

Philatelic Bulletin



Volume 3: Number 10 June 1966



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Introduction

The second in the series of British pictorial stamps will be issued on the 8th August 1966. As the date of this issue has been deferred we are withholding the design details and information about the artist until our next issue. The article, An Early History of Rural Posts will, we hope, interest our many readers who have an especial interest in postal history.

Special Issues since 1924

We have had so many requests for information about the dates and denominations of Great Britain special issues that we feel a full list will be generally welcomed.

SPECIAL ISSUES OF BRITISH STAMPS PRINTED SINCE 1924

Description and date of issue Denomination

1. British Empire Exhibition 1924-5
23rd April 1924
9th April 1925 1d, 1½d
2. Postal Union Congress
10th May 1929 ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2½d, £1
3. King George V Silver Jubilee
7th May 1935 ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2½d
4. King George VI Coronation
13th May 1937 1½d
5. Penny Post Centenary
6th May 1940 ½d, 1d, 1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d
6. Peace Issue
11th June 1946 2½d, 3d
7. King George VI Silver Wedding
26th April 1948 2½d, £1
8. Channel Islands Liberation
10th May 1948 1d, 2½d
9. Olympic Games
29th July 1948 2½d, 3d, 6d, 1s od
10. UPU 75th Anniversary
10th October 1949 2½d, 3d, 6d, 1s od
11. Festival of Britain
3rd May 1951 2½d, 4d
12. Queen Elizabeth II Coronation
3rd June 1953 2½d, 4d, 1s 3d, 1s 6d
13. World Scout Jubilee Jamboree
1st August 1957 2½d, 4d, 1s 3d
14. 46th Conference of Inter-Parliamentary Union.
12th September 1957 4d
15. Sixth British Empire and Commonwealth Games
18th July 1958 3d, 6d, 1s 3d
16. Tercentenary of Act Establishing 'General Letter Office'
7th July 1960 3d, 1s 3d
17. First Anniversary of the Conference of European Postal and Telecommunications Administrations
19th September 1960 6d, 1s 6d
18. Post Office Savings Bank Centenary
28th August 1961 2½d, 3d, 1s 6d
19. Second Anniversary of the Conference of European Postal and Telecommunications Administrations
18th September 1961 2d, 4d, 1od
20. Seventh Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference
25th September 1961 6d, 1s 3d
21. National Productivity Year
14th November 1962 2½d 3d, 1s 3d
22. Freedom from Hunger
21st March 1963 2½d, 1s 3d
23. Paris Postal Conference
7th May 1963 6d
24. National Nature Week
16th May 1963 3d, 4½d
25. International Lifeboat Conference
31st May 1963 2½d, 4d, 1s 6d
26. Red Cross Centenary Congress
15th August 1963 3d, 1s 3d, 1s 6d
27. Commonwealth Pacific Cable
3rd December 1963 1s 6d
28. Shakespeare Festival
23rd April 1964 3d, 6d
1s 3d, 1s 6d, 2s 6d

Children's Design for Christmas Stamps

29. 20th International Geographical Congress
1st July 1964 2½d, 4d, 8d, 1s 6d
30. 10th International Botanical Congress
5th August 1964 3d, 6d, 9d, 1s 3d
31. Forth Road Bridge
4th September 1964 3d, 6d
32. Sir Winston Churchill
8th July 1965 4d, 1s 3d
33. 700th Anniversary of Simon de Montfort's Parliament
19th July 1965 6d, 2s 6d
34. Salvation Army Centenary
9th August 1965 3d, 1s 6d
35. Joseph Lister Centenary
1st September 1965 4d, 1s 6d
36. Commonwealth Arts Festival
1st September 1965 6d, 1s 6d
37. 25th Anniversary of Battle of Britain
13th September 1965 4d, 9d, 1s 3d
38. Post Office Tower
8th October 1965 3d, 1s 3d
39. 20th Anniversary of United Nations
25th October 1965 3d, 1s 6d
40. I.T.U. Centenary
15th November 1965 9d, 1s 6d
41. Robert Burns
25th January 1966 4d, 1s 3d
42. 900th Anniversary of Westminster Abbey
28th February 1966 3d, 2s 6d
43. Pictorial (Landscape)  4d, 1s 3d, 1s 6d
44. World Cup
1966 4d, 6d, 1s 3d

Children up to and including the age of 15 attending schools in the United Kingdom have been invited by the Postmaster General to submit designs for Christmas postage stamps to be issued on 1st December 1966. The winner will receive a prize of £20 and there will be prizes of presentation packs of special stamps for other designs commended by the Stamp Advisory Committee.

