

British Philatelic Bulletin

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Editorial

Featured in this edition of the Philatelic Bulletin is a fascinating article by L N Williams. This deals with a collecting area which is all too often not given the recognition it deserves, namely the collecting of Cinderella material which is aptly named. This article, the first in a series, specifically looks at several mid-nineteenth century 'local postage stamps' which are both interesting and unusual. If any reader is able to supply further information on these particular items, we would like to hear from them, as we are sure would Mr Williams.

Details of the Cattle stamps, the second special issue for 1984 and due to be released on 6 March, are also included in this edition. This is the same day that Super Stampex 1984 opens. There will again be a special Post Office Philatelic Sales Counter and display at the exhibition.

Looking ahead to later in the year, the article by Jean Farrugia gives a foretaste of part of the Post Office's contribution to the Liverpool International Garden Festival. Some 3 million visitors are expected at the Festival, and as well as a variety of family and other entertainments, there will also be a definite philatelic interest. Further details will be announced later, including confirmation of a proposed set of Regional postcards to be issued specially for the event.

We would also like to thank readers for responding to our request for comments on the Bulletin. We have received many useful suggestions and intend to reply to all the letters received. Some of the more immediate suggestions have already been adopted, and several others are still under consideration.

Urban Renewal Stamps Issue

For customers who wish to send their stamped and fully addressed covers in an outer envelope to Perth for cancellation, the address is as follows: Head Postmaster, Philatelic Section, Head Post Office, Copperas Hill, LIVERPOOL L3 1AA

Britain's Mysterious Local Postage Stamp

By L N Williams

One of the mysteries of Great Britain's philately and postal history is an item picturing a shield bearing the Royal Arms superimposed on a garter inscribed 'LOCAL POSTAGE STAMP', surmounted by a crown and depicted against a background of interlaced wavy lines, all within a double-lined rectangular frame measuring overall, in thirty-seconds of an inch, 31 by 37 and, in millimetres 24.75 by 29.25.

It is line-engraved and intaglio (recess) printed in monochrome on stout, white, wove paper, unwatermarked but with a fairly open mesh when viewed from the non-printed side and, in some instances, giving the impression of being ribbed or, indeed, laid paper. It is found in various colours, always imperforate and ungummed.

Usually the margins are no more than a millimetre or so wide; however, at least one example is known with margins about 5 millimetres wide.

The arms on the shield are those of England. The suggestion at one time made that the stamp was



L N Williams

produced for Scotland is, therefore, unfounded. The arms are reproduced accurately in heraldic metaphor when charges are pictured in monochrome.

Vertical lines appear behind the three lions of England, *passant gardant*, and on the body of the lion



"LOCAL POSTAGE STAMP" ESSAYS OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN. WERE THEY PRINTED IN JERSEY?



of Scotland, *rampant*; they represent *gules* (red). Dots appear on the Scottish quarter; they represent *or* (gold). Horizontal lines appear behind the harp; they represent *azure* (blue).

There is, so far as I have been able to discover from the *Dictionary of Heraldry* by Elvin (1889), no heraldic significance in the interlaced wavy lines.

The Local Postage Stamp is listed in Robson Lowe's *Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps* vol. 1 Great Britain ... 2nd ed. (1952) p. 175 under "Essays... (c) Shield and 'LOCAL POSTAGE STAMP', various colours." However, no illustration of it appears in that work, although item (b) in that listing is pictured; it is a female bust surrounded by a circle, with 'POSTAGE' and 'THREE PENCE' on arcuate panels above and below, within a rectangular frame measuring 20 by 24 mm. That essay is given the date 1861 and is ascribed to Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. as 'an engraved essay for Scotland'.

In *The British Postage Stamp* by Robson Lowe 2nd ed. (1979) published by the National Postage Museum — the work describing the R M Phillips collection bequeathed to the museum — the 'female bust' item is referred to under the cross-heading '1861 Experimental Essays,' and the book states that there are nine examples in the collection printed in various colours. The R M Phillips collection contained no example of the Local Postage Stamp, but the museum has recently acquired some.

Curiously enough, the Local Postage Stamp is not illustrated or referred to in the all but all-embracing seventh edition of *Catalogue*

Prix-Courant de Timbres-Poste by J B Moens (Brussels 1892-93) — a repository of many exotic items. Nor is it even referred to in *Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue* vol. 1, although there, in the 6th ed. (1979) p. 202, the 'female bust' of Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co. is pictured.

Moreover, although from time to time over many years I have searched for an illustration of the Local Postage Stamp in the early and not so early philatelic press in English, I have been unable to locate one. Dr Gray's six catalogues, 1862 to 1875, will be searched in vain for even a reference to the Local Postage Stamp. So also will other catalogues of these times.

Indeed, the only illustration of the design which comes to mind is to be found in *Cinderella Stamps* by my late brother, Maurice, and myself (Heinemann 1970) page 78, although we had previously referred to it in our regular 'Cinderella Stamp Corner' in *Stamp Magazine*. It seems improbable that that book saw the first occasion on which the design was pictured in a philatelic publication, but I have recollections of long and fruitless searches to discover earlier illustrations. If any reader should know of one, the information would be welcomed.

