

# METER NEWS

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## Meter of the Month

Peter Mantell reports our first QR code incorporated into a meter franking logo – in both red and blue versions. They come from a company called Electronic Reading Systems Ltd. in Bedfordshire. When scanned, the QR code, not surprisingly, takes you to their web site <http://www.ers-online.co.uk/>. The full image for the red ink version is shown below. The blue ink version was dated 03.11.14.



The Pitney Bowes UK web site is currently advertising their ‘Envelope Messaging’ service: “Your digital franking machines can print marketing, informational or branded messages on every envelope. This turns your franked mail into a powerful and cost effective way of promoting your business. You can also integrate your printed mail communication with your website by printing a QR code as part of your Digital Logo.”

The site lists the following benefits for QR code use:

1. QR Codes bridge the gap between offline & online media
2. QR Codes enable sharing and building community
3. QR Codes for quicker and more efficient engagement & call of action
4. QR Codes contribute to improve SEO and SMO
5. QR Codes can be unique and branded
6. QR Codes can be effectively measured and quickly amended

<http://www.pitneybowes.com/uk/support/support-franking-machines/envelope-messaging/qr-codes-examples-to-add-to-envelopes.html>

## Acknowledgements

My thanks this month go to Jon Aitchison, Jim Ashby, Peter Huss, Jan Lannoye, Peter Mantell, Tom Norgate, Robert Petts, Robert Rowe and Peter Wood for their reports, communications or contributions.

## Latest Numbers

Below is the list of 'latest numbers' as at the end of November 2014 – with updates shown in red. Please could I have the next reports by 28th December - thanks. In the list below, the part of the serial number that directly relates to the model is underlined.

In the table below, note that those entries that have a date format with hyphen separators are the ones in 'Design J' (matrix) format.

### Frama (UK)

Matrix F2, F4, F6	<u>F1003875</u>	10.10.14	See MN 168
Matrix F12 etc.	<u>FR2000799</u>	20-11-14	Reported by AN

### Francotyp-Postalia

Optimail 25/35	<u>F04115620</u>	04.06.14	See MN 164
Centormail 240/300	<u>FC5110688</u>	28.04.13	See MN 163
MyMail / PostagePro	<u>FM2657277</u>	17.10.14	Reported by PM
PostBase Qi3/4/6/9	<u>FP6110743</u>	31.01.14	See MN 160
PostBase Qi3/4/6/9	<u>FP6112678</u>	30-09-14	See MN 168
Ultimail	<u>FU3117315</u>	23.05.14	See MN 164

### Neopost

IS-330	<u>N1052975</u>	09.06.14	See MN 168
IS-350	<u>N1181981</u>	16.07.14	See MN 168
Various upgraded	<u>N1240699</u>	23.10.14	See MN 168
IS-480	<u>N3030261</u>	15.09.14	See MN 167
IS-240 / IS-280	<u>N3319102</u>	15.04.14	See MN 162
IS-5000/6000	<u>N5001705</u>	20.10.14	See MN 168
IS-240/280	<u>NE6003419</u>	14-11-14	Reported by PM
IS-480	<u>NE8003791</u>	11-11-14	Reported by PM
IS-5000/6000	<u>NE9000246</u>	11-11-14	Reported by PM

### Pitney Bowes

DM160i/220i	<u>PB168051</u>	31-10-14	Reported by PM
DM50, 55	<u>PB361508</u>	28.10.14	See MN 168
Connect+ 1000 etc.	<u>PB551797</u>	23.04.14	See MN 162
Connect+ 10FC etc.	<u>PB557482</u>	12-11-14	Reported by PM
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB620521</u>	04.08.14	See MN 166
DM 400, 450, 475?	<u>PB6626184</u>	15-10-14	See MN 168
DM 110i	<u>PB881891</u>	28.10.14	See MN 168

### Advanced Mail Codes

AAGH-LG	NE8002505	16-10-14	See MN 168
AAGJ-HH	HQ25668	PPI no date	See MN 160

### Latest Number Images

Here are images of the latest numbers reported this month – with contributor's initials etc. shown in the bottom left of each image.

**SAGENTIA**  
Return Address: Harston Mill Royston Road  
Harston, Cambridge, CB22 7GG

Delivered by  
  
20-11-14  
£0.49 FR2000799



**1**  
Letter

AN - FR2000799 (Item 0000211)

Delivered by  
  
17-10-14  
£0.49 FM2657277



**1**  
Letter

PM - FM2657277 (Item 0000773)

INDEPENDENTCATERING

Delivered by  
  
14-11-14  
£0.49 NE6003419



**1**  
Letter

PM - NE6003419 (Item 0000374)

Delivered by  
  
11-11-14  
£0.49 NE8003791



**1**  
Letter

PM - NE8003791 (Item 0000356)

Delivered by  
  
11-11-14  
£0.35 NE9000246



**2**  
Letter

PM - NE9000246 (Item 0000048)

## Latest Number Images Continued



Peter Mantell also reports this 'dead series' highest number – N1254508 dated 05.11.14.



