

British Philatelic Bulletin

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Variations to Existing Definitive Stamps

17p National definitive stamps are to be produced on ACP (Advanced Coated Paper). This will be the second value in the National definitive range to be produced on ACP. The first was the new 16p value which was one of the new values introduced on 30 March 1983.

The new stamps will initially be available from the British Philatelic Bureau and philatelic counters from 19 June. These stamps are not regarded as new issues and no official first day of issue facilities were offered.

Cover: The London-Bath Mail Coach picking up mail at speed from a postmaster along the way c.1840

Editorial

In recent issues of the Philatelic Bulletin we have included several articles by Barry Robinson, design adviser to the Post Office, in which he has explained the criteria for stamp design. As a contrast, we are including in this issue an article by Guy Averill, who looks at stamp design from a collector's viewpoint. We would be interested to receive readers' comments on this feature.

Looking ahead to future issues of the Bulletin, several special articles are planned on a variety of different philatelic subjects. These include Machins, Cinderella collecting, Channel Island wartime issues, errors on stamps, George V issues, thematic collecting, and many other topics. The regular series on postcards will also be finishing in August. This will be replaced by another regular monthly series on a postal history theme, of which the first articles will be looking at different forms of mail transport through the ages.

The Royal Mail stamp issue on 31 July celebrates an important anniversary in the development of postal services. The introduction of mail coaches in 1784 heralds the start of modern postal services in many ways. An event of interest to both collectors and non-collectors alike, will be taking place on 1-2 August. This is a recreation of the original mail coach run from Bristol to London. The coach making the run will follow the original route along the A4 and will make 16 stops to change horses. It is scheduled to leave Bristol at 3.00 pm on 1 August, and to arrive in London at 8.00 am the next day.

As many readers know, we have two national stamp exhibitions each year, namely Stampex and BPE. It does seem strange that there is not one all-embracing yearly national stamp exhibition. This is the norm in most European countries and has proved very successful. With escalating costs, collectors and dealers alike are having to reconsider attending both national exhibitions. The Post Office has always supported both in the past but has reluctantly decided that it will no longer continue to do so, and will not be at BPE this year. Looking to the future, however, it now seems likely that there will be another International Exhibition in 1990 to which we can all look forward.

CHARLES GOWEN

Speed, Regularity & Security

This year is the bicentenary of the Royal Mail Coach Service — a service whose watchwords were ‘Speed, Regularity & Security’.

The idea of using armed stage coaches to speed the Royal Mail along the main highways had come from John Palmer, manager of theatres in Bath and Bristol. He pointed out that the Bath mail — still carried on horseback in the age-old way, and constantly under threat from highwaymen — took nearly two days to reach London. He claimed that he could organise a coach-borne service that would shorten the time to 16 hours.

Palmer's experiment began on 2 August 1784. His coach started from the Rummer Tavern, Bristol, at 4 pm; called at the Three Tuns in Bath at 5.20 pm; and reached the Swan with Two Necks in London at 8 am the next morning — exactly on schedule!

The Mail Coach service spread rapidly and, soon, it covered all the principal mail routes, both over the direct roads out of London and over the cross-roads that linked other major cities and towns. By the 1830s the speed of Mail Coaches on the various routes out of London was reaching 10 miles an hour. The run to Bath and Bristol was still one of the fastest. It left at 8 pm and arrived in Bristol by 7.45 am in ample time for breakfast — 114 miles in less than 12 hours. The fastest Mail Coach of all was the legendary ‘Quicksilver’ that sped the Royal Mail to Devonport at a speed of 10 miles an hour, and was the only one to be given the distinction of a name.

Throughout the coaching era, one of the sights of London was the nightly departure of the Mail Coaches from the General Post Office in St Martins-le-Grand at 8 pm. An even greater crowd gathered there to witness the annual spectacle of the ceremonial Procession of Mail Coaches held on the birthday of the reigning sovereign. The honour of leading the procession was given to the Bristol Mail, the oldest of them all.

The reputation earned by the Mail Coaches for speed, regularity and security made them popular with travellers. Often, however, passengers still had a hard time. If the coach was going up a steep hill, they would have to get out and walk — to save the horses; and during the winter many a passenger — when the Mail Coach had become stuck in the snow, was abandoned by the Post Office Guard, whose first

duty was to get the mail through, on horseback or even on foot if necessary.

For the Post Office, the arrival of the ‘Railway Age’ brought the coaching era to an end. The very last of the London-based Mail Coaches was that to Norwich, via Newmarket. Its journey took place on 3 April 1846.

JEAN FARRUGIA ARCHIVIST

Record Breaking Mail Coach Run

On Wednesday 1 August 1984, the Post Office's Mail Coach will leave the Nails in Corn Street, Bristol at 3.00 pm and will arrive at the Headquarters of the Post Office in King Edward Building, King Edward Street, London at 8.00 am the next morning, Thursday 2 August, two hundred years after John Palmer's first mail coach left Bristol on Monday 2 August 1784.

The coach will be driven single-handed right through the night by John Parker, who also drives the Norwich Union mail coach, and is one of the top drivers in the country. The 20 horses for the run, and all the back-up services for the teams, are also being provided by the Norwich Union Insurance Group. Originally, there were two drivers for the sixteen hour journey, but if John succeeds in his marathon task, it will be the first of three records that the Post Office hope to achieve on this historic run.

The other potential entries for the Guinness Book of Records are the record for blowing the posthorn for the longest time with a single breath, and the record for changing a team of four horses. From wheel stop to wheel start the record, established in 1888 by James Selby, currently stands at 46 seconds. The attempt on this record will take place at an early stage of the journey, John Parker will be assisted in the attempt by the Royal grooms from Windsor Castle.

The bi-centenary mail coach run, which follows the A4, will take 17 hours — one hour longer than the original run — because modern road alterations, by-passes and one-way systems have increased the journey by 12 miles.



Bristol to London Itinerary

All timings are approximate

TOWN	STAGE MILES	TOTAL MILES	ARR. TIME	DEPT. TIME	BREAK TIMES	STAGE TIMES
Bristol	0	0	14.00	15.00	—	1 hr. 31 min:
Bath	13	13	16.31	16.41	10 mins	42 min:
Box	6	19	17.23	17.23	—	23 min:
Pickwick	3½	22½	17.46	17.47	1 min	26 min:
Chippenham	4	26½	18.13	18.15	2 mins	42 min:
Calne	6	32½	18.57	18.59	2 mins	1 hr. 31 min:
Marlborough	13	45½	20.30	20.50	20 mins	1 hr. 10 min:
Hungerford	10	55½	22.00	22.02	2 mins	56 min:
Newbury	8	63½	22.58	23.01	3 mins	1 hr. 31 min:
Theal	13	76½	00.32	00.34	2 mins	28 min:
Reading	4	80½	01.02	01.10	8 mins	1 hr. 24 min:
Maidenhead	12	92½	02.34	02.36	2 mins	49 min:
Slough	7	99½	03.25	03.30	5 mins	60 min:
Colnbrook	8½	108	04.30	04.50	20 mins	1 hr. 24 min:
Kew Bridge	12	120	06.14	06.20	6 mins	21 min:
Hammersmith	3	123	06.41	06.41	—	28 min:
Palace	4	127	07.09	07.20	11 mins	24 min:
P.O.H.Q.	3½	130½	08.00	—	—	

London Postal Region Postcards

The London Postal Region will issue a new set of four picture postcards commemorating the bicentenary mailcoach run from Bristol to London which is scheduled to take place on 1-2 August.

