

July 1994



British Philatelic Bulletin

Volume 31. No: 11 The Royal Mail Magazine for Stamp Collectors Price 75p



Northern Ireland Prestige Stamp Book



The 1994 Prestige stamp book tells the story of Northern Ireland and its people, highlighting the beautiful scenery, friendly folk, local customs, culture, industry and famous sons and daughters. The book contains three unique mixed value panes of definitive and Northern Ireland County

stamps and a pane of four 30p stamps reproducing the Prince of Wales's painting of Mourne Mountains. A new innovation in a stamp book is a pre-stamped postcard, both stamp and card featuring the Giant's Causeway.

On sale from 26 July, price £6.04.



Available from Post Offices, Collections, Post Shops Plus, Philatelic Counters and from:
British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT.

British Philatelic Bulletin

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Main Feature

The Gordon Highlanders Bicentenary – 318

Captain R Birnie recounts the history of this famous regiment.



Gordons and the Scots Greys at the charge of Waterloo

Royal Mail News

Summertime

Five stamps on the theme of Summertime will go on sale at post offices, the British Philatelic Bureau, Collections, Post Shops Plus and Philatelic Counters on 2 August. This is the third in the Four Seasons series begun with the Wintertime stamps in 1992, Autumn in 1993, and will conclude with Spring next year. The Summertime stamps feature well-known Summer events.

The **19p** stamp (2nd class inland rate) features the Royal Welsh Show, held at Llanelwedd, Builth Wells, Powys. The Show, held annually in the third week of July on a permanent showground, provides a prime shop window for farming in Wales. The Show, which runs for four days, attracts more than 200,000 visitors, 6500 entries of farm livestock and up to 1000 trade stands together with sections covering the whole of farming and rural life in Wales.



Included in the many competitions and events are: fleece competition, sheep shearing, produce and handicrafts, honey show, Miss Royal Welsh, poultry and pigeon section, Tug of War, horse shoeing and wrought ironwork.

Another great Welsh event, the Eisteddfod has been commemorated on stamps, in 1976 (SG 1010, 1013), and Welsh animals have been depicted on stamps of 1978 (1065), 1984 (1243) and 1992 (1591).

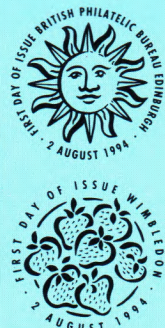
Wimbledon, probably the best-known summer event in the UK, is the subject of the **25p** stamp (1st class inland and EU basic rate). The Church Road ground in Wimbledon, known to television viewers throughout the world, is home to the All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, founded as the All England Croquet Club in 1869. Lawn Tennis was added to the title in 1877 and the current name introduced in 1882. The first championship was held in 1877 at the old ground in Worple Road, the Club moved to its current home in 1922. Over the years all the top tennis stars have played at Wimbledon, the players attracted to the tournament not just for the fabulous prize money but for the opportunity to play in the world's most prestigious tournament. President of the Club is HRH The Duke of Kent, the Duke and the Duchess normally present the trophies to the winning players.

This will be Britain's third tennis stamp. The first – an 8½p value in the Rackets set of 1977 (SG1022) commemorated the centenary of the Wimbledon championships. The second tennis stamp was released in 1988 – a 34p denomination in a Sport issue (1390). A post office operates at Wimbledon for the two weeks of the championships and special postmarks are



used on mail posted there.

There are few spectacles as magnificent as that of a flotilla of yachts sweeping through the beautiful waters of the Solent in Cowes Week which is the subject of the **30p** stamp (basic rate for letters to European countries outside the EU). It is believed that Cowes owes its origins as a yachting capital of the world to the building of a small boat, *Rat O'Wight*, on the banks of the River Medina for the use of Queen Elizabeth I.



...and the British Hampshire ... and the sunbather allows its way into ... and the profile of the participants. Non-sporting summer events dominated by the style ... Royal Yacht Club; there is more to summer's week at Cowes than simply boats. There is the exclusive ... yacht club ball and there is genuine family summer living at the seaside and the chance to paddle ... or build castles in the sand.

Lord's

Cricket is the most English of games. Whether played at Lord's or in the shires, it embodies all the romance of an English summer.

The match on the village green is just a rural, agreeable and occasional summer pastime. At Lord's it is a serious sport. Wherever the distant clunk of red ball on spinner are the unmistakable signs of summer.

Thousands of people will pack Lord's to watch international matches or county cricket. This is the headquarters of the game and it commands worldwide respect. There are smart summer clothes for private boxes, tennis for public stands. But any seat is a joy to sit in. The intensity of the game, the hunger for food and drink are equally to hand.

Nothing invokes the spirit of an English summer quite like cricket and nowhere is more representative of this quintessentially English sport than Lord's cricket ground.

Llanellwedd

All the toil of a rural life in a Welsh winter culminates in an enthusiastic celebration of agriculture at the Royal Welsh Agricultural Show in the summer.

For four days annually, cows, sheep, pigs, goats and horses are gazed at, graded and judged. Cattle and displays of herbaceous plants which, cut, greatly benefit from the preceding weeks of sunshine. Tree felling techniques are demonstrated and horses are shed.

The sun and these are harvest days provide rasps from the winter past and the one to come. Amongst the carnations of ripe fruit and vegetables, the study of earth colours and orange and bright yellow, the sky, the pinks in the sunshine and the laughter from the beer garden could there be of the fecundity of the earth. This show is heaven to it.

Wimbledon

One of the most familiar to tennis fans is Wimbledon. There games are won or lost and who. Far beyond Centre Court is a devoted, pink-checked people here. But because of the heat, the sunbather is hard to the last, and nothing, not even on



Mrs J Robinson
200 Manorbie Road
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DE7 4AB



Sailing became a leisure pastime in the 17th century; Charles II was presented with a Dutch built yacht, which he sailed on the Thames. King George IV was interested in yachting and in 1820 granted the title 'Royal' to the Yacht Club, founded in 1815. The Club became the Royal Yacht Squadron in 1833.

The two World Wars punctuated the progress of yachting. After 1945 yachting changed from being the province of the rich to a sport for the enthusiast. Smaller boats became more popular and this bred a whole new generation of highly skilled sailors. In 1964 the Duke of Edinburgh became Commodore of the Squadron and encouraged the setting up of what is now known as 'the Cowes Combined Clubs' to organise Cowes Week using one starting line and one set of sailing instructions for the entire week. The daily races are run from the Royal Yacht Squadron line using the facilities of their Platform (a red and white striped roofed structure), the Battlements, which date back to 1538, and the Gun Line on the seafront with 22 William IV cannon. Over the past 30 years the number of boats taking part in Cowes Week has

increased, reaching a record 904 entries in 1989. A total of over 6300 individual starters raced over the nine days in 25 different classes. Cowes plays host to visiting foreign warships, sail training vessels and HMV *Britannia*, whose elegant presence with her dark blue hull and royal standards fluttering in the sea breeze adds greatly to the general charisma.

Yachts have featured on one earlier set of stamps – issued in 1975 on the theme of Sailing (SG 980/3).

