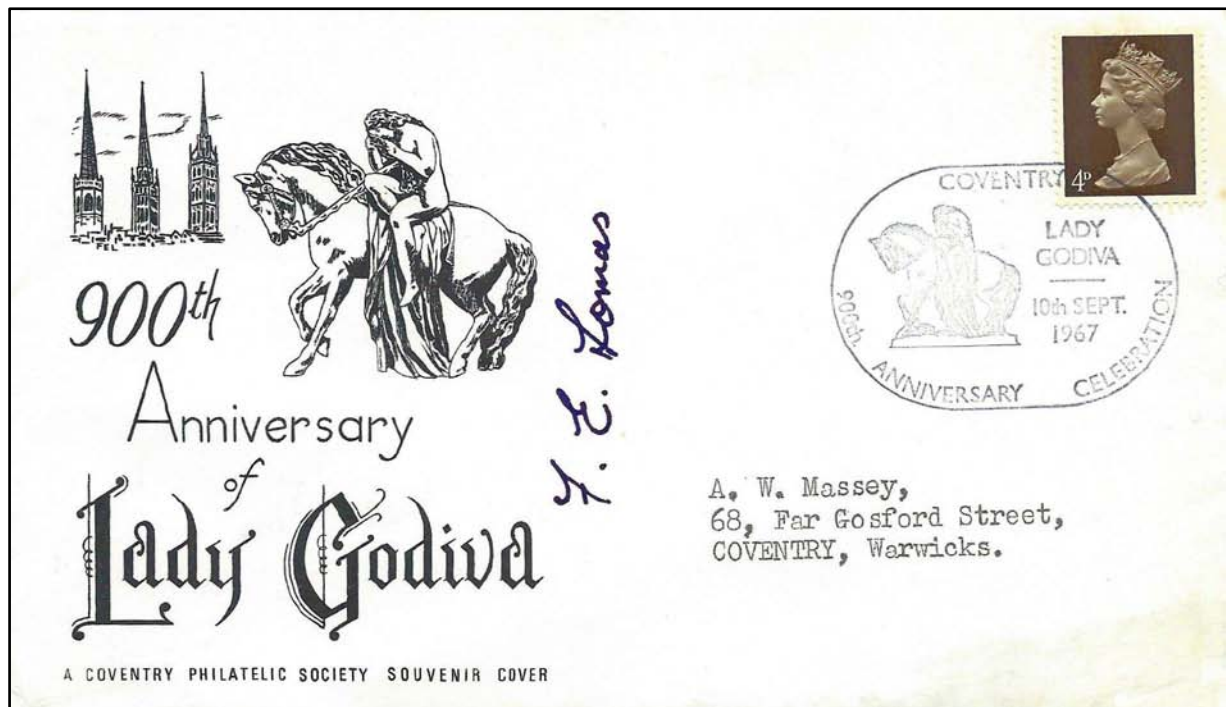


Fig 8, 1967 Lady Godiva commemorative cover, designed and signed by Frederick Lomas