The postcards, printed in sepia, illustrate mailcoaching inns located in the Region.

5a 'Quicksilver' coach outside the 'Star and Garter', Kew.

5b The 'George Inn' Southwark.

5c The 'Coach and Horses' Ilford.

5d The 'Old White Lion' N Finchley.

Orders for serviced cards including the cards, first class postage, handling charge and first day of sale handstamp, should be sent to: The British Philatelic Bureau (LPR Postcards), 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT. The charge is £1.76 for the complete set, or, 44p singly. Remittances should be made payable to the 'British Philatelic Bureau', Giro Account number 110 0009, or by Access/Barclaycard. Mint cards in sets of four, price 52p, or singly at 13p will be available from all LPR philatelic counters. Bulk orders for mint cards are available from the British Philatelic Bureau only, where normal handling charges will apply: 17p for orders under £18 and £1.17 for orders over £18.

New South Eastern Postal Region Postcards

A new Regional postcard was issued by South Eastern Postal Region (SEPR 40) on 7 June. The card depicts the mailcoach which is making the bicentenary run from Bristol to London on 1/2 August 1984. Priced at 13p, mint cards can be obtained from all philatelic counters in the South Eastern Postal Region (Canterbury, Portsmouth, Brighton, Windsor and Guildford), also the National Postal Museum.

A second new Regional postcard is also due to be issued by South Eastern Postal Region (SEPR 41) on 10 July. This will also depict the mailcoach, this time outside the George Inn at Reading. The cost of the mint card is 13p and a FDOI service will be available. A special handstamp is also being produced. The

cost of serviced cards, bearing a first class stamp, and cancelled with the special handstamp is 44p each. Orders with the appropriate remittance made payable to the Post Office (or Girobank account No 314 0210) should be sent to: the Head Postmaster, Head Post Office, 51 Ship Street, BRIGHTON, BN1 1AA. Mint cards will also be available after 10 July as for postcard SEPR 40 above.

New Scottish Pictorial Aerogramme

A second Scottish Pictorial Aerogramme to be issued this year will commemorate the 1984 Edinburgh Festival, and will be available on 14 August. The aerogramme features a panoramic view of the City of Edinburgh.

Designed by Richard Demarco in collaboration with Forth Studios of Edinburgh, the aerogramme is printed by McCorquodale Printers Ltd.

The cost is 30p, of which 26p is postage, it will be available from post offices in Scotland, philatelic counters throughout the United Kingdom, and by post from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT. A phosphor bar is printed on either side of the Queen's profile.

New Philatelic Sales Counter

A new philatelic sales counter will open at the Crown Street Branch Office, Crown Street, DARLINGTON, Co Durham, DL11AB on Monday 16 July 1984. Hours of business at the new counter are 9am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 12.30pm on Saturday. To coincide with the opening, a special one day pictorial handstamp, depicting the front of a steam locomotive, will be applied to all mail posted in a philatelic posting box to be situated in the office. For customers who are unable to call at the office, normal posting facilities will apply. Fully addressed covers bearing a minimum of 15½p in postage, should be sent in an outer envelope bearing correct postage to: Customer Services Branch, Head Post Office, Royal Mail House, 2 St Cuthberts Way, DARLINGTON, DL11AA.

AMH

I know what I like...

By Guy Averill

The art gallery for the Common Man comes most readily to hand in the form of a nicely mounted stamp collection. Ready to hand, he has the work of the top designers and artists of succeeding generations. But in such an approach the collector is entitled to set himself up as an art critic with all the unfairness on designers that that implies.

Ronald Searle drew a cartoon in the early 50s which epitomised the artist's view of the Philistine — a large and ugly nouveau riche in an art gallery, observing to his wife: "I don't know nothing about art, Mother, but I do know what I like." Philistine or not, he has a point. Only the Post Office could tell whether the relative merits of design affect the sales but I could not see anyone making a display of, say, the stamps for the first direct elections to the 'European Parliament', issued in May, 1979. I can envisage an increase of customers for the 'Roses' issue of 1976 and for the delightful 'Wildlife' set the following year.



Everyone knows their own mind on design but such an idiosyncratic approach would hardly allow the subject to be taught. I have been having a long and reflective browse through the catalogue, trying to see which British stamps have a memorable design and which have not and then going a step further and trying to see which design factors are common to the good ones, and more important, perhaps, which are common to the bad ones.

I have come up with a list of 10 what? commandments would be over-stating the case, guidelines might sound a bit pompous and suggestions a bit feeble. I think I might pinch a phrase from the world of advertising and amend it

slightly to call them the 10 good ingredients.

1. Kiss (keep it simple, stupid);
2. Avoid scaling down large pictures
3. Printing process, recess or engraving for clarity
4. Don't put too much on the stamp
5. Flora and fauna are better out of their context
6. Symbols make a minefield
7. If it works in stone it works on stamps
8. If it works in metal it works on stamps
9. Fancy frames distract
10. Dragons never work

Having listed the ingredients, I must now try to justify them. I should stress at this point that this is a subjective view of stamp design because, as with the Philistine of the cartoon, I know what I like.

The acronym, Kiss speaks for itself. The two outstanding British stamp designs by popular acclaim and by their popularity are those by William Wyon and Arnold Machin. Wyon's head was framed by engraved lines, partly as a security device, the Machin head is quite uncluttered. It is an interesting coincidence that both are from sculptures, so see also ingredient 7.

The scaling down of large pictures seems not to work. Two of the most disappointing British stamps are Constable's 'Hay Wain' and the Lowry 'Children coming out of School.' In both cases the size of the landscape as painted is an integral part of its character. The texture and depth of the Constable is lost in scaling down; Lowry's Matchstick People are deliberately overshadowed by the Victorian buildings which are his real subjects. The overbearing nature of Environment dominating Man is mislaid somewhere along the process of miniaturisation. Where scaling down does work is with portraits and with strong simple subjects. The Stubbs is fine and the Reynolds and Raeburns stand up well

The printing process is an old chestnut and there is a small but vociferous lobby who want all stamps line engraved. There were some awful line engraved designs. I like some of the recent efforts at recess printing and in the Shakespeare set of 1964 it is interesting how effective the 2/6d looks compared with the other values. But recess printing in itself does not rescue a messy or a fussy design as witness the 50p value for 'London 1980.'

