



VOLUME
2017

CUMANN SIGHNEACHAIR NA hÉIREANN
THE IRISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1901

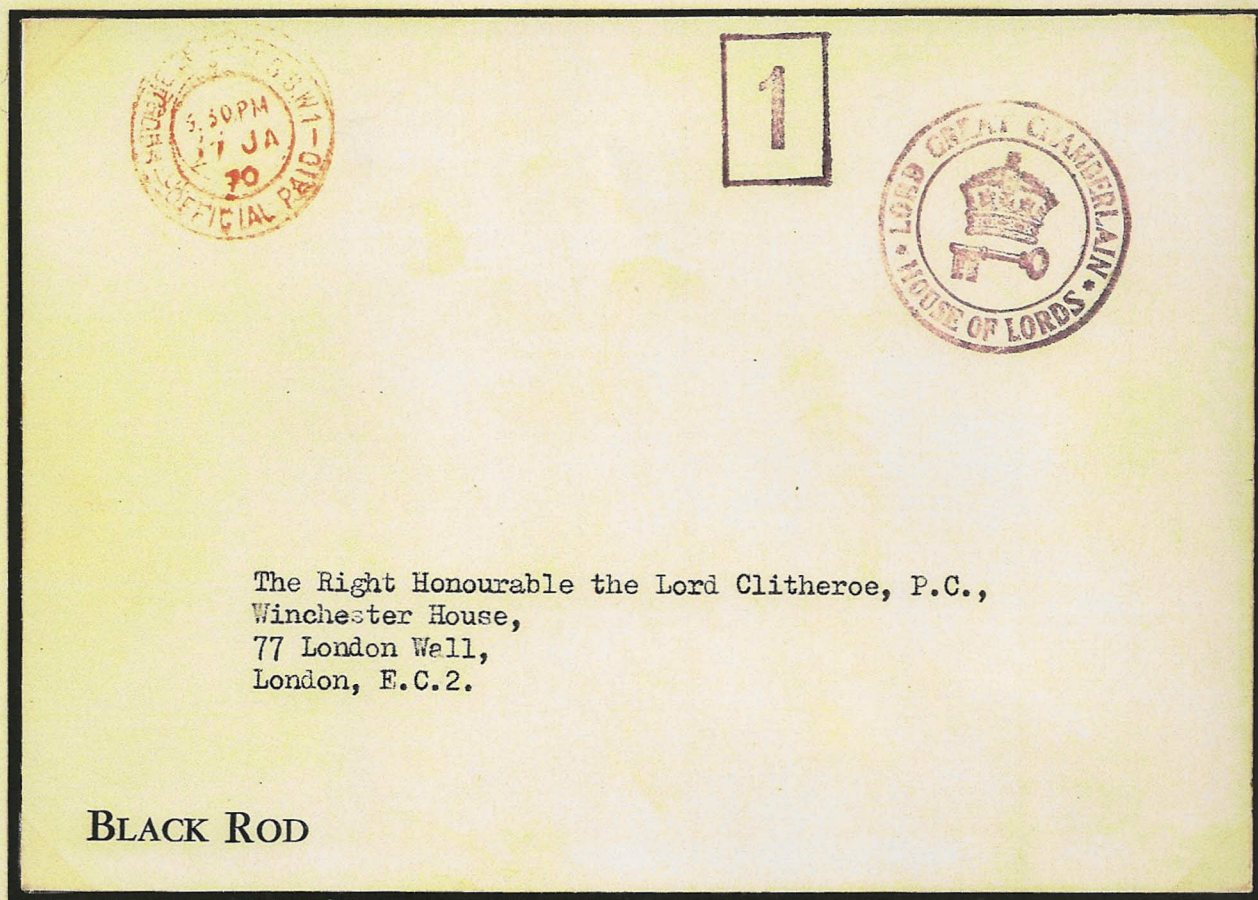
ISSUE NO
Sept & Dec /03

i.p.s. news

THE JOURNAL OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

In this issue : News, President's Page, Forthcoming Displays at Ely House, Displays, Dobbs Competition, Society Social Evening, Philatelic Events 2018 and Later.

