

# RECORDING LOCATIONS 1921-1934

by

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based on research by

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## INTRODUCTION

This paper is divided into two parts: first, the period 1921-1930 when the matrix series BA-BX were used and, second, the period 1930-1934 when BA-BX were replaced by OB-OZ until they, in turn, were replaced by the 3-digit series in 1934 with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August. Essentially I seek to address three questions:

1. Who were the experts during these two periods?
2. Which prefix letters did they use in the OB-OZ and, subsequently, the BA-BX series?
3. In what locations did they work at particular times?

In particular it should facilitate correlation of details of artist/title in HMV catalogues back to the matrix lists and so enable the recordings to be dated by more easily identifying the matrix series most likely to provide the answer.

In each part I have compiled 4 Tables -

**Table 1** identifies the experts with the prefix letters which each used and when.

**Table 2** lists all the countries in which work was carried out during each period, when and by whom but, to this there are two important omissions: I have attached at **Tables 3** and **4** two separate lists of United Kingdom venues because Bb/Cc and BR/CR and, subsequently, OB/2B and OBR/2BR were unique in being limited to one country but they can be misunderstood because of the way in which they were constructed. The other omission relates to recordings made in India and South East Asia where we just do not have sufficient basic data to make a similar exercise worthwhile.

It was understood by Kelly that work on these important areas was being covered by Michael Kinnear, at least in relation to India, but his published work does not extend beyond 1910. If Kinnear had published any later data I have no doubt that Kelly would have included it since it would have been based on Kinnear's research into HMV documentation transferred by Hayes to Calcutta which is not now available at Hayes.

This particularly affects the BD/CD list of recordings by R E Beckett, Captain Hampton Saunders (BU/CU) and A J Twine (BX/CX) each of whom spent a great deal of their time in those areas. Saunders took over from Twine because of the latter's illness and later moved to become manager at the Madras Branch Office before being stationed in Siam. In addition, no recordings by A S Clarke (BH/CH) have been traced in the Hayes documentation – or anywhere else. In the second period the OC list of recordings by George Corran seems to be limited to recordings made in India and Rangoon apart from one series in Baghdad. This also affects S K Sen in Calcutta. Other series including OL have gaps where Indian recordings were made and, although I have some details of Indian and South East Asian from Kelly's matrix lists, they are minimal and it did not seem worth setting them out here.

In relation to Scandinavia and the Baltic States Kelly greatly admired the work of Karleric Liliedahl and those working for Svenska Diskografier. Again, he felt that he had quite enough work to get on with and was content to leave those countries to Liliedahl and his colleagues so far as any National Catalogues were concerned and was content to include them only in his matrix lists. By comparing Kelly's matrix lists and the Diaries of Recording Sessions with Liliedahl's published output, I have created similar sessions lists for those countries.

For political reasons HMV ceased to record in Russia after the 1917 revolution so that most Russian recordings made thereafter were made in Paris or London and will be found in the entries for those cities. Similarly no HMV recording work was carried out in Poland after WW1.

In June 1931 Maltese artists recorded in Milan being apparently ferried from Valetta to Genoa, transferred by train to Milan where they made their records between 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> and then went home: see 0F450 etc. There was a further visit to Milan in September 1932: see 0M756 etc. It is assumed that this was thought this would cost less than to send an engineer to Malta. In the early days many artists based in Dresden had to travel to Berlin to make recordings; notwithstanding, "Dresden" is named on the record labels – a frequent source of confusion. Some Greek, Hungarian and Romanian artists recorded in Vienna as well as in Athens, Budapest and București. In the 1930's the Czech Philharmonic recorded in London – enough, I hope, to make clear that recording activities were not limited to the artists' "home" territory.

I hope I will be forgiven for grouping French North Africa to include Algerian, Moroccan and Tunisian sessions together. They were regarded by Voix de son Maître (French HMV) as part of the French catalogue and assigned double-sided numbers in the domestic French K and L series.

There were so few recording sessions in the Low Countries that I have also grouped Belgium with the Netherlands. A number of artists actually travelled to London or Paris to make their recordings. In the period 1931-1934 only one session was held and that was in Brussels.

In both parts of this paper –

**Table 1** collates various entries in Kelly's documentation and includes the full names of the recording engineers ("experts") as given by Hugo Strötbaum on his Recording Pioneers web site.

**Table 2** analyses -

- a) updated versions of the "Diaries of Recording Sessions" in Kelly's catalogues whether printed or available on CD-ROM,
- b) his additions and amendments to his printed catalogues in the later CD-ROM versions,
- c) each of his matrix lists BA-BX and 0B-0Z as updated, and
- d) where available, examination of copies of the artist/recording sheets from Hayes held at the British Library which identify the recording expert involved at particular sessions.

I have entered matrix prefixes as 0B, 0Z, etc as including 2B, 2C etc, their 12" equivalents. Particular references in these lists should not be taken as a size indicator for any particular number. My approach to BA, Bb etc. is similar: each includes CA, Cc etc, their 12" equivalents. It may be noticed that while early use of Bb/Cc sometimes included BB/CC, the general approach was to enter the second letter in lower case. Neither Kelly nor I have found out why this exception was made in the cases of Bb and Cc.

**Table 3** is essentially a copy of the list taken from the beginning of Kelly's Bb and 0B lists with some additional comments added by way of explanation at the beginning of the Table.

**Table 4** reflects the summary at the beginning of Kelly's BR and 0BR lists.

In the U.K. relay recordings (made elsewhere than in a studio and passed to the studio by use of a telephone line or the HMV mobile van) were allocated to BR/CR and 0BR/2BR; elsewhere an "R" was added to the code so that BWR/CWR or BFR/CFR indicates the use of relay.

Many of the details set out below will be found to contradict assertions made by the late Dr Howard S Friedman. In his "Surface Markings on Gramophone Company & Victor Records" [A.R.S.C. Journal Vol. 34 No 2 at 143], for example, he records that between 1921 and 1924 "certain major celebrities were given special prefixes to identify them" and attributes BA, BK, CA and CK to Battistini, and others to Chaliapin and Schipa. In fact the codes were allocated to experts not to artists.

**PART ONE: 1921-1930: BA/CA TO BX/CX**

**Table 1 : List of experts with their identifying letters and overall recording periods**

<b>10"</b>	<b>12"</b>		<b>From - To</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>Finish</b>
BA	CA	Raymond R Sooy	1-13	21.05.21	24.05.21
		Frank William Rennie	20-477	23.05.29	26.11.29
Bb	Cc	Various (Head Office) [see note 1]	1-21113	15.03.21	31.12.30
BD	CD	Robert Edward Beckett	1-9374	01.23	18.12.30
BE	CE	Alfred Skelson [see note 2]	1-1288	04.10.21	16.07.23
		Unknown	1300-2134	08.04.29	
		John Hartley Ellis [see note 2]	2135-2735	17.01.30	30.09.30
BF	CF	Edward Fowler	1-3750	22.06.26	20.11.30
BG	CG	Edwin Douglas Gower	1-1519	11.05.29	31.12.30
BH	CH	Arthur Spottiswood Clarke	No recordings traced		
BJ	CJ	Harold Edward Davidson	1-3624	16.11.25	23.06.30
BK	CK	George Walter Dillnutt	1-3078	06.10.21	24.11.30
BL	CL	Douglas Ewen Larter	1-6844	19.09.24	20.12.30
BM	CM	William John Beckwith	1-496	03.05.21	22.05.22
		Carey Charles Blyton	500-1692	05.11.28	30.06.30
BN	CN	Sidney Edwin Tunn	1-1158	08.10.28	19.12.30
BP	CP	Joseph Jackson	1-318	22.05.23	16.07.26
BR	CR	Non-studio locations U.K.	1-2911	28.10.25	22.12.30
BS	CS	Harry Fleming	1-4923	22.10.21	04.12.30
BT	CT	Marcus Joseph Colthurst Alexander	1-4198	30.07.23	15.07.28
		Albert Conrad Dickson	5000-5313	18.08.30	15.10.30
BU	CU	Capt. Hampton Sanders	Indian recordings; few details traced		
BV	CV	Waldemar René Vogel [see note 3]	1-572	01.10.28	04.01.29
		Francis Cecil Addington Bulkley	600-647	03.09.29	13.09.29
		Francis Cecil Addington Bulkley; Arthur Douglas Lawrence	648-671	16.09.29	10.10.29
		Francis Cecil Addington Bulkley	672-1044	29.10.29	12.02.30
BW	CW	Arthur Douglas Lawrence	1-3781	07.06.26	18.08.30
BX	CX	Arthur James Twine	1-8713+	.09.26	?

Kelly entered notes 1 and 2; I have added 3:

1. Bb/Cc includes recordings made by various experts at various locations mostly in London but with a small number made at Croydon and at the Theatre Royal, Dublin: see Table 3.
2. Skelson died 18.08.23; Ellis was dismissed in 1931;
3. Vogel's father fell ill in February 1929 and died on 16<sup>th</sup>. Waldemar had to return from Paris to Alexandria on 15<sup>th</sup>. Tunn replaced him in Paris. Vogel then joined the family business in Alexandria and did not return as a recording engineer.

Just as Fred Gaisberg was accompanied by W Sinkler Darby on the First Foreign Tour, there are other instances of experts acting in tandem but using the series allocated to one of them. Where two experts were present at a particular session there is no way of knowing who did what. One may have introduced the artist while the other checked the temperature of the waxes and/or the speed of the recording machine; one may have put down the recording stylus and signalled the artist to start but, in all probability, they would have swapped roles from time to time and one cannot exclude the possibility that, if one

went out for a rest, the other simply carried on until his time came for a break. One session in Milan (BK1825-1834) made by a Hungarian Gypsy Orchestra for Victor refers to G W Dillnutt as the "Recorder" and W Dickson as the "Electrician" but it still does not tell us who did what.

A more significant problem is that, particularly in the French North African countries, so many recordings were being made each day that it was often the case that the experts did not (have time to) make daily records of who recorded what and when but left documentation to the end of the session – by which time no one could remember whether X recorded on the Monday or the Tuesday so the session was written up at the end and one recording date was given for all the recordings made during the previous week, fortnight or month. Did the provision of an exact recording date matter to the company? Probably not: no one seems to have reprimanded the experts and just let them get on with it.

