

Great Britain: Failed Free Handstamps of the Franking System

by Robert B Galland FRPSL and John E Colton. Published by the Stuart Rossiter Trust

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Free postage was established in Great Britain in 1652 for some people including MPs. It was abolished at the introduction of the Uniform Postal Rate on 10 January, 1840.

It is 25 years since the last book dealing with the Franking System was published. Since then there have been a number of new discoveries. This book describes the authors' current knowledge of those handstamps associated with breaches of Acts governing free postage; 'Failed Frees'.

Attempts are made to clarify the different handstamps used in order to establish the exact style of handstamp, the time during which it was used and the numbers that survive. This is based on all the most up to date information. More than 250 examples of wrappers, entires or fronts are described in this book. An indication of relative scarcity is provided.

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