

British Philatelic Bulletin

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The Story of our Christian Heritage



£4 Book of Stamps

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Croydon Philatelic Counter

As from 23 July 1984, the hours of business at the philatelic sales counter in the High Street branch office Croydon were changed. The times are now 9 am-4.30 pm Monday to Friday. Saturday remains unchanged.

Editorial

In this month's Philatelic Bulletin, we are including details of the proposed tariff increase on 3 September 1984, and how this will affect philatelic products. At the time of writing, these are still awaiting clearance by POUC, and all prices quoted are subject to their agreement. As we advised readers previously, the price of the Bulletin will be held and the additional 4 pages of information will continue to be included. There is also no change in the handling charge made by the British Philatelic Bureau on the First Day Cover service, and this remains at 15p per cover, or 10p for deposit account holders.

Two special features are included in this issue. The first is an extremely interesting article by Bill Newport on the wartime issues of the Channel Islands. This is a fascinating collecting area, and one where the stamps themselves reflect the events of the times. The second special feature is by Alan Benjamin and looks at errors and varieties on modern British stamps. Once a largely ignored collecting area, this has greatly increased in popularity during recent years. There can be very few collectors who do not examine stamps for faults when they make a purchase, in the hope of discovering a fortune! The second part of this article will appear in the September Bulletin.

Collectors of postmarks and modern commemorative covers will be familiar with the Postmark Bulletin, which is published fortnightly by the Post Office. After 13 years it has been given a facelift, and is now being produced in conjunction with the Philatelic Bulletin, being edited by Frank Brench. A special sample Postmark Bulletin sheet is enclosed in this issue, which also contains subscription and other details for readers' information. For collectors of handstamps, the Postmark Bulletin provides a comprehensive listing of those available and ensures that those important covers do not get overlooked.

Finally, it is always sad to see the end of publications, particularly when they have pedigrees like Stamp Collecting Weekly and the Philatelic Magazine. They have made substantial contributions to the hobby over many years as well as giving a great deal of pleasure to several generations of collectors.

CHARLES GOWEN

The German Occupation of the Channel Islands

Part 1 — Jersey

German forces occupied the Channel Islands from 1st July 1940 to 8th May 1945. The first result was the overprinting of some British stamps in use in Jersey with a swastika and 'JERSEY/1940'. The German Commandant, Hauptmann Gussek, ordered the Acting Head Postmaster, Mr Oscar F Maurant, to supply quantities of stamps for overprinting. Mr Maurant provided stamps to the value of £22. 4s. 2d. to Bigwoods, the States Printers, and received an official receipt dated 20th July 1940.

Proofs were then made on the Postal Centenary issues ½d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d and the Edward VIII 1½d, by means of a small swastika and type carved from wood. There was only one block available, so each stamp had to be overprinted separately.

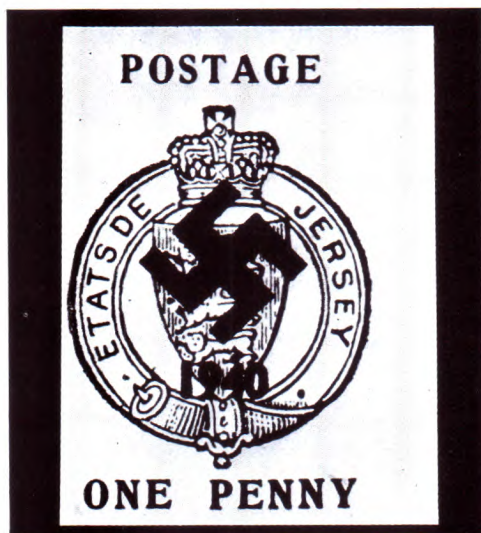
A swastika was then cast, the rest of the inscription was set up in type, the whole recast, and formes made for the overprinting. The 1938 King George VI definitives in denominations of ½d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 7d, 8d, 9d, 10d and 1s. were

overprinted in a forme of 60, and the Postal Centenary ½d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d and 3d were overprinted in a forme of 40. Four each of the 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s. definitives were also overprinted.

While this was being done the Bailiff of Jersey, Sir Alexander Coutanche, who had also been sworn in as Civil Governor and Postmaster General of the Island when the Lt. Governor left Jersey, protested to the German Commandant against the defacing of the King's head on the stamps and the matter was referred to Berlin for guidance. As it was the policy of the German Government to treat the Channel Islanders as courteously as possible, orders were given that the overprinted stamps were not to be issued, but that stocks were to be destroyed. It is believed that two sets of the definitives to the 1s. and the five Postal Centenary stamps came onto the market, one of which is now in the Jersey Postal Museum, and that two other sets of definitives to the 1s. and some odd definitives and Postal Centenary



stamps also exist, also various proof overprints, but the remainder and the high values are reported to have been destroyed. It is not known, however, whether Hauptmann Gussek took any with him when he left the Island later in 1940.



Jersey 1d Essays

At the same time as the British stamps were overprinted, some local 1d stamps were prepared by Bigwoods. They were designed by R W Cutland and depict the Arms of Jersey surrounded by a garter containing the words 'ETATS DE JERSEY'. A proof sheet of six on laid paper, with the stamps rouletted, was made first of all and then the stamps were printed in sheets of 30 (10 x 3) on wove paper. Part of the printing was overprinted with a swastika and '1940'. Three imperforate sheets of each type are reported to have existed. Two of each were broken up and sold to collectors. An unoverprinted sheet is in the National Postal Museum and one with overprint, showing creasing and other damage, is in private hands. This is inscribed in manuscript 'This copy printed on July 31st 1940. A similar copy was submitted to the German Commandant for approval on August the 1st 1940. Suggested Jersey Stamp to be used during the Occupation (by the German forces) by the Island'. The handwriting is said to be that of R W Cutland, the designer.

The Arms Stamps

Neither the swastika overprints nor the 1d Cutland stamps were issued and it was not until 1st April 1941, that the first 1d Jersey stamp was released. It was designed by Major N V L Rybot from the 1d

Guernsey stamp which had been issued on 18th February 1941. He prepared a drawing 4½ x 4 inches featuring the three leopards, commonly called the Arms of Jersey and in the corners of the frame he inserted a small letter A, which he later revealed stood for 'Ad Avernum Adolf Atrox' (To hell with you atrocious Adolf). The stamp was typographed by the *Jersey Evening Post* in sheets of 60 (6 x 10) on unwatermarked paper, perforated 11 line. In the bottom margin was the imprint 'EVENING POST' JERSEY 17/3/41. The first issue can be found on both thin and thick paper, printed in scarlet. It can also be found in carmine. Some examples are known with the perforations missing between horizontal or vertical pairs, and some with extra rows of perforations. Late in 1941 a small quantity was printed on a coated magazine paper, called 'chalky' by collectors because it reacts to the silver test. In January, 1943 a printing was released on a grey newsprint.