The Register shows Fleming's Casablanca recordings beginning on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1929 when he made BS4135-4156, BS4157-4198 on 23<sup>rd</sup> and BS4199-4232 on 24<sup>th</sup> July. It means he made 40+ on 23<sup>rd</sup>, a remarkable achievement if the Register is accurate in its dating.

### Table 2 : Recording Diary 1921-1930 by Country

The following Diary of Recording Sessions excludes sessions in the U.K. (see Tables 3 and 4). Each individual matrix series lists the locations visited by the experts chronologically but this list proceeds in chronological order for each country in the following sequence:

- |                         |                                       |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Albania              | 12. Iraq                              |
| 2. Austria              | 13. Italy                             |
| 3. Bulgaria             | 14. Latvia and Estonia                |
| 4. Czechoslovakia       | 15. Persia (Iran)                     |
| 5. Egypt                | 16. Portugal                          |
| 6. France               | 17. Romania                           |
| 7. French North Africa  | 18. Scandinavia and The Baltic States |
| 8. Germany              | 19. Serbia                            |
| 9. Greece               | 20. Spain                             |
| 10. Holland and Belgium | 21. Switzerland                       |
| 11. Hungary             | 22. Turkey                            |

Country	Place	Session Dates		Matrix Series/Nos.		Expert
		From	To	From	To	
<b>ALBANIA</b>	Scutari d'Albania	17.06.30	24.06.30	BW3680	BW3777	A D Lawrence
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	Vienna	18.10.24	28.10.24	BT920	BT970	MJC Alexander
	Vienna	07.07.25	13.07.25	BT1771	BT1793	MJC Alexander
	Vienna	18.01.26	28.01.26	BJ138	BJ173	H E Davidson
	Vienna	24.03.28	09.05.28	BK2811	BK3017	G W Dillnutt
	Vienna	18.09.28	05.11.28	BW1787	BW1968	A D Lawrence
	Vienna	05.11.28	06.12.28	BM500	BM642	C C Blyton
	Vienna	09.01.29	05.02.29	BW2115	BW2212	A D Lawrence
	Vienna	19.04.29	03.05.29	BW2441	BW2506	A D Lawrence
	Vienna	23.05.29	10.07.29	BA20	BA154	F W Rennie
	Vienna	02.09.29	18.09.29	BV600	BV660	F C Bulkley

	Vienna	19.09.29	21.09.29	BW2767	BW2775	A D Lawrence
	Vienna	30.09.29	07.10.29	BW2806	BW2833	A D Lawrence
	Vienna	08.10.29	10.10.29	BV661	BV671	F C Bulkley A D Lawrence
	Vienna	11.10.29	18.11.29	BW2834	BW2940	A D Lawrence
	Vienna	02.01.30	01.04.30	BW3102	BW3300	A D Lawrence
	Vienna	18.09.30	29.10.30	BL6458	BL6657	D E Larter
	Vienna	01.12.30	04.12.30	BL6771	BL6794	D E Larter
	Vienna	12.12.30		BL6795	BL6799	D E Larter
	Vienna	16.12.30	20.12.30	BL6828	BL6844	D E Larter
	BL6795-99 recorded out of sequence; see Czech list (Brno/Brünn) for BL6800-27					
<b>BULGARIA</b>	Sofia	03.12.29	18.12.29	BV815	BV920	F C Bulkley
<b>CZECH</b>	Prague	09.11.22	22.11.22	BE788	BE861	A Skelson
	Marienbad	14.06.24	23.06.24	BT746	BT783	MJC Alexander
	Prague	24.06.24	27.06.24	BT784	BT817	MJC Alexander
	Prague	08.06.26	18.06.26	BT2739	BT2816	MJC Alexander
	Prague	02.06.27	15.07.27	BK2097	BK2276	G W Dillnutt
	Prague	13.05.29	28.06.29	BW2507	BW2727	A D Lawrence
	Prague	03.09.29	11.09.29	BW2728	BW2766	A D Lawrence
	Prague	08.04.30	29.04.30	BW3301	BW3403	A D Lawrence
	Bratislava	03.05.30	08.05.30	BW3404	BW3493	A D Lawrence
	Košice	12.05.30	23.05.30	BW3494	BW3637	A D Lawrence
	Prague	30.05.30	04.06.30	BW3638	BW3679	A D Lawrence
	Prague	03.11.30	19.11.30	BL6658	BL6770	D E Larter
	Brno/Brünn	08.12.30	09.12.30	BL6800	BL6827	D E Larter
<b>EGYPT</b>	Cairo	07.24	07.24	BD1443	BD1698	R E Beckett
	Cairo	1926		BD4316	BD4531	R E Beckett
	Cairo	29.07.27	14.08.27	BF1031	BF1200	Edward Fowler
	Cairo	24.04.28	18.05.28	BT3849	BT4004	MJC Alexander
	Cairo	27.03.29	01.05.29	BF2561	BF2702	Edward Fowler
	Cairo	24.02.30	18.03.30	BG360	BG507	E D Gower J E George
<b>FRANCE</b>	Paris	04.10.21	31.10.21	BE1	BE116	A Skelson
	Paris	09.01.22	03.03.22	BE145	BE323	A Skelson
	Paris	21.04.22	02.06.22	BS255	BS421	Harry Fleming
	Paris	10.10.22	20.12.22	BS473	BS672	Harry Fleming
	Paris	13.02.23	02.03.23	BS787	BS851	Harry Fleming
	Paris	20.03.23	28.03.23	BS876	BS901	Harry Fleming
	Paris	14.05.23	26.06.23	BS902	BS1025	Harry Fleming
	Paris	28.11.23	07.12.23	BP91	BP143	J Jackson
	Paris	10.12.23	31.03.24	BT260	BT518	MJC Alexander
	Paris	04.04.24	16.04.24	BP144	BP208	J Jackson
	Paris	13.06.24	03.07.24	BP209	BP310	J Jackson
	Paris	07.07.24	11.07.24	BT818	BT861	MJC Alexander
	Paris	19.09.24	09.02.25	BL1	BL244	D E Larter
	Paris	10.02.25	31.03.25	BT1185	BT1310	MJC Alexander
	Paris	15.09.25	02.10.25	BT1794	BT1921	MJC Alexander
	Paris	16.11.25	07.12.24	BJ1	BJ137	H E Davidson
	Paris	17.02.26	05.03.26	BD4015	BD4117	R E Beckett
	Paris	22.06.26	23.06.26	BF1	BF13	H Fowler
	Paris	15.07.26	16.07.26	BP311	BP318	?

	Paris	24.09.26	12.11.26	BF14	BF269	Edward Fowler
	Paris	12.01.27	28.01.27	BF270	BF376	Edward Fowler
	Paris	14.03.27	14.04.27	BF377	BF547	Edward Fowler
	Paris	26.09.27	02.12.27	BT3068	BT3458	MJC Alexander
	Paris	05.03.28	16.03.28	BK2746	BK2810	G W Dillnutt
	Paris	29.05.28	01.06.28	BK3023	BK3063	G W Dillnutt
	Paris	04.06.28	15.07.28	BT4005	BT4198	MJC Alexander
	Paris	01.10.28	16.11.28	BV1	BV328	W Vogel
	Paris	07.01.29	25.01.29	BS3165	BS3186	Harry Fleming
	Paris	.02.29	16.03.29	BN288	BN457	S E Tunn
	Paris	.03.29	.03.29	BS3401	BS3483	Harry Fleming
	Lyon	30.04.29	02.05.29	BS3615	BS3630	Harry Fleming
	Marseille	07.05.29	09.05.29	BS3631	BS3672	Harry Fleming
	Paris	15.05.29	31.05.29	BS3673	BS3742	Harry Fleming
	Paris	23.09.29	22.11.29	BS4233	BS4393	Harry Fleming
	Paris	10.01.30	03.04.30	BF2703	BF3135	Edward Fowler
	Solesmes	08.04.30	14.04.30	BF3136	BF3160	Edward Fowler
	Paris	19.05.30	00.06.30	BF3256	BF3384	Edward Fowler
	Paris	22.09.30	28.10.30	BG808	BG1169	E Gower
	Paris	28.11.30	24.11.30	BK3064	BK3078	G W Dillnutt
<b>FRENCH NORTH AFRICA</b>	Algiers	21.01.24	30.01.24	BK1256	BK1385	G W Dillnutt
	Algiers	27.10.24	05.11.24	BK1594	BK1743	G W Dillnutt
	Tunis	10.11.24	12.11.24	BK1745	BK1764	G W Dillnutt
	Tunis	05.05.25	18.05.25	BS1698	BS1941	Harry Fleming
	Algiers	08.10.25	22.10.25	BT1922	BT2047	MJC Alexander
	Tunis	1926	1926	BD4118	BD4243	R E Beckett
	Algiers	1926	1926	BD4244	BD4301	R E Beckett
	Tunis	1926	1926	BD4302	BD4315	R E Beckett
	?Algiers/Tunis	1926	1926	BT2870	BT3073	MJC Alexander
	Tunis	30.04.27	05.05.27	BF548	BF657	Edward Fowler
	Casablanca	13.01.28	25.01.28	BT3459	BT3676	MJC Alexander
	Algiers	20.02.28	23.02.28	BT3677	BT3784	MJC Alexander
	Tunis	01.03.28	04.03.28	BT3785	BT3848	MJC Alexander
	Algiers	28.11.28	14.12.28	BV329	BV458	W Vogel
	Casablanca	23.12.28	26.12.28	BV459	BV526	W Vogel
	Untraced			BV527	BV536	
	Marrakesh	03.01.29	04.01.29	BV537	BV572	W Vogel
	Tunis	12.06.29	21.06.29	BS3747	BS3828	Harry Fleming
	Algiers	01.07.29	11.07.29	BS3829	BS4134	Harry Fleming
	Casablanca	22.07.29	24.07.29	BS4135	BS4232	Harry Fleming
	Tunis	27.11.30	04.12.30	BG1170	BG1267	E Gower
	Algiers	11.12.30	23.12.30	BG1268	BG1502	E Gower
	Casablanca	31.12.30	31.12.30	BG1503	BG1519	E Gower
<b>GERMANY</b>	Berlin	07.05.26	08.05.26	BW1	BW17	A D Lawrence
	Berlin	25.06.26	19.07.26	BW18	BW148	A D Lawrence
	Berlin	28.07.26	18.12.26	BW149	BW665	A D Lawrence
	Berlin	17.01.27	13.04.27	BW666	BW983	A D Lawrence
	Berlin	20.04.27	06.05.27	BW984	BW1045	A D Lawrence
	Berlin	09.05.27	04.07.27	BD4577	BD4743	R E Beckett
	Berlin	18.08.27	16.12.27	BW1046	BW1444	A D Lawrence
	Berlin	09.01.28	20.01.28	BK2700	BK2745	G W Dillnutt
	Berlin	23.01.28	26.01.28	BL3780	BL3804	D E Larter A D Lawrence

