

METER NEWS

Issue Number 187 May 2016



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Meter of the Month

My meter of the month has been taken from the 2015-3 edition of the German publication 'Rundbrief' and shows a very early example of a Mailmark frank to Europe. The item (serial PB162863) decodes as Tariff 1, Class 5, Mail Type 0001 and the indicia block shows 'AIR' rather than the usual 'A' seen on later examples.

It is likely that this format was very short lived and it is possible that the indicia block was modified when the Tariff rate changed on 31st March 2014. Such examples must be very scarce and your editor would be very pleased to receive reports of any similar examples – particularly any to non-European countries with 'ROW1' or 'ROW2' in the indicia block.

The other interesting item this month was sent by Duncan James and it shows a 1D barcode to the left of the Royal Mail cruciform logo. It comes from machine serial PB175571 on a (1kg) Small Parcel frank (Class 2, Mail Type 2221 and Item Count 0012062).



Your editor is wondering how this has been achieved. Presumably the purchase has been made on-line and during that process the image of the Tracking Number and barcode was made available to the user who then incorporated it into the meter frank. Perhaps the image was 'automatically' incorporated into the frank somehow during the purchase?

Your editor would be pleased to hear from anyone who can provide clarification and would also welcome reports of similar examples.

Acknowledgements

My thanks this month go to Kemal Adlig, Jon Aitchison, Jim Ashby, Peter Huss, Duncan James, Peter Mantell, Richard Peck, Robert Petts, Jos Wessels and Peter Wood for their reports, communications or contributions.

Latest Numbers

Below is the list of 'latest numbers' as at the end of May 2016 – with updates shown in red. Please could I have the next reports by the 28th June - thanks.

In the list below, the part of the serial number that directly relates to the model is underlined. Entries with hyphen separators in the date indicate 'Design J' (matrix) format.

Frama (UK)

Matrix F2, F4, F6	<u>F1004086</u>	12.04.16	See MN 186
Matrix F12 etc.	<u>FR2002397</u>	20-05-16	Reported by PM

Francotyp-Postalia

Centormail 240/300	<u>FC5110729</u>	18-11-15	See MN 181
MyMail / PostagePro	<u>FM2658042</u>	27.02.15	See MN 182
PostBase Qi3/4/6/9	<u>FP6110850</u>	04.08.15	See MN 178
PostBase Qi3/4/6/9	<u>FP6116270</u>	19-05-16	Reported by PM
PostBase Mini	<u>FP7113954</u>	10-05-16	Reported by DJ

Neopost

IS-330	<u>N1053511</u>	10.05.16	Reported by PM
IS-350	<u>N1182853</u>	29.04.16	Reported by PM – see below
Various upgraded	<u>N1240746</u>	31.07.15	See MN 177
IS-480	<u>N3030571</u>	22.07.15	See MN 177
IS-240 / IS-280	<u>N3319858</u>	18.05.15	See MN 175
IS-280c / 350c	<u>NE6009959</u>	05-05-16	Reported by PM
IS-420c / 440c	<u>NE8010684</u>	08-04-16	See MN 186
IS-480c	<u>NE9000538</u>	27-05-16	Reported by PM