All printings of the 1d stamps had the same dated imprint.

Rybot was later asked to design a ½d stamp and prepared a drawing 5½ x 5 inches, with the value changed to ½d and the letters AA in the top corners and BB in the bottom corners, signifying Atrocious Adolf and Bloody Benito. These were also printed by the *Jersey Evening Post* in sheets of 60 (6 x 10), perforated 11 line. They were issued on 29th January 1942. The first printing was in bright green on thick paper. A second printing was made in August 1942 on thin paper and a third early in 1943 on grey newsprint. All three printings had the same imprint 'EVENING POST' JERSEY JANUARY, 1942.

Some examples of the stamps are known completely imperforate or with the perforations missing between horizontal or vertical pairs, and some with extra rows of perforations.

Both stamps have a number of plate flaws which are of interest to collectors.

The stamps were withdrawn from use on 13th April 1946, but the last day cancellation is 14th April 1946. Numbers printed were 750,000 of the ½d and 1,000,000 of the 1d.

The 1943 Pictorials

On 12th May 1942 the Acting Head Postmaster, Oscar Mourant, wrote to the Bailiff reporting that certain denominations of British stamps were completely exhausted. They were the 2d, 2½d, 7d, 2/6, 5/- and 10/- of the definitives and the ½d, 1d, 2d and 2½d of the Postal Centenary issue. In the meantime Major E P Le Masurier MBE, President of the Essential Commodities Committee, reported to the Feld Kommandant that supplies of paper for print-

ing postage stamps were exhausted. The Feld Kommandant contacted the Military Commander in France who agreed to supply paper. Colonel Knackfuss wrote to the Bailiff and suggested that a new series of pictorial stamps be issued featuring Mont Orgueil, St. Ouens Manor, Grosnez Castle, Portelet Bay, Elizabeth Castle and La Corbiere. The Bailiff wrote to the Head Postmaster and said that he wished to discuss the matter with him. The Head Postmaster wrote back saying that he was seeking expert advice and would report again when information on the subject was available.

On 6th January 1943 Mr Mourant wrote to the Bailiff as follows:

Ref. W39/11

Sir,

With reference to the suggested issue of a pictorial series of postage stamps, I beg to submit for approval prints of a series of designs which have been executed for the purpose by Edmund Blampied. The stamps would be of six denominations, as follows:

$\frac{1}{2}$ d green	Manor Gates
1d red	Portelet Bay
$1\frac{1}{2}$ d brown	Corbiere
2d yellow	Elizabeth Castle
$2\frac{1}{2}$ d blue	Mount Orgueil Castle
3d violet	Rocco Tower

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

O.F. Mourant

Acting Head Postmaster

The following day a note in German to the Bailiff approved the designs. This was signed by Dr Casper, OKVR, for the Feld Kommandant. The Bailiff then instructed Mr Mourant to order the stamps. It was agreed that they should be printed in Paris, and to save paper should be of the smallest convenient size.

Photographs were made of Blampied's designs and three sets were sent to the Bailiff by Mr Mourant on 19th January 1943. One of these sets was taken to Paris by Major Le Masurier, who contacted the Secretary of State at the Ministry of Posts. He put him in touch with the Manager of the State Printing Works, to whom he handed over the designs. The printers considered that they were unsuitable for direct reproduction of the stamps. Blampied resisted alterations to his designs, but agreed that the lettering could be improved. They were then given to a French engraver, Henri Cortot, who prepared designs suitable for reproduction by using parts of the photographs of Blampied's designs and drawing in parts by hand as necessary. He made a few slight alterations and included Blampied's and his own name in some of the designs.

The stamps were to be printed in a size of 25 x 20 mm in quantities of 360,000 of each denomination. $\frac{1}{2}$ d essays were prepared and submitted on 18th February 1943 and approved by the Head Postmaster and the designer in March, but the size was considered to be too small. On 16th March three $\frac{1}{2}$ d and one 1d proofs were submitted in two colours, but the idea of bi-coloured stamps was not accepted and again it was pointed out that the size was too small and proofs of all values in a size of 27 mm x 21



mm were requested. The printers advised that they would have to make up a special machine to produce stamps in this size and suggested a new size of 36 x 21 mm. It was finally decided to print them 27 x 21 mm and to meet the extra cost of special machinery.

An invoice for 85,000 Frs. was sent to Major Le Masurier on 24th March 1943, with a covering letter from Mr J L Jouault, Head of the Purchasing Mission in France, explaining the details:

1st item: 7,000 Frs. Engravers fees. This sum has already been spent in submitting the ½d proofs which were found to be too small.

2nd item: 42,000 Frs. engraver's fees for the six designs measuring 27 x 21 mm.

3rd item: 6,000 Frs. for alterations to machinery to be made for the 27 x 21 mm stamps.

4th item: 14,000 Frs. for the preparation of the plates.

5th item: 16,000 Frs. for printing the series of six (totalling 2,160,000 stamps.)

In order not to lose time, the printers suggested that if the ½d were accepted they would proceed immediately with the next value and so on as each denomination was agreed upon by all concerned. The stamps would be in sheets of 100, packed in bundles of 50.

When Mr Mourant heard that the stamps were to be in sheets of 100, he wrote to the Bailiff requesting that this should be altered to 120 or 60 as the values did not lend themselves to rapid calculations other than in multiples of 12.

By 12th April Mr Jouault sent to Major Le Masurier a new specimen of the ½d stamp measuring 27 x 21 mm. He also confirmed that the stamps would be in sheets of 60 and that delivery would be made in the first week of May 1943. (They were, in fact, in sheets of 120, in four panes of 30).

They were issued on the following dates:

½d and 1d	1st June 1943
1½d and 2d	8th June 1943
2½d and 3d	29th June 1943

The bill for 85,000 Frs., plus Mr Jouault's expenses of 1,859 Frs., at the sterling equivalent of 187.2, totalled £464 and was paid on 2nd June 1943.

On 26th June 1943, Mr Jouault sent 20 sets of 'épreuves de luxe' to Major Le Masurier for presentation to the Bailiff with the compliments of Monsieur le Secrétaire d'Etat, for distribution as the Bailiff saw fit.

He also asked whether any further printings of the stamps would be required as the plates had, by French law, to be destroyed after three months. Mr Mourant replied that he could not foresee whether a

further supply of stamps would be needed during that period and requested that the plates be held for a little longer. In mid-July he ordered a further 120,000 ½d and 240,000 1d stamps, and in September requested a further 240,000 1d stamps and 360,000 2½d stamps.

The plates were later destroyed.

Edmund Blampied was paid £60 for his drawings, which are now in the National Postal Museum.

The stamps were valid for postal use in and between the Channel Islands, and to the United Kingdom and overseas countries after the Liberation. They were invalidated on 13th April 1946.