	Berlin	30.01.28	16.03.28	BL3805	BL3966	D E Larter
	Berlin	19.03.28	22.03.28	BL3967	BL3987	D E Larter G W George
	Berlin	23.03.28	26.04.28	BL3988	BL4069	D E Larter
	Berlin	29.04.28	30.05.28	BL4070	BL4217	D E Larter G W George
	Berlin	31.05.28	24.06.28	BL4218	BL4300	D E Larter
	Berlin	25.06.28	23.11.28	BL4301	BL4780	D E Larter G W George
	Berlin	27.11.28	06.06.30	BL4781	BL6484	D E Larter J W Ellis
	Berlin	22.04.29	29.04.29	BN458	BN479	S E Tunn
	Munich	06.05.29	17.05.29	BN480	BN563	S E Tunn
	Berlin	28.05.29	19.11.29	BN564	BN851	S E Tunn
	Beuron	28.11.29	29.11.29	BN852	BN867	S E Tunn
	Cologne	05.12.29	06.12.29	BN868	BN869	S E Tunn
	Berlin	07.08.30	18.12.30	BD8888	BD9374	R E Beckett
<b>GREECE</b>	Athens	28.01.22	06.03.22	BS31	BS254	Harry Fleming
	Athens	22.02.26	18.03.26	BJ174	BJ359	H E Davidson
	Athens	15.06.27	18.07.27	BF720	BF1030	Edward Fowler
	Athens	11.06.28	30.06.28	BF1654	BF1909	Edward Fowler
	Athens	11.05.29	08.06.29	BG1	BG255	E D Gower
	Athens	25.11.29	21.12.29	BW2941	BE3101	A D Lawrence
	Athens	07.04.30	26.05.30	BG508	BG807	E D Gower J E George
<b>BELGIUM &amp; HOLLAND</b>	Antwerp	03.05.24	07.05.24	BS1267	BS1324	Harry Fleming
	Den Haag	18.08.24	30.10.24	BK1491	BK1593	G W Dillnutt
	Brussels	04.09.29	16.09.29	BD8705	BD8812	R E Beckett
	Den Haag	14.10.29	25.10.29	BD8813	BD8869	R E Beckett
	s'Hertogenbosch	28.10.29	31.10.29	BD8870	BD8887	R E Beckett
<b>HUNGARY</b>	Budapest	24.06.26	30.06.26	BT2817	BT2868	MJC Alexander
	Budapest	13.05.28	14.05.28	BK3018	BJ3022	H E Davidson
	Budapest	13.11.28	15.12.28	BW1969	BW2114	A D Lawrence
	Budapest	29.10.29	23.11.29	BV672	BV814	F C Bulkley
	Budapest	10.09.30	30.09.30	BE2621	BE2735	J H Ellis
<b>IRAQ</b>	Baghdad	07.01.25	26.01.25	BD2815	BD3012	R E Beckett
	Baghdad	24.01.26	11.03.26	BT2234	BT2601	MJC Alexander
	Baghdad	1928	1928	BX4218	BX4449	A J Twine
	Baghdad	1929	1929	BX5300	BX5519	A J Twine
	Baghdad	20.11.29	26.11.29	BA369	BA477	F W Rennie
<b>ITALY</b>	Milan	03.05.21	22.06.21	BM1	BM67	W J Beckwith
	Milan	21.05.21	24.05.21	BA1	BA13	R R Sooy
	Milan	22.10.21	08.11.21	BS1	BS30	Harry Fleming
	Milan	22.03.22	27.05.22	BE324	BE441	A Skelson
	Milan	02.01.23	08.02.23	BE900	BE983	A Skelson
	Milan	19.06.23	16.07.23	BE1210	BE1288	A Skelson
	Milan	19.11.23	10.12.23	BK1207	BK1255	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	11.02.24	19.05.24	BK1386	BK1490	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	12.09.24	15.09.24	BT898	BT919	MFC Alexander
	Bologna	06.11.24	10.11.24	BT971	BT986	MFC Alexander

	Loreto	12.11.24	15.09.24	BT987	BT1007	MFC Alexander
	Milan	19.11.24	20.11.24	BT1008	BT1029	MFC Alexander
	Milan	21.11.24	19.12.24	BK1765	BK1824	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	04.06.25	27.06.25	BT1614	BT1770	MFC Alexander
	Milan	29.10.25	12.11.25	BT2048	BT2180	MFC Alexander
	Milan	29.05.26	29.05.26	BK1825	BK1834	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	31.05.26	02.06.26	BK1835	BK1848	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	07.06.26	15.06.26	BK1849	BK1886	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	04.10.26	29.11.26	BK1887	BK1967	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	15.01.27	16.03.27	BK1968	BK2017	G W Dillnutt
	Milan	02.02.27	07.03.27	BD4532	BD4576	R E Beckett
	Milan	14.10.27	03.12.27	BD4744	BD4965	R E Beckett
	Milan	27.01.28	28.04.28	BF1484	BF1653	Edward Fowler
	La Spezia	11.09.28	19.09.28	BF2228	BF2280	Edward Fowler
	Milan	23.09.28	22.12.28	BF2281	BF2560	Edward Fowler C C Blyton
	Milan	09.01.29	26.09.29	BM643	BM1132	C C Blyton
	Rome	07.10.29	08.10.29	BM1133	BM1140	C C Blyton
	Milan	17.10.29	30.06.30	BM1141	BM1692	C C Blyton
	Naples	12.08.30	25.08.30	BF3385	BF3431	Edward Fowler
	Milan	04.09.30	20.12.30	BF3432	BF3750	Edward Fowler J H Ellis
<b>LATVIA &amp; ESTONIA</b>	Riga	Oct/Nov 1928		BS3010	BS3088	Harry Fleming
	Reval (Tallinn)	08.06.28	14.06.28	BW1723	BW1786	A D Lawrence
<b>PERSIA (Iran)</b>	Teheran	01.04.26	20.04.26	BT2602	BT2738	MJC Alexander
	Teheran	1928	1928	BX4076	BX4217	A J Twine
	Teheran	1929	1929	BX5027	BX5299	A J Twine
	Bombay for Teheran			BD8699	BD8704	R E Beckett
	Teheran	24.10.29	12.11.29	BA155	BA368	F W Rennie
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	Lisbon	13.05.27	20.05.27	BJ676	BJ798	H E Davidson
	Lisbon	08.10.28	03.11.28	BN1	BN189	S E Tunn
	Lisbon	24.06.30	03.07.30	BS4395	BS4464	Harry Fleming
	Lisbon	17.08.30	06.09.30	BG256	BG359	Gower J E George
<b>ROMANIA</b>	București	16.05.25	19.05.25	BT1443	BT1552	MJC Alexander
	București	01.11.27	19.11.27	BK2461	BK2582	G W Dillnutt
	București	16.02.29	20.03.29	BW2213	BW2326	A D Lawrence
	București	28.01.30	12.02.30	BV921	BV1044	F C Bulkley
	Sinaia – Foizor Palace	11.08.30	18.08.30	BW3778	BW3781	A D Lawrence
<b>SCANDINAVIA and the BALTIC STATES</b>	Copenhagen	05.09.21	09.09.21	BM68	BM109	W J Beckwith
	Stockholm	06.10.21	13.10.21	BK1	BK98	G W Dillnutt
	Copenhagen	05.12.21	08.12.21	BE117	BE144	A Skelson
	Copenhagen	23.01.22	31.01.22	BM274	BM325	W J Beckwith
	Copenhagen	27.04.22	08.05.22	BM407	BM477	W J Beckwith
	Copenhagen	24.08.22	29.08.22	BE564	BE608	A Skelson
	Stockholm	01.09.22	14.09.22	BE609	BE741	A Skelson
	Copenhagen	23.10.22	28.10.22	BE742	BE787	A Skelson
	Copenhagen	11.12.22	14.12.22	BE862	BE899	A Skelson