Putting too much on a stamp is a sin. I think that the most disappointing British set ever printed was the 'Christmas' issue of 1977, the Partridge in a Pear Tree set. A bolder design committee might have authorised a set of 12 but the five 7p stamps had so much on them that the end result is merely confusing. The same fault can be seen on the 'Darwin' issue. Poor Darwin is, by any reckoning, one of the most important men who ever lived and he had a splendid and strong face. It looks strangely lost framed by reptiles, birds and skulls and neither aspect of the design can be said to succeed.



The next ingredient says: Flora and Fauna out of context. I was comparing Keble Martin's 'Wild Flowers' of 1967, like specimens from a book of pressed wild flowers with the 'Spring Flowers' issue of 1979. There is no question but that the flowers show up best on their own. By the same token J. Norris Wood's set of 'Bristol Birds' in 1966 showing the birds against a white background is much more impressive than the set for the 'Centenary of the Wild Bird Protection Act' which came out in 1980 where the birds are shown against symbolic highly coloured backgrounds. But having said that, I have to take it all back in respect of P. Oxenham's 1977 'Wildlife' set, though there the animals dominate their backgrounds.



It was a long time before British stamps went 'representational' so that, in one sense, the Post Office ought to feel more happy than most with symbolism. But it is a tricky tool to use. The 'Seahorse' high values are highly regarded by collectors but I have always felt some sympathy for George V with all that hot breath on the back of his neck. The lady makes a very unconvincing Britannia. The 'P.U.C.' £1 is another unhappy example. The designer was so taken with the horse that both St. George and the Dragon are squeezed out which rather defeats the object of the exercise. If you compare it with the 10/- High Value of 1951, St. George gets a better deal but the poor old dragon comes off badly again.

But staying with symbolism, I do most strongly admire David Gentleman's solution to the 'Social Reformers' set of 1976. Notice how cleverly and effectively he has repeated hands in each stamp. Eastern European countries use workers' hands incessantly but never to such striking effect.



The next ingredients refer to designs intended for stone and metal for it is surprising how consistently successful this is. Wyon and Machin have already been mentioned. In all the worldwide tributes to the 'Bicentenary of American Independence' there were

some truly awful designs, not least from the United States. But the bust of Franklin on the British issue stands out, though even there I think it would have been improved had it been on a white background. In referring to designs for metal I am thinking particularly of coins and seals. European countries have dozens of stamps showing coins and very well they look. But the 6d. value of 1965 for the '700th Anniversary of Parliament' — which reproduces Simon de Montfort's seal, shows what a striking effect can be achieved. Perhaps there is scope for a set of British coins? I cannot leave this subject without a brief reference to wood, specifically the Church roof bosses on the 1974 'Christmas' set which reduced down with stunning effect because the size on the stamp is roughly the size the congregation sees when looking at the roof.

The fancy frames ingredient almost speaks for itself. The Wilding head never showed to advantage framed by statutory national symbols. It was a habit that started with the Victorian 'Jubilee' issue and persisted for 80 years.

And finally the poor dragon. There is quite a nice small one for the Welsh Machins but successive high values and the 'Commonwealth Games' issue of 1958 all seem to offer something as fearsome as a garden worm and with no sense of size or presence. There must be a better dragon lurking in some designer's mind and it would make a popular stamp.

If the 'Seahorses' are breathing down King George V's neck, goodness knows what some of the recent cattle issue are doing to the Queen. The designers may well say that such a comment is going for a cheap laugh and yet the juxtaposition of subjects on a stamp is a key factor and the visual double entendre is something that should be avoided.

I hope I have not been too hard. I have been looking for faults but British stamps rightly enjoy a high reputation and there have been some stunning successes, some of which I have already mentioned, like the 'Roses', the 1977 'Wildlife', the 'Theatre' set and last year's 'Christmas' issue which broke new boundaries by introducing a touch of whimsy to stamp design. The British designers are an outstanding bunch and I am happy to believe that the design bloomers that do appear from time to time arise from their having to satisfy a committee. Looking at commemoratives since the War we have much to be thankful for and a lot of bold innovation.

It is a popular hobby, thank goodness and it is time, perhaps, that it received the recognition it deserves as a popular art form — probably the most popular.

The Definitive Colour Changes 1950/51

An unnecessary issue?

Part 2

It was not until July of the following year that Postal Services Department were asked to re-open the question of implementing the colour changes again. By that time a decision had been taken to increase the foreign postage rates. Letters were to be 4d, postcards 2½d and printed papers 1½d — a new combination of colours would obviously be necessary.

A P.S.D. note commented that the 4d rate could easily be provided for simply by changing the then current 4d green stamp to blue, but the other changes in rates brought consequences not only for the 1½d and 2½d stamps but for other low values as well, the ½d, 1d and 2d.

Moreover, the change of the 2½d stamp from blue to red was seen as a major operation since 40% of all stamps printed were of this denomination. The difficulty over the altered balance of the 2d value was again mentioned together with its use as the 'receipt' stamp which meant it had to be of a light colour to enable it to be cancelled clearly with pen and ink.

P.S.D. put forward four alternative colour schemes for consideration by the Supplies Department of the Post Office and Harrisons. These were:

	Scheme I	Scheme II	Scheme III	Scheme IV
½d Orange	Orange	Brown	Blue	
1d Brown	Blue	Blue	Brown	
1½d Green	Green	Green	Green	
2d Blue	Brown	Orange	Orange	
2½d Red	Red	Red	Red	
3d Violet	Violet	Violet	Violet	
4d* Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	

* Dark Head on light background

Finally, the note made the point that the Post Office considered itself 'more or less committed to restoring the pre-War deeper shades which were lightened during the War to save dye' and 'this is too good an opportunity to miss when changes have in any case to be made'.

A meeting between P.S.D. Supplies Department and Harrisons was held at P.O. Headquarters on Friday the 14th July 1950 to consider the points raised by this note. After considerable discussion Scheme II was generally considered to be most

satisfactory when everything had been taken into account. Harrisons were asked to produce six cards each containing 'pulls' of the seven stamps in the new colours by the middle of August. The possibility of reverting to deeper colours was not touched upon.

In the meantime, the Director of Postal Services submitted a report to the Post Master General recommending that the changes in colour be implemented, for the 4d stamp on 1st October 1950 and for the other six values on 1st May 1951.