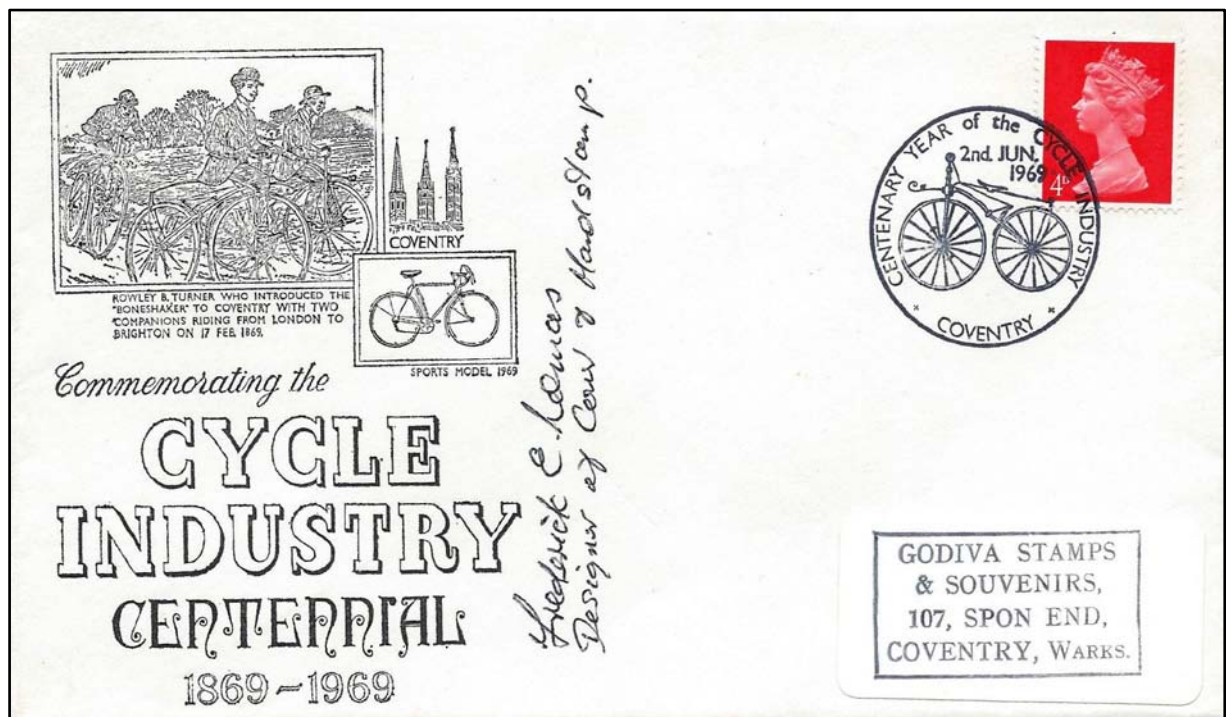


Fig 9, 1969 Cycle Industry Centennial cover also designed and signed by Frederick Lomas

References.

- 1 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coventry_Cathedral, accessed 12th March 2019.
- 2 <http://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/wpsite/> accessed 12th March 2019.
- 3 Personal communication, Dr. K. Flint, secretary Coventry Philatelic Society.
- 4 Parsons, C.R.H., Peachey C.G., and Pearson G.R., Collecting slogan postmarks, Privately published, 1996.
- 5 Anon, Non-Current Event-Great Britain, The Aerofield, Volume 29, No 7 1962.



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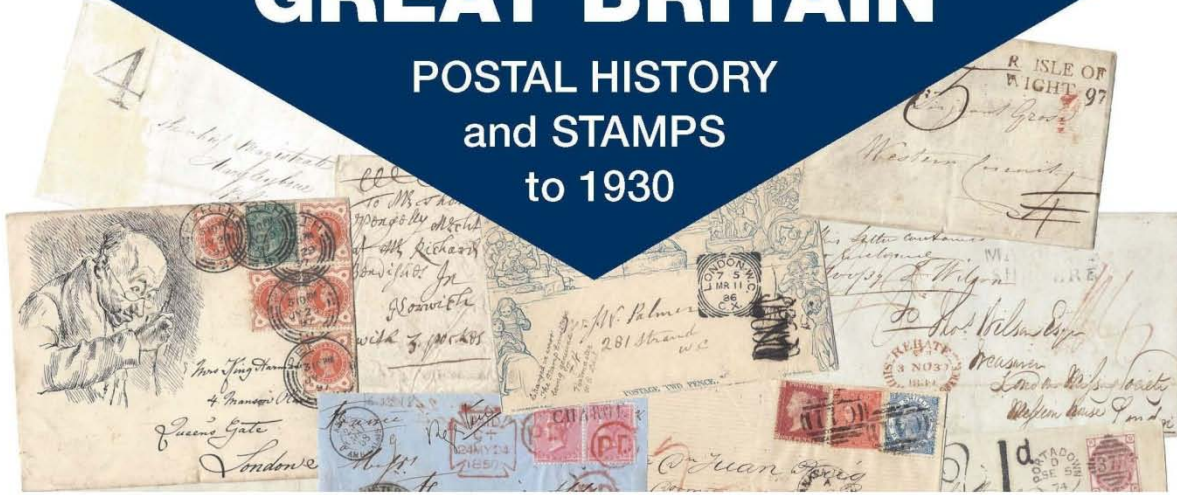


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RAF FERRY COMMAND COVER

by Ian M May

The cover shown in the figure below was initially of interest because it was posted from Leamington Spa and had an airmail rate of 5/-, a four times basic airmail rate to the United States of America. However, the cover has much more interest than that, but it took some time and a bit of luck to fully understand it. There is no indication of when it was posted but it was received in Washington and then New York on the 15th August 1942. Initially I was unaware of the implication of the endorsement RAF Ferry Command and could not identify the cancellation over the adhesive. Whilst I had subsequently determined something about the Royal Air Force Ferry Command it was only recently, when looking through some back issues of Postal History, the Journal of the Postal History Society^{[1],[2]}, that I understood more about the cover and the background to it.