	Copenhagen	18.3.23	15.05.23	BE984	BE1118	A Skelson
	Stockholm	18.05.23	28.05.23	BE1119	BE1209	A Skelson
	Copenhagen	30.07.23	03.08.23	BT1	BT44	A Lawrence
	Stockholm	07.09.23	21.09.23	BT45	BT148	A Lawrence
	Kristiania(Oslo)	26.09.23	02.10.23	BT149	BT180	A Lawrence
	Copenhagen	08.10.23	04.12.23	BT181	BT259	A Lawrence
	Copenhagen	27.04.24	17.05.24	BT519	BT666	A Lawrence
	Stockholm	21.05.24	29.05.24	BT667	BT745	A Lawrence
	Copenhagen	26.08.24	30.08.24	BT862	BT897	MJC Alexander
	Copenhagen	27.11.24	09.12.24	BT1030	BT1100	MJC Alexander
	Stockholm	12.12.24	18.12.24	BT1101	BT1157	MJC Alexander
	Copenhagen	29.01.25	03.02.25	BT1158	BT1184	MJC Alexander
	Copenhagen	17.04.25	26.04.25	BT1311	BT1390	MJC Alexander
	Stockholm	25.05.25	30.05.25	BT1553	BT1613	MJC Alexander
	Copenhagen	17.11.25	22.11.25	BT2181	BT2206	MJC Alexander
	Stockholm	26.11.25	01.12.25	BT2207	BT2233	MJC Alexander
	Stockholm	05.05.27	21.05.27	BK2018	BK2096	MJC Alexander
	Stockholm	16.09.27	03.10.27	BK2277	BK2390	MJC Alexander
	Copenhagen	10.10.27	20.10.27	BK2391	BK2460	MJC Alexander
	Copenhagen	21.04.28	30.04.28	BW1445	BW1522	A D Lawrence
	Stockholm	07.05.28	24.05.28	BW1523	BW1655	A D Lawrence
	Helsinki	29.05.28	04.06.28	BW1656	BW1722	A D Lawrence
	Copenhagen	25.08.28	07.09.28	BS2724	BS2875	Harry Fleming
	Stockholm	12.09.28	27.09.28	BS2876	BS3009	Harry Fleming
	Stockholm	05.12.28	13.12.38	BS3089	BS3165	Harry Fleming
	Oslo	19.01.29	02.02.29	BN190	BN287	S E Tunn
	Copenhagen	08.04.29	13.04.29	BE1300	BE1352	J H Ellis
	Goteborg	17.04.29	.04.29	BE1353	BE1445	J H Ellis
	Stockholm	30.04.29	10.05.29	BE1446	BE1531	J H Ellis
	Helsinki	15.05.29	.06.29	BE1532	BE1679	J H Ellis
	Copenhagen	14.06.29	26.06.29	BE1680	BE1768	J H Ellis
	Oslo	12.08.29	20.08.29	BE1771	BE1837	J H Ellis
	Stockholm	27.08.29	19.12.29	BE1838	BE2134	J H Ellis
	Copenhagen	17.01.30	05.02.30	BE2135	BE2259	J E Ellis
	Goteborg	10.03.30	27.03.30	BE2260	BE2385	J H Ellis
	Stockholm	04.04.30	17.05.30	BE2386	BE2481	J H Ellis
	Helsinki	26.05.30	06.06.30	BE2482	BE2565	J H Ellis
	Copenhagen	13.06.30	20.06.30	BE2566	BE2620	J H Ellis
	Oslo	18.08.30	01.09.30	BT5000	BT5106	Dickson
	Copenhagen	08.09.30	20.09.30	BT5107	BT5192	Dickson
	Stockholm	26.09.30	15.10.30	BT5193	BT5313	Dickson
<b>SERBIA</b>	Beograd	08.05.25	12.05.25	BT1391	BT1442	MJC Alexander
	Beograd	27.11.27	08.12.27	BK2583	BK2699	G W Dillnutt
	Beograd	30.03.29	14.04.29	BW2327	BW2440	A D Lawrence
<b>SPAIN</b>	Barcelona	03.10.21	28.10.21	BM110	BM190	W J Beckwith
	Oviedo	04.11.21	07.11.21	BM191	BM214	W J Beckwith
	Barcelona	19.11.21	13.12.21	BM215	BM273	W J Beckwith
	Barcelona	w.e. 04.03.22		BM326	BM406	W J Beckwith
	Barcelona	17.05.22	22.05.22	BM478	BM496	W J Beckwith
	Barcelona	09.09.22	25.09.22	BS422	BS472	Harry Fleming
	Vigo	05.06.22	08.06.22	BE442	BE459	A Skelson
	El Ferrol	12.06.22	13.06.22	BE460	BE483	A Skelson
	Madrid	17.06.22	20.06.22	BE484	BE507	A Skelson

	Barcelona	27.06.22	07.07.22	BE508	BE563	A Skelson
	Barcelona	24.10.22	30.10.22	BK1170	BK1179	G W Dillnutt
	Madrid	02.11.22	05.11.22	BK1180	BK1204	G W Dillnutt
	Barcelona	07.11.22		BK1205	BK1206	G W Dillnutt
	Barcelona	09.01.23	18.01.23	BS673	BS702	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	24.01.23	30.01.23	BS703	BS758	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	03.02.23	09.02.23	BS759	BS786	Harry Fleming
	Valencia	07.03.23	08.03.23	BS852	BS860	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	14.03.23	15.03.23	BS861	BS875	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	22.05.23	23.05.23	BP1	BP20	J Jackson
	Madrid	26.05.23	02.06.23	BP21	BP64	J Jackson
	Barcelona	06.06.23	09.06.23	BP65	BP90	J Jackson
	Madrid	14.09.23	16.09.23	BS1026	BS1031	Harry Fleming
	Valladolid	20.09.23	22.09.23	BS1032	BS1039	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	01.10.23	26.10.23	BS1040	BS1092	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	30.10.23	02.11.23	BS1093	BS1102	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	09.11.23	14.03.23	BS1103	BS1223	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	26.03.23	05.04.24	BS1224	BS1250	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	10.04.24	12.04.24	BS1251	BS1256	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	04.06.24		BS1325	BS1328	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	10.06.24	16.06.24	BS1329	BS1402	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	23.06.24	30.06.24	BS1359	BS1358	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	09.09.24	16.09.24	BS1403	BS1423	Harry Fleming
	Mallorca	25.09.24	28.09.24	BS1424	BS1435	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	02.10.24	31.10.24	BS1436	BS1490	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	04.11.24	06.11.24	BS1491	BS1506	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	12.11.24	01.12.24	BS1507	BS1525	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	16.12.24		BS1526	BS1527	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	18.12.24	26.02.25	BS1528	BS1622	Harry Fleming
	Valencia	11.03.25	13.03.25	BS1623	BS1647	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	31.03.25	03.04.25	BS1648	BS1665	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	08.04.25	24.04.25	BS1666	BS1693	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	29.04.25		BS1694	BS1697	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	25.05.25	29.05.25	BS1941'	BS1960	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	13.08.25	12.09.25	BS1961	BS2013	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	19.09.25	25.09.25	BS3014	BS2039	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	28.09.25	14.11.25	BS2040	BS2104	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	20.11.25	27.11.25	BS2105	BS2128	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	01.12.25	11.12.25	BS2129	BS2152	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	18.12.25	23.12.25	BS2153	BS2174	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	02.01.26	06.02.26	BS2175	BS2260	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	13.02.26	01.03.26	BS2261	BS2290	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	09.03.26	24.04.26	BS2291	BS2342	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	27.04.26	27.07.26	BJ360	BJ494	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	27.08.26	23.09.26	BS2343	BS2400	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	12.10.26	23.10.26	BS2401	BS2422	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	02.11.26	15.11.26	BS2423	BS2447	Harry Fleming
	Madrid	22.11.26	03.12.26	BS2448	BS2385	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	10.12.26	22.12.26	BS2486	BS2513	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	21.01.27	31.01.27	BJ495	BJ553	H E Davidson
	Madrid	11.02.27	19.03.27	BJ554	BJ626	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	05.04.27	26.04.27	BJ627	BJ654	H E Davidson
	Madrid	02.05.27	05.05.27	BJ655	BJ675	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	08.06.27	07.07.27	BJ799	BJ906	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	01.09.27	12.09.27	BJ907	BJ952	H E Davidson

	Madrid	15.09.27	13.10.27	BJ953	BJ1036	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	19.10.27	12.12.27	BJ1037	BJ1094	H E Davidson
	Montserrat	15.12.27	16.12.27	BJ1095	BJ1102	H E Davidson
	Madrid	28.12.27	01.03.28	BJ1108	BJ1301	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	07.03.28	24.03.28	BJ1302	BJ1337	H E Davidson
	Seville	02.04.28	06.04.28	BJ1338	BJ1361	H E Davidson
	Madrid	11.04.28	16.04.28	BJ1362	BJ1399	H E Davidson
	Madrid	16.04.28	04.05.28	BS2517	BS2613	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	12.05.28	30.05.28	BS2614	BS2641	Harry Fleming
	Montserrat	03.06.28	04.06.28	BS2642	BS2648	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	11.06.28	10.07.28	BS2648'	BS2723	Harry Fleming
	Barcelona	04.09.28	05.09.28	BJ1400	BJ1407	H E Davidson
	Madrid	17.09.28	20.09.28	BJ1408	BJ1426	H E Davidson
	Valencia	28.09.28	05.10.28	BJ1427	BJ1489	H E Davidson
	Madrid	12.10.28	23.10.28	BJ1490	BJ1549	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	29.10.28	10.11.28	BJ1550	BJ1586	H E Davidson
	Madrid	17.11.28	30.11.28	BJ1587	BJ1656	H E Davidson
	Oviedo	05.12.28	07.12.28	BJ1657	BJ1680	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	11.12.28	04.02.29	BJ1681	BJ1896	H E Davidson
	Madrid	11.02.29	28.02.29	BJ1897	BJ1989	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	04.03.29	04.03.29	BJ1990	BJ1993	H E Davidson
	Bilbao	09.03.29	10.03.29	BJ1994	BJ2005	H E Davidson
	San Sebastian	13.03.29	16.03.29	BJ2006	BJ2023	H E Davidson
	Madrid	21.03.29	13.04.29	BJ2024	BJ2113	H E Davidson
	?			BJ2114	BJ2126	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	23.04.29	01.05.29	BJ2127	BJ2154	H E Davidson
	?	05.05.29		BJ2155		H E Davidson
	Barcelona	10.05.29	31.05.29	BJ2156	BJ2229	H E Davidson
	Madrid	07.06.29	11.06.29	BJ2230	BJ2264	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	13.06.29	06.09.29	BJ2265	BJ2417	H E Davidson
	Valencia	11.09.29	16.09.29	BJ2418	BJ2460	H E Davidson
	Madrid	21.09.29	08.10.29	BJ2461	BJ2622	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	14.10.29	02.11.29	BJ2623	BJ2678	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	07.11.29	08.11.29	BJ2679	BJ2690	H E Davidson
	Madrid	12.11.29	22.11.29	BJ2691	BJ2780	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	02.12.29	22.12.29	BJ2781	BJ2865	H E Davidson
	Madrid	01.01.30	09.01.30	BJ2866	BJ2942	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	13.01.30	13.02.30	BJ2943	BJ3086	H E Davidson
	Madrid	15.02.30	05.03.30	BJ3087	BJ3170	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	07.03.30		BJ3171	BJ3178	H E Davidson
	Madrid	08.03.30	10.03.30	BJ3179	BJ3203	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	12.03.30	21.03.30	BJ3204	BJ3234	H E Davidson
	Madrid	26.03.30	03.04.30	BJ3235	BJ3298	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	10.04.30	03.05.30	BJ3299	BJ3386	H E Davidson
	Madrid	09.05.30	14.05.30	BJ3387	BJ3446	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	23.05.30	27.05.30	BJ3447	BJ3463	H E Davidson
	Montserrat	29.05.30		BJ3464	BJ3477	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	03.06.30	23.06.30	BJ3478	BJ3624	H E Davidson
	Barcelona	01.09.30	14.10.30	BN882	BN974	S E Tunn
	? unused			BN975	BN986	S E Tunn
	Madrid	20.10.30	31.10.30	BN987	BN1060	S E Tunn
	Barcelona	07.11.30	03.12.30	BN1061	BN1108	S E Tunn
	Madrid	04.12.30	19.12.30	BN1109	BN1158	S E Tunn
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	Zürich	09.04.29	23.04.29	BS3484	BS3614	Harry Fleming