Article : West London a Thematic Series - Political Westminster Part 1 concluded



Cover from the Office of Black Rod (see article inside)

Dear Member

Herewith the Sept/Dec issue the last one of the year. The final quarter of 2017 saw Society successes at Stampa. The Dobbs competition was reasonably well supported and reports appear in this issue. The annual Society Social Evening in November was reasonably successful albeit with a smaller number of attendees than normal. No new members have been elected in this quarter and no resignations or bereavements notified. However, there are possibly two potential new members who hopefully will join us in 2018. The library sell off has commenced over the last two meetings with titles being sold in the bourse. This will continue over the coming year.

It only remains for me to wish you all the compliments of the Season and a happy New Year.

NEWS

Membership Changes

Since the last issue no new members have been elected. In the same period there were no notified resignments or bereavements.

OPEN CLASS COMPETITION

The 9 sheet Open Class Competition will be held on Thurs 1 February 2018. This meeting will commence at 7.15pm and NOT the usual time of 7.30pm. This is to allow members time to view the 6 entries in order to comply with room vacation time. Those who have notified their intention to enter the competition are asked to provide the title only of their entry to the Secretary by Thurs 18 January 2018.

Library

The disposal of the library is now underway (see President's Page) and books have been sold over the last two normal bourses. This has raised some funds for the Society and will continue in 2018.

STAMPA 2017

Members of the Society again participated at Stampa this year and the following awards were gained:

Large Vermeil Medals : Anthony Hughes and Brian Warren who was additionally awarded the Irish Security Stamp Printers Trophy.

Vermeil Medals : John Greer, Norman Finnie and Gerry Byrne.

Large Silver Medals : Gerry Byrne

Silver Medal : Brian O'Connell

Bronze Medal : John Fitzsimons

Gwyn Bennett Trophy (Novice) : Dermot Hughes

President's Page

I began writing these lines on a sunny Sunday afternoon in early November from a room with large picture windows which looked out onto a golf course. It would have been truly idyllic if the room was in a posh hotel and not in St. Vincent's Hospital. A bockety appendix brought me there for a sojourn which lasted several days and played havoc with many scheduled activities including the preparation of the IPS bourse for November 16th. On a possibly more positive note the enforced inactivity meant time became available for the preparation of these musings.

The long- in- discussion winding up of the IPS library is underway. Thanks to a great deal of work by Frank and Heloise an initial screening is being conducted aimed at determining which titles are likely to be of interest to our current membership. These will be offered for sale at regular society bourses and super bourses from now on until disposal is complete. Other items may be made available for sale at fixed prices. The entire process is likely to extend for some time as the holdings are quite extensive. I would encourage anyone having an interest in particular titles [check your library list!] to let us know and arrangements will be made to offer these at a convenient time.

The annual social evening took place on November 30, following an abbreviated meeting and bourse; the winners of the annual competition were revealed and medals and trophies awarded. The results are detailed elsewhere in the newsletter. Thanks to all who produced entries and congratulations to the winners!

Turning to the forthcoming year we resume meetings on January 4, 2018. Dates to particularly keep in mind are:

Feb. 1: Open class competition, 9 sheets.

Feb. 15: Society bourse, all proceeds from the donated lots go to the Society, some members have already submitted material. In my capacity as bourse secretary I will be happy to accept additional items at any meeting. Material may also be brought on the night, preferably as early as possible to allow time for viewing.

Mar. 1: AGM and election of officers and committee members, nomination forms can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

I would like to particularly thank those who took up the slack during my medically-enforced absences during the past few months, particularly Frank, Des and Brian Warren.

I would like to close this episode by wishing all members a happy, safe and relatively sober Christmas and New Year holiday season and I hope to see you all in your usual places on January 4, 2018.