The rules of the competition are:

The designs must illustrate either a festive or a religious theme.

There must be no lettering in the designs. Up to five colours may be used but dark colours must be avoided.

The designs should be drawn within the framework of the following dimensions:

3·3 inches by 6 inches for an oblong stamp.
5·9 inches by 3·4 inches for an upright stamp.
Space should be left for the Queen's head and denomination which will be added at a later stage by the Post Office.

Entries which should bear the child's name, age, address and school together with a certificate from a Head Teacher saying that the designs are the child's unaided work should be sent to:

Public Relations Dept. (Christmas Stamp Competition),

Post Office Headquarters,
St Martins le Grand,
London EC1
by 20th June 1966.

An Early History of Rural Posts

In these days when the Post Office delivers mail to every residence in the country it is perhaps difficult to realize that this was not always so.

The situation up to 1764 was, broadly stated, that the Post Office carried letters to post towns only but did not undertake to deliver them at the houses of the addressees, and in London only was there a local post, the famous Penny Post originally founded by Dockwra in 1680, and soon afterwards taken over by the Crown.

In 1764 great advances began. The Postmaster General obtained authority to set up in any city or town a penny post similar to that which existed in London; in 1774 letters began to be delivered free of charge; and in 1794 it was provided that any penny post might be extended beyond the former limit of 10 miles from the town in which it was set up. Such posts were, however, only set up in about half a dozen of the largest towns in the kingdom, and at that time neither benefited nor were intended to benefit the rural districts.

It will be seen then that in the early days of last century there were no rural or village posts. Letters were conveyed by post to towns of any considerable size, and were fetched from there by an arrangement and on behalf of the people living in the surrounding villages. It is known that wealthy people, with large correspondence made special arrangements for themselves and sometimes the Postmasters of the towns undertook delivery of the letters in the villages. The charge they levied for this service they kept for themselves.

In some cases villages or perhaps small market towns which were not post towns,

received from public funds an 'allowance in aid of their post'.

The first real effort to carry post into the villages was made in 1801. By the fifth clause of an Act of that year, the Postmaster General was authorized to make arrangements with inhabitants who lived outside post towns for the collection and conveyance of their letters and to mutually agree the charge for the service. This was the origin of the posts called 'fifth-clause posts' or sometimes 'Convention posts'.

In the same year the London penny post became a twopenny post.

By April 1803, there were 13 'fifth-clause' posts in operation showing a total net balance of revenue of £55 7s! As a general rule the charge was a penny for each letter, over and above the ordinary rate of postage if the letter passed through the general post.

The introduction of these posts encouraged villagers to correspond and enabled them to communicate with each other and the outside world.

Because there was no legal power to make a charge for the delivery of certain 'franked' items and newspapers 'fifth clause' post became crippled. As early as 1808 these posts were only set up for small towns and 'penny-posts' were granted to villages. By this means the Postmaster General could levy a charge for franks and newspapers as they became liable under 'penny-post' conditions.

From 1808, therefore, until the establishment of uniform penny postage in 1840, the rural districts obtained their letters in four ways: (i) by their own unaided effort and expense:

Commemorative Stamps available from Philatelic Bureau

(ii) by their own effort aided by an allowance from the revenue: (iii) by 'fifth clause' posts and (iv) by penny posts which were constantly increasing in number.

In 1838, there were 52 'fifth clause' posts in England and Wales and 1922 villages in the United Kingdom were served by penny posts but even so there were very large areas which were not served by the Post Office.

The introduction of uniform penny postage in January 1840, had a serious effect upon the revenue of the rural posts as the additional charge made in penny posts and 'fifth clause' posts ceased at once.

There was a certain amount of controversy between the Treasury and the Post Office about the principles on which delivery of mail should take place, but in 1843 it was decided that all places for which 100 letters a week were received should be entitled to a free daily delivery. The boundary of the 'free delivery' was fixed by the Postmaster General in each case.

From 1850, various other principles were adopted which had as their foundation that each post must pay its way. This meant in some cases that posts became tri-weekly, bi-weekly or even weekly.

In 1859 about 93% of letters, packets, papers etc, were conveyed and delivered to the addressees at the normal postage rate, and in 1862, this figure had risen to 94%.