In *The Royal Philatelic Collection* by Sir John Wilson (1952) — the incomparable and massive work describing and listing the contents of the unparalleled collection at Buckingham Palace — in the section devoted to Great Britain, on page 25, under the heading 'Essays 1861-80 Unadopted Designs,' the Local Postage Stamp is referred to as being 'engraved on thick ribbed paper Imperf Red, brown, green, brownish-black, blue', with no further information about the provenance or authorship of the item.

A close examination of the lines of the design of the stamp reveals that certain crudities are present. The faces of the English lions are so inelegant as to be caricatures, while the rendering of the figure on the harp is almost artless.

Nevertheless, a high degree of skill was employed in producing the Local Postage Stamp, and the regularity of the interlaced wavy lines and the rounding of the internal corners of the inner frame line makes reasonably certain that some form of machine was employed in the process of engraving the die. It is possible that etching played some part in the production, with the surface of the die covered with an acid resist, which was scratched away in the lines of the design or some of them and the exposed parts of the die then eaten away with a mordant.

What is virtually certain is that only one die was engraved and from it all the prints stemmed.

The first reference in print that is known to me about the Local Postage Stamp occurs in *The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain* by Philbrick and Westoby (1881) page 286. In the second part of section 5 of that work, 'Essays, Proofs, and Trials,' which is concerned with essays and proposals subsequent to 1840 and begins at page 282, the first five references are to: Archer and Branston's 'Prince Consort' essay; Bradbury Wilkinson & Co's 'female bust' of 1861; an essay by De La Rue & Co. in 1861, inscribed 'Experimental — Three Pence'; another by them in 1870 for the ½d. stamp; and a one penny essay in 1879 by W H Hooper. However, number 6 is headed 'Unknown (*Local Postage Stamp*)' and the authors state:

"We ought not to omit to notice a stamp, dating from 1862 or 1863, not uncommonly found in collections, but of the authorship of which we have been unable to ascertain any particulars. It is engraved in line; but from the general inferiority of the workmanship, the London engravers, to whom specimens have been submitted, are of opinion that it is country work. From the legend we should be led to suppose that at best it was intended as a specimen of workmanship, but it is also possible that it was produced solely for the behoof or mystification of collectors."

There follows a description of the design which, curiously, refers to the wavy-line background as a 'diapered-pattern' ground. In that sense, a diapered-pattern, strictly, consisted of straight lines crossing diamond-wise. The notice concludes:

"The impression is in various colours, on white wove unwatermarked paper, and the stamps are neither gummed nor perforated. We have seen impressions in the following colours: red, red-brown, pale and slate blue, black-grey, green and brown, in many of which there are several shades."

Just over a century later one might comment that, whatever the situation as to scarcity may have been in 1881, today it would be inaccurate to observe that the stamp is not uncommonly found in collections. It would be at least uncommon to find the stamp in a collection today. If, as was suggested by Philbrick and Westoby, the Local Postage Stamp was produced solely for the use or benefit of collectors, one would expect to find many more of the stamps about today than one seems to encounter.

Be that as it may, today the mystery of the Local Postage Stamp is at least as deep as it was a century ago.

Withdrawn Items

The following stamp books will be withdrawn from sale on 15 February 1984.

50p illustrating the Bagot Goat. £1.25 illustrating GWR locomotive, 'Isambard Kingdom Brunel' and £1.43 illustrating a 'two penny blue' cancelled with a Maltese Cross handstamp. All items were issued on 16 February 1983.

Sending Postage Stamps through the Inland Post

Following a change in regulations, readers might like to note that the following rules will apply when sending stamps through the inland post:—

- i. The Registered service must be used if compensation for loss or damage is required when consignments of unobliterated valid postage stamps are sent through the inland post.
- ii. Compensation will only be paid if the stamps were enclosed in adequate packaging suitable to protect the contents. This can either be a registered letter envelope sold by the Post Office or other suitable packaging.
- iii. Further details are given in the leaflet "How to send things you value through the post" and the Post Office Guide, available at all post offices.

Change in Perforations for Definitive Stamps

12½p and 16p 'Welsh' Country definitive stamps, printed by The House of Questa using the new perforating dies 14 x 15, are now available from philatelic sales counters and the British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh. Dates of issue of the remaining National and Country definitive stamps printed by The House of Questa using the new dies will be announced as the stamps become available.

The stamps are not regarded as new issues and no official first day of issue facilities are offered.

Cattle Stamps Issue

6 March 1984



The art of selective breeding to improve and establish the characteristics of modern breeds of domestic cattle first began in England around 1770. The fame of British breeders soon spread to influence livestock development in other countries. Today, exports of British breeds form the cornerstone of new beef and dairy herds throughout the world.

Many pure breeds were well established before the publication of registration and pedigrees began in 1822 with the first Shorthorn Herd Book, taken over in 1874 by the Shorthorn Society, the oldest cattle breed society in the world. Now over thirty major British and foreign breeds, each with its own supervisory Society and Herd Book, thrive in commercial herds in Britain.

