

METER NEWS

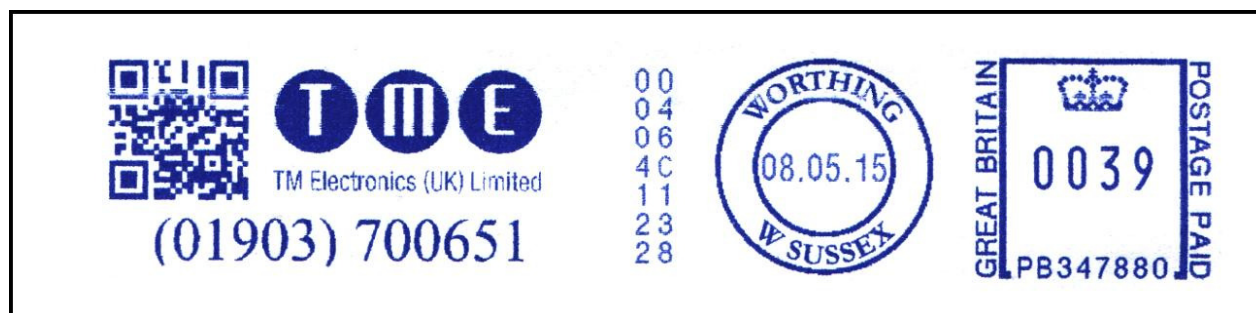
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Meter of the Month

Further to page 169-1, your editor reports a second example of a QR Code that has been incorporated into a UK meter frank. It comes from a company called TM Electronics Ltd., based in Worthing, West Sussex. When scanned, the QR code reveals their web site at: <http://www.tmelectronics.co.uk/>. The full image is shown below:



Pitney Bowes – New Model

Peter Huss reports the appearance of a new franking machine on the Pitney Bowes web site, namely the DM60 (K700 series). This model is a low volume machine with a stated throughput of 18 letters per minute.

At this stage, the corresponding serial prefix for this model cannot be confirmed. However, the 7-digit PB2 series appeared on live mail a few months ago, and this is a possibility. The operating instructions for this model show a Mailmark™ frank which would support this assumption.

Furthermore, the Pitney Bowes 'Franking Machine Warehouse' web site now states that the DM 50, 55 and 60 are available in Mailmark format as an option. For example, see <http://pitneybowesdm50.franking-machine-warehouse.co.uk/dm50-mailmark-franking-machine/>



Acknowledgements

My thanks this month go to Jon Aitchison, Alan Godfrey, Peter Huss, David Jones, Jan Lannoye, Peter Mantell, Peter Wood and Robert Petts for their reports, communications or contributions.

Latest Numbers

Below is the list of 'latest numbers' as at the end of May 2015 – with updates shown in red. Please could I have the next reports by 28th June - 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>F1004010</u>	27.05.15	Reported by AN
Matrix F12 etc.	<u>FR2001280</u>	05-05-15	Reported by PM

Francotyp-Postalia

Optimail 25/35	<u>F04115620</u>	04.06.14	See MN 164
Centormail 240/300	<u>FC5110688</u>	28.04.14	See MN 163
MyMail / PostagePro	<u>FM2657744</u>	07-01-15	See MN 171
PostBase Qi3/4/6/9	<u>FP6110841</u>	25.04.14	See MN 173
PostBase Qi3/4/6/9	<u>FP6114103</u>	27-03-15	See MN 174
Ultimail	<u>FU3117315</u>	23.05.14	See MN 164

Neopost

IS-330	<u>N1053186</u>	23.04.15	Reported by PM
IS-350	<u>N1182423</u>	13.02.15	See MN 172
Various upgraded	<u>N1240736</u>	19.03.15	See MN 173
IS-480	<u>N3030453</u>	31.03.15	See MN 174
IS-240 / IS-280	<u>N3319858</u>	18.05.15	Reported by PM
IS-5000/6000	<u>N5001705</u>	20.10.14	See MN 168
IS-240/280	<u>NE6004301</u>	13-03-15	See MN 174
IS-480	<u>NE8005808</u>	26-05-15	Reported by AN
IS-5000/6000	<u>NE9000370</u>	22-05-15	Reported by PM

Pitney Bowes

DM160i/220i	<u>PB171200</u>	05-05-15	Reported by AG
DM60?	<u>PB2003376</u>	17-04-15	See MN 174. See below
DM50, 55	<u>PB366074</u>	20.05.14	Reported by AN
Connect+ 1000 etc.	<u>PB551797</u>	23.04.14	See MN 162
Connect+ 10FC etc.	<u>PB557669</u>	02-04-15	See MN 174
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB620598</u>	20.05.15	Reported by PM
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB6626704</u>	08-05-15	Reported by AN
DM 110i	<u>PB882541</u>	14.05.15	Reported by PM