The service and areas covered continued to grow, until in 1897 it was announced that a regular delivery of letters would be given to every house in the kingdom and this, with of course, considerable improvements in both regularity and frequency applies today.

Post Office Tower	3d, 1s 3d
20th Anniversary of the U.N.	3d, 1s 6d
I.T.U.	9d, 1s 6d
Robert Burns	4d, 1s 3d
Westminster Abbey	3d
Pictorial Landscapes	4d, 6d, 1s 3d, 1s 6d
World Cup	4d, 6d, 1s 3d

All stamps are available with or without phosphor lines except I.T.U. 9d and 1s 6d which are available in plain only.

Rolls of Stamps

It has been decided to print the royal cypher on the band of each roll to denote the reign in which the roll was printed. This change will be made as and when new stocks of rolls are required.

To-date the plain 960X 1d is the only roll on which this change has been made; the next rolls on which the change will be made will be 1920Z 1d, 480AC 3d and 1920U 3d, but no dates can be given at present.

Withdrawal of Bureau Stock Items

The following issues will be withdrawn from sale on the dates shown:

Robert Burns	29th July 1966
Westminster Abbey	31st August 1966
Abu Dhabi (Falconry)	29th July 1966

Pictorial Issue—Birds

As announced in the addendum to the May number of the Bulletin, The Postmaster General has now decided that these stamps will be issued as a block containing four 4d stamps of different design. Only complete blocks of four will be sold from the Bureau. Customers are reminded that the first day of issue will now be 8th August 1966.

The Bureau will again offer a full first day cover service. The inclusive charge for a cover under service A, where the officially designed envelope is provided, will be 4s 4d (70c). Customers' own envelopes will be accepted under service B, for which the charge will be 2s 4d (40c) per cover. Orders for first day covers must reach the Bureau by Monday 1st August 1966.

The presentation pack will cost 2s 4d (40c) plus the usual 6d handling charge for orders under 10s and 2s 6d for orders of 10s and over. For orders of 100 or more from the Bureau the charge will be 1s 10d per pack plus 2s 6d handling charge.

List of offices with philatelic posting boxes:
London E.C.D.O. (Chief Office).

Trafalgar Square B.O. WC2.

London S.W.D.O.

Aberdeen	Leicester
Aberystwyth	Lincoln
Belfast	Liverpool
Birmingham	Llandudno
Blackpool	Londonderry
Bournemouth	Luton
Bradford	Maidstone
Brighton	Manchester
Bristol	Middlesbrough
Cambridge	Newcastle upon Tyne
Cardiff	Newport, Mon.
Carlisle	Northampton
Chelmsford	Norwich
Chester	Nottingham
Colchester	Oxford
Colwyn Bay	Peterborough
Coventry	Plymouth
Croydon	Portsmouth
Derby	Preston
Douglas, Isle of Man	Reading
Dundee	Romford
Edinburgh	Sheffield
Eastbourne	Shrewsbury
Exeter	Skegness
Fareham	Southampton
Glasgow	Southend on Sea
Gloucester	Stockport
Grimsby	Stockton on Tees
Guernsey	Stoke on Trent
Harrogate	Sunderland
Harrow	Swansea
Hastings	Swindon
Hounslow	Taunton
Hull	Tunbridge Wells
Ipswich	Wolverhampton
Jersey	Worcester
Kingston on Thames	Worthing
Leeds	York

Postmark Slogans

The slogan 'Expand in Alloa' in use in the transposed position at Alloa, will be extended to 19th April. 1967

Specimen not available

'Send to Town Hall for Guide — Cheltenham — The Centre for the Cotswolds' is being used for a further year in the transposed position from 14th May 1966 to 13th May 1967.



'Come to Captivating Colwyn Bay' will be used in the transposed position during the periods 17th April 1966 to 12th December 1966 and 27th December 1966 to 15th April 1967.



The second die engraved with the slogan 'Great Yarmouth and Gorleston-on-Sea the Resorts that have Everything' is in use in the transposed position from 30th May to 18th September 1966.



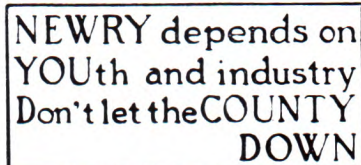
'Guernsey the British Holiday Abroad' will be used transposed at Guernsey from 22nd June 1966 to 21st June 1967.