	Zürich	25.04.30	10.05.30	BF3161	BF3255	Edward Fowler
<b>TURKEY</b>	Constantinople/ Istanbul (ALL)	31.08.27	30.09.27	BF1201	BF1483	Edward Fowler
		11.07.28	07.08.28	BF1910	BF2227	Edward Fowler
		20.02.29	12.03.29	BS3187	BS3400	Harry Fleming
		09.10.30	04.12.30	BS4465	BS4923	Harry Fleming

Some questions arise from Kelly's comments in the light of data in Company documentation:

**BG551/552:** The problem will not be apparent without reference to the detailed BG list but there is a gap in the Athens session at this point and covers an unexplained break between 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> April 1930. The reason is quite simple as a result of Hugo Strötbaum's research: the recording machine broke down and, although Hayes promptly sent a replacement to Athens via the Orient Express, that arrived when the Greek Customs were not working because of the Greek Easter holiday. Further comment might be thought superfluous. Other gaps may have equally innocuous explanations.

### **BK2679 - 2690**

The question here is whether these recordings by Anthero de Veiga and his son, Eugenio, were made in Lisbon (as Kelly states) or in Barcelona. Both father and son lived in Spain so the fact that they were Portuguese cannot, in my view, displace the Artists' Sheet entry that all 12 recordings were actually recorded in Barcelona.

### **BK3064 - 3078**

The dates for the last Paris entries appear to go backwards but that depends on the accuracy of the dating of the three Jack Hylton sides (BK3064-3067) (the first two with Maurice Chevalier) to 28<sup>th</sup> November 1930 and the Russian Military Band (BK3067-4073) and Russian Metropolitan Church Choir (BK3073-3078) to 24<sup>th</sup>. It will be noted that these are separated from the previous BK recordings by a period of 30 months (1<sup>st</sup> June 1928)!

### **BL**

The end of the BL list also raises problems. Kelly assigned 6658-6844 to Prague. That is contradicted by a number of Artists' Sheets confirming (because that is where one would have expected them to have recorded) that the artists had in fact recorded in Vienna or Brno (Brünn). The dates given by Kelly (and confirmed by Artists' Sheets) are also out of sequence.

Up to BL6770 all seems to be well. There is then a gap between 19<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December which is followed by 6771-6780 (Balalaika Orchester *Moskva*), Dol Dauber's Orchestra and other artists where the Recording Sheets confirm Vienna as the recording location up to BL6794. There is then a gap of a week before recording recommenced in Vienna on 12<sup>th</sup> December. Again, Recording Sheets confirm that 6795-6799 were recorded in Vienna on 15<sup>th</sup> or, as given by Kelly, 12<sup>th</sup> December.

The gap in time between 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> was actually occupied by a session in Brno (in German Brünn) using BL6800-6827 and which were recorded on 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> December. It involved the Moravian Teachers' Choir and an army band based in Brno. Having finished there, Larter returned to Vienna where he used up the gap in matrix numbers between BL6795 and the first Brno number BL6800 for a private recording (Reklame Aufnahme) and 4 by Roserl Berndt which Kelly dates as 12<sup>th</sup> but her recording sheet attributes to 15<sup>th</sup> December. I see no reason to doubt the Brno recording sheets and every reason to accept them: those involved were based in Brno and while it was often said that it was cheaper to bring an artist to the studio than bring the studio to him, to bring a choir and a regimental band is a rather different matter. In this instance, therefore, and for the reasons set out above based on Company documents I have no doubt that Kelly was wrong in his location identification

## **BS31-229**

This Athens session proceeded in the usual way with 10" and 12" waxes being used as appropriate. That is confirmed by the recording dates shown in the Register. The actual sequence of matrix numbers however suggests that all the 10" recordings (BS31-BS229) were made before any 12" (CS230-CS254). In fact CS230 was made on 29<sup>th</sup> January 1922, the second day of the session when over 100 10" records were yet to be made. It may be that Fleming, the engineer, did not understand the system. His previous recordings Milan (BS1-30) only involved 10" recordings so the point had not arisen. In his next session (Paris) he followed the usual practice of applying consecutive matrix numbers regardless of size. An ancillary problem for Hayes arose when he despatched the first group of 12" recordings (CW237-241) on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1922 for processing. It appears that those numbers could not have been allocated prior to despatch: Fleming would not have known how many 10" numbers he would need for recordings yet to be made. But if the recordings in that consignment bore no matrix numbers one wonders how Hayes were able to identify them on their arrival unless the Weekly Returns contained the relevant information.

### **A BT/CT problem:**

In his BT/CT matrix list Kelly states on the first page that these were recorded by Alexander (from 1923 to 1928) and William Dickson (in 1930) but on the next page he states "Recorded by A D Lawrence" and sets out the relevant locations until 1928 (BT4198). Recordings do not resume until August 1930 in Oslo (BT5000) by which time Dickson had taken over.

In the BW/CW list A D Lawrence is given as the user from 1926-1930 and the first entry records him as working in Berlin between 07.05.26 and 16.12.27 (1-1444). This is misleading: it was not one continuous session and I have amended the dates in the Berlin section accordingly although I have ignored gaps of less than a week in analysing his work load. On 8<sup>th</sup> June he was working in Berlin: he could not have recorded Jarmila Novotna in Prague on the same day or used the BT/CT series to do so. Equally, he could not have made the Budapest recordings later in June using BT/CT: on the relevant dates he was actively engaged in recording in Berlin.

Artists' Sheets confirm that the pre-1930 BT/CT recordings were made by Alexander. I concluded that reference to Lawrence in the BT/CT list should be deleted.

### **Two BX/CX problems:**

In his BX/CX location list Kelly followed the 1928 Teheran session with sessions at Istanbul and Cairo. He omitted the Baghdad session. He followed the 1929 Teheran session with another in Istanbul and again omitted the Baghdad one. In fact the matrix numbers used at Teheran and Baghdad cover BX4076-BX4449: there were no sessions by Twine in Istanbul or Cairo. Twine then visited Bombay where he recorded BX4451-5025 and returned to make the 1929 recordings in Teheran and Baghdad before returning to India. Again the Teheran and Baghdad sessions take up all the matrix numbers between his two Indian visits and there is no room for any Istanbul visit. I have discussed this with Hugo Strötbaum and we agree that there were no Cairo or Istanbul sessions undertaken by Twine. Strötbaum hazarded the thought that, since the Baghdad recordings were issued in the Turkish AX (double-sided), series Kelly may have been misled into thinking they had been recorded in Turkey. But that does not explain why he chose to omit the Baghdad sessions (fully documented in the Archive and referred to by Kinnear) and neither of us can think why he included a Cairo session.

## **Austria 1927**

In his German Catalogue (repeated in his CD-ROM version) Kelly identifies BK2097-2233 as Prague recordings and BK2234-2276 as Vienna in his location diaries. In his BK list diary and in the detailed listing, however, he correctly runs the two sessions into one and allocates all of them to Prague. Jacques Rotter and Georg Kober (with Mijat Mijatović, a Serbian tenor) were the only artists to record on BK2234-2276 and the Artists' Sheets for all three confirm that BK2097-2276 were made in Prague although there was a break of 10 days between BK2233 and BK2234.

### Table 3 : The Bb/Cc matrix series

If the main object of Table 2 was to identify in what locations experts worked at particular times in order to establish where and when HMV made recordings, the basic answer in relation to this series is that they were all made in the U.K. (and Dublin) albeit by different (generally unidentified) experts. That said, the existence of over 21,000 such recordings seems to deserve comment.

The first point to be noted is that HMV pre-allocated series of matrix numbers to different recording venues in London. The second is to appreciate that recording work proceeded at different rates in those venues so that the sequences did not proceed in strictly chronological order. Once a block was used up it was necessary to move forward to the next block which had been pre-allocated to that venue; that could result in a jump of several hundred numbers. It follows that one recording session could produce matrix numbers reflecting that jump so that, appearances to the contrary, two matrix numbers, separated by a wide numerical margin, can belong to the same recording session. So, for example, on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1927 the Victor Olof Solist Sextet made 3 recordings in C Studio at the Small Queen's Hall. The first two were numbered Bb9598 and Bb9599 but 9600 was reserved for use at B Studio at Hayes and had in fact been used on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1926 by Marjorie Hayward, the violinist. So the third Victor Olof recording was assigned Bb9800, a not insignificant jump from 9599.

As with the other series detailed above, Bb/Cc proceeded in the same numerical sequence regardless of record size: there were no longer two sequences, one for 10" the other for 12".