Corner dated blocks of six from the bottom right-hand corner of the sheets are of great interest to collectors. The following dates exist:

½d 1.5.43 3.5.43 6.10.43

— the latter printing is on grey paper resembling newsprint.

1d 7.5.43 8.5.43 7.10.43 28.2.44

— the latter printing is on newsprint

1½d 17.5.43 18.5.43

2d 20.5.43 21.5.43

2½d 31.5.43 25.2.44

— the latter printing is on newsprint

3d 4.6.43 5.6.43

Forgeries

Forgeries of both the Jersey Arms stamps and the pictorials exist, but all are imperforate and are printed on a very white paper. The shades of the pictorials differ considerably from the issued stamps.

Acknowledgement

I am indebted to John N Davies, of the National Postal Museum, for researching information on the 1943 pictorials from official files. Illustrations by courtesy of Harmers of London and Royale Stamp Company Ltd.

BILL NEWPORT

National Postal Museum News

To coincide with the recreation of the first mailcoach run from Bristol to London on 1-2 August 1984, a series of special displays have been produced by the National Postal Museum. These are all on a coaching theme, and can be seen at venues along the mail-

coach route during August. The locations are as follows, and full details can be obtained from the National Postal Museum.

BRISTOL	Industrial Museum 'The Rummer'
BATH	The Guildhall
PICKWICK	'Hare and Hounds'
CHIPPENHAM	Library The Angel Hotel
CORSHAM	Library
CALNE	Library Landsdown Hotel
BECKHAMPTON	'Wagon and Horses'
MARLBOROUGH	'Castle and Ball'
HUNGERFORD	Post Office
NEWBURY	Newbury Museum Post Office
READING	Butts Centre Britannia Building Society Post Office
MAIDENHEAD	Library Post Office
TWYFORD	Alms Houses
THATCHAM	Library
SLOUGH	Post Office
WINDSOR	Post Office
HOUNSLOW	Library
BRENTFORD	Library
CHISWICK	Library
HAMMERSMITH	Library
CITY OF LONDON	Museum of London

Manchester— Altrincham Stagecoach Run

To coincide with the Royal Mail Stamp issue on 31 July, a special stagecoach run will be taking place between Manchester and Altrincham. The event has been organised by the North West Postal Board, and a genuine eighteen-twenties stagecoach, owned by Caroline Dale of Redhouse Stables, Darley Dale, will make the journey. The coach will start from the BBC, Oxford Road, Manchester at approximately 11.00am, and will arrive at Dunham Massey Hall, Altrincham about 12.30-1.00pm.

The coach will be carrying some philatelic covers, although it must be stressed that this is a stagecoach not a mailcoach — the difference being that mailcoaches were built to a standard

design and were hired by the Post Office, carrying both mail and passengers, while stagecoaches were privately owned and used, carrying passengers between stages. Several passengers will also be riding on the coach from Manchester to Altrincham. A special commemorative handstamp has been sponsored for the event by Benham (A Buckingham) Ltd for the event, and a philatelic display will be on view at Dunham Massey Hall.

New Definitive Stamps

Five new definitive stamps will be available from 28 August 1984 to be in line with the new postal charges, they are:

- 13p — 2nd class basic weight — light brown
- 18p — 2nd class second weight — grey green
- 24p — 1st class second weight — light purple
- 22p — Europe All up — yellowish green
- 34p — Zone 'C' airmail — sepia

First day cover services

SERVICE 'A'

This consists of the official Post Office cover — price 14p — addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required and bearing all five stamps. The cover will be cancelled, 'British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh' or 'Windsor Berks', as requested and despatched.

SERVICE 'B'

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

The usual 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 Head Post Offices should be returned not later than 17 August 1984. The following charges will apply:

	INLAND OVERSEAS	
SERVICE 'A'	£1.56	£1.36
Deposit account customers	£1.50	£1.31
SERVICE 'B'	£1.42	£1.24

Technical details

Printer	: Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Limited
Process	: Photogravure — jumelle
Perforation	: 14 x 15
Adhesive	: PVA dextrin
Paper	: phosphor coated, unwater marked

Errors and Varieties

Part 1

To the non collector it is always a mystery why misprinted stamps are held in such high regard by Philatelists, whereas similar types of mistakes in other fields are considered valueless rejects. For no other hobby gives the same reverence to errors and varieties as do stamp collectors.

The names 'errors' and 'varieties' cover basically the same sphere, although the term 'error' usually denotes a more spectacular or important mistake, whereas a 'variety' covers anything that deviates from the normal and officially intended postage stamp. However, one need not worry too much about a name which after all is a personal choice (Americans call varieties 'Freaks').

Mistakes on stamps go back to the first issues, both 1d Black and 2d Blue of 1840 are known with Inverted Watermarks. In 1841 the 1d Stars was issued with the corner letter 'A' omitted from the 'BA' stamp. The first significant error in philately.

Theoretically mistakes can occur in any phase of production, from the manufacture of the paper to the distribution of the finished stamps. Let us consider some varieties that occur in various phases of production and give some examples.

Paper & Gum Errors

The printing of an issue must start here and the first error is the use of the wrong paper. Most recently this occurred when a batch of 12½p 'Machins' were produced on phosphor coated paper instead of non-phosphor FCP (fluorescent coated paper). In addition the normal centre phosphor band was applied (not a major error, more a variety). Another example of this type of variety occurred when the 10p and 20p 'postage dues' were printed on glazed paper of a type not normally used for British stamps.

Another variety of this type is caused by the use of sub-standard papers. All uncoated (without chalk coating) and FBO papers (Fluorescent Brightener Omitted), fall into this category. In both cases the stamps have a greyish yellow appearance and often the design is slightly blurred. The uncoated paper is often thinner than normal with the design showing through from the back. This type of error is not easy for the novice to distinguish, although often they are quite valuable. There have been two uncoated commemoratives, the 1969 'Anniversaries' 1/9d and the

1976 'Christmas' 11p. In addition there have been a number of 'Machins'.

Whilst no new uncoated discoveries have been made in recent years, there have been a number of FBO varieties. The 1983 'Christmas' 15½p and both the first (2½p + 3x3p) and second (½p + 3x4p) Readers Digest coils. The values reflect the scarcity of the item and range from £1 for the 'Christmas' to nearly £1,000 for the second Readers Digest coil.

Due to watermarks no longer being used for British stamps, varieties of this type are a thing of the past, although still popular. Not all inverted (or sideways reversed) watermarks are errors, some are a deliberate part of production, as in the case of booklet panes. During the reign of HM The Queen there have been no inverted watermark errors on 'Definitives' or 'Country' stamps, only on special issues. The prices range from under £1 to about £500. Incorrect Watermarks have occurred; the best example of the present reign is the 2d Phosphor-Graphite with Edward watermarks instead of Multiple Crown.