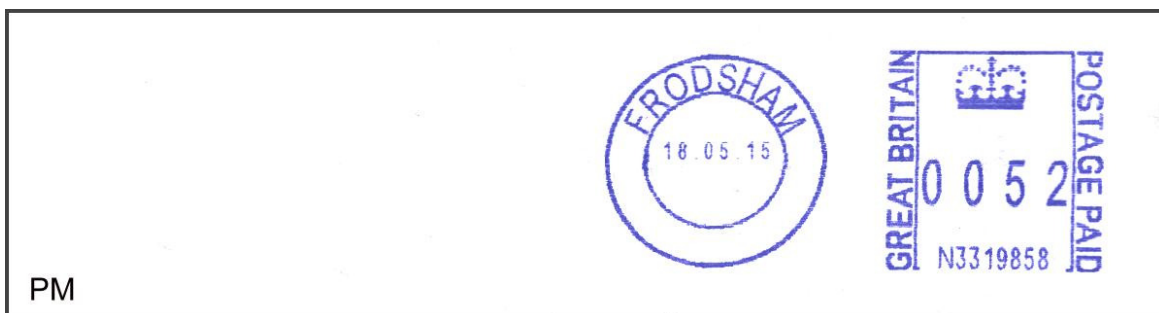
Advanced Mail Codes

AAGK-HY	NE9000321	16-04-15	See MN 174
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Note: The mapping of the Pitney Bowes PB2 series to the DM60 model is assumed but it cannot be confirmed at this stage – see page 1.

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.



Latest Number Images Continued

Return Address:
BBC MediaCity
Bridge House
Salford
M50 2BH
PM - NE9000370 [Item 0006665]

Delivered by

22-05-15
£0.51 NE9000370



1
Letter

Delivered by


05-05-15
£0.36 PB171200




2
Letter

AG - PB171200 [Item 0000130]

03
0E
0B
02
38
49
93





GREAT BRITAIN

0039
POSTAGE PAID
PB366074

AN

cityserve
birmingham

0C
02
00
31
58
76
09



GREAT BRITAIN

0039
POSTAGE PAID
PB620598

PM

Concordia Int'l
Forwarding Ltd
Shackleton House
Challenge Road
Ashford TW15 1AX
AN - PB6626704 [Item 0001466]