The 35p value (overseas postcard rate) features Lord's, home of cricket – the most English of games, whether played at Lord's or in the shires. It embodies all the romance of an English summertime. Lord's has been the governing body of English cricket since 1783. The first ground, in Dorset Square, was opened by Thomas Lord (1755-1832) in 1787. It was moved to its present site, taking the original turf, in 1814. Lord's has been home to the Middlesex Cricket Club since 1877. The first test match against Australia was played there in the 1880s; the first tests against the West Indies, New Zealand, India, and Pakistan were played respectively in 1928, 1931, 1932 and 1954. The famous Gateway at Lord's, built in 1923, is a memorial to the most famous cricketer, W G Grace (1848-1915), who featured on stamps marking the centenary of County Cricket in 1973 (SG 928/30). Dr Grace was also portrayed on one of the 34p stamps issued in commemoration of Australia's bicentenary in 1988 (1398).

The final stamp, 41p denomination (basic overseas airmail letter rate), features the Braemar Gathering in Scotland's Grampian Region. There have been Gatherings of one sort or another at Braemar since the days of King Malcolm Canmore, 900 years ago. The



Gathering as we know it today, organised by the Braemar Royal Highland Society, started in 1817. In the 1840s Queen Victoria and Prince Albert first visited the Scottish Highlands and from 1848 rented the castle at Balmoral. They purchased the castle four years later and became regular visitors at Braemar. Thus began the tradition of the Royal Family visiting the Braemar Gathering.

International athletes take part in the "heavy" and "track" events. Pipers and dancers are much admired by the thousands who come to the event, held in the Princess Royal and Duke of Fife Memorial Park. Teams from the Forces compete in the inter-services tug of war championship and in the Services Medley Relay Race. Scottish Pipe bands are to the fore; the appearance of the customary Massed Pipe Bands is one of the keystones of the event. The Gathering is world famous for its friendship and hospitality and its delightful setting beneath encircling heather-clad hills.

A piper at a Highland Gathering featured on an 11p stamp in the British Cultural Traditions set of 1976 (SG 1012).

The dates for these summer events in 1994 are: Wimbledon Tennis Championships, 20 June-3 July; Royal Welsh Show, 18-21 July; Cowes Week, 30 July-6 August; and Braemar Gathering, 3 September. Cricket matches are held at Lord's throughout the summer.

The stamps were designed by Matthew Cook, his first stamp designs for Royal Mail. A book featuring Mr Cook's work and a set of the Summertime stamps will be available from the Bureau and Post Office philatelic outlets from 2 August, price £14.99. Early ordering is advised. The book will be reviewed here next month.

Matthew Cook, born in 1963, trained as an illustrator at St Martins School of Art and Kingston Polytechnic. Immediately after his degree he joined Operation Raleigh as staff artist where his love for reportage drawing took him to Papua New Guinea, Peru, Brazil and the West Indies. Recently work has taken him drawing all over the country with commissions for English Heritage, the Bank of Scotland, *The Times* and the Countryside Commission.

The stamp designs gave him the opportunity to see some famous British Summertime events at first hand. The theme and sketches were extended to produce a book in conjunction with the Royal Mail called *The British Season* and includes some of the drawings involved in the initial stages of the stamps.

Not having been to any of the events previously, Mr Cook was able to take a fresh outsider's look at these great British Summer institutions.

Technical Details

<i>Printers:</i> Harrison & Sons Ltd <i>Process:</i> Photogravure <i>Size:</i> 41 x 30mm <i>Sheets:</i> 100 <i>Perforation:</i> 15 x 14 <i>Phosphor:</i> One band 19p; Phosphor Coated Paper 25p-41p <i>Paper:</i> OBA free (OBA=Optical Brightening Agent) <i>Gum:</i> PVA Dextrin <i>Presentation Pack:</i> No.250 price £1.85 <i>Stamp Cards:</i> Nos.164a-e, price 25p each

First Day Facilities

Unstamped Royal Mail first day cover envelopes will be available from main Post Offices, the Bureau, Collections, and Philatelic Counters around a week before 2 August, price 25p.

The Bureau will provide a first day cover service – collectors may order the Royal Mail cover bearing the stamps cancelled with a pictorial "First Day of Issue" postmark of the Bureau or Wimbledon price £2.18 (including VAT) to UK addresses, £1.86 to overseas addresses (no VAT). Orders for first day covers must be received at the Bureau by 2 August.

Collectors may send their own stamped covers, on the day of issue, for the Bureau or Wimbledon cancels, to: British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, 53 Nine Elms Lane, LONDON SW8 5BB. The outer envelope should be endorsed "Pictorial First Day of Issue postmark".

First Day Posting Boxes will be provided at most main post offices for collectors who wish to post covers to receive the standard, non-pictorial "First Day of Issue" handstamps.

Details of other special handstamps, sponsored by Royal Mail, stamp dealers and others, will be found in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – the Royal Mail's magazine for postmark collectors. It is available on subscription from the British Philatelic Bureau: £10 UK and Europe, £21.75 Rest of World (Airmail).

Collectors are reminded that it will be in order to affix just the 19p Summertime stamp to covers to receive all special cancels ("First Day

of Issue”, sponsored and philatelic counters), in use on 2 August. The minimum 1st class rule is suspended on this day as the Summertime set includes a 2nd class rate stamp. It should be noted that this concession applies only to the 19p Summertime stamp; covers bearing other than Summertime stamps must bear at least 1st class postage.

D-Day Stamps

The following information about each of the stamp designs may be of interest to some readers:

Reloading an RAF Boston

This is the first public appearance of a photograph which at the time was held back for security reasons and then lost until now. It shows an RAF Boston of 88th Squadron, whose aircraft were employed on D-Day in laying a smoke-screen on the Normandy beaches, and in taking reconnaissance photographs. Ground crew fitters are seen replacing the smoke canisters for another run, while the gunner looks on apprehensively. The aircraft were made in the USA by Douglas; the RAF gave them the name Boston. The photograph was taken by Lt S Devon, whose log for D-Day is held by the Imperial War Museum.



The photograph shows HMS *Warspite*, which had been in many actions before D-Day, shelling enemy positions on the Normandy coast. It was taken by McNaughton from the Captain class frigate HMS *Holmes* stationed nearby off the coast at Le Havre. In the foreground, a spotter on HMS *Holmes* is watching the bombardment; to his left is a signal lamp and behind him a range finder.

Commandos landing on “Gold” Beach

“Gold” Beach was one of the two-all-British landing beaches; troops started going ashore there at 07.25 on 6 June. This shot, taken by Sgt

Midgeley during D-Day (precise time not known), shows commandos - characterised by their blackened faces and their use of machine guns - landing from the Landing Craft, Infantry, *Silent Knight*.

Infantry re-grouping on “Sword” Beach

“Sword” Beach was the other all-British beach and, as on “Gold”, troops started landing there at 07.25. Several companies – among them the 27th Armoured Brigade, 8th Infantry Brigade, and No.4 Commando – had been temporarily held up on Queen Red sector, where this photograph was taken by Sgt Mapham. The picture is believed to show men of the 1st Suffolk Signallers.

Advancing inland from Ouistreham Beachhead

This photograph, taken at Ouistreham on “Sword” Beach, shows a Sherman DD amphibious tank of the 13th/18th Hussars advancing with troops of No.4 Commando. The advance was filmed by Sgt Laws of the Army Film Unit, working as a team with a still photographer (Sgt Mapham).