The slogan 'Fly Direct via Manchester to Europe and America' in use in the standard position at Manchester will be extended for a further year to 3rd June 1967.



'Newry Depends on Youth and Industry Don't Let the County Down' will be in use transposed from 13th June 1966 to 12th June 1967.



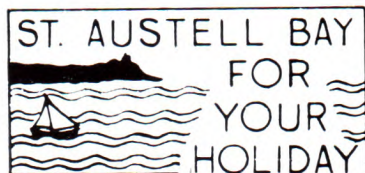
'The Magic of the Isles Orkney Freedom Fishing and Good Food' will be used in the transposed position from 13th June 1966 to 12th June 1967. Covers for reposting to Head Postmaster Kirkwall.



'Oswestry Welcomes Industry with Space for Work and Leisure' will be used in the transposed position at Oswestry from 29th July 1966 to 13th April 1967. Another slogan 'Oswestry Show Thursday 28th July' will be used in the transposed position from 1st to 28th July 1966.



'St Austell Bay for Your Holiday' is to be used transposed from 9th June 1966 to 8th June 1967.



'More Sun More Sand Sandown Isle of Wight' in use at Sandown in the transposed position has been extended for a further year until 31st May 1967. Covers to Head Postmaster, Ryde.

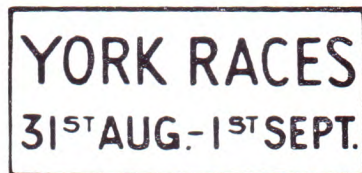
Another slogan in use at the Isle of Wight 'More Sun More Sand Shanklin Isle of Wight' in use at Shanklin has been extended until 31st May 1967. Covers to Head Postmaster, Ryde.

Specimens not available

Southampton is to use the slogan 'Southampton Show 8th and 9th July' in the transposed position at Southampton from 10th June 1966 to 24th June 1966.



'York Races 16th to 18th August' will be in use transposed at York from 25th July to 13th August 1966. 'York Races 31st August — 1st September' is to be used transposed from 16th August to 29th August 1966, and 'York Races 5th — 6th October' from 13th September to 3rd October 1966.



All mail posted on and after 19th May 1966 at the Post Office Tower London, will bear the slogan 'Posted at the Post Office Tower'. Two dies are to be used, in the standard position. Covers to the District Postmaster,

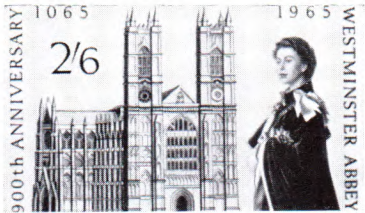
Western District Office.

Covers for reposting in each case to the Head Postmaster at the town concerned except where otherwise stated.

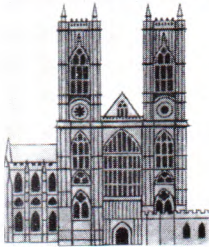
Unaccepted Stamp Designs



Bradbury Wilkinson



Harrison & Sons



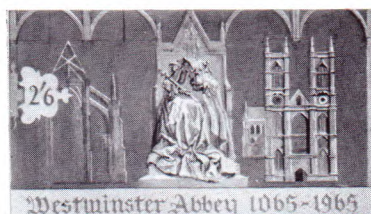
David Caplan



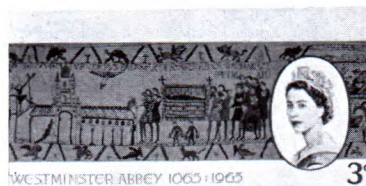
David Gillespie



Charlotte Halliday



Clive Abbott



Ivan Lapper



Richard Downer



Lynton Lamb



Conditions

The Philatelic Bureau will be pleased to supply any number of stamps shown on its current stock list, subject to stocks being available, in mint condition only. For stamps not shown on the list, inquiries should be made of a stamp dealer.

We do not guarantee to supply stamps from particular cylinders or plates, position or cylinder blocks, particular editions of books or books with selected watermark.

Stamps are NOT supplied cancelled to order. Remittances, which *must* be sent with orders should be made payable to 'GPO Philatelic Bureau' and should include a handling charge of 6d for orders under 10s, and 2s 6d for orders of 10s and over. For orders to be sent by Air Mail the cost of the airmail postage should be added. Stamps are not accepted as payment for orders.

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