A card was submitted shewing the current stamps arranged in normal ascending order of value matched against the colour order of the new scheme. The stamps used were current stamps except for the 4d stamp which was shewn in both its current green and in blue described as '2½d blue'.

The report suggested that for this value it would be better to make the colour of the King's head somewhat deeper than the example on the card and further colour specimens were promised. In respect of the 1d stamp, Supplies Department were to be consulted concerning the possibility of 'toning down' the blue and again specimens were to be produced.

The recommendations in the report were approved.

The essays of the blue 4d stamp produced in 1949 were re-examined to see if a deeper colour could be obtained without re-etching the cylinder. Although some of these essays were darker in colour (2½d blue concentrated and Bronze blue) it was felt almost certain that such 'deep tones could not be maintained in supplies'. Harrisons nevertheless undertook to look into the question.

During the next meeting on 16th August Mr. Rhodes of Harrisons shewed the Post Office officials further essays of the 4d stamp with a more deeply etched head — however the new essays had a deeper background too which Mr. Rhodes said was unavoidable. The results were unanimously declared to be unfavourable, but it was agreed that some of the earlier (1949) essays and the new ones would be sent to the P.M.G. for consideration by him.

Harrisons had been unable to produce essays of the other values in their new colours owing to the intervention of holidays at the Works. Subsequently it was agreed that the new 1d blue stamp should be toned down so as to be as dissimilar as possible from the new 1½d green stamp, although care had to be taken to keep the 1d blue as distinct as possible from the new 4d blue as well.

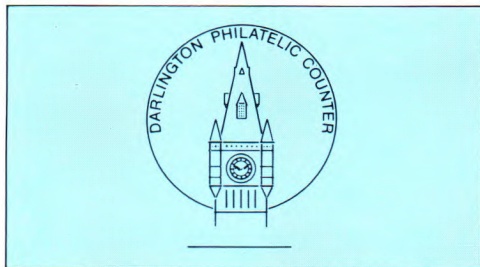
Essays of the 1d stamp were to be produced with these points in mind and were also required in the current blue (2½d shade) for comparison.

Three sets of 4d essays were submitted to the Post Master General with a report which was dated 16th August 1950. The three cards bore blocks of six (perforated) stamps each in a different shade of blue — '2½d blue concentrated' '2½d blue concentrated and touch of red' and plain '2½d blue'. The report stated that Harrisons advised strongly against the first colour as it would be difficult to ensure uniformity in the strength and contrast of that particular shade of blue during production runs. The difference between the other two was described as 'not great' (and an examination of the actual blocks confirms this). Stability of printing of the second shade led printers to recommend its adoption and this recommendation was accepted by the P.M.G. Authority was given to proceed with the printing of stamps for issue on 2nd October 1950.

However, on 23rd August Harrisons reported to the Post Office Supplies Department that they could not start printing the order immediately as cylinder No. 6 had been spoilt for further use by the fine etching needed to produce the deeper colour. A new Cylinder No. 13 had already been etched and was being worked on to even the print, so they were confident that 150,000 sheets would be delivered by the end of the first week in September. This was achieved and the new stamps went on sale on the due date, 2nd October 1950.

(To be continued)

Philatelic Counter Handstamp



On 17 July 1984 the Crown Street BO, Darlington will commence using its own pictorial handstamp on all mail posted at the philatelic counter. This will bring the number of philatelic counters using their own handstamps to 64. Items posted in the special philatelic posting box must bear 3p in addition to the normal postage. Reposting facilities will apply as detailed on page 178.

The Royal Mail Stamp Issue

31 July 1984



Prior to the introduction of the mail coach service in 1784, the conveyance of the Royal Mail was a slow and somewhat hazardous business. On 2 August 1784 a trial run was made from Bristol to London, to test a claim by John Palmer, Manager of Theatres in Bristol and Bath, that the use of fast, armed coaches would transform the speed and security of mail services.

The experiment proved successful, and mail coaches were soon used on all principal mail routes linking major towns and cities. The mail coaches were provided and horsed under contract and the only Post Office employee on board was the guard. The coaching era lasted until 1846 when the faster railways in their turn revolutionised the conveyance of the Royal Mail.

Five new se-tenant postage stamps to be issued on 31 July 1984 will depict the following mailcoaches:-

16p The Bath Mail Coach 1784

16p Attack on the Exeter Mail Coach 1816

16p The Norwich Mail Coach in a Thunderstorm 1827

16p The Holyhead & Liverpool Mail Coaches 1828

16p The Edinburgh Mail Coach Snowbound 1831

The stamps were designed by Keith Bassford and Stanley Paine.

Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd printed the stamps by the recess and photogravure processes in sheets of 100. The format is horizontal measuring 41 mm x 30 mm with 15 x 14 perforations. The paper is unwatermarked phosphor coated and the adhesive is PVA dextrin. The presentation pack, number 155,

and first day cover were designed by Keith Bassford.

Values and colours

5 x 16p — black, red.

Postcards

Postcard size reproductions of each of the five stamps will be available from 17 July 1984, price 13p each.

Souvenir cover

A souvenir cover, price 14p, designed by Keith Bassford, will be available from all philatelic counters only from 1 August 1984 and remain on sale for a period of 12 months, or less if stocks become exhausted.

Presentation pack

The presentation pack containing all five stamps will be available from 31 July 1984, price £1.

For those customers who wish to send their own stamped and fully addressed covers for cancellation with the 'Bristol' postmark, should enclose them in an outer envelope, fully addressed and stamped, and send them to: The Head Postmaster, OD1.1.2, Head Post Office, Cattle Market Road, BRISTOL, BS1 1AA.

Souvenir Book

A new souvenir book will be available from 31 July. It incorporates all five Royal Mail stamps in a transparent slip-in holder on the front cover, and contains 24 pages of illustrations and informative text about mail coaching in this country, and in particular the mail coaches depicted on the special stamps. The book is designed by Trickett & Webb Ltd, and the text written by Neil Mattingly. Printed by Moore & Matthes Ltd the cost is £1.50.

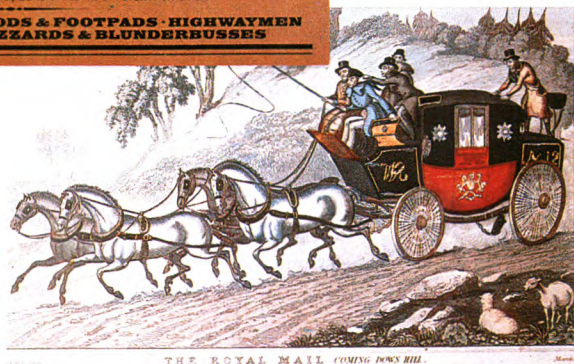




Speed, Regularity and Security
IN CELEBRATION
 — of the —
ROYAL MAIL

*It being 200 years since the INAUGURATION
 of the BRISTOL, BATH, LONDON Mail in 1784*

**TAVERNS & TURNPIKES · FLOODS & FOOTPADS · HIGHWAYMEN
 TRAVELLER'S TALES · BLIZZARDS & BLUNDERBUSES**



111. British Cultural Traditions, 1976

The 800th anniversary of the Royal National Eisteddfod and the celebrations at Cardigan were the subject of two of the four stamps issued on 4 August 1976 to represent the centuries-old traditions which are now part of the cultural life of the nation. The other stamps were devoted to Morris dancing, a prime example of English culture, and, with an unmistakable Scottish flavour, to the Highland Gatherings. The stamps were designed by Marjorie Saynor.