Mike Burrington

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Forthcoming Displays at Ely House

4 January 2018 - Brian Warren "The Fitzgerald Tapes"

The Late Peter Fitzgerald was Society President from 1985 to 1988. He was also involved with Stamp and each year during the show he ran a series of slide lectures on aspects of philately. These tapes were left to the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland. Brian Warren has remastered them for presentation on 4 January.

18 January 2018 - Frank McDonald Sweden and Austria

This two part display will cover Nobel Prize Winners depicted on Swedish stamps, covers and booklets from 1961. The Austrian section will cover an overview of the Republic of Deutschösterreich (German Austria) from 1918 to 1921.

1 February 2018 9 sheet Open Class Competition

15 February 2018 Austria 1938 - 1945

This is a replacement display covering the period from the German Occupation in March 1938 to the Allied Occupation at the end of World War II.

1 March 2018 Annual General Meeting.

ACCOUNT OF MEETINGS : SEASON 2017 - 2018

Personal Choice (7 Sept)

This display given by Gerry Byrne was attended by a total of 18. It was on the subject of events in the lives of George VI and Elizabeth II.,, to about 1970. Included in the display was 1937 cover for the Wedding of Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson on 3 June 1937 at the Chateau de Candé, 1937 Great Britain fdc for Coronation of George VI along with labels issued to celebrate it, Various Coronation values and sets for Commonwealth nations such as Montserrat and St. Lucia. The South West Africa Coronation set in bi lingual pairs and a pair used on airmail cover was also included. A 1937 cover also featured for the First Airborne Mail from London to South Africa as well as a cover of 27 December 1940 from Guernsey with a 1940 Centenary of Postage Stamp 2d value bisect. There were also definitive sets and values from various Commonwealth countries such as Gambia, Fiji, St Helena, Turks and Caicos Islands, Bahrain 1942-45 to 12s, 1948 Silver Weddings from Great Britain, British Honduras, Jamaica, Bermuda.

The display continued with the reign of Queen Elizabeth II and included 1953 Great Britain Coronation set, 1955 Castle High values, 1953 Cayman Islands, St Helena, Rhodesias and Nyasaland definitive sets, Jamaica 1956 definitive set, 1957 Ghana overprints on Gold Coast definitive set. The display concluded with some Air Letters with various pictorial definitive values for Fiji.

Discovering West London Part 1 (21 Sept)

This display given by Frank Mc Donald was attended by a total of 18. It was the first half of the thematic on West London. It covered the first four chapters of the new plan dealing with Ecclesiastical Westminster, Royal Dwellings, Political Westminster and the Nash Route. Included in the display was 1966 cover with Westminster Abbey 960 Anniv Year slogan, Livingstone stamp booklet cover proof, 1974 Churchill Centenary Forces Air Letter form, 1910 3d George V Half Tone Essay large format design.

The display also included some official covers from a variety of locations such as The Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, Horse Guards War Office, Privy Council Office, Privy Purse Buckingham Palace. Covers from York, Clarence and Marlborough Houses also featured as well as a Queen Mary Needle Work Guild cover of 1914. Parliamentary mail also was included such as House of Commons/40 duplex on cover to Essex, 1924 Clerk of the Parliaments cachet, Black Rod cover. A 1936 Abdication cover (commercial) was also shown. Other items of interest were 1795 cover with Whitehall and Westminster Penny Post combination, Board of Education cover with overprinted stamp.

The display also included an array of booklets, miniatures sheets, postal stationery as well as stamp varieties. These included 1973 3p St Paul's Covent Garden value with dropped Queen's Head, 1972 3p Royal Silver Wedding value with Missing Silver, 1912-24 1½d George V defin value in pair one showing "PENCE" for "PENCE". Also included were proofs and parcel post labels as well as aerogrammes.

Discovering West London Part 2 (5 Oct)

This display given by Frank Mc Donald on the night before Stampex was attended by a total of 14. It was the second half of the thematic on West London. It covered the remaining two chapters of the new plan dealing with Culture and Science and Social and Commercial.