Five new postage stamps to be issued on 6 March 1984 will depict the following breeds of cattle: Highland Cow (16p), Chillingham Wild Bull (20½p), Hereford Bull (26p), Welsh Black Bull (28p), Irish Moiled Cow (31p).

The designer is Barry Driscoll ARCA, chosen because of his skills in relation to the subject.

Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd printed the stamps by the photogravure process in sheets of 100. The format is horizontal measuring 41mm x 30mm with 15 x 14 perforations. The paper is

unwatermarked and phosphor coated; PVA dextrin is the adhesive. The presentation pack, number 151, and first day cover are designed by Sutherland Hawes Design.

Values and Colours

16p — Yellow ochre, rose, yellow-orange, new blue, black, drab.

20½p — Greenish yellow, bright rose, olive ochre, dull blue-green, yellow green, black, drab.

26p — Lemon, bright rose red, red-brown, new blue, black, drab.

28p — Greenish yellow, cerise, red-brown, slate blue, black, drab.

31p — Bistre yellow, bright rose red, red-brown, grey-blue, drab, black.

Postcards

Postcard size reproductions of each of the five stamps will be available from 21 February 1984, price 13p each.

Souvenir Cover

A souvenir cover, price 14p, designed by Sutherland Hawes Design, will be available from all philatelic counters only from 7 March 1984 and remain on sale for a period of 12 months, or less if stocks become exhausted.



CATTLE: ROYAL MAIL MINT STAMPS



WILD BULL
The Wild White Cattle of Chillingham have bred in Chillingham Park in Northumberland for the past



700 years. Sole survivors of their species to remain

Book. Society, founded in 1878. Chiefly bred in the Hereford region to this day, there are major herds in the rest of the United Kingdom. More than half of Britain's beef is the product of a Hereford bull crossed with other breeds.

First exported to the USA in 1817, the Hereford swiftly became the dominant breed in North America. In 1951 the World Hereford Council was set up to link breeders the world over, from the pampas of South America to New Zealand.

Britain's first polled or hornless Herefords were established in 1955. The first Hord Book admitted four classes of colour formation. Today only the familiar red coat with the unmistakable white face, as seen in this typical bull standing against the

breeding of a small, hardy, dual-purpose dairy and beef breed to thrive on the poor ground of the Ulster



hull farms. The Society ceased activity in World



Mrs J Robinson
200 Manorbie Road
ILKESTON
Derbyshire
DE7 4AB

The 1887 Issue – Die Proofs

The operational demands on the design of this issue, (a) to satisfy the security requirements of the Inland Revenue by the use of double fugitive inks, and (b) easy identification of denominations by the Post Office, was to set the printers, De La Rue, design and production difficulties which at times brought them close to despair in their research for solutions. Infinite trouble had been taken in selecting the designs but the production of such designs into stamps involved entirely new principles of stamp manufacture. One of the factors was that some of the stamps were to be bi-coloured, the first to be issued in Great Britain.

A report dated 11th November 1886, by Warren William De La Rue, on behalf of that firm, to Sir Algernon West, Chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue, catalogues the difficulties encountered. In it he made the three following points about the production of the dies:—

“(a) The designs were of so exceptional a character that they could not be engraved on the steel dies in the usual manner, and a new method had to be devised.

(b) The treatment of the head in colour on a

white field for three of the duties was an entirely new feature, and presented the greatest difficulties.

(c) The introduction of the second colour in some of the duties necessitated the production of two hardened steel dies in perfect register (fit) one with the other.”

In the volume XLI (pages 9-22 of the R M Phillips Collection at the National Postal Museum there is an interesting series of die proofs in black on glazed card. All values are represented, for the bi-coloured stamps, by proofs from the dies used for making the key and duty plates. Those made prior to the issue of the stamps are dated between 5th February and 9th November 1886 and include proofs from the five pence duty dies I and II. There are additional proofs from the dies of the three-halfpence, twopence-halfpenny, four pence, nine pence and one shilling values, taken during the period 6th September 1887 to 5th April 1900, before or after leads had been struck for constructing new plates for these values. There are also die proofs of the halfpenny value dating from 5th February 1886 to 30th June 1898, of the ten pence dating from 14th



August to 20th December 1889 and of the fourpence-halfpenny dating from 10th May to 20th October 1892, and duty plates for the bi-coloured one shilling, dated 6th February 1900. The die proofs of the four pence, fourpence-halfpenny, nine pence and ten pence lack the border pattern which was engraved on the plates between stamps.

The 1887 issue is often referred to as 'The Jubilee Issue' assuming a connection between the 'Jubilee of Queen Victoria' and the stamp issue. The stamps were in fact issued for purely operational reasons.

JOHN MEMMOTT

Urban Renewal Stamps Issue 10 April 1984

Four special stamps will be issued on 10 April 1984 in conjunction with the International Garden Festival, to be held in Liverpool during 1984.

The subjects and denominations are: Liverpool Garden Festival (16p), Milburngate Centre, Durham (20½p), City Docks, Bristol (28p), Commercial Street Redevelopment, Perth (31p).

First Day Cover Service

The following services for first day covers will be provided. Two pictorial handstamps will be available, 'Liverpool' and 'British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh.'