1942 Leamington Spa to New York (*reduced in size – Ed*)

In the June 2017 issue of Postal History^[1] an envelope also endorsed RAF Ferry Command was illustrated in an article with the title 'A question for our members'. In the following issue^[2] Graham Mark explained the background and significance of the cover and gave some references^{[3],[4]} which provide further information.

In order to understand the cover it is necessary to summarise the relevant information from references [2], [3] and [4]. During World War 2 bombers made in the United States of America for the Allied Forces were initially taken to Canada as they could not be shipped directly to the United Kingdom because of the United States Neutrality Act. From Canada they were shipped to the UK in parts, where they were then assembled. However, there were significant losses at sea. In November 1940 a test flight of 7 Hudson bombers was flown from Gander, Newfoundland to Aldergrove, Northern Ireland to show the feasibility of flying the aircraft over the Atlantic Ocean. Following the success of this flight subsequently new aircraft were flown from Canada to the UK. This was initially organised by the Ministry of Aircraft Production. From July 1941 the RAF took over with the RAF Ferry Command being formed on the 15th July 1941, which in April 1943 became RAF Transport Command.

Soon after the ferry operation began a problem arose in that the availability of ferry pilots became a problem because of the lack of fast transport from the UK to Canada. So in May 1941 the Return Ferry Service was set up using seven Consolidated Liberator landplanes operated by BOAC, under the operational control of the RAF Ferry Command.

These flew back and forth throughout the war carrying the crews back to Canada. The service was also used for essential war supplies, Government mail, etc. Most of the mail was official or diplomatic mail so did not bear adhesives or postmarks. Some mail intended for normal postal delivery would also be carried, as was the item shown in the figure.

The cover shown was charged 5/-, the rate for 1½ to 2 ounces. The adhesive is cancelled with hand-stamp inscribed M.A.P/BY BAG, M.A.P is the Ministry of Aircraft Production. The letter was censored in the UK, although it does not appear to have been opened, and then bagged and sent to the British Air Commission in Washington where it arrived on August 15th 1942, as indicated by the endorsement in blue. Although endorsed RAF Ferry Command it would have been flown on the Return Ferry Service. From Washington it is probable that it was couriered, because of the likely sensitive nature of the contents, to New York, where it arrived on the same day at the British Purchasing Commission^[6], as shown by the circular date stamp in the right hand bottom corner. The British Purchasing Commission arranged the production and purchase of armaments from North American manufacturers for the Allies. From here it would have passed to the addressee. Not only was the Return Ferry Service more secure it was also quicker and more frequent than the North Atlantic route. From 15th May 1942 until 29th October 1942 16 flights were made on the North Atlantic route, that is about 3 per month. During 1942 136 Ferry Return flights were made from Prestwick, Scotland to Montreal, Canada by the Consolidated Liberators^[5].

The Lockheed Hydraulic Brake Company, Leamington Spa, made components for armaments and aircraft during World War 2 employing up to 10,000 people, including many women. The factory was bombed several times. It was a subsidiary of Automotive Products, which supplied components to the car industry, until its demise in 2000^{[7],[8]}.

Acknowledgements.

Thanks are due to Graham Mark who supplied the articles from the Forces Postal History Society and also identified the circular date-stamp as that of the British Purchasing Commission.

References.

1. A question for our members, Postal History, No 362, June 2017, p 58.
2. Mark, G., Answer to member's question, Postal History, No 363, September 2017, p 84.
3. Oakland, R., Some Trans-Atlantic mail carrying activities of the RAF Ferry Command/Transport Command and the Return Ferry in WWII, Forces PHS Newsletter, No 190, Winter 1996, pp 166-177
4. Oakland, R., Some Trans-Atlantic mail carrying activities of the RAF Ferry Command/Transport Command and the Return Ferry in WWII, Forces PHS Newsletter, No 190, Winter 1996, pp 41-42.
5. Daynes, J., Wartime air mail, an introduction, Postal History 2000, Surrey, 1996.
6. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Purchasing_Commission consulted 28th February 2019.
7. <http://www.leamingtonhistory.co.uk/ap-automotive-products-or-lockheed-brakes/> consulted 21st February 2019.
8. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Automotive_Products consulted 21st February 2019.