The 8½p stamp pictures the gorsedd (meeting) of bards — musicians and poets — conducted by the Archdruid, a portly, robed figure in the foreground, while on the 13p stamp, pretty 'Miss Wales' can be seen plucking the telyn or Welsh harp. Traditionally the ceremonial Chairing of the Bard takes place on the third day of the Festival, while the harpist represents its predominant musical theme. Competitions in music, singing and poetry are held, prizes being awarded for the encouragement of Welsh literature and music, and the preservation of the Welsh language and ancient national customs. The ceremony dates back to the 6th century and was revived in the late 18th century.

The 10p stamp shows a Morris Man in full caper

and traditional costume with other dancing figures in the background. Reputedly of Moorish origins, the Morris dance, common in rural England after 1350 and recently revived as a 'folk dance', is defined as 'rustic merry-making'. The chief characters — Robin Hood, Maid Marian, the hobby-horse, the fool and others — perform 'grotesque movements in fancy costume with jingle bells fastened to their dress and feet'.

A Scots piper, with kilt swinging and bagpipes at full blast, reminds us that the Highland gatherings or games (11p) are musical affairs with lively Highland 'flings' and other dances, as well as sporting events like tossing the caber — a 20-foot pine trunk. The annual Games are usually held at Braemar, Aberdeenshire, in September.

The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (two panes of 50, 5 x 10) on unwatermarked paper with 'all-over' phosphor. Listed varieties include brown marks on or near the Morris Man's handkerchief on the right (10p), a short serif on the first '1' of '1176' on the 13p, and broken harp-strings on the same stamp.

JAMES WATSON



London 1990 International Stamp Exhibition

Over the past year, the feasibility of holding an International Stamp Exhibition in London in May 1990 has been examined by a group formed by the International Committee of the British Philatelic Federation Ltd. At a recent Council meeting of the Federation it was agreed to form a Steering

Committee with the responsibility of setting up the appropriate organisation and management structure. The designated members of the Steering Committee are Michael Berry, David Boyd, Trevor Davis, Alan Huggins, Francis Kiddle, Patrick Pearson, Leon Rapkin and Richard West.

The Secretary of the Post Office, Colonel William Maberly declared that Hill's scheme was preposterous in the extreme and that it would require some forty or fifty years for the revenue to make good the Post Office's losses if ever the penny post was allowed to come into operation.

The Duke of Wellington also strongly opposed this idea of cheaper postage, and behind him rallied all the aristocracy and Parliamentary forces who risked losing their age old privilege of 'free' postage.

However, strong and powerful though this opposition was, the irresistible force of Hill's supporters, which included all the business men, lawyers, industrialists and the general public, won the day and on 10 January 1940, Uniform Penny Postage was introduced. Neither the special envelopes nor adhesive stamps were ready, so about three hundred towns employed their own handstamps, many of which incorporated town name and amount paid. It was not until 6 May that the new envelopes and stamps were ready and in many parts of the country, the handstamps continued in use. It was not until 1853 that the use of the adhesive stamps became compulsory.

The opposition to Hill's reforms did not end when his scheme was introduced. There remained a hard core of opponents (which included Col Maberly) who were determined to obstruct their successful implementation and went to great lengths and expense in attempts to prove his scheme worthless. The reason for this acrimonious opposition remains a mystery, but it gradually and reluctantly deminished as the evidence of the reforms success increased. If evidence of the resounding success of Rowland Hill's penny post is needed, it can be admirably demonstrated by relating that in 1839, prior to its introduction, the number of letters carried in the United Kingdom was 75 million, 10 years later, after its introduction that figure had risen to 347 million.

The R M Phillips Collection housed in the National Postal Museum contains the original draft in Rowland Hill's hand, for the introduction of Uniform Penny Post complete with all its many corrections and amendments.

JOHN MEMMOTT
Assistant Curator

BPE 1984

Following a further meeting between PTS and BPE, it has been decided that the two bodies will in

conjunction hold BPE 1984 at the Royal Horticultural Halls from 16-21 October 1984. The planning and organisation of the exhibition will be undertaken by a committee comprising representatives of trade and collectors for both organising bodies. PTS will be responsible for the Secretariat and administrative requirements of the exhibition and will also provide for the financial needs of an exhibition held at National Standard.

Posting Boxes



No 61 Mr P G Elgey of Rochdale in Lancashire has sent us the photograph this month of a most interesting posting box. The location is the Toad Lane Conservation Area in Rochdale, designed around the original building where the Co-operative movement started in the 1840's. The posting box was originally sited in Lord Street, Rochdale, in 1867. It was withdrawn from service in 1966 and resited in Toad Lane. The origin and the purpose of the lamp are a mystery. Thank you Mr Elgey.

Telecom Technology Showcase

Three philatelic issues are planned by The Telecom Technology Showcase during 1984. The first of these is the issue of a special postcard on 26 June featuring the speaking clock, and coinciding with the issue of the 'Greenwich Meridian' stamps. There will also be two further issues during 1984, on 10 October commemorating 100 years of the Payphone, and on 20 November for 'Christmas' 1984. Details of these and other philatelic items can be obtained direct from the Telecom Technology Showcase, 135 Queen Victoria Street, LONDON, EC4V 4AT.

The Showcase will now be dealing with all orders and correspondence directly, and not through an agency as in the past.

National Postal Museum News

New Postcard Issue

A new postcard in the National Postal Museum SS series, number 25 is currently available from the NPM, King Edward Building, King Edward Street, LONDON, EC1A 1LP. The card, price 20p, features the '1970 Anniversaries' 1/9 commemorative stamp depicting the 150th Anniversary of the Royal Astronomical Society, and will remain on sale until 31 August 1984.

A handling charge of 17 pence will apply to orders by post of up to £18, orders in excess of £18 will be despatched by registered post and a handling charge of £1.17p applies.

The issue of the card coincides with the present exhibition at the Museum on the subject of Greenwich Meridian with the themes of Navigation and Astronomy.