National Postal Museum Postcards

The Museum will issue a set of four postcards on postal uniforms on 2 August 1994. These will be available from the Museum’s shop, 25p each, or as a set for £1 from : British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT.

A special handstamp will be available on the day of issue. Cards/covers to receive this should be sent to: Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, KEB, LONDON EC1A 1AA requesting “Museum Special – 2 August”. The Museum’s regular Maltese Cross handstamp will also be available – ask for Handstamp No. 1985.

Royal Mail at Golf Tournaments

Royal Mail will have stands selling the new Golf stamps and related products at the Scottish Open at Gleneagles, 5-8 July, and at the British Open at Turnberry, 11-17 July. The five Golf stamps, to be issued on 5 July, were previewed in last month’s *Bulletin*.

Prince of Wales Watercolours Exhibition

Royal Mail is sponsoring an exhibition tour of watercolours by Prince Charles, to mark the 25th anniversary of his Investiture. This can be seen at: Sotheby’s – London 24 June-24 July, Art Gallery & Museum Kelvingrove – Glasgow 5 August-4 September. Entrance will be £1.50; children under 11 free.

A report on the exhibition was published in last month's *Bulletin* (pages 294-5). Five stamps commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Prince's Investiture, featuring his watercolour paintings, were issued on 1 March and are still available from the British Philatelic Bureau and Post Office philatelic outlets. Price £1.50 per set, £1.85 presentation pack, £1.25 set of postcards.

Bank of England Stamp Book FDC

Shown here is the special cover bearing the pane of four 1st class stamps and commemorative label and special Royal Mint £2 coin marking the Bank's tercentenary. Details were given in last month's *Bulletin* (page 283). The cover is available from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT, price £12.95. Early ordering is advised.

overall design.

The winner in each category received an engraved crystal goblet presented by Kevin Doherty, Royal Mail's Director Consumer Services at a recent ceremony. In addition, Mr Doherty presented a cheque for £1000 donated by Royal Mail to the charity proposed by the winner in the Charity/Community section: Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust.

The judging panel comprised Derek Yardley, Chief Executive of the Philatelic Traders' Society; and Jane Ryan, Design and Editorial Manager; Barry Burke, Stamp Products Marketing Manager; J R Holman, Editor *Philatelic Bulletin*; and Kris Menon, Postmarks Manager, all of Royal Mail.

Mr Menon commented: "We are strongly committed to quality in all our philatelic



1994 - The Brilliant Uncirculated £2 Coin and a unique Commemorative Label from Royal Mail

Royal Mail Awards for First Day Covers

Accolades for outstanding design of first day and commemorative covers and postmarks of 1993 were earned by dealers and cover producers in this year's Royal Mail Cover of Quality Awards. Winners and runners-up awards were made in each of the five categories: Charity/Community; Commemorative; Promotional; General; and Postmarks.

This is the third year of the Cover of Quality Award, introduced by Royal Mail to promote and recognise the highest standards of design for first day and commemorative covers and postmarks. The panel of judges assessed each entry against key criteria – quality of cover design, originality of approach, commercial success and appropriateness of stamps to the

products, so it is natural that we should promote the highest levels of quality in designs for first day and commemorative covers. The response this year – the third in which we have run the scheme – has been very encouraging, with a 50% increase over previous year. The standard has been high throughout, indicating strong support for this initiative."

The winners and runners-up were as follows:

Charity/Community: A G Bradbury (Antiquarian Horological Society); Benham (A Buckingham) Ltd (75th anniversary Fly Past).

Commemorative: Benham (600th anniversary Abbotsbury Swannery); A G Bradbury (150th anniversary *Christmas Carol*).

Promotional: Benham (Rochester upon Medway Dickens Festival); Dawn Cover Productions (FA

British Coastal Birds

TO OPEN SLIT HERE



Puffin

Puffins nest colonially in burrows in the softer parts of cliffs and cliff tops. They spend the winter far out at sea.

By air mail
Par avion
Aerogramme



1 Great Britain
Postage

SECOND FOLD HERE

Sender's name and address (please show postcode)

Postmark

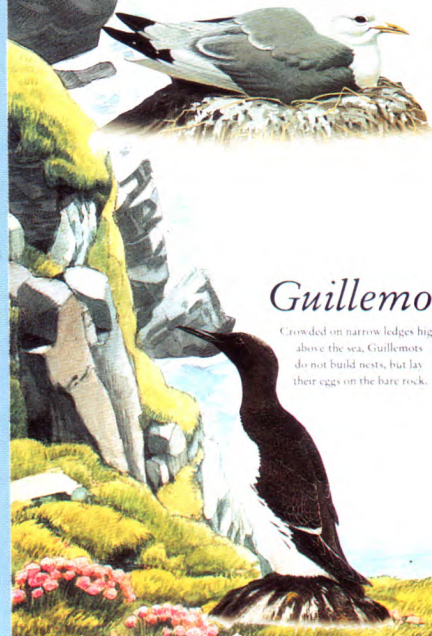
An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure: if it does, it may be surcharged or sent by ordinary mail.

Bird illustrations by Norman Arlott, Robert Gilmor and Peter Hayman (RSPB); background illustration by David Hancock.



Printed by McCorquodale Envelopes Limited for the British Post Office.

FIRST FOLD HERE



Kittiwake

A small, graceful gull, the Kittiwake is named after its call, and nests in enormous, noisy colonies on sheer cliffs.

Guillemot

Crowded on narrow ledges high above the sea, Guillemots do not build nests, but lay their eggs on the bare rock.

Carling Premiership).

General: A G Bradbury (Beatrix Potter prestige book); Benham (Graham Gooch's century of centuries).

Postmark: Benham (British Waterways logo); A G Bradbury (Swans issue).

The next Cover of Quality of Awards will be announced later in the year, for covers produced during 1994.

D-Day and Golf Stamps – Colours

The plate numbers and colours for the D-Day stamps are: 1A (pink) 1A (greenish yellow) 1A (blackish lilac) 1A (slate-black) 1A (bright scarlet) 1A (silver-grey).

The cylinders and colours for Golf are:

19p – B13 (phosphor) 1A (yellow-green) 2B (olive-grey) 1C (orange-vermilion) 1D (apple-green) 1E (Blue) 1F (grey-black).

25p – 1A (yellow-green) 2B (lemon) 1C (bright orange) 1D (apple-green) 1E (blue) 1F (magenta) 1G (grey-black).

30p – 1A (yellow-green) 1B (yellow) 1C (rosine) 1D (emerald) 1E (blue-green) 2F (new blue) 1G (grey-black).

35p – 2A (yellow-green) 1B (yellow) 1C (rosine) 1D (apple-green) 1E (new blue) 1F (dull blue) 1G (grey-black).

41p – 1A (yellow-green) 1B (lemon) 1C (magenta) 1D (apple-green) 1E (dull blue) 1F (new blue) 1G (grey-black).