Our Chairman Malcolm Allinson, clearly benefitting from a relaxing retirement, grabs our attention just before the proceedings begin at the February meeting at The Friends Meeting House, Cotteridge.

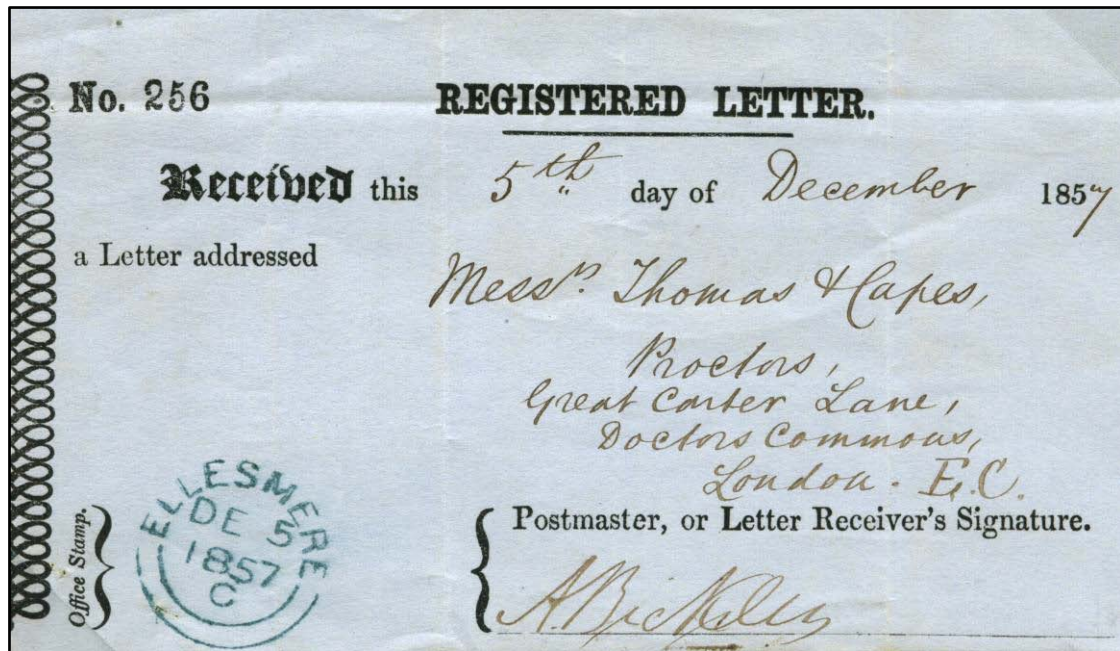
As you see the room at Cotteridge has plenty of space and is bright, warm and welcoming. There is ample parking, local cafés and an easy 5 minute walk from Kings Norton station.

THE BICKLEYS of ELLESMERE

by Jim Hammond

It was often the case in small towns that the office of Postmaster passed to other members of the family following death or retirement. This was certainly the case with the Bickley family of Ellesmere.

Andrew Bickley is recorded in the 1841 census as 'Clerk to the Guardians (of the Poor)'. He was clearly a man of some standing and ability and, on 1 December 1849 was appointed as postmaster of Ellesmere¹. In the 1851 census, a year and a bit later, he is recorded just as postmaster but he continued in his post as Clerk to the Guardians for in the 1861 census he is described as Clerk to the Union, Registrar of Births Marriages and Deaths as well as Postmaster. The registered letter receipt below dated 5 December 1857 bears his signature, bottom right.



Andrew Bickley died on the 29 November 1865, aged 61 and was succeeded as postmistress by his widow, Anne. In the 1871 census she is described as a widow, aged 56, with the occupations of Postmistress and Sub Distributor of Stamps. Also living at home is her daughter, Sarah, aged 17, unmarried, described as her 'Assistant'. As so often in a small town, the post office was run from the home of the person in charge of the mail.

Anne Bickley must have retired sometime in or after 1874, as she is recorded in Cassey's Directory of that year. I have a reference to William Foulkes being postmaster of Ellesmere in 1880² – this is a directory reference which may actually refer to the previous year. I have yet to trace his appointment, but his funeral is recorded as taking place a year earlier, on 7 November 1879³. Anne Bickley is still recorded as Sub Distributor of Stamps in the 1881 census and she died on 20 March 1885⁴.