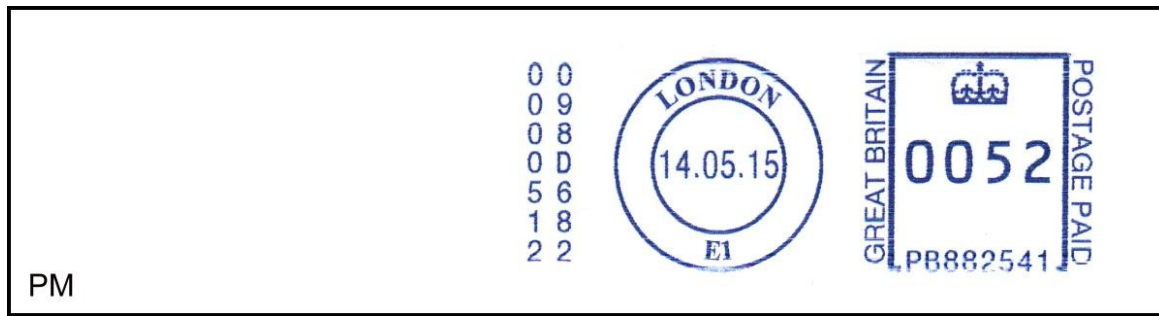
Delivered by

08-05-15
£0.36 PB6626704



2
Letter

Latest Number Images Continued



Recent Interesting Items

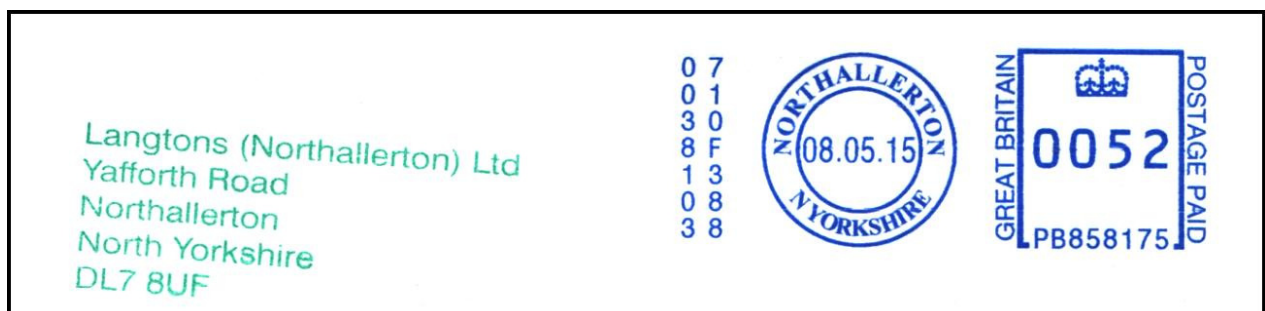
Peter Huss reports an underpayment of a mail item sent to Germany that escaped detection. The user has franked this as 'Advanced Mail' but, according to the Royal Mail Cleanmail Advance User Guide, that service is only available for UK destination addresses. Note also that for overseas mail, 'UK' should show above the date, but is missing in this case.



Further to page 174-5 and earlier, Peter Mantell reports a further example of a Mailmark Surcharge Payment. As with previous examples, the Mail Type code is '9999'.



On page 162-6 we reported an example of a DM100i machine (PB858175) using coloured ink in the frank. This turns out to be an erroneous report as a recent example reveals that the coloured return address was, in fact, applied by a handstamp! Your editor was taken in by the perfect alignment of the original – my humble apologies for this mistake.

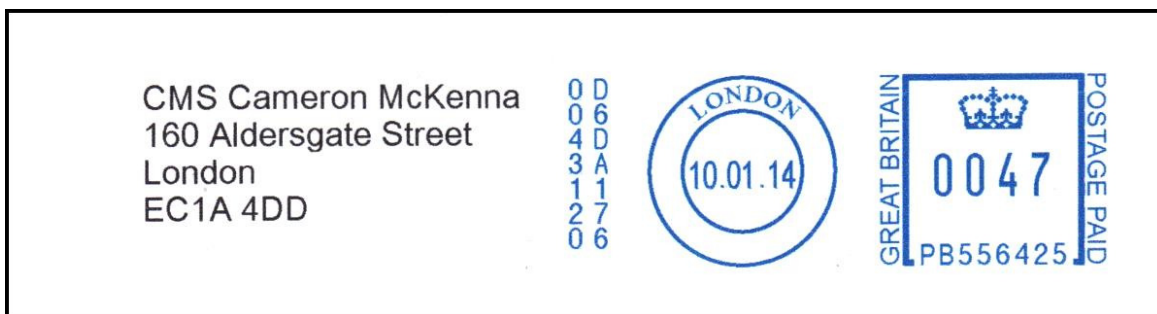
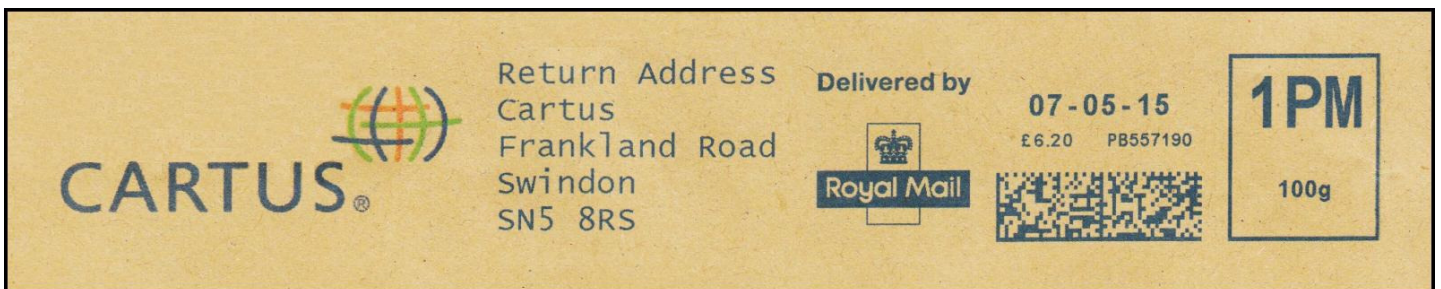


Coloured Slogans

Jan Lannoye sends this frank with a return address in black ink. The user is believed to be Pritchard Englefield Solicitors.



Peter Mantell sends a further four examples of coloured franks this month.