Where it differs considerably is that different experts used it so that it is not possible to identify the expert involved in a particular recording from the matrix prefix alone. The requirement under the earlier HO series (itself broken into separate 10" and 12" numerical sequences) that experts to attach their identifying letters as a suffix (HO212af) is now discontinued. Where Artists' Sheets (also known as Recording Sheets) are available they usually name the expert(s) involved.

Within the Bb/Cc series are a number of other prefixes used within the one numerical sequence to identify certain recordings intended for publication under other company names and of sizes other than 10" and 12":

#### Other prefixes included within the Bb/Cc numerical series:

Aa		not used, probably intended for 7" and forgotten
Bb	10"	Gramophone Company (HMV)
Cc	12"	Gramophone Company (HMV)
Dd	7"	Gramophone Company (HMV)
Ee	6"	Pressed for Homophone and minor labels
Hh	10"	Pressed for Homophone
Jj	12"	Pressed for Homophone
Yy	10"	Zonophone
Zz	12"	Zonophone

#### Recording Sessions - Locations.

1	to	892	15.03.21	to	12.01.22	Hayes, Room 1
893	to	896	12.01.22	to	12.01.22	Croydon
897	to	1395	13.01.22	to	29.05.22	Hayes, Room 1
1396	to	1400	26.05.22	to	26.05.22	Mostyn House School, Parkgate
1401	to	2749	30.05.22	to	27.03.23	Hayes, Room 1
2750			28.03.23			Buckingham Palace, London
2751	to	3000	28.03.23	to	17.05.23	Hayes, Room 1
3001	to	3733	17.05.23	to	29.10.23	Hayes, Room 1/Room 2
3734			27.10.23			Hotel Cecil, London

3735	to	4492	29.10.23	to	23.04.24	Hayes, Room 1/Room 2
4493	to	4510	23.04.24	to	23.04.24	Hayes (broadcast from Wembley)
4511	to	4814	24.04.24	to	01.07.24	Hayes, Room 1/Room 2
4815			01.07.24			York House, London (the Prince of Wales)
4816	to	6500	02.07.24	to	12.08.25	Hayes, Room 1/Room 2/Studio B
6501	to	9199	12.08.25	to	03.11.26	A, B, C Studios
9200	to	9599	10.09.26	to	06.01.27	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
9600	to	9799	03.11.26	to	23.12.26	B Studio, Hayes
9800	to	9999	06.01.27	to	07.02.27	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
10000	to	10400	23.12.26	to	11.04.27	B Studio, Hayes
10401	to	10600	07.03.27	to	29.03.27	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
10601	to	10800	12.04.27	to	02.06.27	B Studio, Hayes
10801	to	11000	29.04.27	to	29.06.27	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
11001	to	11200	02.06.27	to	19.08.27	B Studio, Hayes
11201	to	11400	29.06.27	to	19.09.27	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
11401	to	11600	19.08.27	to	11.10.27	B Studio, Hayes
11601	to	11800	19.09.27	to	10.11.27	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
11801	to	11999	11.10.27	to	05.12.27	B Studio, Hayes
12000	to	12200	10.11.27	to	05.01.28	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
12201	to	12400	05.12.27	to	23.01.28	B Studio, Hayes
12401	to	12600	05.01.28	to	01.03.28	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
12601	to	12800	24.01.28	to	01.03.28	B Studio, Hayes
12801	to	13000	01.03.28	to	01.06.28	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
13001	to	13600	01.03.28	to	28.06.28	B Studio, Hayes
13601	to	13800	07.06.28	to	13.11.28	Kingsway Hall, etc, London
13801	to	14000	06.6.28	to	19.07.28	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
14001	to	14200	28.6.28	to	.08.28	B Studio, Hayes
14201	to	14400	19.7.28	to	28.09.28	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
14401	to	14600	.08.28	to	17.10.28	B Studio, Hayes
14601	to	14800	28.9.28	to	03.12.28	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
14801	to	15000	17.10.28	to	27.11.28	B Studio, Hayes
15001	to	15200	13.11.28	to	15.04.29	Kingsway Hall, London
15201	to	15400	28.11.28	to	16.01.29	A Studio, Hayes
15401	to	15600	03.12.28	to	28.01.29	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
15601	to	15800	16.01.29	to	18.02.29	A Studio, Hayes
15801	to	16000	28.01.29	to	08.03.29	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
16001	to	16200	18.02.29	to	08.04.29	A Studio, Hayes
16201	to	16400	08.03.29	to	25.04.29	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
16401	to	16600	08.04.29	to	21.06.29	A Studio, Hayes
16601	to	16800	17.04.29	to	07.10.29	Kingsway Hall, London
16801	to	17000	25.04.29	to	14.06.29	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
17001	to	17101	27.05.29	to	05.06.29	?D Studio, Small Queen's Hall
17102	to	17400	16.06.29	to	02.10.29	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
17401	to	17800	21.06.29	to	21.11.29	A Studio, Hayes
17801	to	18000	07.10.29	to	17.01.30	Kingsway Hall, London
18001	to	18200	02.10.29	to	21.11.29	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
18201	to	18400	21.11.29	to	26.02.30	A Studio, Hayes
18401	to	18600	22.11.29	to	24.01.30	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
18601	to	18800	17.01.30	to	28.05.30	Kingsway Hall, London
18801	to	19000	27.01.30	to	01.04.30	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
19001	to	19200	26.02.30	to	02.05.30	A Studio, Hayes
19201	to	19400	01.04.30	to	19.06.30	A Studio, Hayes
19401	to	19600	22.05.30	to	29.08.30	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
19601	to	19800	28.05.30	to	09.10.30	Kingsway Hall, London
19801	to	20000	10.06.30	to	12.09.30	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall
20001	to	20200	29.08.30	to	29.09.30	A Studio, Hayes
20201	to	20400	12.09.30	to	19.11.30	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall

20401	to	20580	29.09.30	to	22.12.30	A Studio, Hayes
20601	to	20741	08.10.30	to	.12.30	Kingsway Hall, London
20801	to	20816	13.11.30	to	14.11.30	Theatre Royal, Dublin
21001	to	21113	19.11.30	to	31.12.30	C Studio, Small Queen's Hall

**Table 4 : The U.K. Relay series BR/CR**

A brief analysis of the BR/CR series shows that it proceeded by analogy with Bb/Cc in blocks with jumps where necessary (see Note to Table 3). Suffice to say that while other countries simply added "R" to the expert's identifying letters, in the United Kingdom (maybe because of an anticipation that there would be a substantial volume of U.K. Relay Recordings) they were allocated a separate series. As things turned out there were over 2,900 such recordings.

One difference from Kelly's Bb/Cc list is that his BR/CR list generally identifies the recording engineer(s) involved in each exercise. More often than not, outside relays involved two engineers, one at the recording location and the other at the receiving studio. Contact between the two was by means of a land line. For later "outside" recordings it was not unusual for the HMV mobile van to take one recording while another would be sent through the telephone system. It seems that both came from the same microphone so the possibility of manufacturing a "stereo" effect is effectively precluded. The object was presumably to have a reserve in case something went wrong with one recording. Christopher Dymont "Toscanini in Britain" (2012) provides a detailed analysis of these systems as used in the mid to late 1930's for Toscanini's recordings with the BBC Orchestra

Kelly's summary and explanatory note are as follows:

Matrix numbers were allocated in the following blocks:

1	to	652	relayed to Gloucester House	28.10.25	to	02.09.26
653	to	999	Queen's Hall	14.09.26	to	26.02.27
1000	to	1199	Mobile Van	07.02.27	to	21.11.27
1200	to	1800	Queen's Hall	26.02.27	to	30.04.28
1801	to	2000	Mobile Van	21.11.27	to	20.09.28
2001	to	2200	Queen's Hall	30.04.28	to	17.05.29
2201	to	2400	Mobile Van	25.09.28	to	21.08.29
2401	to	2519	Queen's Hall	17.05.29	to	18.06.30
2520	to	2999	Unused – see below			
2601	to	2911	Mobile Van	21.08.29	to	22.12.30

Kelly's Note: Use of the small Queen's Hall ended with 2519, matrixes 2520 to 2600 remaining unused. The names of the recording experts in charge of each session are given when these are known from the Recording sheets. At a rough count there were about twenty-five of them, but it is not possible to be certain, since initials often differ against the same name and "Mr Dixon" and "Mr Dickson" may eventually turn out to be the same person.

## PART TWO: 1931-1934: 0B/2B TO 0Z-2Z

It should be noted that the "0" and "2" in each series relates to size of the record so that the "0" is a number not a letter: the use of "O" will defeat any computer search.

**Table 1 : List of experts with their identifying letters and overall recording periods**

10"	12"		From - To	Start	Finish
0B	2B	Various (Head Office)	1-7821	01.01.31	24.07.34
0BR	2BR	Non-studio locations U.K.	1-340	11.01.31	27.06.34
0C	2C	George Corran	1-6218	01.31	1933
0D	2D	Robert Edward Beckett	1-2123	08.01.31	08.06.34
0E	2E	S K Sen [see note below]			
0F	2F	E Fowler	1-519	02.01.31	15.07.31
0G	2G	Ernest Gower	1-1020	01.01.31	08.07.31
0H	2H	Arthur Spottiswood Clarke	1-8	25.08.32	27.08.32
0J	2J	Horace Frank Chown	1-1270	02.09.31	July 34
0K	2K	George Walter Dillnutt	1-1544	05.01.31	05.01.33
0L	2L	Douglas Ewen Larter Arthur Spottiswood Clarke	1-849	02.01.31	06.06.34
2M	2M	Carey Charles Blyton	1-1449	25.08.31	30.06.33
0N	2N	Sidney Edwin Tunn	1-705	07.01.31	23.03.32
0NX		? (Australia)	1-2	06.12.31	
0PA	2PA	Gustav Jonasson	1-274	May 32	27.07.34
0PD	2PD	[Pathé Recording Studio, Paris]	1-14	11.07.32	16.01.34
0PF	2PF	C J Anderson William Laybourne Ewing Dickson	1-221	02.09.32	Jan. 1934
0PG	2PG	George Wooliscroft Deakin	1-1725	15.09.32	30.06.39
0T	2T	Albert Conrad Dickson	1-1761	14.01.31	01.-8.34
0U	2U	Capt. Hampton Sanders	Indian recordings; few details traced		
0W	2W	Arthur Douglas Lawrence, etc.	1-2600	21.04.31	05.07.34
0WX	2WX	Wilhelm Starkmann	1-780	20.08.31	25.06.34
0X	2X	A J Twine (Dutch East Indies)	1-	April 33	
0Z	2Z	Horace Frank Chown	1-214	05.04.33	18.06.33