British Birds Aerogrammes

A new set of pictorial aerogrammes goes on sale from Tuesday 19 July 1994, price £2.50. The aerogrammes, designed in conjunction with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and printed by McCorquodale Envelopes Limited, depict a selection of British birds in various habitats including coastal, freshwater, woodland and garden environments, and also birds of prey and the Crow family. Each pack contains six aerogrammes of different designs. They will be available from Post Offices, the British Philatelic Bureau, Philatelic Counters, Collections, Post Shops Plus and Post Shops.

The birds featured are:

British Moorland and Upland Birds

Red Grouse

Golden Plover

Black Grouse

British Coastal Birds

Puffin

Kittiwake

Guillemot

British Birds – The Crow Family

Jackdaw

Jay

Magpie

British Freshwater Birds

Kingfisher

Mute Swan

Mallard

British Birds of Prey

Barn Owl

Kestrel

Montagu's Harrier

British Woodland Birds

Great Spotted Woodpecker

Wood Pigeon

Nuthatch

60p Definitive

Royal Mail will provide limited first day facilities for the new book of four 60p definitive stamps to be issued on 9 August 1994. The book will be available from that day from the British Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh and from Collections, Post Shops Plus and Philatelic Counters at main post offices in: Bath, Belfast, Birmingham, Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Chester, Colchester, Coventry, Croydon, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Gloucester, Guildford, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, London (Lombard Street & Trafalgar Square), Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Nottingham, Oxford, Portsmouth, Romford, Southampton, Southend-on-Sea, Stratford-upon-Avon, Truro, Windsor, and York.



The usual first day posting boxes will be provided at these offices and standard non-pictorial "First Day of Issue" datestamps will be applied. First day covers to receive these cancels can also be sent to the Postmark Duty at these

offices (Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, KEB, LONDON EC1A 1AA for London postmark).

Pictorial "First Day of Issue" postmarks will be available at the Bureau and Windsor – details were announced in the June *Bulletin* (page 284).

Questa 2nd class stamps

On past printings of Questa 10 x 2nd class book stamps the phosphor bars have stopped short of the horizontal perfs on the stamps. This differs to the stamps produced by Harrison and Walsall. New supplies of the Questa book, printed in May, bring the phosphor arrangement into line with that of the other two printers. Supplies of the revised book are now available from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT. Supplies will be available at post offices and retail outlets as earlier stocks are used up.

Plate numbers seen in the revised books are Q11Q11 and Q12Q12.

Robert Louis Stevenson Centenary

This year marks the centenary of the death of Robert Louis Stevenson – one of Scotland's best-loved writers, author of *Kidnapped*, *Treasure Island* and *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*. To commemorate the centenary a Scottish aerogramme featuring Stevenson and his works was issued on 22 March 1994 and is available from post offices in Scotland, the British Philatelic Bureau, Collections, Post Shops Plus and Philatelic Counters.

The Post Office is supporting an exhibition on Stevenson, entitled "Pictures of the Mind" at the National Library of Scotland, George VI Bridge, EDINBURGH EH1 1EW from 1 July to 30 October. Admission is free. Other Stevenson exhibitions are being staged at the Royal Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, EDINBURGH EH1 1JF (August 1994 to January 1995) and the City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, EDINBURGH EH1 1DE (6 August–1 October 1994). A booklet about these exhibitions and many other Stevenson centenary events has been produced by Edinburgh Arts & Entertainment, 11 Pirrie Street, EDINBURGH EH6 5HY.

Britain's first commemorative banknote was issued by the Royal Bank of Scotland to mark the December 1992 European Summit. The Bank is producing its second commemorative note this summer, marking Stevenson's centenary. Enquiries: Royal Bank of Scotland, 42 St Andrews Square, EDINBURGH EH2 2YE.

Alcock & Brown Aerogramme

Shown here is the commemorative aerogramme marking the 75th anniversary of Alcock and Brown's epic flight. It is available, price 45p, from the British Philatelic Bureau and Post Office philatelic outlets.

Aerogramme Update

A new supply of packs of six standard aerogrammes gives information on a gold nibbed Parker Fountain pen special offer on the cellophane wrapper and backing card. The aerogrammes are unchanged. Packs with the pen offer should be available shortly at post offices, price £1.99.

A new larger size aerogramme, featuring Garden Birds, will be issued on 23 August, price 50p. The design of this aerogramme is similar to those in the pack of six Bird aerogrammes to be issued on 19 July.

Northern Ireland Prestige Stamp Book

Any of the definitive and country stamps in the Northern Ireland prestige stamp book (26 July 1994) can be used, singly or in combination, on first day covers to qualify for "First Day of Issue", sponsored or philatelic counter/tourist handstamps in use on 26 July. The minimum 1st class rule will be waived for this day, i.e. 19p stamps from the book can be used on their own. "First Day of Issue" and other postmarks can also be applied to the stamped postcard from this book. Please note that "First Day of Issue" postmarks cannot be applied to 30p Prince of Wales Investiture Anniversary stamps from this book.

Readers are reminded that the Scotland/N Ireland Special Handstamp Centre has a pictorial handstamp in use on days of issue of new stamps; this shows the Giant's Causeway in the design. Cards/covers to receive this handstamp dated 26 July should be sent on the day of issue to: Scotland/N Ireland SHC, Royal Mail, George Square, GLASGOW G2 1AA, requesting handstamp no, 3156.

We wish to confirm that the three new stamp variations in this book, listed on page 280 of the June *Bulletin*, are all national definitives; some readers wondered if the 19p and 25p were N Ireland country stamps.

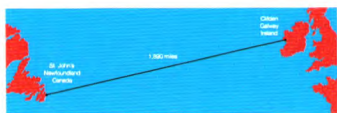
Designed by Trickett & Webb Limited
Printed by McCordquodale Envelopes Limited
for the British Post Office

TO OPEN SLIT HERE

Alcock and Brown



The first non-stop Atlantic flight was made 75 years ago by pilot Captain John Alcock (1892-1919) and navigator Lieutenant Arthur Whitten Brown (1886-1948) on the 14th and 15th of June, 1919. They flew the 1,950 miles from Lester's Field, St John's Newfoundland, Canada to Clonsilla in Galway, Ireland in a total flight time of 16 hours and 28 minutes, taking with them the first transatlantic airmail.



Alcock and Brown carried 196 specially franked ordinary letters and one letter packet. The mail included a letter from Alcock to his sister, Mrs Elsie Moseley. "My Dear Elsie, Just a hurried one before we start. This letter will travel with me in the official mail bag, the first mail to be carried over the Atlantic. Love to all. Your loving brother, Jack."



By air mail
Par avion
Aerogramme



1 Great Britain
Postage

SECOND FOLD HERE

Sender's name and address (please show postcode)

Postcode

An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure: if it does, it may be surcharged or sent by ordinary mail.



The 1919 Newfoundland airmail cover is reproduced by permission of the British Library, Folger Collection.

The other photographs are reproduced by permission of the British Library, Folger Collection.

