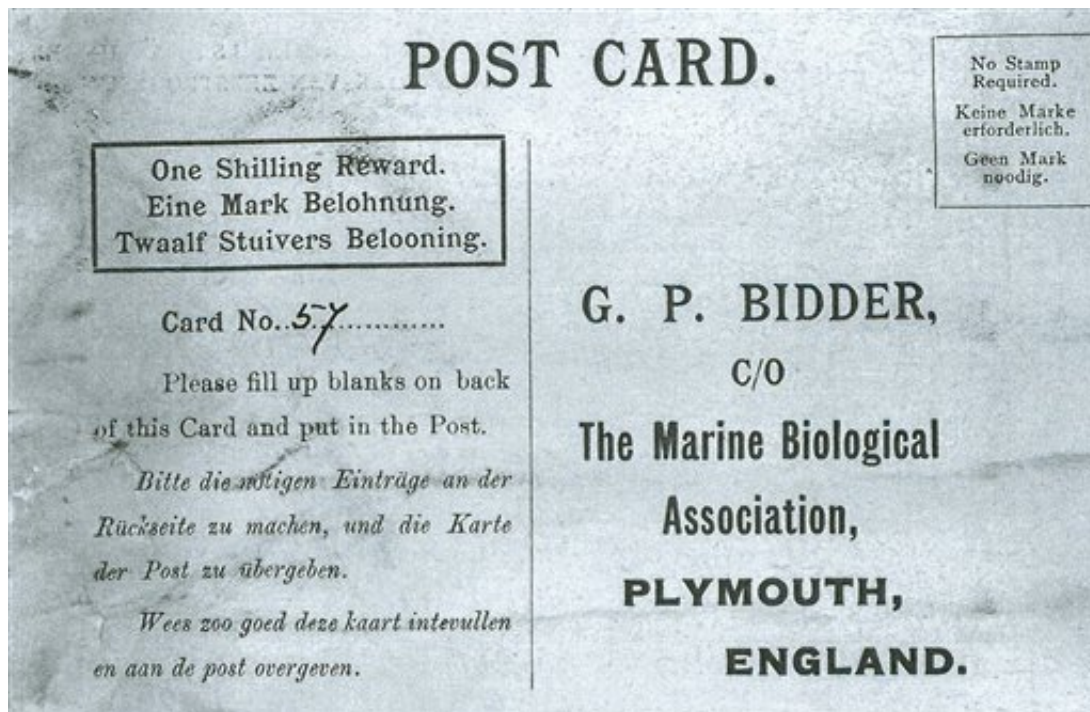


# UK marine researchers receive 'oldest message in a bottle'

August 21 2015, by Sylvia Hui



This is an image of a message that was found in a bottle from the The Marine Biological Association of the UK made available on Friday Aug. 21 2015. The century-old message in a bottle, possibly the oldest ever found, has finally reached its destination. Tossed into the North Sea sometime between 1904 and 1906, the bottle washed up on the beach in the German town of Amrum, and was found by a couple in April. Inside they found a postcard asking that it be sent to the Marine Biological Association of the U.K., which they did. (Marine Biological Association of the U.K. via AP)

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"We were very excited," Guy Baker, a spokesman for the group, said Friday. "We certainly weren't expecting to receive any more of the postcards."

Baker said the bottle was one of some 1,000 released into the North Sea by researcher George Parker Bidder, who later became the association's president. The bottles were weighed down to float just above the sea bed, and used as part of a study into the movement of sea currents.

Inside each bottle was a postcard promising a "one shilling reward" to anyone who returned it to the association, along with information about where and when they found the bottle. Most bottles were trawled up by fishermen and returned decades ago, Baker said.

The association is now looking into having the Guinness Book of Records recognize the message in a bottle as the oldest ever found. The current record-holder, released in 1914 for a scientific experiment, was found 99 years later.

Meanwhile, an old shilling has been sent to the couple who found the bottle.

FISHERY INVESTIGATIONS. NO. 57. UNTERSUCHUNGEN ÜBER MEERES STRÖMUNGEN  
ONDERZOEK VAN ZEESTROOME.

Where was this bottle found?  
*Wo würde die Flasche gefunden?*  
*Waar werd deze flesch gevonden?* Insel Amrum am Strand / Odde  
im Urlaub

What depth?  
*Aus welcher Tiefe.* ✓  
*Welke diepte?* Length of haul?  
*Dauer des Netzzuges.* ✓  
*Leugte van den haal?* Direction of haul.  
*Richtung des Netzzuges.* ✓  
*Rigting van den haal?*

Was it taken in a Trawl-Net?  
*Würde sie in einem Trawlnetz erhalten?* ✗  
*Werd ze in een trek net gevonden?*

Date when found.  
*Datum des Fundes.* 17.04.2015  
*Op welke dagteekening?* What length of wire tail had it?  
*Wie lang war der freie Draht an der Flasche?* 2  
*Hoe lang was de raad staart van de flesche?*

Name and Address of Finder.  
*Namen und Adresse des Finders.*  
*Naam en adres van den vinder.* Marianne Winkler

Name of Ship.  
*Namen des Schiffes.* ✓  
*Scheeps naam?* Number of Ship.  
*Nummer des Schiffes.* ✓  
*Nommer?* Port of Ship.  
*Heimathafen des Schiffes.* ✓  
*Waar behoorende?*

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