**0E:** No details available save that it used several sub-series involving recordings in India for various different organisations: Kelly quotes data from Michael Kinnear as follows -

0E	1 - ?	Calcutta
0ET/2ET		Recordings made for the Talking Picture Company
0CE		Recordings made for the Columbia Graphophone Company Ltd.
0HE		Recordings made for Hindustan Musical Products
0ME		Recordings made for the Megaphone Company
0EOBE		Recordings made by Max Birkhahn of Carl Linström AG, Berlin (HMP series)
0MOBE		Recordings made by Max Birkhahn of Carl Linström AG, Berlin (TMC series)

**Table 2 : Recording Diary 1931-July 1934 by Country**

The following Diary of Recording Sessions excludes sessions in the U.K. (see Tables 3 and 4). Each individual matrix series lists the locations visited by the experts chronologically but this list proceeds by country in the following sequence:

1. Austria
2. Australia

- |     |                     |     |                                   |
|-----|---------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 3.  | Bulgaria            | 13. | Italy                             |
| 4.  | Czechoslovakia      | 14. | Latvia                            |
| 5.  | Egypt               | 15. | Persia (Iran)                     |
| 6.  | France              | 16. | Romania                           |
| 7.  | French North Africa | 17. | Scandinavia and The Baltic States |
| 8.  | Germany             | 18. | Serbia                            |
| 9.  | Greece              | 19. | Spain                             |
| 10. | Holland and Belgium | 20. | Switzerland                       |
| 11. | Hungary             | 21. | Turkey                            |
| 12. | Iraq                |     |                                   |

Country	Place	Session Dates		Matrix Series/Nos.		Expert
		From	To	From	To	
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	Vienna	02.01.31	27.06.31	0L1	0L303	D E Larter + A S Clarke
	Vienna	20.08.31	23.09.31	0WX1	0WX56	Starkmann
	Vienna	22.09.31	21.09.31	0L304	0L311	
	Vienna	01.12.31	16.12.31	0WX175	0WX193	Starkmann
	Vienna	09.03.32	11.03.32	0WX194	0WX205	Starkmann
	Vienna	08.04.32	05.10.32	0WX250	0WX332	Starkmann
	Vienna	24.11.32	08.02.33	0WX391	0WX434	Starkmann
	Vienna (for Budapest)	13.03.33		0WX435	0WX440	Starkmann
	Vienna	13.03.33	30.03.33	0WX441	0WX448	Starkmann
	Vienna	02.07.33	21.08.33	0WX508	0WX518	Starkmann
	Vienna	20.09.33	29.09.33	0WX581	0WX608	Starkmann
	Vienna	31.10.33	25.01.34	0WX621	0WX659	Starkmann
	Vienna	01.04.34	25.06.34	0WX700	0WX780	Starkmann
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	"For Australia"	06.12.31	06.12.31	0NX1	0NX2	?
<b>CZECH</b>	Prague	29.09.31	17.10.31	0WX57	0WX134	Starkmann
	Prague	23.03.32	30.03.32	0WX206	0WX249	Starkmann
	Prague	20.10.32	05.11.32	0WX333	0WX390	Starkmann
	Prague	06.06.33	29.06.33	0WX449	0WX507	Starkmann
	Prague	15.03.34	24.03.34	0WX660	0WX699	Starkmann
<b>EGYPT</b>	Cairo	06.04.31	23.04.31	0K127	0K250	G W Dillnutt
	Cairo	15.03.32	14.04.32	0K785	0K1134	G W Dillnutt
	Cairo	02.01.33	05.01.32	0K1483	0K1544	G W Dillnutt
<b>FRANCE</b>	Paris	05.01.31	20.01.31	0K1	0K126	G W Dillnutt
	Paris	21.01.31	21.04.31	0G72	0G629	E Gower
	St Jean de Luz	27.04.31	29.04.31	0G630	0G659	E Gower
	Toulouse	04.05.31	06.05.31	0G660	0G699	E Gower
	Marseille	11.05.31	14.05.31	0G700	0G741	E Gower
	Fréjus	19.05.31	21.05.31	0G742	0G749	E Gower
	Toulon	27.05.31	28.05.31	0G750	0G772	E Gower
	Paris	03.06.31	08.07.31	0G773	0G1020	E Gower
	Paris	01.09.31	03.05.32	0W349	0W1587	A D Lawrence
	Quimper	22.08.32	25.08.32	0W1588	0W1622	
	Paris	15.09.32	08.06.33	0PG1	0PG829	G W Deakin
	Dijon	13.06.33	14.06.33	0PG830	0PG846	G W Deakin

	Paris	20.06.33	06.07.34	0PG847	0PG1714	G W Deakin
	Brest	29.08.32	08.09.33	0W1623	0W1651	G W Deakin
	Monte Carlo	25.08.32	27.05.32	0H1	0H8	A S Clarke
	Paris	20.05.32	08.06.32	0L312	0L414	D E Larter + A S Clarke
	Paris	30.06.39	30.06.39	0PG1719	0PG1725	G W Deakin
<b>FRENCH NORTH AFRICA</b>	Casablanca	01.01.31	04.01.31	0G1	0G71	E Gower
	Algiers	28.09.32	1933	0W1652	0W1867	A D Lawrence
<b>GERMANY</b>	Berlin	08.01.31	03.06.32	0D1	0D961	
	Frankfurt-am-Main	21.07.32	24.07.32	0D962	0D1035	
	Berlin	04.08.32	08.06.34	0D1036	0D2123	
<b>GREECE</b>	Athens	11.05.31	14.06.31	0W82	0W348	A D Lawrence
	Athens	04.05.32	10.05.32	0K1135	0K1194	G W Dillnutt
	Athens	23.11.33	13.01.34	0T1327	0T1549	A C Dickson
	Athens	25.06.34	01.08.34	0T1580	0T1761	A C Dickson
<b>HOLLAND &amp; BELGIUM</b>	Brussels	15.03.32	23.03.32	0N646	0N705	S E Tunn
<b>HUNGARY</b>	Budapest	30.10.31	05.11.31	0WX135	0WX170	Starkmann
	Budapest	23.10.33	25.10.33	0WX609	0WX620	Starkmann
<b>INDIA</b>	Calcutta	1932	1932	0L415	0L48	D E Larter + A S Clarke
<b>IRAQ</b>	Baghdad	16.11.31	01.12.31	0C2206	0C2401	George Corran
	Baghdad	05.04.33	14.04.33	0Z1	0Z88	H F Chown
<b>ITALY</b>	Milan	02.02.31	06.02.31	0F1	0F80	E Fowler
	Milan (by radio from Rome)	12.02.31	12.02.31	0F81	0F111	E Fowler
	Milan	16.02.31	15.06.31	0F112	0F495	E Fowler
	Milan (for Malta)	09.06.31	12.06.31	(0F450	0F492)	E Fowler
	Rome: Santa Maria degli Angeli	22.06.31	25.06.31	0F497	0F509	E Fowler
	Milan	08.07.23	15.07.31	0F510	0F519	E Fowler
	Naples	25.08.31	05.09.31	0M1	0M74	C C Blyton
	Milan	18.09.31	30.06.33	0M75	0M1449	C C Blyton
	Naples	23.08.33	06.09.33	0W1868	0W1958	A D L
Milan	13.09.33	05.07.34	0W1959	0W2600	ADL	
<b>PERSIA (Iran)</b>	Teheran	11.03.33	18.06.33	0Z89	0Z214	H F Chown
<b>ROMANIA</b>	Bucureşti	25.11.31	25.11.31	0WX171	0WZX174	Starkmann
	Bucureşti	27.08.33	09.33	0WX519	0WX580	Starkmann
<b>SCANDINAVIA and THE BALTIC STATES</b>	Copenhagen	14.01.31	Jan.31	0T1	0T86	A C Dickson
	Stockholm	03.02.31	22.05.31	0T87	0T214	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	27.05.31	10.06.31	0T215	0T300	A C Dickson
	Oslo	15.08.31	21.08.31	0T301	0T356	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	25.08.31	10.09.31	0T357	0T467	A C Dickson

	Stockholm	14.09.31	19.09.31	0T468	0T508	A C Dickson
	Stockholm	07.01.32	15.01.32	0T509	0T563	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	19.01.32	30.01.32	0T564	0T638	A C Dickson
	Stockholm	May 32	17.10.32	0P1	0P60	G Jpnasson
	Copenhagen	06.05.32	18.05.32	0T639	0T702	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	02.09.32	09.09.32	0PF1	0PF48	C J Anderson W L E Dickson
	Copenhagen	05.11.32	07.11.32	0P61	0P81	G Jpnasson
	Stockholm	Nov.32	27.07.34	0P82	0P274	G Jpnasson
	Oslo	16.09.32	24.09.32	0PF49	0PF103	C J Anderson W L E Dickson
	Copenhagen	17.01.33	25.03.33	0PF104	0PF176	C J Anderson W L E Dickson
	Copenhagen	15.05.33	23.05.33	0T1206	0T1225	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	12.07.33	14.07.23	0T1226	0T1251	A C Dickson
	Oslo	02.09.33	09.09.33	0T1252	0T1293	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	21.09.33	29.09.33	0T1294	0T1326	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	23.11.33	20.01.34	0PF177	0PF221	C J Anderson W L E Dickson
	Copenhagen	20.03.34	23.03.34	0T1550	0T1579	A C Dickson
	Copenhagen	29.05.34	06.06.34	0L816	0L849	D E Larter + A S Clarke
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>	Johannesburg	01.10.32	14.02.33	0T703	0T1205	A C Dickson
<b>SPAIN</b>		02-09-31	July 34	0J1	0J1270	H F Chown
	Barcelona	07.01.31	20.02.31	0N1	0N173	S E Tunn
	Madrid	25.02.31	11.03.31	0N174	0N249	S E Tunn
	Barcelona	20.03.31	22.04.31	0N250	0N409	S E Tunn
	Madrid	25.04.31	09.05.31	0N410	0N483	S E Tunn
	Granada	15.05.31	19.05.31	0N484	0N525	S E Tunn
	Madrid	May 31	29.05.31	0N526	0N547	S E Tunn
	Barcelona	10.06.31	22.06.31	0N548	0N600	S E Tunn
	Madrid	25.06.31	03.07.31	0N601	0N645	S E Tunn
<b>SWITZERLAND</b>	Zürich	21.04.31	02.05.31	0W1	0W81	A D Lawrence +
	Zürich	21.04.34	11.05.34	0L680	0L813	D E Larter + A S Clarke
<b>TURKEY</b>	Istanbul	18.05.31	17.06.31	0K250	0K472	G W Dillnutt
	Istanbul	23.11.31	21.12.31	0K473	0K784	G W Dillnutt
	Istanbul	07.10.33	22.10.33	0L507	0L679	D E Larter + A S Clarke
	Istanbul	20.08.32	27.09.32	0K1195	0K1482	G W Dillnutt
	Istanbul	02.01.33	05.01.33	0K1483	0K1544	G W Dillnutt