Gum errors are more for the specialist and are caused by the use of the wrong gum. Three different gums have been used during the last 15 years, they are Gum Arabic, PVA and Dextrin. Some stamps that for example should only be found with PVA, might be found with Gum Arabic. Occasionally, particularly on the less apparent PVA gum, sheets have been printed gummed side up. However, no examples of this type of error have occurred since decimalisation.

Ink Printing Errors

Because this aspect of production is visual it results in the most spectacular errors, top of the list is missing colours. The term is applied to stamps printed in more than one colour, to have a mono-coloured stamp missing colour would result in a blank label, which could only be distinguished if joined to a normal stamp. This type of missing colour is known as an albino error and although not included in catalogues, is nevertheless highly desirable. The first missing colour occurred on the 1961 2½d 'Post Office Savings Bank', the only known block of this error was sold at the 1984 Stampex for £20,000. Always extremely popular and much sought after, missing colours along with imperforates, rank as the



most desirable of all errors. There have been well over 250 different missing colours on GB stamps in spite of the fact that all sheets are scrutinised by both printers and Post Office. The amount of colour omitted ranges from a minute portion of the design to examples where most of the features have been missed off the stamp. Usually only one colour is omitted, although examples are known where two, three and even four colours have been missed. There have been no missing colours since the 1980 'Authoresses'. For a stamp to be termed, missing colour, it must not have any of a particular ink cylinder printed on the stamp, but sometimes the colour is partially omitted, due to a dry print.

The opposite of a missing colour is when the colour is printed twice, known as double prints. Not as spectacular as a missing colour, in fact often this error may not be recognised for what it is, a highly desirable and quite valuable addition to any collection.

A popular and often inexpensive variety is the colour shift which often has a dramatic effect on the design. It is not the degree of the shift, but the effect on the appearance that is important. Sometimes the shift can alter designs completely with colours from one stamp being shifted to the next stamp, making a complete travesty of the subject. This type of error is still occurring, with the most recent example being found on the 12½p 'Christmas' 1983, which as a result of four colours being shifted, had double the number of Birds.

The wrong ink mix may only result in a minor shade difference which particularly on long running



London 1980

INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
6-14 MAY 1980



BRITISH POST OFFICE SECOND MINIATURE SHEET
59p



definitive stamps is unimportant. However, there are examples where the variety can be termed as an Error of Colour. The 1935 Silver Jubilee 2½d was printed in Prussian Blue, three sheets only were found. A more recent example occurred when the 3½p 'Machin' two band was printed in deep olive

brown instead of Olive Grey. In spite of the fact that the only examples are off-centre, this stamp which originally sold at under £2, now fetches over £500. This type of error, because of its extreme rarity is generally outside the scope of the average collector.

ALAN BENJAMIN

New Parcel Definitive Stamp

A new parcel definitive stamp, value £1.33, will be available from 28 August 1984 to be in line with the new postal charges. The new charge is for the basic weight. The colours are blue black for the head against a rose-lilac background.

First day cover service

SERVICE 'A'

This consists of the official Post Office cover — price 14p — addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required and bearing the stamp. The cover will be cancelled, 'British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh' or 'Windsor Berks', as requested and despatched.

SERVICE 'B'

Customers own pre-addressed covers bearing the correct postal address, will be given the stamp, cancelled and despatched.

The usual 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 Head Post Offices should be returned not later than 17 August 1984. The following charges will apply

INLAND OVERSEAS

SERVICE 'A'	£1.81	£1.58
Deposit account customers	£1.75	£1.53
SERVICE 'B'	£1.67	£1.46

Technical details

Printer	: Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Limited
Process	: Photogravure — jumelle
Perforation	: 14 x 15
Adhesive	: PVA dextrin
Paper	: phosphor coated, unwatermarked

The James Chalmers Essays

Pure originality is a very rare thing indeed. Whether it is in the field of the Sciences or the Arts it is the nature of things for one generation to build upon, or to be influenced by, the work of previous generations. Music lovers will spend many a happy hour heatedly arguing about the degree of influence the work of one generation of composers had upon the work of succeeding generations of composers.

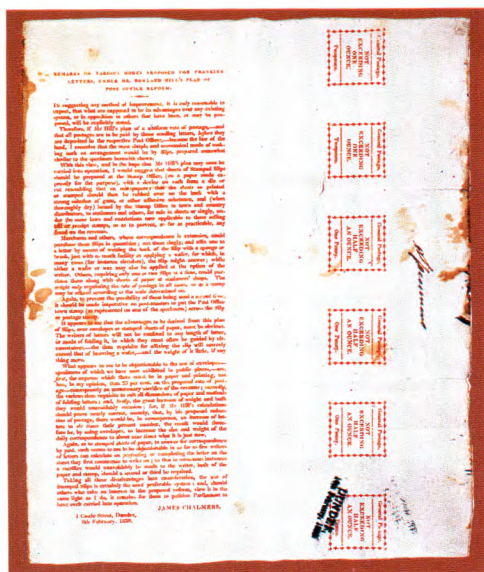
It is therefore not surprising to find that Rowland Hill's position as the 'inventor' of the adhesive postage stamp was challenged.

In August 1879 (shortly after the death of Sir Rowland Hill) the descendants of Rowland Hill and James Chalmers, the Dundee bookseller, began to dispute in a series of books and pamphlets the rival claims of the two men to be the 'inventor' of the adhesive postage stamp. This dispute was to last, and remain unresolved, for many years.

The origins of the dispute lay in the fact that Chalmers had been actively interested in postal reforms in the 1830's. He had written to Robert Wallace, MP, on 4 December 1837 suggesting 'adhesive pieces of paper'. On 8 February 1838 he published a single sheet pamphlet 'remarks on various modes proposed for franking letters' in which he illustrated examples of the adhesive 'slips' he proposed. He sent a copy of this leaflet to Lt Col Maberly, The Secretary of the Post Office. In April 1838, Chalmers had a letter published in the Post Circular, the propaganda newspaper of the movement for Uniform Penny Postage, reproducing facsimiles of his designs.

In August 1839 when Chalmers submitted his amended designs to the Treasury competition, he wrote in an accompanying letter to Rowland Hill "If slips or stamps are to be used I flatter myself that I have a claim to priority — it now being nearly two years since I first made it public . . ."

In January 1840 Rowland Hill wrote to Chalmers pointing out that he (Hill) had suggested adhesive labels or stamps as part of his plan for postal reform in his pamphlet of February 1837. On 18 May 1840 Chalmers replied to Rowland Hill virtually admitting to his mistake "... having given publicity to my plan nearly two years before the Treasury Minute of August last appeared . . . I was naturally induced to believe that I was first in the field . . .". James



Chalmers died in 1853.