SERVICE 'A'

This service consists of the official first day cover — price 14p — addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required and bearing all four stamps. The cover will be cancelled, 'Liverpool' or 'British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh' as requested and despatched.

SERVICE 'B'

Customers' own pre-addressed covers bearing the correct postal address, will be given the stamps, cancelled as requested, and despatched.

The following charges will apply:—

	Inland	Overseas
Service 'A'	£1.38	£1.20
Deposit account customers	£1.33	£1.16
Service 'B'	£1.24	£1.08

The first day of issue facilities will be available at offices with philatelic posting boxes. Application forms, available from the British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh, and at all Head Post Offices should be returned not later than 30 March 1984.

106. Christmas, 1975

Angels playing musical instruments were the pleasing feature of the Christmas stamps issued on 26 November 1975. The theme was not altogether new — Sally Stiff designed similar stamps for Christmas 1972 — but these designs, reminiscent of the art nouveau style of the 1890s — swirling, snake-like ribbons entangling the musical angels — were the work of Richard Downer, whose previous stamp designs had been concerned with unusual views of the Palace of Westminster (1973 and September 1975).

The designs, as announced, featured (6½p) Two angels, one with a medieval harp, the other with a lute; 8½p Angel with a mandolin; 11p Angel with a horn; and 13p Angel with a trumpet. The harp



appears to be similar to the Gaelic or Irish harp depicted in Ireland's coat of arms, while the lute is a variant of that family known as a cittern. It is the 'mandolin' which has the classic shape and form of the medieval lute, and the horn appears to be identical with the 'trumpet,' but of course neither can be compared with the modern (French) horn and the valve trumpet!

'Angel' comes from the Greek word for 'messenger' and angels appear in the Bible as divine harbingers and attendant or ministering spirits. St. Thomas Aquinas, the 13th-century philosopher and theologian, defined angels as ethereal, without soul or body, but endowed with intellect, 'more noble than men, but servants of God.' And, like Mr. Downer's fair instrumentalists, angels are invariably shown as females with eagle-like wings.

Richard Downer, FSIAD, FSTD, was born in 1933. He studied at Leeds College of Art and began his career in London as an advertising visualiser in 1953. He was the author of the book *Drawing Designs* published in 1955. Subsequently he became a freelance designer, illustrator and typographer: incidentally he also designed the Christmas presentation pack and first day cover. The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (two panes of 50, 10 x 5) on unwatermarked paper with centre phosphor band (6½p), experimental phosphorised turquoise-green ink (8½p) or 'all-over' phosphor (others).

JAMES WATSON

Posting Boxes



New Stamp Book

From 14 February 1984, a new stamp book, designed by Martin Newton and illustrated by Bill Sanderson, containing 10 x 16p definitive stamps, will be available at all post offices and philatelic sales counters. The charge will be £1.60.

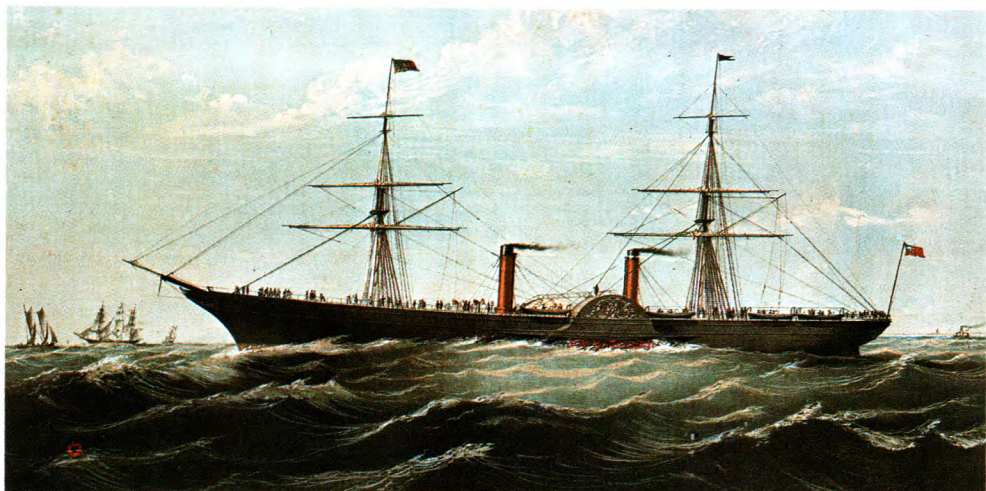
The book is in the horizontal format with the stamps in two strips of five, one above the other. The cover illustration is of a fountain pen on note paper with the words, 'Write it'. There are details of a charity wallet offer inside the book.

The stamps are printed photogravure by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd—the stamps on the Chambon press, and the covers on the Libra book-making machine. The paper is phosphor coated, unwatermarked. PVA Dextrin is the adhesive.

The books will be withdrawn from sale at the close of business on 31 March 1984.

No 56. The posting box illustrated is of particular interest in that it is situated on Osea Island, located in the River Blackwater, Essex. The only road link to the island is the causeway from the Essex mainland which can only be used at the periods of low tide in the estuary of the river, usually for approximately three hours, twice a day at irregular times. Delivery and collection of the mail for the inhabitants has to be made, as the notice on the posting box states, 'According to the state of the tides'.