**Notes:**

**Australia:** Kelly specifically entered "for Australia" with no actual venue. The artists John Henry and Gladys Horridge regularly recorded in London. For those reasons I am inclined to attribute them to London but their other recordings used regular London matrix numbers.

**France:** the last OPG recordings were of the Hot Club de France. Recorded on 30<sup>th</sup> June 1939 they should not have been allocated OPG numbers but rather the French OLA series. In fact Cailly used that series on the same day for four recordings by Jean Lumière at the Studio Albert. It is not clear where the Hot Club recordings were made.

It happens not infrequently that, within a particular session, days or in some cases weeks or months can go by with no recordings being made. For example, Starkmann's session in Vienna beginning at 0WX175 on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1931 broke off between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> (183/184) and again between 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> (191/192) when it stopped. It did not resume until 9<sup>th</sup> March 1932 but then used his next matrix number as though the session had been continuous – as indeed Kelly lists it.

Starkmann is a somewhat enigmatic figure. Gaisberg, writing about recording the Dvořák cello concerto with Casals and Szell in Prague in 1937, described him as "our local assistant" ("A Voice in Time", 219). Certainly his recording activities extended to Vienna, Prague, Budapest and Bucharest. At a later time he regularly used Columbia Graphophone forms on which to note his activities and there seems to have been much more interaction between HMV and Columbia in those cities. It may be wondered if he spent time making recordings for Columbia which might explain the gaps in his HMV recording history. Certainly by December 1937, he made 22 recordings in Bucharest (0HD1-22) noted on HMV monthly returns as having been made "For Columbia Graphophone Company" although they were in fact issued by HMV which (another twist in the story) issued catalogues covering recordings by both companies.

**OK250:** was used twice, once in Cairo and again in Istanbul

### Table 3 : The 0B/2B matrix series

For the basics, please refer to the Part One Table 3. The same general principles apply

1	to	200	01.01.31	to	28.04.31	A Studio, Hayes	(from Yy20580)
201	to	400	01.01.31	to	03.03.31	C Studio (small Queen's Hall))	(from Bb21113)
401	to	600	.01.31	to	25.06.31	Kingsway Hall	(from Yy20741)
601	to	1000	03.03.31	to	12.06.31	C Studio (small Queen's Hall)	
1001	to	1201	30.04.31	to	02.11.31	A Studio, Hayes	
1201	to	1400	16.06.31	to	23.09.31	C Studio (small Queen's Hall)	
1401	to	1600	26.06.31	to	.04.32	Kingsway Hall	
1601	to	1644	23.08.31	to	07.09.31	A Studio, Hayes	
1645	to	1800	10.09.31	to	09.11.31	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road	
1801	to	2000		to		Not found	
2001	to	2200	.08.31	to	18.02.32	No 1 Studio, Abbey Road	
2201	to	2400	03.11.31	to	19.08.32	Small Queen's Hall	
2401	to	2800	09.11.31	to	.03.32	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road	
2801	to	3000	18.02.32	to	28.07.32	No 1 Studio, Abbey Road	
3001	to	3200	29.02.32	to	.09.32	No 2 Studio, Abbey Road	
3201	to	3400	.03.32	to	19.05.32	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road	
3401	to	3587	.04.32	to	11.07.34	Kingsway Hall	
3588	to	3600				Not found	
3601	to	3800	29.06.32	to	09.06.33	No 4 Machine Room, Abbey Road	
3801	to	4000	.08.32	to	19.10.32	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road	
4001	to	4200	28.08.32	to	18.05.33	No 1 Studio, Abbey Road	
4201	to	4400	.09.32	to	13.01.33	No 2 Studio, Abbey Road	
4401	to	4600	19.10.32	to	03.01.33	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road	
4601	to	4800	18.05.33	to	01.03.34	No 1 Studio, Abbey Road	

4801	to 5000	17.07.33	to 07.03.34	No 4 Machine Room, Abbey Road
5001	to 5200	23.06.33	to 29.11.33	No 2 Studio, Abbey Road
5201	to 5394	04.07.33	to 18.10.33	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road
5395	to 5400	26.10.33	to 26.10.33	Transfer Room, Abbey Road
5401	to 5600	26.10.33	to 06.02.34	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road
5602	to 5740	08.11.33	to 24.07.34	No 4 Machine Room, Abbey Road
5741	to 5800			Not found
5801	to 6000	29.11.33	to 23.05.34	No 2 Studio, Abbey Road
6001	to 6200	08.02.34	to 09.05.34	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road
6201	to 6400	03.01.33	to 10.04.33	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road (following 4600)
6401	to 6600	13.01.33	to 20.06.33	No 2 Studio, Abbey Road
6601	to 6800	10.04.33	to 04.07.33	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road
6801	to 7000	23.02.34	to 29.06.34	No 1 Studio, Abbey Road
7001	to 7162	07.03.34	to 18.08.34	No 4 Machine Room, Abbey Road (end of block)
7201	to 7314	09.05.34	to 16.07.34	No 3 Studio, Abbey Road (end of block)
7401	to 7455	25.05.34	to 19.07.34	No 2 Studio, Abbey Road (end of block)
7801	to 7820	29.06.34	to 24.07.34	No 1 Studio, Abbey Road (end of series)

Recordings "made" in the Machine Room are just that, made not recorded. Examples include composite transfers from pre-existing HMV recordings made elsewhere to form Exhibition records for HMV dealers or processing what were originally test records for publication. They also include a wealth of BBC recordings which replace 0B/2B by 0BBC/2BBC (in the same numerical series) to indicate their origin and/or destination. It seems that the BBC regularly recorded programmes using the Blattnerphone wire system and that they used HMV to convert them into gramophone records playing either at 78 (which could be made available to the public) or, more often, 60 rpm presumably for use by the BBC.

The first use of a BBC recording seems to have been on 5<sup>th</sup> September 1932 when a BBC programme "Ellan Vannin through the Ages" was transferred into 78 form on 2BBC3641-3646 and privately issued on HG20-22. The first English performance of Wozzeck given by the BBC Symphony Orchestra (Adrian Boult) at the Queen's Hall on 14<sup>th</sup> March 1934 was recorded on Blattnerphone and transferred to 2BBC7022 etc. recordings playing at 60 rpm and so unsuitable for public issue. This practice continued after 1934 when the 0EA/2EA series incorporated 0BBC/2BBC for BBC recordings.

2B5395 to 2B5400 were transfers of a public performance by Gracie Fields at the Holborn Empire on 11<sup>th</sup> October 1933 which were then issued to the public on C2525-2627.

It will be noted that 4801-5000 concluded on 7<sup>th</sup> March 1934 (with a BBC talk on Dutch Cheeses) and recommenced at 7001 on the same day (Talk on Cumberland Sheep) but that 5602-5740 was a sequence used between those two sequences. While the 4801 and 7001 series included BBC material, the intervening 5602 series did not but was limited to HMV recordings. 5601 has not been traced.

Why some recordings were made in the Transfer Room is unclear: the Sunday Express astrologer, Robert H Naylor made a number of recordings there including "Choosing a husband by the stars" but that seems to be a normal recording issued on B4496. Relays from the Queen's Hall were generally put into the 0BR series but, for some reason, Koussevitzky's 15<sup>th</sup> May 1933 performance of Sibelius Symphony No 7 was relayed to No 3 and No 4 Machine Rooms and processed into 2B rather than 2BR recordings which would have been more usual for relay recordings at that period. Similarly a public performance of Sibelius's 4<sup>th</sup> Symphony by the Finnish National Symphony Orchestra (George Schneevoight) at the Queen's Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1934 was relayed to No 4 Machine Room and recorded on 2B7064-7075.

#### **Table 4 : The U.K. Relay series 1931-1934**

Kelly notes –

"This series succeeded the earlier BR/CR series and is a direct continuation. The recordings in this series were made in different locations, ex-studio, the letter R in the prefix indicating a **Relay** from the location of the performance to the recording machines situated in a studio remote from the performance. Connections were by landline. The studio used was probably in the small Queen's Hall in London. For more distant locations the Company designed its celebrated Mobile Van which was virtually unlimited in its range of travel."

The Register no longer gives the names of the recording engineers involved.

### **A final warning**

It might be thought that checking any matrix number against the relevant Table will identify the place and period during which it was recorded. While that will be appropriate in identifying the location, it is not always appropriate in relation to identifying the recording date of a particular pressing of a record. The Tables will (or should) identify the period during which the first take was made but later takes may have been made at subsequent sessions which may or may not be within that period. A repeat of a recording made in a particular location by a particular expert is likely to have been assigned the same matrix number as the first recording but with a later take number; a repeat made by a different expert will, by definition, have to carry the new expert's code and a new number.

J.M.  
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