## Recent Interesting Items

Further to page 167-06 and earlier, your editor reports another example of red ink being used on a Design J Pitney Bowes PB1 series. Use of red ink on the PB662 series has not yet been seen and reports of such use would be welcome.



**Coloured Franks**

Just four 'black' slogans this month – all courtesy of Peter Mantell.

**THE WOOL HALL**  
12 St Thomas Street, Bristol BS1 6JJ

Delivered by  
14-11-14  
£0.60 PB555232

Royal Mail

2  
L Letter  
100g

PM - PB555232 (Item 0019640)

Fein Industrial Power  
Tools Uk Ltd  
4 Badby Park  
Daventry  
NN11 8YT



Delivered by  
16-04-14  
£1.04 PB555740

Royal Mail

1  
L Letter  
250g

PM - PB555740 (Item 0015193)

The following item is from MidlandHR – a Human Resource Management Company.

*Personal &*  
**CONFIDENTIAL**

Return Address:  
MidlandHR  
Britannia House  
Mere Way, Ruddington  
Nottingham, NG11 6JS

Delivered by  
09-05-14  
£0.49 PB555793

Royal Mail

1  
Letter

PM - PB555793 (Item 0073703)

The final item in this section comes from the Teachers Pensions Management.

Return Address  
Pensions  
Mowden Hall  
Darlington  
DL3 9EE

Delivered by  
10-11-14  
£0.49 PB556207

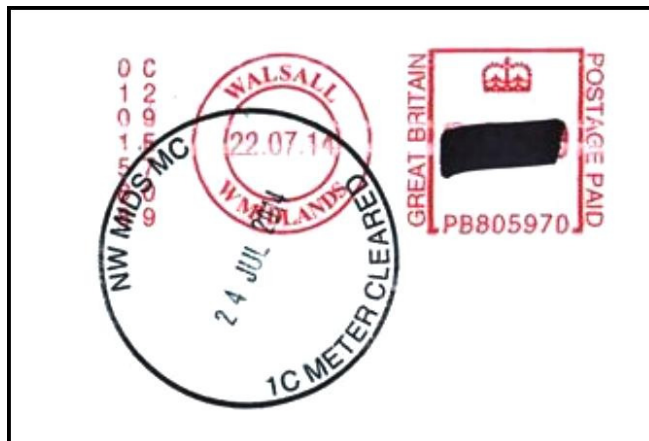
Royal Mail

1  
Letter

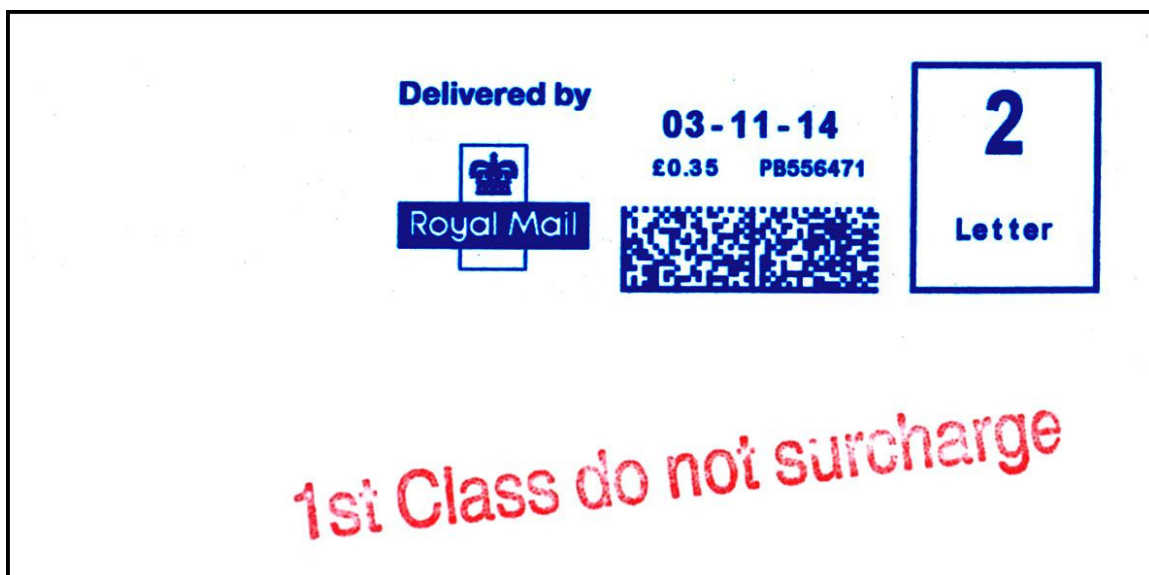
PM - PB556207 (Item 451857)

### Meter Correction Handstamps

Peter Huss sends this handstamp applied to a mail item sent to Berlin and asks what has happened here. Your editor is not sure – was it applied because of an incorrect date or an incorrect postage? The blanking out of the value is strange. Did the user do this? This would only make sense if a zero value was applied in error. It is a shame that the value is unreadable. Alternatively, did the Mail Centre blank out the value? But why should they want to do that?