We would like to thank Wg Cdr Peel RAF, of Rotherwick, Basingstoke, and the inhabitants of Osea for bringing this box to our attention.



The Royal Mail Steam Ship 'Persia'

The opening section of the exhibition will trace the development of postal communications with Liverpool from their earliest beginnings in the 1670's, when the Royal Mail from London was brought in on horseback, until the introduction in 1934 of the new 'Town-to-Town' inland air mail service, for which Liverpool had played an important pioneering part. Highlighted in this section, too, will be the introduction of the Mail Coach Service in 1784, which served Liverpool as early as 1785, and the story of the first-ever carriage of mail by rail, which took place in 1830 over the new railway linking the port of Liverpool with the important manufacturing city of Manchester.

The second part will describe how the City's earliest internal postal services operated and how they grew from a local service dependant on just one Letter Carrier to one that was to become one of the largest and most important in the country. Highlighted here will be the story of the Liverpool Penny Post that operated from 1801 until Rowland Hill's Postal Reform of 1840, when penny postage was introduced nationwide.

The third section of the exhibition will be devoted to the story of the port of Liverpool—the most important aspect of Liverpool's postal history in world terms and certainly the most visual. Here, will be featured Liverpool Ship Letters; Liverpool as a Packet Station for the Isle of Man and Ireland, and the early use of steamships by the Post Office; the Great Sea Race of 1838 and the impact of steamship services across the Atlantic; the emergence of the great Liverpool mail-carrying companies such as Cunard and White Star; the emergency use of

Liverpool clippers during the Crimean War, when British steamships were requisitioned as troop carriers; and the tragic stories of the loss of the Liverpool mail-carrying ships the "Lusitania" and the "Titanic".

The final section will draw together the several threads of Liverpool's postal history and present the story of 'Liverpool Today'.

JEAN FARRUGIA

1984 Melville National Junior Stamp Competition

The next Melville National Junior Stamp Competition will be held in March 1984 and now is the time to start preparing your exhibit. As in previous years, the entries will be divided into four age groups as follows:

- A. For those aged 18 years and under 21 years
- B. For those aged 16 years and under 18 years
- C. For those aged 13 years and under 16 years
- D. For those aged under 13 years.

A Cup will be awarded to the best entry in each class (to be held for one year) as well as silver, silver/bronze and bronze medals to all entrants who achieve a sufficiently high standard. In addition, the Cartwright Medal will be awarded to the entry in Classes C or D which shows the most promise; the Helene Leverton Medal for the most promising

10. 'The Gondola of London'



Thus Lord Beaconsfield (Benjamin Disraeli) described the ubiquitous hansom cab of Victorian and Edwardian times. It was a two-wheeled one-horse cab, invented by Joseph Aloysius Hansom (1803-1882), the architect and inventor born in York, in 1834 'to meet the transport needs of the status-conscious middle classes.' Hansom's original vehicle was rather like an up-ended box slung between two enormous wheels about 7 feet in diameter with a seat for the passenger beside the driver. Some two years later, one John Chapman redesigned the 'Patent Safety Cab,' reducing the size of the wheels and placing the driver on a dicky seat at the rear. Chapman sold the patent of his new vehicle to the Hansom Cab Company.

Henceforth the new 'Hansom' cabs (which retained the old name) were built in their thousands and thronged the streets of London and of the principal towns and cities throughout the Kingdom. They really were 'andsome cabs with a snug compartment for two people with leather flap doors

and padded seats. The driver, perched behind the cabin, controlled the horse by long reins which stretched over the roof, and communicated with his passengers through a small trapdoor in the roof. There was keen competition between the cabbies to have the smartest turn-out, especially among the select band of owner-drivers, and there was much rivalry with the drivers of the contemporary four-wheelers 'clarence' cabs or 'growlers', which nickname arose through the surly manners of their cabbies.

Typically a public vehicle of the Victorian age, and recorded for posterity in Conan Doyle's *Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* (1891-93), the hansom was a familiar sight in the streets of Edwardian London. It was vastly improved when solid rubber tyres replaced the old iron-hooped wheels which rattled like thunder over the cobbled streets. Gradually motor buses and cabs replaced the horse-drawn vehicles, and by 1914 there were only just over 200 hansoms in London compared with more than 7,000 in 1903.

MALCOLM JAMES

International Garden Festival Liverpool 1984

"Liverpool is one of the wonders of Britain...it still visibly increases both in wealth, people, business and buildings: What it might grow to in time I know not"

So wrote Daniel Defoe in 1726.

The story of what Liverpool became in time, as a city important in terms of land, sea and air communications, is the story that will be told in the historical exhibition now being prepared by Archives' staff for the Post Office Stand at next year's International Garden Festival in Liverpool (2 May-14 October).



Canning Dock and Custom House, Liverpool

Saturday 25 February 1984, in the Peacock Room, Ruthin Castle, from 1.30 pm to 5 pm. There are 3 displays, 'Postal History of Ruthin and Denbigh,' 'Pillar and Letter Boxes' and 'The Opium War.' Further details from: Glynn Morris, 27 Tan-y-Bryn, Llanbedr DC, RUTHIN, Clwyd, LL15 1AQ, or D Daunton, 21 Torkington Road, WILMSLOW, Cheshire, SK9 2AE.