Designed by The Frameworks
Copyright Royal Mail International 1994

FIRST FOLD HERE



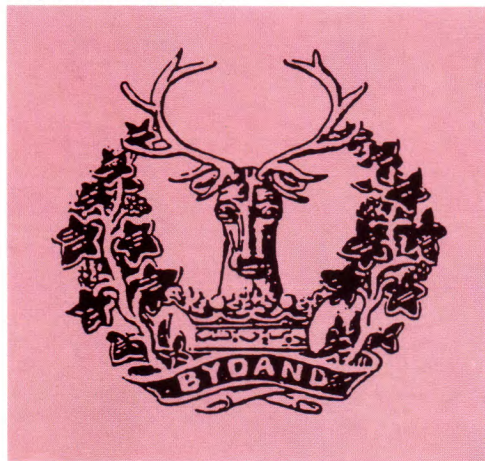
Competing for a Daily Mail prize of £10,000 Alcock and Brown flew the Atlantic in a Vickers Vimy built mainly of wood and fabric, powered by two Rolls Royce engines. The largely night-time flight was hazardous, encountering thick cloud and fog as well as snow, hail, sleet and ice. After eleven hours the plane went into a spiral dive and Alcock only recovered control just above sea level. Later, Brown had to repeatedly climb onto the fuselage to clear snow from the fuel-flow sight gauge. Nevertheless they arrived safely despite landing in a field which unfortunately turned out to be a bog.

The Gordon Highlanders Bicentenary

CAPTAIN R BIRNIE

Regimental Headquarters, Aberdeen

The valour and steadfastness of the Scottish soldier are legendary throughout the world. The skirl of pipes has cast terror into the hearts of his fiercest enemy and the sight of kilted warriors surging into battle has put flight to many a foe. Nowhere does the Scot show greater loyalty or love of Country than on the foreign battle field. Those qualities of bravery, loyalty and tenacity have been found in the soldiers of The Gordon Highlanders for 200 years.



Cap badge as worn by Corporals and Privates

The Regiment was raised in 1794 to serve in the Napoleonic Wars. The 4th Duke of Gordon enlisted the aid of his beautiful wife, Jean, who travelled fairs and villages throughout the North East of Scotland. The Duchess promised a kiss to any man accepting the "King's Shilling".

The naturally romantic nature of the Scot won through and the Regiment was raised quickly and embodied at Aberdeen on 24 June 1794. The Gordon Highlanders were embodied as the 100th Regiment, the number being changed to the 92nd soon afterwards.

They first saw active service in Holland in 1799 and gained the Battle Honour of "Egmont op Zee". In 1800 the 92nd faced a French army in Egypt. For their part in the victorious campaign they were awarded the Battle Honour "Mandora", an honour shared with the

Cameronians. The Sphinx and the word "Egypt", borne on the Colours, were also awarded.

The Peninsular War saw the 92nd taking an active and glorious part in the campaigns fighting under Sir John Moore, who was killed at the Battle of Corunna, and later under Sir Arthur Wellesley, the future Duke of Wellington. Eight Battle Honours were gained in these bitter campaigns.

Following the Peninsular War, the 92nd fought in the battles of Quatre Bras and Waterloo, the latter being the scene of the famous "Scotland for Ever" charge. What a fearsome spectacle they must have made as the Gordons and the Royal Scots Greys charged together towards the hapless French column. Shouting "Scotland for ever!", many of the Gordons held the stirrup leathers of the Greys as they swept forward on a wild and irresistible rush, carrying all before them.

The 92nd next saw service in the Indian Mutiny and the Afghan Wars, taking part in the famous march from Kabul to Kandahar where they led the successful attack.

Cock of the North

After the amalgamation with the 75th in 1881, the 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders (the former 75th) became famous for their victory at the Dargai Heights, India in 1897. The rebels had held off the advances of three battalions for several hours, but the Gordons stormed and took the hill in 40 minutes. Piper Findlater, shot through both ankles, crawled to his pipes and continued to play "Cock of the North" to urge the men on. He was awarded the Victoria Cross, one of 19 earned by the Regiment, nine of which are on display in the Regimental Museum, Viewfield Road, Aberdeen.

It was during the Boer War at Doornkop in 1900 the a young war correspondent named Winston Churchill watched the Gordons' unfaltering advance under intense fire and then wrote, "There is no doubt they are the finest Regiment in the World...".

The 20th century has seen The Gordon

Duchess Jean, Raising the Regiment (1794)





HRH The Prince of Wales, Colonel in Chief

Highlanders through two world wars and almost every other theatre of war up to the present day. The First World War claimed 30,000 casualties from 11 battalions. Every battalion was involved in the Battle of the Somme and four VCs were won during the four years of misery and hardship of trench warfare. During the Second World War both the 1st and 2nd Battalions were captured, but were quickly raised again. They and the other five Battalions of the Regiment distinguished themselves at El Alamein, Tripoli, Sferro, Goch and Burma, suffering 9000 casualties.

During the years following the end of Second World War The Gordon Highlanders have served throughout the world, particularly in Malaya, Cyprus and Borneo and with the peacekeeping forces of the United Nations. They have been widely admired for their tact, firmness and restraint in places such as Cyprus and Northern Ireland, where they suffered considerable provocation from locals and terrorists. Parts of the Regiment served in the Gulf War and last year some were assigned to Bosnia.

Family Regiment

The Gordon Highlanders are recognised amongst the Scottish Regiments as perhaps the

most closely-knit family regiment. It is essentially a regiment of Dee and Don, of Buchan, Banff, the Mearns and Aberdeen. It is typically highland in nature, true to the ancient highland spirit and tradition to which it owes its high renown. The old tradition of army families is much in evidence in the Gordons. For generation after generation sons have followed fathers into the Regiment. One only needs to read the names on the war memorials throughout the North East of Scotland to understand the commitment many families feel to the Regiment.

This year sees The Gordon Highlanders celebrating their Bicentenary. On 24 June 1994, 200 years to the day the Regiment marched down Union Street, Aberdeen, bayonets fixed and Colours flying thus exercising their Freedom rights. The following day saw the Regiment Trooping the Colour at Seaton Park, Aberdeen, in the presence of HRH The Prince of Wales, Colonel in Chief, The Gordon Highlanders.

Sadly, in a year which commemorates the Regiment's glorious history, there is a tinge of sadness. Due to defence cuts the Regiment faces amalgamation with The Queens Own Highlanders in September 1994.

History will continue as the men of the North East join with those of the Highlands and Islands and the traditions of both will live on in the new Regiment – "The Highlanders".

Bydand



Editor's Note:

A Scottish aerogramme commemorating the bicentenary of The Gordon Highlanders goes on sale at post offices throughout Scotland on 19 July. It will also be available from the British Philatelic Bureau, Collections, Post Shops Plus and Philatelic Counters, price 45p.

Out of the Arc...

Curiosities from the Post Office Archives

3. Sir Francis Freeling's Travelling Case

On display in the Public Search Room can be found Francis Freeling's travelling case. Containing a number of pieces in silver, this case dates from 1795.

Born in 1764, Freeling began his career in the Bristol Post Office. In 1785 with the establishment of the mail coach service he was appointed to help Palmer. Two years later he went to London, where he filled the offices of surveyor, principal and resident surveyor, joint secretary and finally sole secretary in June 1798, the post he held until his death in 1836. A baronetcy was conferred on him in 1828. In 1836 the Duke of Wellington said of him "The Post Office under Freeling's management had been better administered than any post office in Europe, or in any other part of the world". One of his sons George, held for a time the post of assistant secretary at the Post Office.

It is appropriate that Post Office Archives is located in Freeling House.