Included in the display was National Portrait Gallery cover used to Malaysia from Chelsea, 1985 Turks and Caicos Islands miniature sheets for Handel's Messiah as well as an entire with Brook Street handstamp where he lived and composed that work. Covers for Royal Academy of Music, Adelphi Theatre also featured as did ones for the British Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The display also showed covers for exhibitions of the 19th century such as 1893 Chicago Exhibition, 1891 Naval Exhibition and 1892 Horticultural Exhibition. Some interesting items shown were Broad Sanctuary datestamp on 1893 reg cover to Australia, 1945 cover for the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations, 1857 cover with scarce WESTMINSTER BRIDGE/SW receiver as well as an entire with 1d Government Dockwra stamp of the Westminster Office.

Miniature sheets, booklets, missing colours, colour shifts, mulreadys, advertising covers as well as official mail formed part of the display.

Dobbs Competition (2 Nov)

A total of 23 attended this meeting which was the annual Dobbs Competition. Four entries were submitted for the competition these being : Postal History "Kingstown and Environs" Des Norton, Thematic "The Geometry of the Stamp" Dermot Hughes, Aerophilately "Aerogrammes Worldwide" Gerry Byrne and Open Philately "Aspects of the French Revolution" Mary Carroll.

The Jury for the competition was Society ~~XX~~ President Mr Mike Burrington, Secretary/Treasurer Mr Frank Mc Donald who acted as Jury Secretary and Mr Tom Mc Carthy. The entries were judged in situ on the evening between 5.30pm and 7.15 pm and the standard was very high.

Following the judging the entries "Aerogrammes Worldwide" and "Aspects of the French Revolution" were circulated to those present for viewing. The results were as is now practice withheld until the night of the Social Evening on 30 November.

Dobbs Remaining Entries (16 Nov)

A total of 18 including 2 potential new members attended this meeting, which was to show the remaining Dobbs entries. These entries were "Kingstown and Environs" by Des Norton in the Postal History Class and "The Geometry of the Stamp" by Dermot Hughes in the Thematic Class. These were well received by those present. The normal after meeting bourse was held with 40 lots of which 12 were literature from the Society library. The literature lots raised 33.50 euro in respect of Society funds.

Society Social Evening (30 Nov)

The annual Society Social Evening took place on Thurs 30 Nov 2017 and was the last meeting of 2017. It took the form of previous years with a 30 lot bourse start attended by 16 members. The bourse included a further 6 lots of books from the library which raised 78.75 euro for Society funds.

Following the bourse 14 sat down to dinner in the Canon Browne Room of the House. After dinner the trophies and medals for the year were presented. These were : Postal History F.E.Dixon Cup and Medal to Des Norton for "Kingstown and Environs", Aerophilately Robert Towers Trophy and Medal to Gerry Byrne for "Aerogrammes Worldwide", Open Philately Fenlon Mc Donald Trophy and Medal to Mary Carroll for "Aspects of the French Revolution", Thematic - this trophy had not been returned so only the medal could be presented to Dermot Hughes for "The Geometry of the Stamp". The Dobbs Memorial Trophy and Medal was presented to Des Norton for "Kingstown and Environs".

The Charles Griffith Memorial Trophy and Medal, for the most entertaining display of 2017, voted for by the members was awarded to Gerry Byrne for "Dublin Postcards".

PHILATELIC EVENTS 2018 AND LATER

From this issue of 'IPS NEWS' subject to information regarding dates, venue, admission charge (if applicable) etc we will provide details of local, national and International Exhibitions, Fairs and Shows to allow members know what is coming up on a quarterly basis., in case they wish to attend any of them. If you wish to have a philatelic event listed here please supply details in good time.