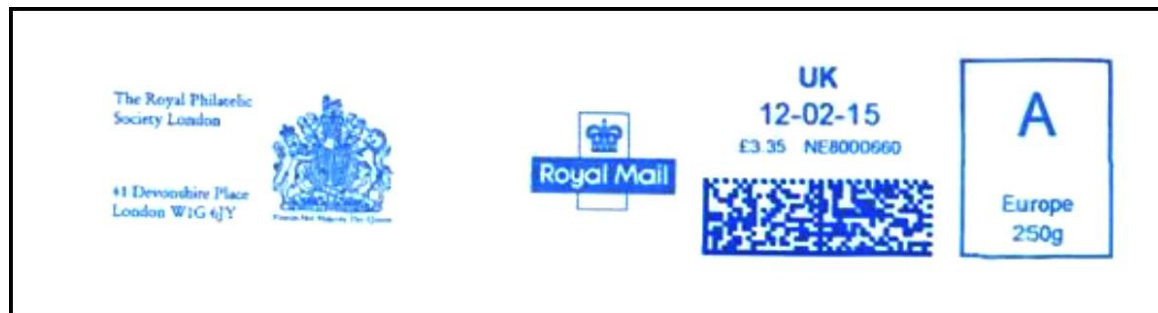


Mailmark™ News

In past issues of the newsletter (e.g. page 172-6), we have shown examples of Mailmark franks being applied in red ink. Until now it was not known whether this was against any Royal Mail regulation. Your editor has recently found the following web site which states that only blue ink should be used. Furthermore, this site also requests that only white envelopes should be used!

<http://www.royalmail.com/mailmark/franking#faq-30436520-30431484>

Peter Huss reports this 'A Europe 250g', decoding as Mail Type 6032.

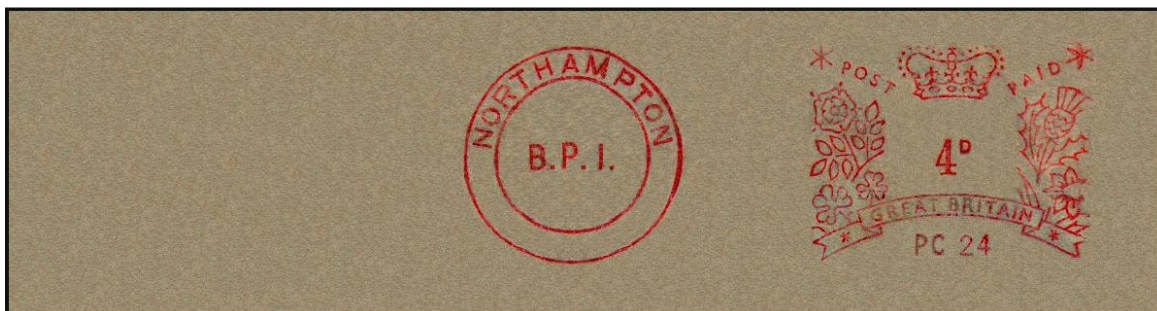


This allows us to extend the Mail Type table as follows:

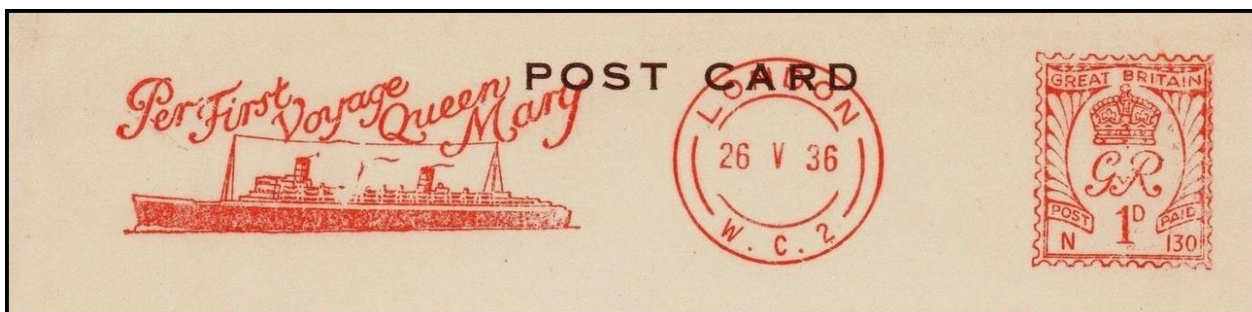
Mail Type Code	Type Description	First Reports
0000	Zero Test	Page 163-1
0001	1 Letter, 2 Letter	Pages 161-3 and 161-1
0100	(Special Delivery) 1 PM 100g	Page 162-3
0101	1 L Letter 100g, 2 L Letter 100g	Pages 162-4 and 161-7
0102	1 L Letter 250g, 2 L Letter 250g	Pages 161-7 and 163-5
0103	1 L Letter 500g	Page 164-6
0104	2 L Letter 750g	Page 162-3
0301	2 Medium Parcel	See above
0302	1 Medium Parcel	See above
0303	1 Medium Parcel	See above
1111	1 Small Parcel	Page 161-7
1403	1 Advanced	Page 161-7
1503	2 Advanced	Page 161-7
2221	2 Small Parcel	See above
5000	(Special Delivery) 9 AM 100g	Page 162-4
6001	A Europe 20g	Page 164-6
6002	A Europe 60g	Page 165-6
6016	A ROW1 20g	Page 168-8
6032	A Europe 250g	See above
6096	A ROW2 20g	Page 170-9
6097	A ROW2 60g	Page 166-1
9999	Surcharge Payment	Page 163-1