Simon Bates

Freeling's travelling case



Sir Francis Freeling (1764-1836) by G. Jones, c.1830

Post Office Archives is open to the public Monday-Friday, 09.00-16.15. A leaflet giving details of the services can be obtained by sending a DL size stamped addressed envelope to: Post Office Archives, Freeling House, Mount Pleasant Complex (Phoenix Place Entrance), LONDON EC1A 1BB.



Gumbley and the Australian Air Mail Letter Card 1941

PETER JENNINGS FRPSL

Articles in the *Philatelic Bulletin* about the Air Letter Form, its introduction by Gumbley in Iraq in 1933, and subsequent use during the Second World War, have resulted in the publication of informative letters from readers.

In March, Mr C S Baker of Wiltshire, responded to the article by my friend Kenneth Chapman, "Aerogrammes and Airgraphs" in the series "Philatelic Terms Explained" (January 1994). Baker wrote: "Mr Chapman states that during the Second World War Air Mail Letter Cards were first issued by the Australian Government following advice given to them by Douglas Gumbley. However, Mr Lee in his book *British Forces Air Mail Letter Cards and Air Letters*, gives clear evidence that the British authorities were the first to issue these 'cards' to forces in the Middle East, and that it was the Australian authorities who subsequently instituted a similar system."

In February 1972, Douglas Gumbley, former Director of Posts and Telegraphs, and Director of Civil Aviation in Iraq (1920-34), and Director of Civil Aviation in Palestine, (1935-47), recalled his involvement. During the early part of the Second World War, the Australian Government asked Gumbley if he could provide a cheap and rapid means of communication between the AIF in the Middle East and their families as an aid to maintaining morale. "I suggested the adaptation and use of my Iraq Air Mail Letter Card, and this was readily taken up by the Australian Command," Gumbley told me (see my book *Aerogrammes*, Picton Publishing 1973, page 17).

The Postal History of the Australian Army During World War II, by the late Phil Collas, (published Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria, Melbourne, 1986), is the definitive work on the subject. Collas, who had access to Second World War files and records of HQ Australian Army Postal Service, does not mention Gumbley in his book, or in the supplement published in 1991. In chapter 14, "The Air Mail Letter Cards", Collas writes: "The first Australian-issued air mail letter cards came into use in ME (Middle East) in 1941. Senior Australian officers of Army Postal Service ME had been able to observe

since 1940 the development and eventual operation of the British Army Postal Service air mail letter card project and their evaluation and eventual recommendations brought about the adoption of this kind of card as part of the Australian Army Postal Service." At the time the air mail letter rate from the Middle East to Britain was 9d.

Collas continues: "The first type of Australian Air Mail Letter Card was introduced on 15 July 1941, the officially determined date of issue, although cards dated earlier are known".

It is surely no coincidence that the official date of issue of the first Australian Air Mail Letter Card was 15 July 1941, the eighth anniversary of the issue of the Gumbley Iraq Air Mail Letter, 15 July 1933.

I believe that the date was deliberately chosen by the Australian Army Postal Service ME in order to thank Gumbley, who had suggested the adaptation of his Air Mail Letter Card, which as in Iraq, significantly cut the cost of sending a letter by air mail. Gumbley had fulfilled his original brief and provided AIF ME with "a cheap and rapid means of communication between the troops and their families as an aid to maintaining morale". Collas, concurs. He writes: "A major reason which prompted the introduction of the Australian card was the practicability of providing a new category of air mail article at a 3d rate, as compared with the ruling charge of 9d for an air mail letter, an amount which was a burden to the average soldier who wrote home frequently."

O R J Lee in his book, *British Forces Air Mail Letter Cards & Air Letters*, (revised edition, Forces Postal History Society, 1988), quoted by Baker, writes: "There have been suggestions that the Australians played a part in the introduction of Air Mail Letter Cards and that the Australians had the facility first."

Lee quotes my book *Aerogrammes* and correctly suggests that the source of my information was Gumbley himself. However, Gumbley never suggested during my conversation with him that the Australians had the facility first. The matter was not discussed.

BY AIR MAIL

AIR MAIL

LETTER CARD

IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD
WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL



Greetings from the
Aust. Forces (M.E.)
Xmas - New Year
1941-42



*Mr W. B. Gatis
7. Abbott St
Sandringham S.E.
Victoria
AUSTRALIA.*

WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH
THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN

Lee states, and I have no reason to doubt him, that the first Forces Air Mail Letter Cards were introduced by the British Military Authorities, in the Middle East, on 1 March 1941, for the use of M E F, (Middle East Forces), to the United Kingdom. The postage rate was fixed at 3d, and adhesive British stamps to that value had to be added to each Air Mail Letter Card.

Unanswered Questions

This raises a series of interesting, and as yet, unanswered questions: Where did Lt Col R E Evans, first get the idea of an Air Mail Letter Card?

Gumbley registered his Iraq Air Mail Letter Card, weighing just under four grammes, at Stationers' Hall in London on 15 February 1933, under his own copyright. Did Evans, or any other British official, contact Gumbley, at the time a British Government Administrator in Palestine, and request permission to adapt his Iraq Air Mail Letter Card?

Did the British Military Authorities, under

1941 Christmas Australian Air Mail Letter Card sent from Egypt to Australia – Postmarked Aust Base PO No 4, 9 December 1941, (location Tel-el-Kebir).

War regulations, just commandeered and adapt the Gumbley invention and design for the benefit of British Forces serving in the Middle East?

When did the Australian Army Post Office ME first make contact with Gumbley, Director of Civil Aviation in Palestine?

It is worth recording that the Australian Air Mail Letter Card, "Gumbleys", achieved instant popularity with members of the AIF ME when introduced into service there in July 1941, mainly because the air mail charge was 3d instead of 9d for ordinary air mail letters.

The author would be delighted to hear from anyone who can add new information about Gumbley in Palestine and, in particular, his involvement with AIF ME and the introduction of the Australian Air Mail Letter Card. Please write to him via the *Bulletin* Editor.

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Postally Valid Souvenir Sheets

JAMES NEGUS FRPSL

Collectors usually distinguish *miniature sheets*, issued occasionally by Royal Mail and prepaying postage, from privately produced *souvenir sheets*, issued at exhibitions like Stampex and not meant for postage.

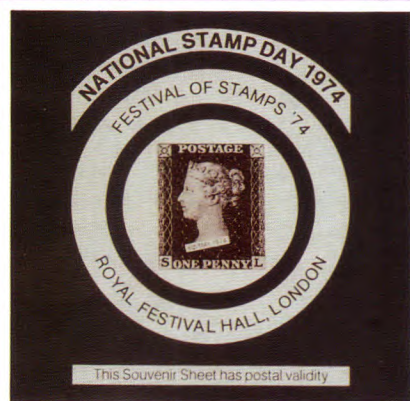
This simple distinction became blurred in the 1970s with the arrival of *postally valid souvenir sheets*. Though not from Royal Mail they did, indeed, prepay postage and can be found used on cover. They had a vogue for a few years, but gradually ceased for an obvious reason. The postal validity relied on using the stamping-to-order service (described in the March 1994 *Bulletin* p.196), but this ended on 31 October 1973.