14-17 Feb 2018 Spring Stampex (including "Ephemera") London at Business Design Centre, Islington

April 2018 Stamp and Coin Fair Dublin (Date to be announced)

IPC Annual Convention Dublin (Date and venue to be announced, but will coincide with the Fair)

25-27 May 2018 Ovebria Karntnev in Klagenfurt, Austria

15-18 August 2018 PRAGA 2018 (Prague) FIP and FEPA Event Commissioner John Fitzsimons

12-15 Sept 2018 Autumn Stampex, London Business Design Centre, Islington

5-7 Oct 2018 Stampa, Irish National Stamp Exhibition, Griffith College, Dublin 8

13-16 Feb 2019 Spring Stampex, London - Business Design Centre, Islington

29 May - 2 June 2019 Stockholmia 2019, Stockholm, Sweden (International)

2-9 May 2020 London 2020 FIP and FEPA Exhibition , Business Design Centre, Islington.

POLITICAL WESTMINSTER - PART 1

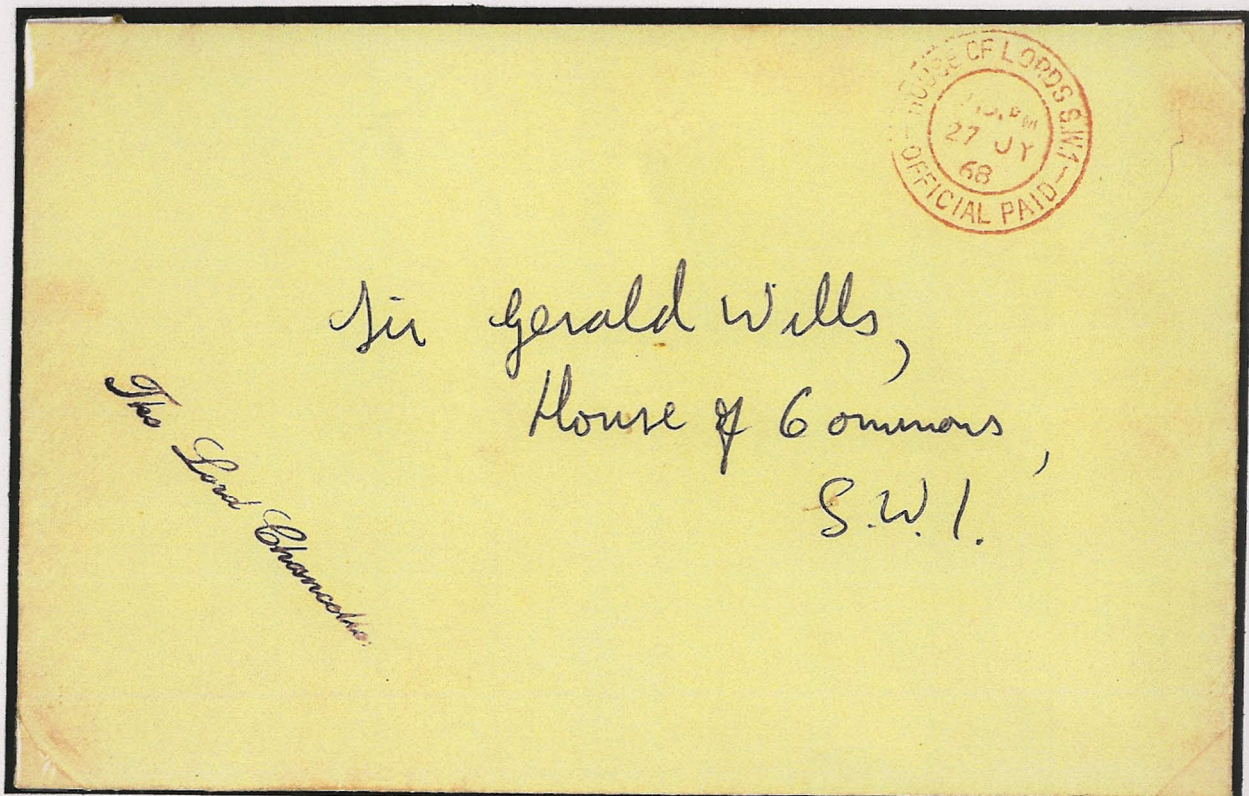
Houses of Parliament contd

The term House of Lords dates to 1500. Before that it was known as domus superior, 'the upper house'. It comprises the Lords Spiritual and the Lords Temporal, a term which came into regular use at the end of the 14th century. When parliament was in session in the 13th and 14th centuries various categories of churchmen were present. The spiritual lords were personally summoned, bishops, abbots or priors. All 21 bishops of England and Wales were as a rule summoned.