Rayleigh Stamp Day 1984

On 24 March 1984 Rayleigh & District Philatelic Society are holding their Annual Stamp Day. As well as members' displays, there will be a number of Dealers and a Post Office Display; Raffles and Tombolas (both philatelic and non-philatelic). Admission is free and the venue is The Mill Hall, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh, Essex. Time: 10.30 to 17.00.

Stamp Fairs & Bourses

The following Stamp Fairs will take place during February and March.

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 16 February | Parkwood Community Centre, Parkwood Green, RAINHAM, Kent (7.30 pm to 10 pm). |
| 18 February | King's Head Hotel, High Street, ROCHESTER, Kent. |
| 25 February | YMCA 184 Tottenham Lane, Hornsey, LONDON N8. |
| 25 February | Weslyan Church Hall, King Street, CAMBRIDGE. |
| 2 March | White Horse (Functions Room), High Street, RAINHAM, Kent (7.30 to 10 pm). |
| 10 March | Cathedral Social Centre, Ingrave Road, BRENTWOOD, Essex. |
| 17 March | Carmel Hall (off High Street), SITTINGBOURNE, Kent. |
| 17 March | Ilford Labour Hall, 400 High Road, ILFORD, Essex. |
| 31 March | The Hartley Centre, 267 Barking Road, East Ham, LONDON E6. |

Unless otherwise stated times are 10 am to 4 pm and admission is free.

Forces Covers

Royal Air Force Museum

To coincide with the issue of the 'Heraldry' stamps on 17 January 1984 a Forces First Day Cover (RFDC 24) is currently available commemorating the 65th Anniversary of the award of the badge to the Royal Air Force on its formation. The BFPS handstamp number 1826 records this anniversary and the cover

depicts the evolution of the recently awarded crest to the Aberdeen, Dundee and St Andrews University Air Squadron. The cover was flown by the University Air Squadron and signed by the Squadron Commander and the Station Commander Royal Air Force, Leuchars. The cost is £3.20 per cover which includes postage and packing, and orders should be sent to The Director of Appeals, RAF Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, LONDON NW9 5LL.

40th Anniversary of the Sinking of Japanese Submarine

On 12 February 1944 the Japanese submarine I.27 was sunk through the combined efforts of HMS 'Petard' and 'Paladin.' To commemorate the fortieth anniversary of this event a philatelic cover is now available depicting both ships, their badges, the White Ensign and the Japanese submarine. The cover bears a 16p 'Heraldry' stamp cancelled with a pictorial handstamp BFPS 1823, illustrating the badge of HMS 'Petard.' The cost is 80p.

Alternatively, the cover with the 28p 'Heraldry' stamp affixed, cancelled as above and signed by Captain E A S Bailey CBE DSC RN, Commanding Officer, HMS 'Paladin' during the action, and Lieut. Comdr. G G Connell, DSC VRD RNR (Retd), Lieutenant (RNVR) aboard HMS 'Petard' during the action, the cost is £2.

In addition, the cover with a 20½p 'Heraldry' stamp affixed, signed by Lieut. Comdr. Connell only, is available price £1.30.

Orders with remittances made payable to, 'The Fleet Air Arm Museum,' should be sent to: The Philatelic Officer, RNAS Yeovilton, YEOVIL, Somerset, BA22 8HL, accompanied by a 7" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

Commemorative Covers

The Heraldry Society

The Society is the subject of the first Benham cover for 1984. It was formed in 1947 to extend interests in and knowledge of Heraldry. The cover features the Coat of Arms of the Society and all four 'Heraldry' stamps are affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The cost is £3 each. A limited number are available signed by John Brooke-Little MVO MA FSA, Norroy and Ulster King of Arms, Chairman of the Heraldry Society, at a cost of £4.50. Postage and packing is 50p extra.

Orders with remittances made payable to: 'Benham (A Buckingham) Ltd' should be sent to them at 22-28 High Street, HYTHE, Kent CT21 5AT.

entry in Class B, and the National Westminster Bank Prize for the most promising entry in Class A.

This year there is a new award which is being presented by the Bath Postal Museum. This is the Philatelic Society Trophy and it will be awarded to the Society whose best three entries obtain the highest number of points.

The rules for the School Trophy have been changed this year and the Trophy will now be awarded to the school whose best three entries obtain the highest number of points.

The British Post Office has most generously agreed to hold a three day seminar for up to ten winners who gain high awards in the competition. In order to give other entrants an opportunity of winning a place, those who have attended a post office seminar on a previous occasion will not be eligible.

Stanley Gibbons have kindly agreed to show some of the winning entries at 399 Strand during April 1984 and the presentation of the awards will take place in London towards the end of April.

Interested juniors should now write for copies of rules and an entry form to Mrs. B. Glassborow, The Pump House, Long Sutton, LANGPORT, Somerset TA10 9HU who can also put intending entrants in touch with their nearest philatelic society. Completed forms should be given, with exhibits, to the Secretary of a Society, Federation or Association affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation, so that they may be sent to Mrs. Glassborow at the above address to arrive no later than Saturday 17th March 1984.