Bicentenary of Mail Coaches Postcards SS26 and Set H1

The Mail Coach Service was introduced in 1784 on the Bristol to London route. To mark the Anniversary the Museum will mount an exhibition on the History of the service on 2 August 1984.

To coincide with the issue of 'The Royal Mail' stamps on 31 July 1984, the Museum will issue a postcard in the Museum SS series, number 26; this

will depict a painting by J C Maggs, 'Old Coaching Lines'.

On the same day the Museum will issue an H1 set of 5 cards on a postal history theme, the theme being Mail Coaches, the set is priced at £1. These cards (SS26 and H1 set) can be used as maxi cards on the first day of issue only. On the first day of issue only the normal Museum handstamp (Maltese Cross) will be used and normal pre-release facilities will be available.

A handling charge of 17 pence will apply to orders by post of up to £18, orders in excess of £18 will be despatched by registered post and a handling charge of £1.17p applies.

From the opening day of the exhibition a special handstamp will also be available from the Museum, depicting a Mail Coach.

Withdrawn Items

The following items will be withdrawn from sale on 5 July 1984.

'The British Army' stamps and presentation packs.

On 26 July 1984 the following stamp books will be withdrawn.

The 50p 'Rare Breeds'; the £1.25 Railways series LNER 'Mallard', and £1.46 'Postal History' Parcel Post Centenary.

Book Reviews

The Portico Library Post-box — a link with 1883 by Phyllis M Giles MA

This interesting booklet is an off-print from the 1983 Volume of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society Transactions. It is a brief account of a Manchester wall-box a century old last year, and of its antecedent Penfold pillar-box. Copies of the booklet are still available, price £1.00, from The Librarian, The Portico Library, 57 Mosley Street, MANCHESTER, M2 3HY.

London Fancy Geometric Postmarks (Early Combined Daters and Obliterators of 1880-1909) by Stanley F Cohen

Following the publication of the specialised study, Squared Circle Postmarks of the London Suburban District Offices, in 1983, this new handbook by Stanley F Cohen is also a comprehensive study on a subject not previously researched in this way. The

book comprises 27 A4 pages, with 104 line drawings of the postmarks discussed in the text. All the illustrations have been specially drawn for the book by M Maurice Barette.

Copies may be obtained from dealers or direct from the publishers, Harry Hayes, 48-50 Trafalgar Street, BATLEY, W Yorkshire, WF17 7HA. The price of the book is £4.50, including postage and packing inland and overseas.

The British Postage Stamp of the Nineteenth Century by Robson Lowe

The second edition of this classic book which describes the unique Reginald M Phillips collection in the National Postal Museum appeared in 1979. Readers might like to know that copies are still available from the museum, either by post or to callers during opening hours. As well as describing the Reginald M Phillips collection, the book is also an authoritative and very readable account of the stamps of the Victorian era. Priced at £10.00, the book is excellent value for money, and orders by post with the appropriate remittance should be sent to: The Curator, National Postal Museum, King Edward Building, King Edward Street, LONDON EC1A 1LP.

The Lion roars at Wembley — The British Empire Exhibition 1924-1925 by Donald R Knight and Alan D Sabey

This excellent book traces the history of the British Empire Exhibitions staged at Wembley in 1924 and 1925, and is the result of much painstaking research. It looks at both the history and philatelic history of the Exhibition, the first to be featured on British Postage stamps. As well as being of general interest, the book has a detailed section on all philatelic and related activity which is well laid out and easy to follow.

Collectors of postal history and philatelic material from this period would find it most useful. Priced at £10.95, the book is good value for money and can be obtained from most reputable bookshops. It can also be obtained direct from the author at a cost of £10.95 plus £1.30 for postage and packing. Orders with the appropriate remittance should be sent to Don R Knight, 2 Crescent Road, NEW BARNET, Herts, EN4 9RF.

A Postal History of Swansea and District by D R Gwynn, P R Reynolds, H R Warren

This book has been published by the Swansea Philatelic Society as part of their Golden Jubilee celebrations. A great deal of research has gone into its production, and the book chronicles Swansea's

postal history from 1599 to the present day. It also includes a detailed catalogue of all known postal markings of Swansea as well as information on local post offices, perkins, letterboxes and many other subjects. Copies of the book are available at a cost of £10.00 plus £1.70 for postage from one of the authors. Orders with the appropriate remittance should be sent to Mr H R Warren, 150 Mayals Road, Mayals, SWANSEA, SA3 5HF.

The Mulready Advertisements by Malcolm G Lowe. Published by Mulready Research Foundation, Laguna Hills, CA 92653 U.S.A. 335pp. £26.

Mulready stationery, particularly the letter sheets, was quite extensively used with printed advertisements or notices. A list of these appears in Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue Volume 1, but the book under review really brings them to life — for it illustrates over 200 of them.

Mulready postal stationery was one of the means that Rowland Hill introduced for prepayment of mail, but he probably never realised what a great variety of commercial uses it would have. Although the contents of these sheets are for convenience termed 'advertisements', their scope is far greater. As well as advertisements for outfitters and many other trades, the sheets illustrated in this book include reports of Assurance Companies, notices of church services and charities, petitions to Parliament, a report on the work and conduct of a pupil from Ackworth School (which includes the notice "The inclosed letter has received no correction from the Teacher"), and — possibly the most interesting of all — sheets of 'small ads' with part left blank for correspondence, which were sold to the public at less than cost price. When the Mulreadys were withdrawn, some of the obsolete sheets were issued to tax offices to be printed with their forms or receipts; these too are included.

Besides the philatelic interest of these Mulready sheets, their contents are a fascinating record of social affairs — what the early Victorians ate, smoked, wore and what patent medicines were available for their every illness. There are examples of the engraver's art and some music. We must be grateful to Mr Lowe and his collaborators for making all this information so accessible, particularly as some of the sheets are very rare.

The Stanley Gibbons numbering is used and there is a list of the number of copies known. The book is well produced, with all sheets illustrated and the resulting collection is thoroughly recommended, both for study and browsing.