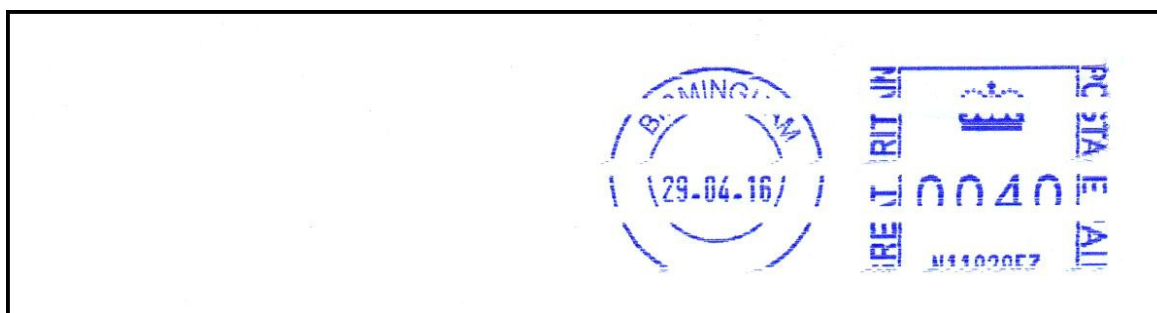
Pitney Bowes

DM160i/220i	<u>PB176859</u>	22-04-16	See MN 186
DM60 (model K722)	<u>PB2016813</u>	25-05-16	Reported by PM
DM50, 55	<u>PB312039</u>	14.04.16	See MN 186
DM50, 55	<u>PB368265</u>	08.12.15	See MN 182
Connect+ 10FC etc.	<u>PB558149</u>	28-04-16	See MN 186
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB620820</u>	06.01.16	See MN 183
DM 400, 450, 475	<u>PB6627919</u>	14-04-16	See MN 186
DM 110i	<u>PB884847</u>	27.04.16	Reported by PM

Advanced Mail Codes

AAGX-JZ	NE8009481	24-02-16	See MN 186
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The poor printing means there is some doubt on this, but it is thought to be serial N1182853.



Latest Number Images

Contributor's initials and other details are shown in the bottom left of each image.



Latest Number Images continued

Return Address
2 Temple Back East
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6EG

Delivered by

27-05-16
£0.51 NE9000538

1
Letter


PM - NE9000538 [Item 0000627]

Delivered by


25-05-16
£0.37 PB2016813

2
Letter

PM - PB2016813 [Item 0000005]

 Return Address
Maun House
Maun Way
Mansfield
NG18 5GX

0 F
0 7
0 5
0 E
0 9
7 7
0 6


MANSFIELD
27.04.16
NOTTS


GREAT BRITAIN
0114
POSTAGE PAID
PB884847

PM


Mailmark™ News


Jim Ashby reports two high-value 'ROW1' Mailmark franks, previously unreported. The first is a Large Letter item (Class 6, Mail Type 6222) and the second is a Small Parcel item (Class 6, Mail Type 6538).

 RETURN ADDRESS:
Mill Road
Cranfield
Bedfordshire
MK43 0JF


UK
16-05-16
£4.50 NE8007240

A
ROW1
250g

 RETURN ADDRESS:
Mill Road
Cranfield
Bedfordshire
MK43 0JF


UK
09-05-16
£12.40 NE8007240

A
ROW1
1.0Kg

Mailmark™ News continued

The '1st Class' Ready Reckoner table is updated to include the report on page 186-8:

Tariff 8	Tariff 6	Tariff 3	Interpretation	Class	Mail Type
£0.51	£0.51	£0.49	1 Letter	1	0001
£0.63	£0.63	£0.60	1 Advanced	8	1403
£0.79	£0.78	£0.74	1 L Letter 100g	1	0101
£1.10	£1.09	£1.04	1 L Letter 250g	1	0102
£1.46	£1.43	£1.38	1 L Letter 500g	1	0103
£1.61	£1.61	£1.59	(SF) 1 Letter	7	1100
£1.89	£1.88	n/s	(SF) 1 L Letter	7	2100
£2.03	£2.02	n/s	1 L Letter 750g	1	0104
£3.07	£3.00	£2.90	1 Small Parcel (1kg)	1	1111
n/s	£4.10	n/s	(SF) 1 Small Parcel (1kg)	7	3100
n/s	£4.80	£4.80	1 Medium Parcel (1kg)	1	0301
£5.22	n/s	n/s	1 Small Parcel (2kg)	1	1112
n/s	n/s	£15.85	1 Medium Parcel (5kg)	1	0303

The report on page 187-3 allows the 2nd class table to be updated as follows:

Tariff 8	Tariff 6	Tariff 3	Interpretation	Class	Mail Type
£0.37	£0.36	£0.35	2 Letter	2	0001
£0.45	£0.45	£0.42	2 Advanced	8	1503
£0.64	£0.63	£0.60	2 L Letter 100g	2	0101
£0.89	£0.88	£0.85	2 L Letter 250g	2	0102
£1.19	£1.17	n/s	2 L Letter 500g	2	0103
£1.47	£1.46	£1.45	(SF) 2 Letter	7	5100
£1.68	£1.65	n/s	2 L Letter 750g	2	0104
n/s	£1.98	n/s	(SF) 2 L Letter 250g	7	6101
£2.57	£2.50	£2.50	2 Small Parcel 1Kg/2kg	2	2221 / 2222
n/s	£4.40	n/s	2 Medium Parcel (1kg)	2	0301
£5.57	n/s	n/s	(SF) 2 Medium Parcel 1kg/2kg	7	8100
n/s	£13.75	n/s	2 Medium Parcel (5kg)	2	0303

The 'Special Delivery' Ready Reckoner table is shown below:

Tariff 8	Tariff 6	Tariff 3	Interpretation	Class	Mail Type
n/s	£6.20	£6.15	(SD) 1PM 100g	3	0100
n/s	£6.85	n/s	(SD) 1PM 500g	3	0101
n/s	£10.40	n/s	(SD) 1PM 2000g	3	0104

Next month it is hoped that the 'Air Mail' Ready Reckoner table can be included. It would be helpful, meanwhile, if overseas readers could report all sightings – especially Tariff 8 items.

For clarification, the following is a summary of the different Tariff versions seen so far:

Tariff	Interpretation	Tariff	Interpretation
1	Items dated prior to 31-3-2014	5	One report dated 28-1-15 (p. 172-6)
2	Items dated 31-3-14 to 19-10-2014	6	Items dated 30-3-15 to 28-3-16
3	Items dated 20-10-14 to 29-3-15	7	'Advanced Letter' items (p. 184-1)
4	Not reported	8	Items dated 29-3-16 onwards

Recent Interesting Items

Your editor has found this Design J frank from Conwy borough Council where the Royal Mail cruciform logo appears in Welsh. Peter Mantell also reports an example of this with a later date of 16-04-16. It is believed that this is the first time this has been seen in a Design J frank and reports of other examples would be welcome.



Peter Mantell sends this Francotyp-Postalia frank where some additional bars have appeared to the right of the Indicia block.



On page 175-10 we illustrated a meter frank in red ink from the Scottish Rugby Union. Duncan James now reports two further examples, this time appearing in blue ink. Both are zero-value examples and depict the traditional "Good News" and "Good Morning" built-in slogans.



Coloured Slogans

Your editor has found three coloured slogans this month. The first two are both from a company called Ergo-ims Mailing Solutions, formerly known as FP (Southern) Ltd.

POSTAL RATES ARE CHANGING 29/3/2016
IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED

4 Saturn House
 Calleva Park
 Aldermaston
 RG7 8HA

Delivered by

 16-03-16
 £0.36 PB557316



2
 Letter

 mailing systems - office and stationery supplies

4 Saturn House
 Calleva Park
 Aldermaston
 RG7 8HA

Delivered by

 04-05-16
 £0.37 PB557316



2
 Letter

 **My Health Tools**
 A guided journey through self-care
www.myhealthtools.uk

Kirklees Council
 9 Colne Road
 Folly Hall
 Huddersfield
 HD1 3EK

Delivered by

 03-03-16
 £0.36 PB556178



2
 Letter

Meter Thematics

Peter Mantell sends red and blue versions of this attractive design showing Inveraray castle.

Return Address:
 Argyll Estates
 Cherry Park
 Inveraray
 Argyll
 PA32 8XE Inveraray Castle







Return Address:
 Argyll Estates
 Cherry Park
 Inveraray
 Argyll
 PA32 8XE Inveraray Castle







Meter Thematics continued

Duncan James sends this attractive coat of arms from the Strathallan School in Perth.



Peter Mantell sends this unusual design depicting a splice for connecting wire ropes. It comes from a German company called Sahm Splice, specialising in ferrules made from aluminium, copper and stainless steel. Their web site is <http://www.sahm-splice.com/en/>.



Duncan James sends this frank depicting the Royal Yacht Britannia.



Staying with the name Britannia, Peter Mantell has found this attractive design from Moores International of Croydon. It depicts the Roman Goddess Britannia and is, of course, the symbolic representation of the female personification of Great Britain. It receives my Meter Thematic of the Month award.