Rowland Hill's fame as the great postal reformer does not depend on whether he is credited with being the 'first' person to propose the use of the adhesive postage stamps or indeed the 'first' to advocate a prepayment penny postage rate. Adhesive revenue stamps had been in use by the Inland Revenue for some years, and in 1680 William Dockwra's London Penny Post was based on the principle of prepayment and prepayment was shown by a hand impressed postage stamp bearing the legend 'penny postage paid'. In the 1830's when postal reform was such a hot discussion point, there is a fair chance that these and many other ideas were floated in Coffee House and Public House debates.

Rowland Hill's fame lies in that he was able to translate these ideas into a practical and workable scheme and had the tenacity to implement the scheme despite powerful and hostile opposition. In the words of Mr Gladstone, the Liberal Statesman, his reform had "run like wildfire through the civilised world: never perhaps was a local invention and improvement applied in the lifetime of its author to the advantage of such vast multitudes of his fellow-creatures".

The R M Phillips Collection housed at the National Postal Museum contains James Chalmers' pamphlet of 1838 'Remarks on various modes proposed for franking letters' and the accompanying illustrations of the adhesive 'slips'.

JOHN MEMMOTT
ASSIST. CURATOR

Christian Heritage Stamp Book

4 September 1984

The story of Britain's Christian Heritage is told in words and pictures in a new prestige stamp book to be issued by The Post Office on 4 September, in collaboration with the Christian Heritage organisation commemorating Christian Heritage Year which began on 7 May 1984.

The Christian Heritage organisation, backed by the Trinity Trust, a registered charity, helps churches to communicate the Christian faith.

Written and researched by Murray Watts and Jim Douglas, the book — plus an associated cover — are designed by Philip Miles. Four panes of definitive stamps are included, made up as follows: Pane 'A' 6 x 17p stamps; Panes 'B' and 'D' 6 x 13p stamps; Pane 'C' 7 x 17p stamps, 1 x 13p stamp, 1 x 10p stamp.

Illustrated in colour, the book price £4, will be available from most post offices, and by post from the British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh.

The accompanying line drawings illustrate the make-up of the four panes and the positions of the phosphor bars. Pane 'A' is printed on advanced coated paper (ACP).

Stamp printing details

Designer	: Arnold Machin
Printer	: Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Limited
Process	: Photogravure
Paper	: Coated, Unwatermarked
Adhesive	: PVA dextrin
Perforations	: 14 x 15
Colours	: 17p steel blue, 13p light brown, 10p beige

First day cover services

The following services for first day covers will be provided.

Two special pictorial handstamps will be available: 'British Philatelic Bureau Edinburgh' and 'Canterbury'.

SERVICE 'A'

This consists of the official Post Office cover, price 14p, addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required and bearing all the stamps from pane 'C' (value £1.42). The cover will be cancelled, 'Philatelic Bureau Edinburgh' or 'Canterbury' as requested, and despatched for a charge of £1.92

(overseas customers £1.67). For deposit account customers the charge will be £1.86 (overseas customers £1.62).

SERVICE 'B'

Customers' own pre-addressed covers bearing the correct postal address, will be given the stamps from pane 'C', cancelled as requested, and despatched for a charge of £1.78 (overseas customers £1.55) per cover.

The usual first day of issue facilities will be available at offices with philatelic posting boxes. Application forms available from the Philatelic Bureau, and at all Head Post Offices should be returned not later than 24 August 1984.

Reposting facility

The two special pictorial handstamps may be obtained under the re-posting facility. An addressed envelope with pane 'C' affixed under an outer cover endorsed, 'Special Handstamp Christian Heritage Stamp Book', should be sent on the day of issue to: The British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT, or, The Head Postmaster, Head Post Office, 92 Northgate, CANTERBURY, Kent, CT1 1AA.



Story of our Christian Heritage £4 Book of Stamps



Royal Mail First Day Cover

The Story of our Christian Heritage

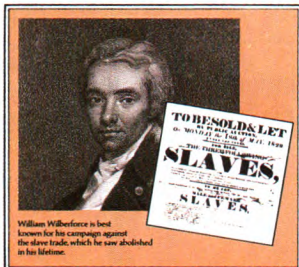
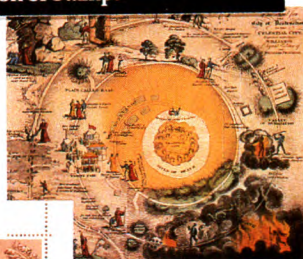


£4 Book of Stamps

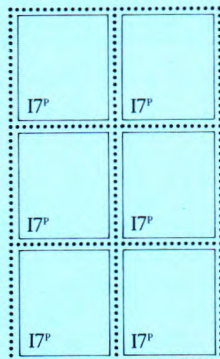
comprised Preaching and praying
in candle- and country districts across
the land. Knox was used to stir the
people as never before.

At his death it was said: 'Here
lies he who never feared the face of
man. Knox bequeathed a clarity of
purpose to the new Church of
Scotland, strengthening the
foundations in a turbulent time.'

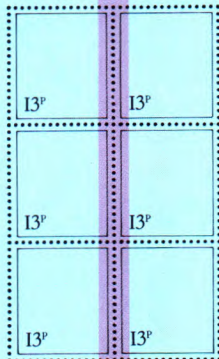
WHILE religious leaders
influenced church history,
other Christians contributed to the
arts and sciences. JOHN MILTON
(1608-74) to justify the ways of God
to man, wrote *Paradise Lost*, an epic
poem which is a great work of literature.



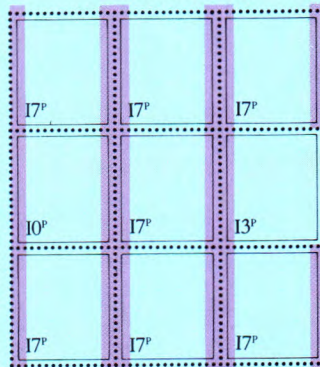
Pane A



Pane B and D



Pane C



Advanced Coated Paper (ACP)

The Definitive Colour Changes 1950/51

An unnecessary issue?

Part 2 (concluded)

Meantime, the complete range of essays for the new colours of the other values had been printed by using existing cylinders. Two new essay cards were prepared each shewing single perforated stamps in the existing and proposed colours.

One of these shewed the 1d in 'normal blue' and the 1½d in 'normal green' whilst the other had the 1d in 'reduced blue' (described as '2½d blue reduced by 25%') and the 1½d in 'green plus yellow'. A final decision on these variations was needed by mid-November in order to have the stamps ready for issue on 1st May 1951.

Matters were now drawing to a conclusion. P.S.D. prepared a careful note for the Director-General. It suggested that the new colours should be approved finally with the 'existing' green shade and the 'reduced' blue shade confirmed. There was a concluding comment that the question of taking the opportunity to re-introduce deeper tones of colour had been considered but quite apart from the use of additional dye, the change would necessitate new photogravure cylinders for each value and these would take 6 to 9 months to produce. Moreover, as Harrisons had lost some of their highly-skilled staff to more lucrative jobs, they were very short of technicians. These points put paid to any such move.