Book Reviews

Postal History of Matlock and District

By Harold S Wilson

This new monograph published by the Derbyshire Postal History Society makes a valuable contribution to the postal history of that county. Well documented and illustrated, it also contains useful background information on the general history of The Matlocks. This not only makes the book even more interesting to read but also places the story of the development of local postal services into context. In all, this book is a must for the bookshelf of anyone interested in the history of that county. Copies and details of the Derbyshire Postal History Society can be obtained from W H Moore, 164 Smedley Street, MATLOCK, Derbyshire DE4 3JA. The cost is £3.90 plus 5 p postage and packing.

'Introducing Thematic Collecting'

By Alma Lee, FRPS

Edited by Richard West, FRPS

This instructive new booklet demonstrates how thematic collecting can be developed and enjoyed. Much of the content is aimed at those exhibiting thematics both nationally and internationally, but is also extremely useful for those collecting purely for personal pleasure. The booklet is available, free of charge, on request from the National Philatelic Society, 27 King Street, LONDON WC2 8JD on receipt of a stamped (23p) addressed envelope measuring at least 240mm x 164mm.

Forthcoming Events

Super Stampex 1984: 6-11 March

Once again the Post Office will participate at Britain's National Stamp Exhibition, with a philatelic sales counter and display. The venue is both Royal Horticultural Halls in Greycourt Street and Vincent Square, Westminster, London, SW1.

The Post Office will issue on 6 March the special 'Cattle' stamps and these will be prominently displayed on the stand.

The hours of business at the Exhibition are, 1 pm to 8 pm Tuesday 6 March; 10.30 am to 8 pm Wednesday 7 to Friday 9 March; and 10.30 am to 6 pm Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 March.

The nearest stations are Victoria and St James's Park.

Scout Stamps Collectors Club

The SSCC will hold its annual philatelic exhibition at Baden Powell House, Queen's Gate, South Kensington, LONDON SW7 5JS. The theme of the exhibition will be 'World Jamborees', commemorating the 15th World Jamboree held in Canada during July 1983. The opening times are 11 am to 6 pm on Saturday 18 February and 11 am to 4 pm Sunday 19 February 1984. The venue is the Library, and admission is free.

Burton-on-Trent and District PS

Burton-on-Trent and District Philatelic Society will hold an exhibition and stamp fair on Saturday 24 March 1984 from 10.30 am until 4 pm at the Burton-on-Trent Technical College. Some dealers will be present, and refreshments will be available.

Joint Philatelic Meeting at Ruthin Castle

The Welsh Philatelic Society and the Ruthin Philatelic Society, will hold a joint meeting on

RJ Mitchell Aircraft Museum

The cost of this cover published in the November edition of the Philatelic Bulletin is £2.25 and not £2.75, as stated. Readers who order the cover will be given a choice of a refund of 50p, or that it should be passed on to the Museum appeal. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Beds and Herts Philatelic Society

The B&HPS celebrated its 50th Anniversary on 24 October 1983 with the introduction of a commemorative cover illustrating the society logo and bearing a 16½p definitive stamp. A limited number of covers is still available price £1 each. The covers are cancelled with a special handstamp. Orders with remittances should be sent to: Mrs P Bellew, 2 Longfield Road, HARPENDEN, Herts AL5 1QE.

United Kingdom Pilots Association

Bristol will be one of centres of celebration in 1984 for maritime pilots from all over the United Kingdom, because on June 11 they celebrate 100 years of association.

To mark the occasion a special philatelic cover will be available from 11 June 1984 bearing four 10p postage stamps, one for each of the four countries of the United Kingdom, cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The cost of the cover is £1.50 each plus 50p extra for overseas postings.

Orders accompanied by remittances made payable to 'Centenary Souvenir A/C' should be sent to: Centenary Souvenir Cover, c/o Port of Bristol Channel Pilots Co Ltd, The Haven Masters Building, Royal Edward Lock, Avonmouth Docks, BRISTOL BS11 9AT. to arrive by 31 March 1984. Remittances from abroad must be by Bankers Draft or cheque drawn on a UK Bank. Overseas orders will be sent enclosed in an outer envelope.

Dairy Crest

Dairy Crest an associate company of the Milk Marketing Board will mark its connection with the British Dairy Industry with the issue of a commemorative cover on 6 March 1984.

A limited edition of 500 pictorial covers will bear the full set of the 'British Cattle' stamps cancelled with a special handstamp at Crewe.

The covers are available at £3 including postage and packing. Proceeds from sales will be donated between the Newcastle Staffs Volleyball Club and other charities.

Orders with remittances made payable to 'Newcastle Staffs Volleyball Club' should be sent to: NVC, 59 Sneyd Avenue, NEWCASTLE, Staffs ST5 2PZ.

Highland Cattle Society

To mark the centenary of the Highland Cattle Society, a commemorative cover will be available from 6 March 1984, depicting a herd of cattle. All five 'Cattle' stamps will be affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The cost is £3.30 including postage and packing. A limited number will be signed by the Right Honourable Lord Home of the Hirsell, KT PC, a member of the Society. The cost of the signed version is £6.30 including postage and packing and a donation of £3 to the Society.