A major philatelic event was due in the following year, 1974, at London's Royal Festival Hall. The Stamp Collecting Promotion Council was putting on the "Festival of Stamps" (3-6 May) and among many imaginative attractions it offered "The First Exhibition Souvenir Sheet ever to be authorised for postal use by the British Post Office".

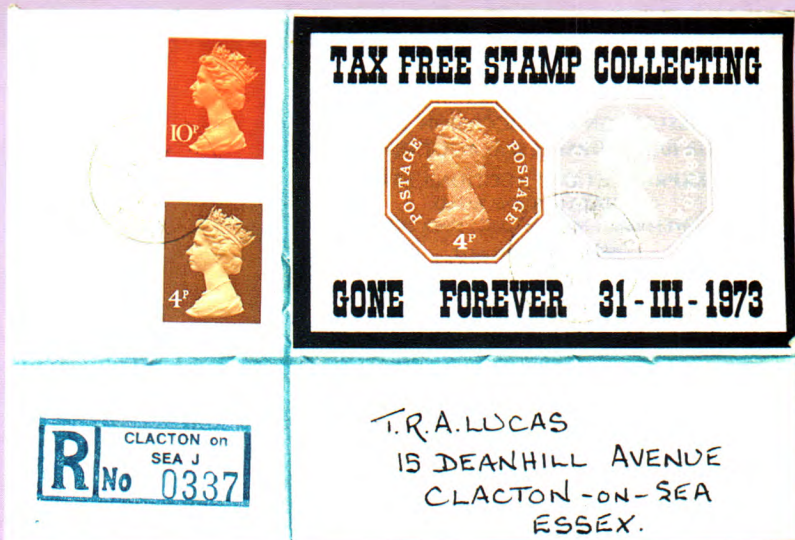
The sheet duly appeared and its postal validity came from the stamped-to-order impressions of the 3p and ½p octagonal Machin designs for 1st class rate. These are typographed but the sheet itself was litho-printed by The House of Questa

in a design by Michael Clarke. Such was the novelty, sales were restricted to one per person (at a cost of 30p). It was obtainable also in a numbered presentation pack, of which 2000 were produced. In used condition, the sheet is often found on a commemorative cover with special postmark or the newly named "National Stamp Day", 6 May 1974. What postmarking was used on the other three days of the Festival is not recorded. The letters in the reproduced Penny Black are "S L", believed to recognise Sidney Leverton, a Festival organiser.

Of unknown status is the sheet with a litho SPECIMEN in large capitals over the impressed Machins and (numbering-machine) serial number printed on the reverse. A posthumous embellishment of remainders is possible. The *Rosen Catalogue of British Local Stamps* also lists the sheet with "F.P.S. 10th Anniversary" overprint, but does not explain the meaning of "F.P.S." It is probably "Forest Philharmonic Society", rather than "Forest Philatelic Society". A documented posthumous use of the sheet has occurred very recently, an overprint in blue depicting a Hong Kong George VI stamp, below which are the words HONG KONG/FEB.18-21 1994. This was produced by the Channel Island Stamp Co of Guernsey as a souvenir of their



1974 "National Stamp Day" sheet (Photo: Rushstamps)



1973 "Tax Free Stamp Collecting Gone Forever" sheet (Photo: James Negus)

attendance at the Hong Kong stamp exhibition. (Royal Mail, who were also there, confined themselves to having a cachet.) Covers bearing the overprinted sheet were "postmarked" by the CI Stamp Co, but this is only a cachet.

Once the Festival of Stamps souvenir sheet had set a precedent in 1974, thematic opportunities were taken to produce many more in similar vein. The Stamp Collecting Promotion Council itself was responsible for one where the illustration is a statue of Sir Winston Churchill, marking the centenary of his birth. Issued for an exhibition at the Café Royal, London on 30 November 1974, the sheet is stamped-to-order $\frac{1}{2}$ p + 3p (by then 2nd class). Specimen overprints and a souvenir cover occur, as before, and the design is credited to the well known stamp artist, Gyula Vasarhelyi. The event had a special postmark.

Mostly, though, the sheets were manufactured by others from postal stationery. Regularly issued envelopes, already impressed with the octagonal stamp, had a commemorative design privately applied to the left, then cut to size to produce a kind of flimsy postcard reminiscent of a souvenir sheet. The postal stationery origin is very clear from the phosphor bands and the prominent laid lines in the paper. This type was still being made as late as 1987, judging by the current price list of Lyndhurst dealers Rushstamps (Retail) Ltd, where sheets are

offered unused and on first day cover in 20 or so designs.

Stamping-to-order to create souvenir sheets was not, in fact, new at the time of the 1974 Festival of Stamps. I have a small sheet inscribed "Souvenir Centenary of Prepaid Postage 1839-40" cancelled-to-order on 28 February 1939 at Freckleton, Preston, Lancs. It has no gum and the impressed stamp is a $\frac{1}{2}$ d George V postal stationery die. I suspect the originator to be the journalist and dealer William Ward, but have not found the documentary evidence yet.

No doubt exists over a final item, a forerunner pre-dating the Festival of Stamps by a year. This small souvenir sheet, black-edged in mourning, proclaims "Tax Free Stamp Collecting Gone Forever 31-III-1973" and was a protest at the newly introduced VAT. The tax evidently upset Express Stamp Auctions Ltd, of Wembley. They imprinted the backs of the sheets with their address pointing out that the "Postage stamps [were] impressed by H.M.S.O. Harrow". Those chosen were octagonal Machins of 4p and 5p, corresponding to no particular postal rates. I have a cover of 3 April 1973 with one of these sheets: it travelled registered rate, then 23p, and had 14p in normal stamps added. Sheets had a printed serial number on the back and about 4000 are said to have been issued. It is an interesting memento.

© James Negus 1994

Addressing Postcodes at the National Postal Museum

The Museum's main exhibition for 1994/95 – "Addressing Postcodes" opened to the public on 9 May and will be on show until next April.

The display begins on the ground floor with a reminder that it is 20 years since the programme allocating postcodes in the UK was completed. In the future every address will have its own code and mail will be sorted using a new "four state bar code". From a glimpse into the future, the visitor is shown examples of early addressing. A letter of 1649 is addressed to "my worthy brother Mr Richard Pershouse at Renolds Hall this I pray present". (Renolds Hall was at Walsall, Staffs).

The division of London into postal districts in the 1850s was originally suggested in 1837. Contemporary maps and postal notices are displayed, one notice advertising *An Alphabetical List of the Principal Streets and Places in London and its Environs as Divided into Postal Districts*. This useful publication cost one shilling (5p) with maps, a "cheap edition" without maps was available for one penny (½p). Tony Gammons wrote about the London postal districts in the June *Bulletin* (pages 289-91).

In the display panel on the stairs leading to the mezzanine floor are photographs and drawings of early sorting apparatus tested in Liverpool (1913) and demonstrated in London (1922). Douglas Muir has written about these early trials in *British Postal Mechanisation: A Handbook* (reviewed here, September 1993). On the mezzanine floor we are treated to an in-depth review of the famous Transorma machine used at Brighton for over 30 years to 1968. On show are a number of covers including one handled on inauguration day (7 October 1935).