Draft Parliamentary questions and answers were prepared to announce the changes to the House of Commons and a letter was addressed to the King's Private Secretary, Sir Alan Lascelles, seeking His Majesty's approval. A card with examples of the existing and confirmed new colours were sent with the letter which was acknowledged on the King's behalf by Sir Alan on 13th September.

In all this, one point that was raised at quite an early stage in the proceedings seems somehow to have been allowed to pass by default — the question of the 'balance' of the 2d value cylinders — the stamp now to be issued in brown. No word of this subject appears in the late stages of the Post Office files. It is therefore interesting that in common with all the other values involved in the colour change, the 2d brown stamp was in fact printed from the original cylinders. The difference in the contrast which caused such concern does not appear to be obvious from an examination of the issued stamp.

The new stamps actually went on sale on 3rd May

1951 which was the opening day of the Festival of Britain — a festival organised to mark the emergence of the nation from the gloom of wartime conditions.

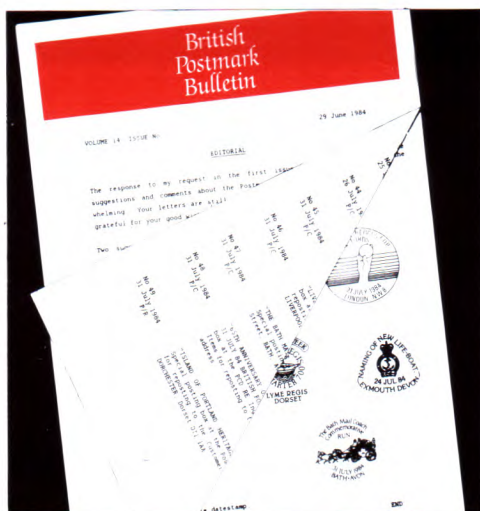
The deliberations of the U.P.U. members at their Brussels Conference held a little over a year later form a wry postscript to these events. During the ninth session of the Congress on 27th June 1952, the delegates discussed a proposition presented by Great Britain (amongst others) which sought the discontinuance of the regulated colours (Article 161, paragraph 1). The British delegation pointed out that these provisions had become irrelevant and pointless, and moreover they had lost their usefulness as a result, for example, of the airmail surcharges and the reduction in the printed paper rates. The financial situation of some postal administrations meant that they had to change their rates frequently which in turn meant frequent colour changes, both for those stamps used internationally and for those used internally. According to a survey conducted by the British Post Office, only 28 member countries now used the three internationally stipulated colours. As a result of the views expressed by Great Britain, it was unanimously agreed that Article 161, paragraph 1 should be annulled.

P. WORSFOLD

British Postmark Bulletin

We are convinced that there are a lot of Philatelic Bulletin readers who are unaware of the existence of the Postmark Bulletin. It is produced fortnightly and is packed with information about forthcoming special handstamps and postmark slogans. For those who specialise in this field, the Postmark Bulletin is a must. All the relevant news concerning handstamps and slogans is given well in advance of the dates of application, thus enabling readers to prepare their covers and send them to the Postmasters in whose areas the cancels are to be applied. In addition we include illustrations of some handstamps, and it is our intention to introduce more and more illustrations as each edition is published.

Despatched every two weeks by post to your address, the cost is £6.50 for one year's subscription. With this copy of the Philatelic Bulletin we are



sending a sample page from the Postmark Bulletin showing examples of the style of entries and the information they contain, together with an order form which may be sent Freepost to the British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh.

New Stamp Books

The first in a new series of stamp books with illustrated covers will be introduced on 3 September 1984 with contents in keeping with the new tariff changes. The new 50p book, designed by Peter Morter, illustrates orchids — *Dendrobium Nobile* and *Miltonia Hybrid* — and the contents are 3 x 1p, 2 x 4p and 3 x 13p definitive stamps. The £1.30 book illustrating trams features — Swansea/Mumbles Railway — designed by John Thirsk, and contains 10 x 13p definitive stamps. The new £1.54 book continues with the postal history theme portraying 'To Pay' labels and contains 4 x 13p stamps and 6 x 17p definitive stamps, while the £1.70 book containing 10 x 17p definitive stamps continues with social letter writing with illustrations by George Hardie. A special offer printed inside the book will enable customers to send away for a Postal Cassette pack.

All four books will be available from most post offices and philatelic counters, and by post from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT.

Technical Details

The stamps are printed in photogravure by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Limited — the stamps on

the Chambon press and the covers on the Libra bookmaking machine. The stamps in the 50p book are printed in one format only with the 1p stamp above 3 x 13p stamps on the right-hand side and 2 x 1p stamps above 2 x 4p stamps on the left-hand side of the pane. Each stamp in the 50p book will bear a single central phosphor bar.

The 13p stamps in the second class book will bear a single side phosphor bar.

The 17p stamps in the 'Postal History' book will bear two phosphor bars and the 13p stamps will have a single side phosphor bar. The lay-out will be 6 x 17p stamps and 4 x 13p stamps. The books will be produced in both left and right-hand formats. In each case a 17p stamp above a 13p stamp will be adjacent to the selvedge.

Some previous issues were produced with the two first class stamps adjacent to the selvedge. This meant that once all the first class stamps had been used, any remaining second class stamps were left detached from the cover. The revised format overcomes this problem.

The 17p stamps contained in the £1.70 book are printed on phosphor coated paper.

New South Western Postal Region Postcards

South Western Postal Region will issue a new postcard on August 17 to coincide with the first day of the Bristol International Balloon Fiesta. This is the third card to be issued this year.

The card — SWPR 24 — will show the bright red Cameron balloon carrying the slogan 'Collect British Stamps', which appears at many shows throughout the south west in the summer months.

There will be a special first day of sale handstamp depicting a hot air balloon with the words 'Bristol International Balloon Fiesta 17 Aug 1984'.

The card will cost 13p and orders up to £18.00 will cost 17p extra for postage and handling, while orders over £18.00 will cost £1.17 extra.

Fully serviced cards with the special cancellation will cost 44p.

Orders and remittances should be sent to the Philatelic Officer, The Head Post Office, Cattle-market Road, BRISTOL BS1 1AA. Payments should be made by National Girobank transfer to account number 202 1005, or by postal orders or cheques made payable to 'The Post Office'. Orders should arrive by 17 August.

British Council Stamps Issue 25 September 1984

1984 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the British Council, now part of Britain's overseas representation. The Post Office will issue on 25 September 1984 four special stamps illustrating some aspects of the Council's work.

First day cover services

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

SERVICE 'A'

This service consists of the official first day cover — price 15p — addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required and bearing all four stamps. The cover will be cancelled 'London SW' 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'	£1.49	£1.30
Deposit account customers	£1.43	£1.25
SERVICE 'B'	£1.34	£1.17

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 Head Post Offices should be returned not later than 14 September 1984.