Orders with remittance made payable to: 'The Highland Cattle Philatelic Agents,' should be sent to them at 22-28 High Street, HYTHE, Kent CT21 5AT.

Rotary Club of Nantwich

The Rotary Club of Nantwich will celebrate its Golden Jubilee in March this year, and to mark the event, a commemorative philatelic cover will be issued on the 13 March, the anniversary of the Club's Charter.

The cover design will incorporate the Rotary International Wheel, the Nantwich coat of arms, and Sweetbrier Hall.

The stamps to be used will be from the 'Heraldry' issue of January, cancelled with a specially designed handstamp featuring the Rotary wheel. A card will be enclosed in the envelope, giving a brief historical background to events being celebrated in the town this year.

Covers will be available with either a single 16p 'Heraldry' stamp or the full set and the cost is 90p and £1.65p respectively. A limited number of covers will be available signed by the Club President and two of the Club's founder members. These will cost £2.50p each. Proceeds from sales will go to national and local charities and remittances should be made payable to the 'Rotary Club of Nantwich.' Orders should be sent to Colin Wilson, 30 Dig Lane, Wybunbury, NANTWICH, Cheshire CW5 7EZ, accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope measuring not less than 9" by 5".

Colchester Castle

A souvenir cover bearing a 16p 'Heraldry' stamp, cancelled with a special handstamp depicting the Castle and the inscription, 'Colchester Castle Restoration 1984', is currently available. All covers were posted in a Victorian posting box situated in the Castle. The issue will be discontinued after 30 September 1984.

With the passing of time the external walls, made of bricks and rubble taken from the 1,000 year old ruins of the Roman town, of Camulodunum, or officially, Colonia Claudia Victricensis, are in a state

of serious decay, and a £500,000 programme is now in hand for their long-term conservation.

The covers may be obtained from the Colchester and Essex Museum, Museum Resource Centre, 14 Ryegate Road, COLCHESTER, Essex CO1 1YG, price 55p inland service, and 75p for overseas. Please enclose remittance made payable to 'Colchester and Essex Museum' with orders. Personal visitors may purchase covers at 50p from the Bookstall in the Castle.

King Richard III

To mark the 500th Anniversary of King Richard III becoming Lord of Scarborough, the town to which he granted a Royal Charter, a commemorative cover is now available. The cover illustrates the Coat of Arms of the King, as well as that of Scarborough. All four 'Heraldry' stamps are affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp on 17 January 1984, the first day of issue. The cost per cover is £3. In addition, the cover bearing a single 20½p Richard III 'Heraldry' stamp only is available, price £2. The prices include postage and packing.

Orders with remittances made payable to, 'Pilgrim Philatelics Ltd' should be sent to them at, 33 St. George's Place, CANTERBURY, Kent CT1 2XX.

British Cattle

The following commemorative covers will be available from 6 March 1984.

The Welsh Black Cattle Society is celebrating its 80th Anniversary with a cover depicting a Champion Welsh Cow, cancelled with a pictorial handstamp at Caernarfon where the Society is located. The cover will bear the 28p Welsh Black Bull stamp, or all five 'Cattle' stamps as requested.

The Hereford Herd Book Society are offering a commemorative cover illustrating both a horned and polled Hereford Bull. The cover will have the 26p Hereford Bull stamp affixed, or all five 'Cattle' stamps as requested. A special handstamp will be applied at Hereford, the headquarters of the Society.

The Irish Moiled Cow known locally as the 'Moilie' is featured on a cover sponsored by the Irish Moiled Cattle Society. The 31p Irish Moiled Cow stamp will be affixed, or all five 'Cattle' stamps as requested. A pictorial handstamp will be applied at Co. Down, Northern Ireland.

The following charges will apply for the above three covers. With a single stamp the cost is £1.75, and with all five stamps, the charge is £3.50.

The 75th Anniversary of the British Friesian Cattle Society is celebrated this year with the introduction of a philatelic cover illustrating the ideal Friesian Cow, and the anniversary logo which is also

included in the design of the pictorial handstamp. Cancellation will be applied at Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, where the Society Headquarters is located. Cover charges are as follows: 1. with the 16p Highland Cow stamp, or the 20½p Chillingham Bull stamp, the cost is £1.50 per cover. 2. with the 26p Hereford Bull stamp affixed, the charge is £1.75, and with all five 'Cattle' stamps, the price is £3.50.

The National Farmers Union of England & Wales are offering a philatelic cover depicting their Coat of Arms with one or all the 'Cattle' stamps affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The handstamp will be applied in LONDON SW1.

Cover charges are as follows: 1. with the 16p Highland Cow stamp, or the 20½p Chillingham Bull stamp, the cost is £1.50 per cover. 2. with all five 'Cattle' stamps affixed the charge is £3.50.

Further information concerning all these covers, and an order form can be obtained from: D A Taylor, British Cattle FDC (PB), 202 Somervell Road, HARROW, Middlesex HA2 8TS.

Philatelic Bulletin

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