Peter also sends this item, recently sent to Germany, where the user has failed to apply the correct postage to Europe (and where the 'UK' is omitted from above the date). It is assumed that the correct postage was recovered using the Revenue Protection scheme and it was then sent on its way with a "1st Class do not surcharge" handstamp applied.

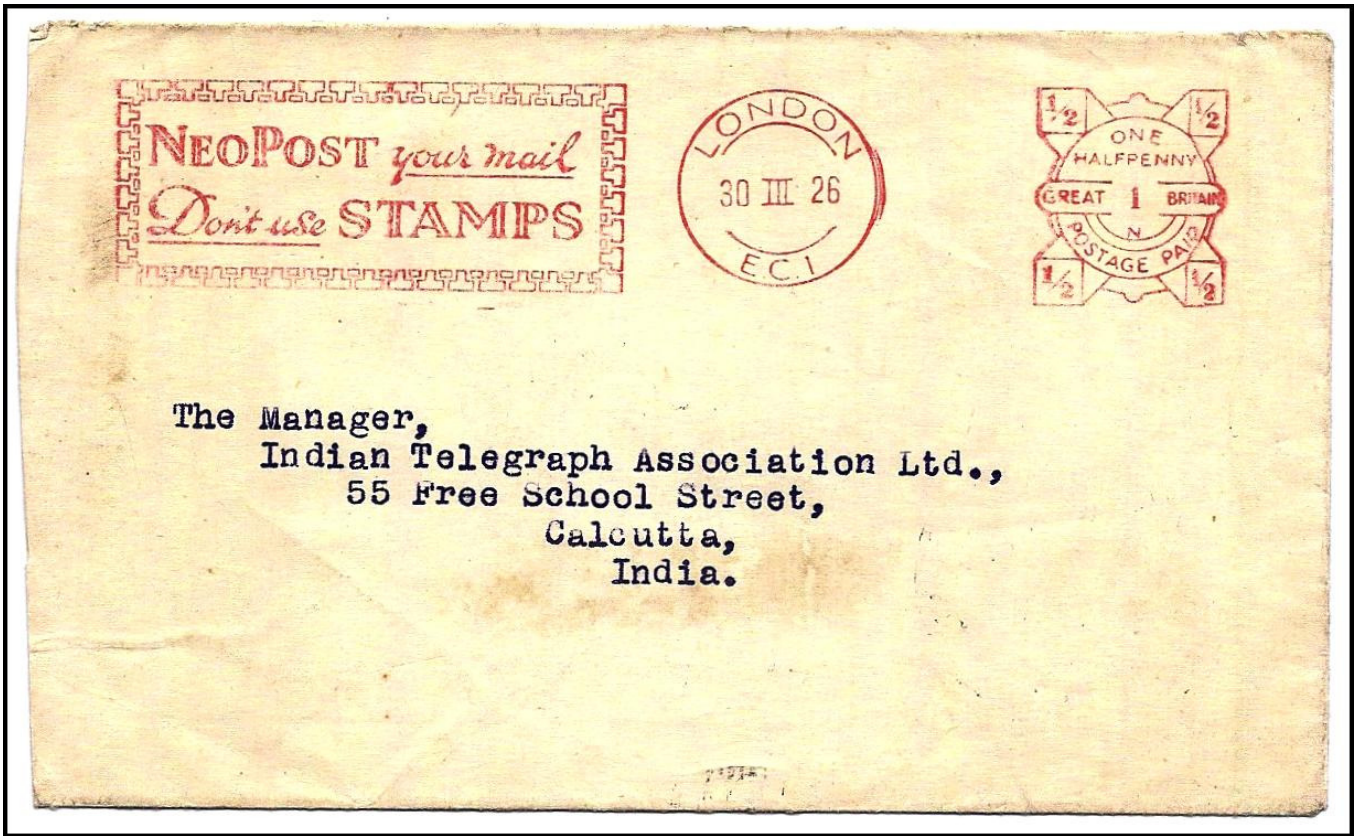


Tom Norgate kindly sends this "IRREGULARITY NOTED" handstamp applied at Southampton Mail Centre. It appears, in this case, that the handstamp was probably applied because of an over-payment. 62p is the rate for 1st class stamped mail, whereas it should be 50p for franked mail.



### Historic Items & Thematics

It is always good to receive examples of early GB meter franks. Jan Lannoye sends this 1926 item from Neopost Ltd., London EC1, m/c no. 1, addressed to India and bearing ½d postage.



This attractive thematic from 1936 has recently been on sale on Ebay and depicts an otter.



Peter Mantell sends this attractively designed fishing thematic from 1981.



## Meter Thematics

All thematic slogans this month come from your editor, starting with this poppy design from the Royal British Legion.



The following item is from the Sandford Springs Golf Club in Hampshire and depicts an eagle and a pair of golf clubs.



Here is another golf thematic – this time from the Windlesham Golf Club in Surrey.



For my Meter Thematic of the Month award, your editor has found this cartoon character wearing a top hat, a bow tie and carrying a mop! It comes from C & R Services – a waste disposal company based in Winnersh near Reading.