Withdrawn Items

The following items will be withdrawn during August:

- August 1983 — Scottish Aerogramme — 9 August 1984
- 1970-75 — 'To pay' labels — 4p, 7p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £5 — 20 August 1984
- August 1983 — 'British Gardens' stamps and presentation pack — 28 August 1984

Price Increases

Subject to agreement with POUC, new prices will be introduced for the following philatelic items:

Item	Price	Date of Implementation
FIRST DAY COVER	15p	3.9.84
PRESENTATION PACK Ø	21p	25.9.84
COLLECTORS' PACK Ø	63p	1984 issue
Ø in addition to the face value of the stamps		
PHQ POSTCARDS	14p	3.9.84
FIRST DAY COVER ALBUM		
Large	£9.95	3.9.84
Small	£6.75	3.9.84
POSTCARD ALBUM	£9.95	3.9.84
PRESENTATION PACK ALBUM	£9.95	3.9.84
ALBUM LEAVES (pkts 10)		
First day cover (large)		£3
First day cover (single)		£2
Postcard		£3
Presentation pack		£3
PHILATELIC BULLETIN BINDER		£4
STAMP BUG STAMP ALBUM		£3.95
THERE IS NO INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:		
Philatelic Bulletin		
Postmark Bulletin		
British Philatelic Bureau first day cover services		
Special handstamps		
Postmark slogans		

Book Reviews

Engine Turning 1680-1980. The Tools and Technique. By Martin Matthews. 177pp.

Published by the author at 41 Greenhill Road, Otford, SEVENOAKS, Kent TN14 5RR. Price £37.

Collectors of nineteenth century banknotes and British line-engraved stamps will be familiar with the specialised work of Perkins Bacon & Petch in their process of engine-turned backgrounds. These geometrical patterns of intersecting white lines were an important security feature and were produced on a rose engine — so called from the shape of its cams.

Martin Matthews, a craftsman watchmaker and brother of Jeffery Matthews, has now produced a historical study and documentation of these ingenious machines, which were used to decorate jewellery, watch cases, carriage clock dials, silver boxes and the like, long before Jacob Perkins put one to use in security printing.

The author describes, with the aid of photographs and contemporary illustrations, how the machines of various vintage operated, who made them and, in some cases, how he has restored examples to working condition. Firms catalogues and examples of the complicated patterns — especially those generated by machines fitted with epicyclic motion — add to the interest.

The history and — to the technically minded — the ingenuity of the mechanism, are fascinating, but it will probably be the 22 pages devoted to the 'geometric lathe' invented by Asa Spencer and used by Perkins Bacon that will prove to be the most important part of the book for philatelists. The technical details of the machine and facsimile of Jacob Perkins' patent specification add considerably to the available knowledge of the firm's methods used to produce the penny black, with its white-line engraving.

To anyone interested in skill and craftsmanship this book is a delight to handle, to browse through and, above all, to read.

1984 Check List of Postage Stamps about Music by A Herbert R Grimsey, MA

A completely revised and updated edition of this very handy and popular book which appeared in 1974, 1977 and 1980, has been produced. As before it lists all the stamps and miniature sheets which have in their design reference to music, whether to composers, dancers, singers, players or their instruments. Items are listed chronologically within alphabetically arranged countries. Stanley Gibbons and Scott's catalogue numbers are quoted, also some from specialised works where applicable. Series issues such as CEPT and Postal Unions containing posthorns have been listed separately in this edition. There is also an appendix on local stamps or vignettes. The format is loose-leaf to allow for the issue of future supplements, and is housed in a ring-binder. The book consists of 176 pages (A5 size).

The price of the book is £7.50, or £6.00 without the binder, both post free. (Airmail extra at cost). Remittances made payable to the author, A H R Grimsey, should be sent to him c/o BPF Ltd, 316 Vauxhall Bridge Road, LONDON, SW1V 1AA.

Perforation Changes for Definitive Stamps

The next stamps to be produced by The House of Questa using their new perforating dies will be the 2p national definitive stamps. This completes the range of national definitive stamps currently produced by The House of Questa.

These new dies increase the number of perforations from 13½ x 14 to 15 x 14 and are consistent with the perforation patterns of definitive stamps produced by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Limited.

Initially, the stamps became available from philatelic counters and the British Philatelic Bureau from 10 July 1984. Dates of issue of the remaining 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 facilities were offered.

London Economic Summit

The cylinders used for the printing of the London Economic Summit stamps are:

1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 1f, 1g.

Replacement Stamp Rolls

Two new rolls of stamps will be placed on sale on 3 September 1984. Details as follows:

KL (contents 500 x 13p stamps price £65). The stamps are printed on ordinary coated paper bearing a single phosphor bar. Adhesive is PVA Dextrin.

LL (contents 500 x 17 stamps price £85). The stamps are printed on phosphor coated paper. Adhesive is PVA Dextrin.

The rolls are reeled for end-ways delivery and will be available from the British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh, philatelic counters and post offices where there is a known demand.

Both rolls are printed by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd.

Posting Boxes

No. 62 Mr A E Bissell of Oxford sent us this photograph of the 1980 'K' type pillar box situated in Victoria Street, Swindon. An inscription on the box says that it is one of the first castings. Our thanks as ever to Mr Bissell.



Stamp Books on Standing Order for Bureau Customers

The British Philatelic Bureau has recently extended its standing order service for stamp book collectors. The Bureau now accepts standing orders for both left and right hand versions of counter stamp books. Currently these books contain either ten first class, ten second class or a combination of first and second class stamps. Anyone interested in placing a standing order for stamp books should contact the Bureau for their requirements.

Letters to the Editor



Dear Sir,

In the past few years the British Post Office has improved and rationalised its range of postal stationery to some extent. The design of the new postnotes, and the subsequent envelopes, is much improved on that of previous stationery. Yet this area of G.B. philately is still much neglected and few collectors pay any attention to these issues. — Why?

In my opinion this is due to both traditional neglect and at the same time the view that these items are rather dull. What is required is well-produced items with a thematic content. If landscapes or flora or fauna were shown on illustrated stationery I am sure the items would become instant winners with the collecting as well as the lay public.

This is nothing new. Overseas, particularly in Austria and Germany and more recently in Australia, long series of pictorial postcards and envelopes have been produced. Sometimes, these commemorate anniversaries or events not thought worthy of a stamp issue. On other occasions they act as tourist propaganda for local beauty spots. Australian items are of particular interest because they have an imprinted stamp of a design unique to the card or cover and then another larger supplementary design — thus giving the impression of a complete first day cover for a normally produced stamp.