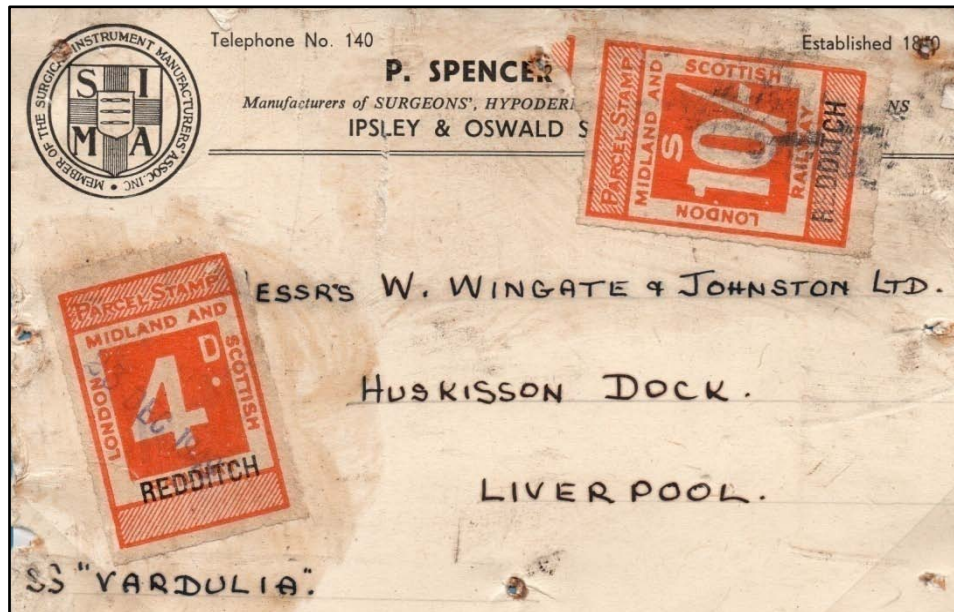
Andrew and Anne Bickley's youngest child was Edwin Kyffin Bickley, who appears to have been appointed sub-postmaster of Ellesmere in 1880 on the death of William Foulkes¹. He is entered in the 1881 census as postmaster with William Downes in the same house as his assistant, his position as postmaster (note) in Scotland Street also stated in Kelly's 1885 Directory of Shropshire & Herefordshire. Subsequently, Edwin Bickley was appointed as full postmaster on 1 December 1887¹; in the 1891 and 1901 censuses, he is recorded as a seed merchant and postmaster. He married in 1898 and may have decided to concentrate on his agricultural business as he resigned as Ellesmere postmaster on 7 October 1901¹, to be replaced by John H. Gleave. In the 1911 census Edwin is a seed merchant living near Whitchurch, where he continued to live until his death on 3 March 1923.

References:

- 1 Post Office Appointment Books
- 2 Slater's Directory, 1880
- 3 The Cambrian News, 21 Nov 1879, page 2
- 4 Eddowes Journal, 25 March 1885, page 8

This article first appeared in Shropshire Post, the journal of the Shropshire Postal History Society and is reproduced with the permission of the author and editor.

SAVED FROM A GOAT – Yes, the bearded beast returns: **Chris Jackson** maintains that he would rush to save this cover from Redditch to Liverpool from being chewed by that knuckleheaded goat! He goes on to say that the 10/- LMS parcel stamp is very difficult to find, maybe even rare, on a commercial cover.



10/- and 4d LMS parcel stamps on a cover to Liverpool

Ian May would rather our goat didn't chew this airmail cover from California to Iceland posted in Pico, California on October 12th 1939, about which he has a query. Read on.....



Ian writes that a possible route was by air from California to New York and thence by the only transatlantic route used in October 1939, the PAA's FAM-18 New York to Lisbon service, via Bermuda and the Azores, most likely a flight leaving New York on either the 18th or the 20th October arriving at Lisbon the following day^[1]. From Lisbon it went by rail to Marseille, then by Air France to London, via Paris. From London, the only way to Iceland would be by ship. So here is my query – how did it end up at Southam on 26th October? Is it possible it was mis-sorted at London? I assume it reached Iceland although there is no Icelandic postmark to confirm it.

Acknowledgement:
Reference:

Thanks to Barbara Priddy, Librarian, British Air Mail Society, for identifying the route.
Aitink, H. E. and Hovenkamp, E., Bridging the continents in wartime, important airmail routes 1939-1945, Stichting Luchtpostgeschiedenis Tweede Wereldoorlog, Enschede, 2005.

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