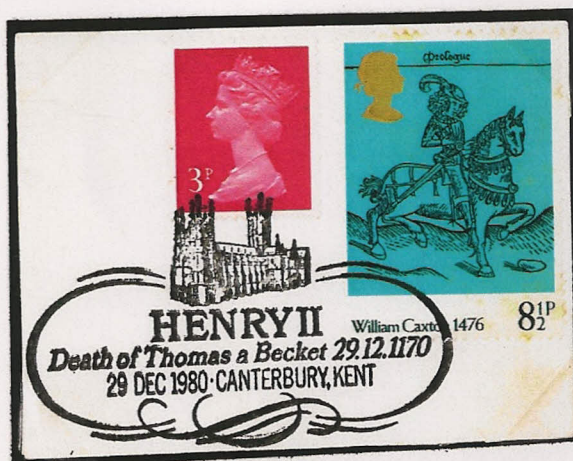
As for Lords Temporal - dukes, marquesses, earls and barons were normally summoned to parliament if they were of age, but summons was not a matter of legal right.

Up until the Dissolution of the Monasteries the spiritual lords had been commonly equal, if not superior in numbers to the temporal lords. After that abbots and priors ceased to sit in parliament. The Lords Spiritual reduced to bishops and archbishops could never again command a majority in the House of Lords. Today there are still 26 bishops in a House of nominally more than 1,000 members.

Since the 1707 Act of Union however there are no Lords Spiritual in respect of Scotland. This is because the established Church of Scotland is presbyterian and devoid of Bishops.



The Lord Chancellor is the speaker of the House of Lords. Though called by the title of Lord, the Chancellor is not necessarily a member of the peerage. Sir Thomas More held this office in the 16th century as did Thomas a Becket in the reign of Henry II. (he was also a Constable of the Tower of London.)



The Lord Chancellor, sitting as he does on the Woolsack, is not part of the House of Peers but belongs to the area of the Throne immediately behind him.

The office of Clerk of the Parliaments dates to the 11th century, the office having been created by King William I. The role of the office holder is to pronounce the Royal Assent in French on Acts of Parliament. This maintains the linkage to the Norman kings of England and the office holder wears the court dress of a barrister.



On 5 July 1820 a 'Bill of Pains and Penalties to be inflicted on Queen Caroline' was introduced into the House of Lords by the Prime Minister. It was called 'a trial' though it was not a trial in any ordinary sense. 'A Bill of Pains and Penalties', is an Act of Parliament punishing a person without resorting to a legal trial. This Bill was in connection with a charge of adultery against her.