Why can't the British Post Office follow suit and produce commemorative, illustrated stationery which would be attractive to all collectors? The demand is there, as shown by the sales abroad. And clearly so is the revenue. So why is there still such a conservative approach in the British Post Office? Definitives are all very well — but not very exciting!

Yours faithfully
Douglas N Muir

Dear Sir,

The Post Office and Fritz Wegner deserve congratulation for the 'Europa' stamps issue of 15 May. The bold monochrome design, particularly on the European Parliamentary elections stamps is a most welcome change from the multicoloured pictorial stamps more usually produced in this country in recent years.

What a pity, then, that the opportunity to pro-

duce these fine stamps by recess-printing which would have rendered the designs even more outstanding was missed. Just now and again the extra expense of this technique is surely justified.

What a pity also, that the se-tenant pairs were produced once again with their shorter sides adjacent. If they had been arranged the other way around, the collection of good pairs, particularly in used condition off paper would have been much easier, and the resultant shape more pleasing to the eye.

Nevertheless, these are handsome stamps, and it is to be hoped that they will be followed at least once each year by other of similar simple good taste.

Yours faithfully

Dr Peter M Watkinson

Weston-super-Mare

New Royal Mail Postage Labels

Two new Royal Mail Postage Labels, values 16½p and 17p, will be available on 28 August 1984 from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT, and by personal application at all philatelic counters, and at Shirley Branch Office, Southampton. The price is 33½p for a pack containing both labels. This will bring the postage labels into line with the new tariff changes. On this occasion no first day of issue facilities are offered.

Forthcoming Events

Strathclyde Postcard Club

The Strathclyde Postcard Club was formed in May this year and is open to all collectors of postcards both north and south of the border. It is proposed to issue a newsletter and listings of important Strathclyde postcards which should be of permanent value to local historians and postcard collectors everywhere. The membership is £2.50 and further information may be obtained from: Stanley K Hunter, 34 Gray Street, GLASGOW, G3 7TY.

Deal Philatelic Society

The Deal Philatelic Society will be holding its Annual Stamp Fair and Exhibition on Saturday 4 August at the Quarter Deck, Deal from 10.30 to

4.30pm. An exhibition of stamps, postal history and thematics will be displayed by members of the society, and a number of dealers will be in attendance. Admission is free, and to mark the Society's 75th anniversary this year, a specially designed cover has been produced for the occasion and will be on sale at the exhibition.

Commemorative Covers

The Johnson Society

Four special philatelic covers have been produced by the Johnson Society to commemorate the bicentenary of the death of Doctor Samuel Johnson. Two covers will be issued to coincide with the British Council and Christmas stamps issues, the remaining two will be issued on 18 September and 13 December, the days of Dr Johnson's birth and death respectively. Each cover is a limited edition of 1000 and a special postmark has also been produced. Further details can be obtained from A G Bradbury, 2 Fairholme Road, LEICESTER, LE2 6GL. Readers wishing for further information on the Johnson Society should write to Mrs Mary Salloway, Johnson Birthplace Museum, Breadmarket Street, LICHFIELD, Staffs, WS13 6LG.

Lancashire Constabulary

A special philatelic cover has been produced by the Lancashire Constabulary to celebrate their Open Day on 2 September 1984. This will be held at Police Headquarters, Hutton, and admission is free. The cost of the cover is £1.25 and can be obtained from PC 1114 Pickles, Public Relations Department, Lancashire Constabulary Headquarters, PO Box 77, Hutton, PRESTON PR4 5SB.

The Royal Mail

A special philatelic cover will be issued by Benham (A Buckingham) Limited, featuring the Manchester — Altrincham Mailcoach, to coincide with the issue of the Royal Mail stamps on 31 July 1984.

There will be two varieties of this cover, one to be carried from Manchester into the International Garden Festival, Liverpool with a Manchester postmark, and the second variety will be carried from Manchester to Altrincham also with a special pictorial postmark. Bearing the full set of Royal Mail stamps the cost of the covers is £3.50 each or £7.00 the pair. Further details can be obtained from Benham (A Buckingham) Ltd, 22-28 High Street, HYTHE, Kent, CT21 5AT.

125th Opening of Brunel's Three Bridges, Southall, Middlesex

To commemorate the 125th Opening of Brunel's Three Bridges, Southall, a special philatelic cover was issued on 15 July 1984. On this day 125 years ago, Three Bridges where road passes over water which in turn passes over rail all at the same point, was officially opened.

The design of the cover shows the three forms of transport using Three Bridges at the time of opening in 1859 and present day. The crest and the name of the London Borough of Ealing in whose area the bridge stands also appear.

Each cover, from a limited edition of 2000 bears a 16p definitive stamp cancelled with a special pictorial handstamp which shows the front of a GWR Castle locomotive. The filler card gives a history and description of Three Bridges.

The cost of the cover issued by the GWR Preservation Group is £1.25 plus 25p for p & p, overseas £2.00. Part of the proceeds will go to the restoration fund. Orders with the appropriate remittance should be sent to Mr FG Kestell, GWR Preservation Group, 29 Piper Road, KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES, Surrey, KT1 3EX.

Lions Club International

A special philatelic cover has been produced by District 1051 (Ireland) of Lions Clubs International, to commemorate the election of Bert Mason of Donaghadee, Northern Ireland, as International President of the International Lions Club. The cover was issued on 7 July 1984, the day of the election at the 67th International Convention held in San Francisco, United States of America. A special handstamp has been produced and the cover will be available with either the full set of Greenwich Meridian stamps affixed, or the 16p value. The cost of the covers is £2.00 bearing the single stamp, or £3.00 bearing the full set of stamps. A limited number of covers signed by Bert Mason is also available at £4.00 each.

Orders with the appropriate remittance made payable to 1051 Lions International should be sent to Lion Cecil Johnston, 64 Saul Road, DOWNPATRICK, Co Down, BT30 6PA, and 25p should be added for postage and packing.

Forces Covers

70th Anniversary of HMS Engadine

A special Souvenir philatelic cover has been produced to commemorate the 70th anniversary of

the conversion of HMS Engadine to become the Royal Navy's first aircraft carrier on 25 August 1914. The design of the cover features HMS Engadine before and after the conversion, the ship's badge, and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Engadine, a modern helicopter support ship. The covers will bear the 16p Greenwich Meridian Stamp and be cancelled with a special handstamp depicting the badge of HMS Engadine. A limited number of covers will be signed by Group Captain G E Livock DFC, AFC, RAF, rtd, Flight Sub Lieut RNAS, HMS Engadine 1915, and Captain J D Roddis, Commanding Officer, Royal Fleet Auxiliary Engadine 1984. The cost of the covers is 90p for the unsigned version, £1.35 signed by Captain J D Roddis only, and £2.10 with both signatures.

Orders with the appropriate remittance 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.

Philatelic Bulletin

Editor Charles Gowen

Assistant Editor Frank Brench

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