

## BLACKPOOL CORPORATION.

### Roy Gault

In the August 2006 Bulletin (N.I. page 305), **Michael Millar** reported a New Die and suspected identity for “B.C” (B1130.04a), based on a Blackpool postmark. I am usually reluctant to accept such identities as it automatically cuts out any Blackpool based company with the initials “BC”.



My request for more details produced just one response, which came from **Stephen Steere**. Stephen’s response prompted me to look in detail at the material to hand, resulting in the following sequence:

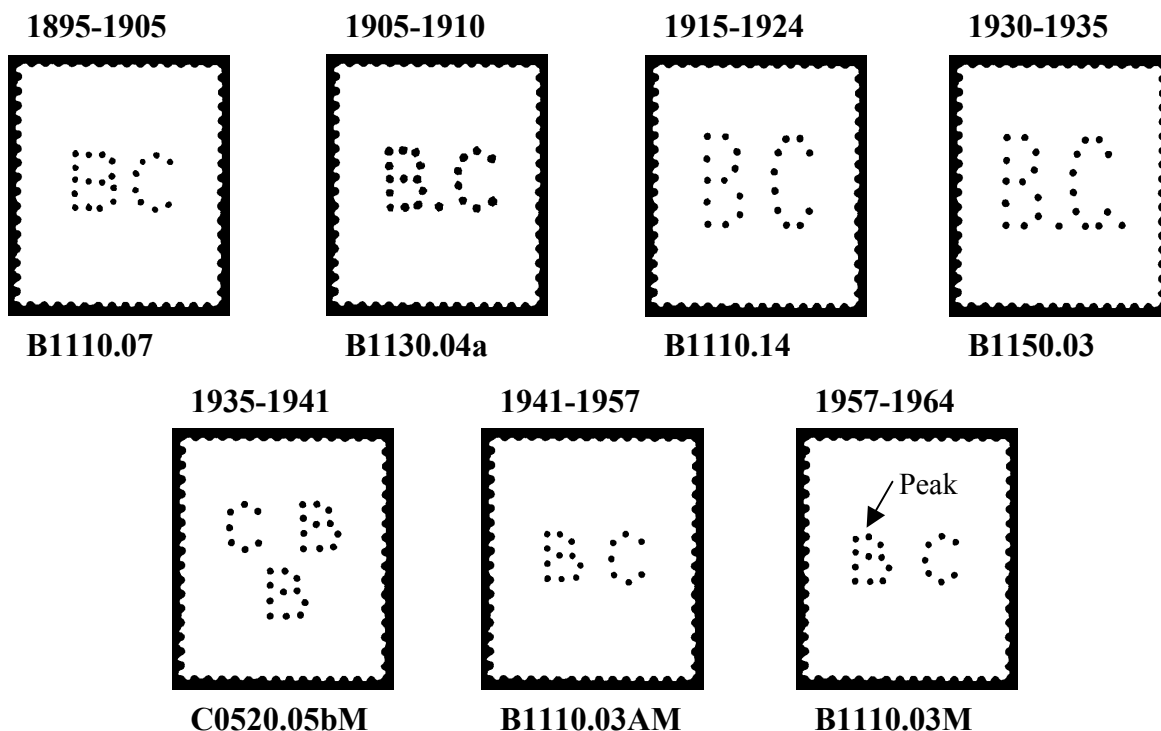
|           |            |           |               |
|-----------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| 1. “BC”   | B1110.07   | 1895-1905 | Id. confirmed |
| 2. “B.C”  | B1130.04a  | 1905-1910 | Id. suspected |
| 3. “BC”   | B1110.14   | 1915-1924 | Id. confirmed |
| 4. “B.C.” | B1150.03   | 1930-1935 | Id. confirmed |
| 5. “CB/B” | C0520.05bM | 1935-1941 | Id. confirmed |
| 6. “BC”   | B1110.03AM | 1941-1957 | Id. confirmed |
| 7. “BC”   | B1110.03M  | 1957-1964 | Id. confirmed |

Note, there were no “BC” Sloper Wartime Provisionals.

Missing from the list is “BC” (B1110.05M), which, as Stephen points out, is only known with Burnley postmarks. Stephen has also confirmed that Blackpool became a Corporation on 21st January 1876, and a County Borough in 1904.

The earliest die we know of used by Blackpool Corporation is “BC” (B1110.07), in use 1895-1936. The Perfin Society Councils Catalogue from 1964 states the ‘supplier has always been J Sloper & Co’. As this die is known used by three different users, it could so easily be a Sloper die. However, I believe Blackpool only used this die until c1905. Perhaps to celebrate their county status and enlarged responsibilities in 1904, they decided to mark the occasion by using a different die, namely “B.C” (B1130.04a).

Please report details of your holdings of the following dies to help confirm (or otherwise) the sequence suggested earlier on in the piece. Dies marked in the table with an asterisk (\*) *must also* have a confirming Blackpool postmark. Also, please beware of partial postmarks for Liverpool on “BC” (B1110.07), such as ...pool!



The dates for B1110.03AM/03M may turn out to be not so clear cut!

| Letters | Die        |   | Stamp details and dates  |
|---------|------------|---|--|
| BC      | B1110.07   | * | E 3d - 12 Nov 1897<br>F ½d (blue-green) - 2 Jan 1903<br>F 1d - 17 Nov 1904 |
| B.C     | B1130.04a  |   | F 1d, 3d   |
| BC      | B1110.14   |   | I(RC) ½d, 1½d, 2d  |
| B.C.    | B1150.03   |   | I(BC) ½d, 1½d, 2d, 3d<br>M ½d-1½d, 3d                                      |
| CB/B    | C0520.05bM | * | Q 1½d - 5 Aug 1938   |
| BC      | B1110.03AM | * | Q 6d<br>U(SEC) ½d, 1½d - 14 Nov 1956                                       |
| BC      | B1110.03M  | * | U(MC) ½d - 15 Jan 1962<br>U(MC) 2d (light-brown) - (Blac)kpool.            |