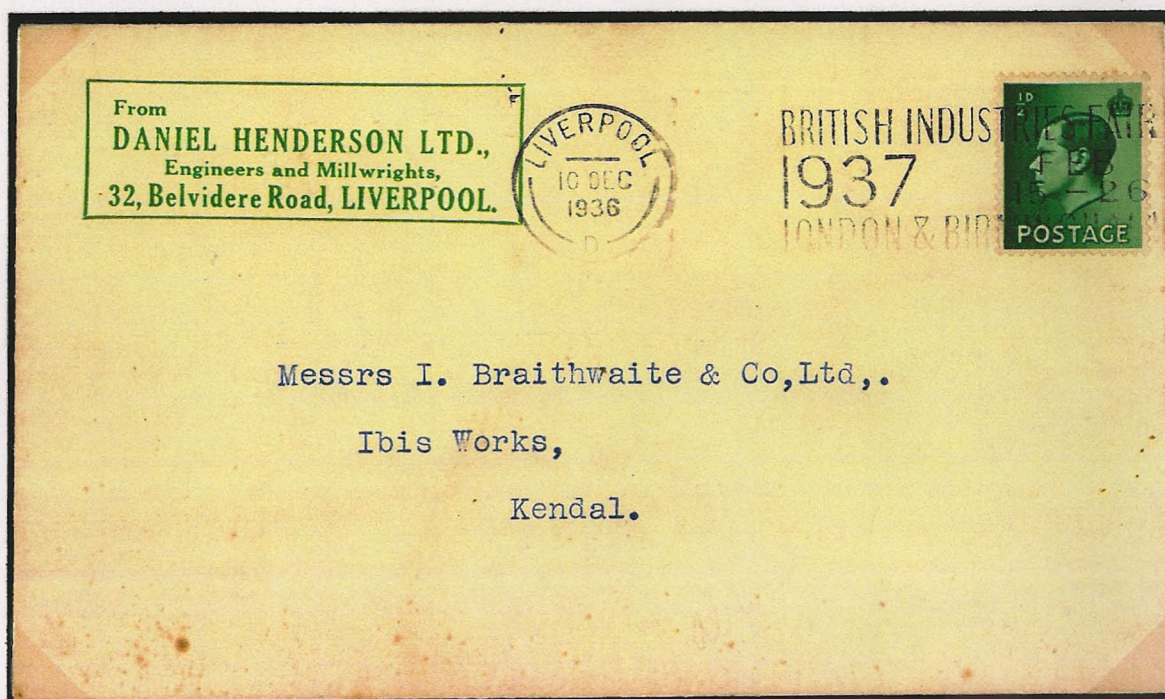


In 1844 Daniel O'Connell, the renowned Irish leader, who was convicted in the Dublin Court of conspiracy appealed by Writ of Error to the House of Lords.

Edward VII when Prince of Wales, George V as Duke of York and Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales held seats in the House of Lords. Prince Charles made his maiden speech there in 1971.



On 11 December 1936 King George VI was proclaimed in the Lords following the Abdication of King Edward VIII on the 10th of December. At the time two bills were going through the Houses of Parliament to give effect to this. These were to give consent to the abdication and to the change to the line of succession to the throne.



Their passage without problems only concluded on the 11th December. The British Constitution does not recognise an interregnum and so the only person who could give Royal Assent to the bills was Edward VIII even though he had abdicated. Therefore as a result of this George VI could not be proclaimed in the Lords until the afternoon of the 11th December.

The State Opening of Parliament takes place in the chamber of the House of Lords. During their reigns both Charles II and Queen Anne attended debates in the House of Lords often after the State Opening, either sitting on the throne or in the colder months on a bench beside the fire. This was in the old House of Lords.



Black Rod is the serjeant-at-arms to the Lord Chancellor. He is responsible for all the administration of the Lords that is not legislative. He summons the House of Commons to attend the State Opening of Parliament as no sovereign since Charles I has set foot in the House of Commons.



The new Palace of Westminster still ranks as a royal palace under the charge of the Lord Great Chamberlain. He is one of the two Great Officers of State, the other being the Earl Marshal. The office is shared between the Cholmondeley family, the Earls of Lincoln and the Earls of Ancaster. It rotates between them, changing families at the death of the sovereign. He is the sovereign's representative at Westminster. The office dates to the reign of Henry I when it was initially vested in the Earls of Oxford.



The Clock Tower, at the north end of the building officially St Stephen's Tower, is probably best known as Big Ben. A light in this tower by night indicates a late sitting of parliament. In 1902 the first floor in this tower acted as a prison for the Suffragette pioneer, Mrs Emmeline Pankhurst. It can still be used as a prison today.



In the next article in this series I will look at No 10 Downing Street