Historic Items

On page 163/7 we illustrated a bulk posting 'B.P.1' frank applied by machine PC 26 in the 1960s. Peter Mantell now reports a similar frank but this time from machine PC 24.



Peter Mantell reports this item that was recently on sale on Ebay. This Design B frank commemorates the First Voyage of the Queen Mary in 1936. What a beauty!



Peter has also found this 'Stamp Exhibition' slogan from 1937 (Design C) on Ebay.

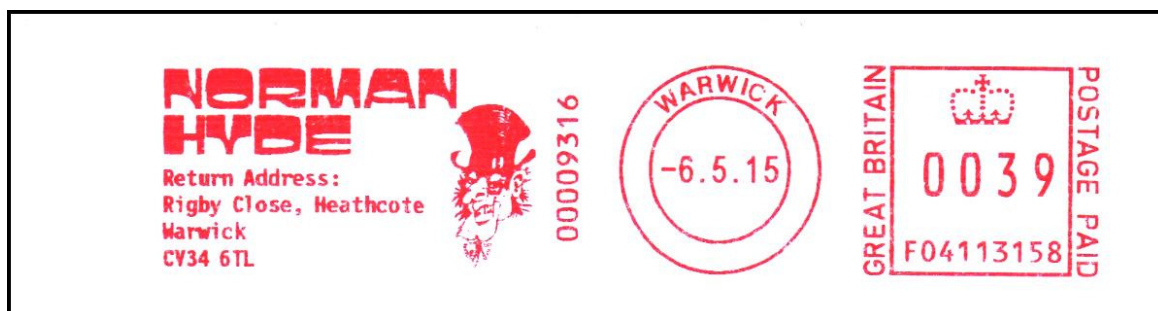


Peter Huss sends this nice Railway thematic from 1981 that advertises Germany's first preserved narrow gauge museum line in Germany's first railway museum which opened in 1966. The museum is based in Bruchhausen Vilsen.



Meter Thematics

Peter Mantell sends this slogan that includes a rather scary image. It comes from Norman Hyde – specialists in classic motorcycles, located in Warwick.



Peter Mantell has found this rather nice frank from The Pegasus Academy Trust, depicting a flying horse. The Pegasus Academy Trust was formed in April 2010 to run three schools - Ecclesbourne Primary School, Whitehorse Manor Infants and Whitehorse Manor Juniors in Thornton Heath in the London Borough of Croydon. In September 2014 a fourth school, Beulah Infants, joined the Trust.



Jos Wessels kindly sends this most attractive shipping thematic from The Netherlands.



Further to page 166-6, Jan Lannoye reports another example of this built-in Air Mail logo, depicting a Lockheed Constellation. This example is from a MailMax (FSC9 series) machine, whereas the previous example was from a Mailspirit (FSC7 series) machine.



Meter Thematics continued

Peter Huss sends this 1996 frank from the Royal National Lifeboat Institute that advertises the “Forward Birmingham Lifeboat Campaign”.



Your editor has found this religious thematic from the Archbishop’s House in Westminster.



Peter Mantell has found this slogan from the Scottish Rugby Union, depicting a thistle.



Finally, your editor has found this attractive logo from ‘Out of the Ark Music’ – a publishing and production company supporting primary schools in the UK. It can be associated with four thematic categories (education, animals, religion and shipping) and receives my Meter Thematic of the Month award.

