

# CORRESPONDENCE SERIES

The CORRESPONDENCE SERIES is an investigation into the background of recipients of British pre-stamped postal stationery. The "collection" was purchased in South Africa in 1999 as a job lot, the which took me six months to sort and mount, creating a collection spanning 140 years. I have no idea of the provenance.

The Reference work is British Postal Stationery, A K Huggins.1970. The first date with catalogue number refers to the year when the pre-stamped envelope was first issued; the second, the year when the envelope was actually used.

## **Philatelic Description of the item of Postal Stationery:**

June 1918-1932 (ES53a)\_ KGV Postal Stationery STO Prepaid Reply Lettersheet (rare). The item is addressed to Messrs. Arthur Wheeler & Co., Leicester.

## **Brief Comment:**

Sir Arthur Wheeler, 1st Baronet (\* 1860 – † 1943) was an English stockbroker and financier. Born in Nottingham, he was educated at Nottingham High School. He joined Simon, Meyer & Co, a lace exporter, as a clerk, with time rising to the chief clerk position. In 1899, he launched an unlisted stockbroking firm, Messrs. Arthur Wheeler & Co., in Leicester, concentrating on serving Midlands firms which were too small to launch themselves in the City of London. During the First World War, Wheeler dedicated his energies to selling war bonds, thereby earning a baronetcy in the 1920 New Year Honours. He was appointed High Sheriff of Leicestershire in 1922. He was ruined by the 1929 Depression, was declared bankrupt, and in 1931 was jailed for twelve months for fraud. After his release he retired from business to Holme-next-the-Sea in Norfolk. He died an undischarged (unrehabilitated) bankrupt.

The article by John Carter is detailed and a worthwhile read.

## **References:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir\\_Arthur\\_Wheeler,\\_1st\\_Baronet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sir_Arthur_Wheeler,_1st_Baronet)  
London Gazette, 1935. Probate.

<https://www.thegazette.co.uk/London/issue/34115/page/8277/data.pdf>

Author: John Carter, 2007.

<https://www.woodhouseparishcouncil.org.uk/uploads/roundabout-oct-2007.pdf>

R M Pelteret 9 September 2020