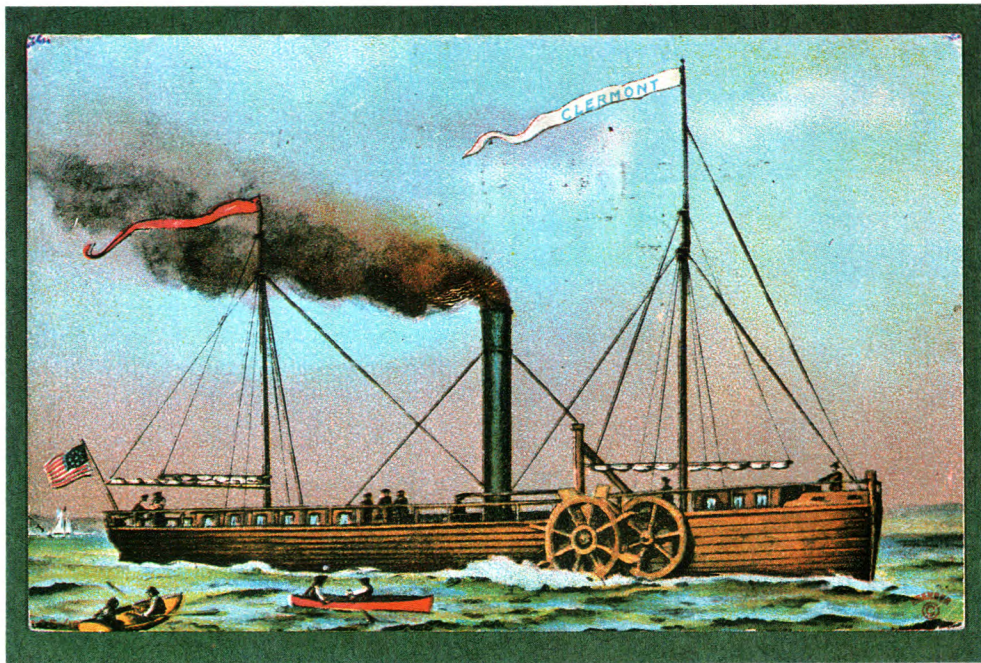
15. The Voyage of the 'Clermont'

This pioneer paddler, the first successful steamboat, was the brain-child of the American engineer and inventor, Robert Fulton (1765-1815), who was born of Irish parents in what is now Fulton township, Pennsylvania. He began life as a painter of miniatures and landscapes, and in 1786 he went to London to study under Benjamin West, a fellow Pennsylvanian, but gradually turned his inventive mind to engineering projects. He patented a double-inclined plane to supersede canal locks and published a book on canals; he invented a mill for sawing and polishing marble, a machine for spinning flax, a mechanical dredger and several boats. In 1797 he went to Paris, where he designed and built a submarine torpedo boat, but failed to interest either the French or British governments in it. In 1803 he experimented with small steamboats on the Seine and invented a self-propelled torpedo. Returning to New York he devoted all his efforts to the application of steam to navigation, and in 1807 he designed

and built a paddle steamer — the *Clermont* — specifically to navigate the Hudson River, one of the most picturesque of North American rivers.

The *Clermont* was 133 feet in length and 18 feet in width with a draught of 2 feet, and she had one funnel and two masts. The fuel which powered the boilers and, in turn, the uncovered paddle-wheels, was pine-wood logs, which poured out volumes of smoke during the day and showers of sparks at night, filling the minds of onlookers with 'apprehensive calamities.' On her maiden trip upstream to Albany, some 145 miles distant, on 11 August 1807, the *Clermont* averaged 5 m.p.h., completing the voyage in just over 30 hours. It was the forerunner of the world's first regular steamship service, New York to Albany. In 1814, the year before he died, he constructed a steam warship for the U.S. government. My card shows the *Clermont* at full steam and, incidentally, bears a U.S. stamp of 1909 commemorating the 'Hudson-Fulton Celebration.'

MALCOLM JAMES



Bristol – London Bicentenary Mailcoach Run – Philatelic Cover

On the bicentenary mailcoach run, which is scheduled to take place from Bristol to London on 1-2 August 1984, a limited number of special philatelic covers will be carried on the coach. These will be Post Office first day covers for the Royal Mail issue, bearing a full set of stamps and cancelled on 31 July 1984 with the Philatelic Bureau or Bristol first day of issue handstamp. On their arrival in London the covers will receive a special cachet indicating that they have been carried on part of the run. These covers can be obtained at a cost of £2.50 (all inclusive) from the British Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh on application. Orders with the appropriate remittance should be sent to the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT by 20 July 1984 at the latest.

Forthcoming Events

Stevens' Stamp Sales

Fairs will be held by Stevens Stamp Sales at the following locations:—

RAINHAM; to be held at the White Horse, Functions Room, Rainham on Friday 6 July and 3 August from 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm.

EAST HAM; to be held at the Hartley Centre, 267 Barking Road, East Ham, on Saturday 14 July from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

SITTINGBOURNE; to be held at Carmel Hall, Ufton Lane, Sittingbourne, on Saturday 21 July from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

SIDCUP; to be held at the Emmanuel Church Hall, Hadlow Road, Sidcup, on Saturday 11 August, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

ROCHESTER; to be held at the King's Head Hotel, (Green Room), High Street, Rochester, on Saturday 18 August, from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

HORNSEY; to be held at the YMCA, 184 Tottenham Lane, Hornsey on Saturday 25 August from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Admission is free at all venues, and further details can be obtained from: Stevens' Stamp Sales, 18 Gayhurst Close, Rainham, GILLINGHAM, Kent, ME8 9EA.

Wakefield Philatelic Society

On Saturday 21 July 1984 Wakefield Philatelic Society are holding a Stamp Fair and Stamp Auction. This will be at the Unity Hall, Westgate, Wakefield as part of the Wakefield Festival of Sport being held in 1984. The fair will be open from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm and admission is free.

Clevedon Stamp Club

On Saturday 18 August 1984 Clevedon Stamp Club are holding a Stamp Fair at the Bristol Hotel, Chapel Hill, Clevedon. The Fair will open from 10.00 am to 5.30 pm and admission is free. There will be both dealer and club stands, and there are ample car parking facilities.

Launceston Philatelic Society

The Launceston Philatelic Society will be holding a mini-fair and annual exhibition on Saturday 21 July 1984. This will be held at the Eagle House Hotel, Launceston, Cornwall from 1.00 am to 5.00 pm. Refreshments will be available and dealers will be present. Admission is free.

The British Aerophilatelic Federation

The British Aerophilatelic Federation will be holding an exhibition and collectors' fair at Hendon RAF Museum on 7-8 July 1984. There will be 130 frames on display and 20 Dealers' stands in attendance. The opening times are 10.00 am to 6.00 pm on Saturday 7 July, and 2.00 pm to 6.00 pm on Sunday 8 July. There will also be a special talk at 3.00 pm on 7 July by Ronald A G Lee RDP, FRPSL, entitled 'From Bronze to Gold'. A Federation souvenir cover has been produced, and a special handstamp will be available. 7 July is also the 'Open Day' of the RAF Museum at Hendon. The full address of the location of the fair and exhibition is: The Dermot Boyle Wing, RAF Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, LONDON NW9 5LL.

Forces Covers

35th Anniversary of NATO

A special philatelic cover has been produced to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the formation of NATO. The covers bear the full set of Europa stamps issued on 15 May 1984 and were flown to and from NATO headquarters immediately after cancellation with a commemorative BFPS 1949 handstamp on that day. The covers have been signed by General Sir Nigel Bagnall, Commander in Chief British Army of the Rhine and Commander Northern Army Group, and Air Marshal Sir Patrick Hine, Commander in Chief Royal Air Force

Germany and Commander 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force. The cost of the covers (RFDC 27) is £3.75 including postage and packing. Orders with the appropriate remittance should be sent to the Director of Appeals, RAF Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, LONDON, NW9 5LL.

The 1984 Royal Tournament

A special philatelic cover has been produced to commemorate the 1984 Royal Tournament which will be held at Earls Court between 11-28 July 1984. The cover will have an illustration of the Royal Marines, and will bear a 16p Heraldry stamp cancelled with pictorial handstamp BFPS 1842. The cost of the covers is £1 each. A limited number of covers signed by the Royal Tournament Director will also be available at £1.50 each. Orders with the appropriate remittance made payable to the Philatelic Bureau, PCD RF, should be sent to:- The Philatelic Bureau, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, LONDON, NW7 1PX, together with a 9" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

65th Anniversary of the Royal Naval Staff College

A special philatelic cover has been produced to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Royal Naval Staff College. The covers bear the full set of Greenwich Meridian stamps issued on 26 June 1984, cancelled with BFPS 1838, and have been flown from the HQ British Forces Postal Service to the RN Staff College. The covers have been signed at the college by Captain D Pentreath DSO who was a signatory to the surrender of the Argentinian forces on South Georgia, and Rear Admiral J W D Cook CB Appeals Director of the Royal Star and Garter Home. The cost of the cover (RFDC 28) is £3.20 including postage and packing. Orders with the appropriate remittance should be sent to the Director of Appeals, RAF Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, LONDON NW9 5LL.

Stanley Paine

The designer of the 'Royal Mail' stamps, Stanley Paine, will sign first day covers at the Bournemouth Head Post Office between 3pm and 4pm on 31 July. Signed covers bearing all five 16p stamps will be available at £2 each which includes a donation to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Birds. Postal applications should be sent to: The Philatelic Counter, HPO, Post Office Road, BOURNEMOUTH BH1 1AA.

Commemorative Covers

The Institute of London Underwriters

A special philatelic cover has been produced for the Institute of London Underwriters to commemorate their centenary. The cover depicts an attractive coat of arms, and bears the London Economic Summit stamp, serviced on 5 June 1984. The cost of the covers is £2 each, or £4 if signed by the Chairman of the Institute.

Prices are inclusive of postage and packing, and orders with the appropriate remittance should be sent to: Cotswold Covers Ltd, Liege House, Marshfield, CHIPPENHAM, Wilts, SN14 8LZ.

Sealink

A special series of philatelic covers have been produced for Sealink during 1984. Collectors of maritime and thematic covers will find these of interest as they feature special stamp issues as well as important events. The cost of the covers is 86p including postage and packing, where they bear a single stamp. Further details and prices of covers bearing full sets of stamps can be obtained on application to: Historic Relics, 95 Calbourne Road, Balham, LONDON SW12 8LS.

Mail Coach Bicentenary

A special philatelic cover has been produced to coincide with the issue of the Royal Mail stamps on 31 July 1984. This limited edition cover features the original Bath mail coach, and will bear the full set of Royal Mail stamps, cancelled with a special Bath postmark. The cost of the covers is £3.50 each including postage and packing. Orders with the appropriate remittance made payable to A G Bradbury should be sent to: A G Bradbury, Leicester First Day Covers, 2 Fairholme Road, LEICESTER, LE2 6GL.

Greenwich Meridian

A special philatelic cover has been produced by the Meridian County Primary School, Comberton, Cambridge, to coincide with the issue of the Greenwich Meridian stamp on 26 June 1984. The cover has been designed by one of the children at the school, and will bear a complete set of the Greenwich Meridian stamps, cancelled with a special handstamp on 26 June. The cost of the covers is £3.00 each, including postage and packing. Orders with

the appropriate remittance made payable to: N S Gulliver, 24 Barrons Way, Comberton, CAMBRIDGE, CB3 7EQ.

60th Anniversary of 1924 British Empire Exhibition at Wembley

To commemorate the 60th anniversary of the 1924 British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, a special exhibition is to be held at the Grange Museum, Neasden Lane, LONDON NW10. In conjunction with this exhibition, the Post Office will be mounting a special display at the museum to complement the other exhibits. A special handstamp will be in use at the museum throughout the exhibition until it closes on 31 July. Six special postcards and a commemorative philatelic cover have also been produced. Full details of these and the different service available can be obtained from D G Taylor 202 Somervell Road, HARROW, Middlesex HA2 8TS.

Rotary Club of Kettering

A special philatelic cover has been produced by the Rotary Club of Kettering for issue on 6 July 1984, to raise funds for Rotary International Charities. The covers will be carried by the Norwich Union Mercury Mail Coach from Kettering via Wellingborough to Northampton. The cost of the covers is £1 each, and they will bear a commemorative stamp. Full details can be obtained from R L Cubitt, Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society Limited, Market Place, KETTERING, Northants, NN16 0AL.

Blair Athol Jamboree

To mark the 19th Scottish International Scout Camp at Blair Athol, in the heart of the Scottish highlands, a special cover will be available between 18-28 July (except Sunday 22 July). It will bear a 16p Scottish definitive stamp cancelled with a pictorial handstamp 'depicting' a map of Scotland. The front of the cover includes an illustration of the 700 year old Blair Castle, together with a jamboree cachet.

The cost of the cover is 40p, or, 60p if required to be sent under cover. Orders with remittances should be sent to: The Scout Association, Scottish Headquarters, 18 Hanover Street, EDINBURGH EH2 2QN.

10th Essex International Scout & Guide Jamboree, Great Leighs, Chelmsford, 28 July-4 August 1984

A special postmark will be used on each day of the Camp showing both Scout and Guide emblems which are incorporated into the Jamboree badge.

A series of postcards will be issued with cachets for various events during the Jamboree.

Cards with 16p stamp, plus postmark will be available from:— Michael T Harrington, 56 Glenwood Avenue, Eastwood, LEIGH-ON-SEA, Essex SS9 5EB.

Postcards (any date) 60p each posted direct from the Jamboree, or 80p under separate cover.

Set of 8 cards each day £4.50, including postage and packing.

During the Camp there will be a new issue of Post Office stamps commemorating Mail Coaches; covers bearing all five stamps and cancelled on first day of issue with Jamboree postmark will also be available from the above at £1.50 posted direct, or £1.70 under separate cover.

Items to be sent under separate cover may be subject to some delay.

To help with administration, self addressed labels would be appreciated.

Cheques to be made payable to:— 'Scout Stamp Collectors Club.'

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