In 1946 the Mechanical Aids Committee (surely such a name would not be used today!) saw coding of mail as a long-term aim. The so-called Interim machine, based on the Transorma was tested at Mount Pleasant (1952-56) and "Elsie" or SPLSM at Bath in 1956 and Norwich 1958-59. The first coding machines were used at Luton, rare early covers and photos are shown. In frame 9 are exhibited early Norwich postcode slogans and a programme for the Open

Day held at the head post office in July 1959. The story of the development of the phosphor coding dots at the Dollis Hill Research Centre in the 1950s is told in frame 10. The use of coding tape was wasteful and a liquid phosphor – "Phospot" was tested unsuccessfully at Norwich in 1966; the liquid tended to clog the printer. Trial and 'live mail' covers bearing Phospot markings are included, also a block of the wax paraffin used in the trial. Panel 11 leads on from the pioneer days to the standard sorting machinery as used at mechanised offices from the late 1960s onwards. In panel 12 the visitor can see the different phosphor reactions found on French and British stamps and on phosphor coding dots – ultra violet light showing each reaction in yellow, violet blue, green, red and blue colours. This display has been supplied by the Royal Mail's Materials Laboratory.

From the late 1970s Royal Mail engineers started the development of machinery that could read typed, printed and later hand-written addresses – Optical Character Recognition (OCR). These were first used at Mount Pleasant in 1983 and use is now fairly widespread. Early examples are shown. Ink-jet printers adding quality of service information, and subsequently messages, were introduced at Liverpool in 1989 and such markings are now used at several main sorting offices. Early use on covers from Liverpool are displayed.

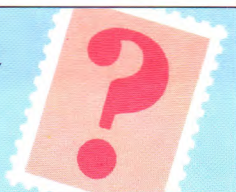
The main (top) gallery is given over to Postcodes, the displays including maps of postcode areas and photographs of staff at the National Postcode Centre in Portsmouth adding postcode information onto computer. The Postcode Address File is available on disk to businesses, and a touch-screen unit is available in the Museum for visitors to obtain postcodes from the PAF.

The display panels end with a look into the future – the continued development of OCR and video coding desks. Eventually mail will bear a four state barcode but an interim system of "tagging" mail with the "out" and "in" parts of the postcode amalgamated into one (bottom) row of dots has recently been trialled at Swindon. These changes are explained and illustrated in the display.

In addition to the display panels, there are models of a third generation and "Easyview" coding desks and of an E40 High Speed Sorting Machine. We are reminded that postal mechanisation is not confined to GB, panels explain the French and Canadian systems.

Competition

SPONSORED BY:
AVON MIXTURES



Win a Fine 1840 2d. Blue

This month's competition is sponsored by AVON MIXTURES, specialists in supplying WORLDWIDE OFF-PAPER MIXTURES for collectors to pick from. The prizes supplied by AVON MIXTURES comprise:

- ★ 1st prize: A fine used 1840 2d. Blue with four margins, red Maltese Cross and lovely colour catalogued £300 by S.G.
- ★ Seven 2nd prizes of collections of approx 1000 different stamps from ISRAEL – retail up to £100 each.
- ★ Eight 3rd prizes of collections of approx 500 different stamps of mainly older GERMANY – retail price up to £25 each.



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The price is one of the most important considerations when a collector is thinking about a new area to collect, enabling a satisfying collection to be assembled without breaking the bank.

It is this simple value for money philosophy upon which Avon Mixtures has based its successful off-paper world mixtures business. Proof of this success is the over 27,000 orders supplied of their famous Buy-one – you take one free world off-paper mixture bags.

Over 100,000 different stamps are available in a simple unit priced system which allows collectors to pick the stamps they want regardless of catalogue value.

Searching through a big bag of over 2000 assorted worldwide stamps, including thematics,

is one of the most exciting and rewarding forms of collecting. The most valuable stamp found in their 2p or Free system, so far, is a Canada 1857 10d. Cartier catalogued £1100, but most clients enjoy finding stamps they want, cheaply, regardless of catalogue value.

The minimum purchase of £5 + 75p P&P (U.K. clients) enables the collector to pick 250 stamps at 2p each plus up to a further 250 free. Until now every order has been against prepayment... but **now** *Bulletin* subscribers can view a bag on approval without prepayment or obligation, paying only if they select stamps, and return the bag to AVON MIXTURES. And the 1st 250 applicants will receive a free gift of 100 beautiful Russian thematics, to keep whatever they decide.

AVON MIXTURES
BULLETIN FREE OFFER
PO BOX 23
RUGBY
Warwickshire, CV22 6SQ



To enter this month's competition answer the questions below and send your answers with your name and address on a postcard to: July Bulletin Competition, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 22 Finsbury Square, LONDON EC2A 1NL. Entries should arrive by 26 August:

1. Where is the Royal Welsh Show held?
2. Who designed the Summertime stamps?
3. Who is famous for drawing cute children in tomorrows situations?
4. Which organisation arranged the "Festival of Stamps" in 1974?
5. Who was Director of Civil Aviation in Palestine, 1935-47?

The answers to all these questions will be found in this month's *Bulletin*.

The competition is not open to employees of Royal Mail or Avon Mixtures.

The winners of the April competition were:

E Morgan of West Glamorgan (£100 of philatelic products), N Foley-Fisher of Co Westmeath, W McNaught of Dumbartonshire, D. Dick of Fife. G Luke of Dorset, and E Wilkes of Canada (presentation packs).

The answers were: 1. Brian Lund, 2. 1987, 3. Sir Evelyn Murray, 4. Andrew Davidson, 5. National Postal Museum.

Our thanks to all who entered.

Look Before You Lick!

MATTHEW P HINTON

1. "London 1980" International Stamp Exhibition

Some of the errors and varieties found on British stamps can be difficult to detect at first glance. And with varieties – major and minor – on almost every issue, it is worth checking your stamps before you stick them on letters!

In this series of articles, I am going to look at some of the more interesting varieties that have turned up on British stamps over the years. I start with the 1980 London Exhibition 50p which proved to be a most interesting stamp:

What made the issue so unusual was the fact that two dies were used for the printing of the stamps and this created two distinct varieties. The first engraving proved to be unsatisfactory because some of the lines of the design were broken and the die was recut to produce solid lines and shading. As if this was not enough, a relatively small percentage of the printing from the first die produced stamps which appear green rather than the correct black. This problem arose when the sheets of freshly printed stamps were drying. The green shade is easy enough to fake but examples are available

on First Day Cover and these are likely to be genuine.

The differences between the stamps from the two dies are as follows:

Die 1 Firstly, the portrait of the Queen's head contains clearly broken lines of shading in several places, especially at the edges and top and bottom. The lines outlining the Queen are thin. Also, the main design shows hatched shading in various places, including on the boat, bridge, flag, sea, etc. The "50p" value and "9" of "1980" are not completely solid. The lines, in general, appear "spidery".

Die 2 All the broken and thin lines appear to have been re-engraved to produce solid shading and thicker lines.

Type one was the original printing, used for the miniature sheet and FDCs, packs, etc. Type two was simply a later sheet printing. A few miniature sheets are known to be imperforate. The two types are both readily available and even the green colour error is not too expensive. This issue could in fact form a mini collection of its own!

© Matthew P Hinton 1994

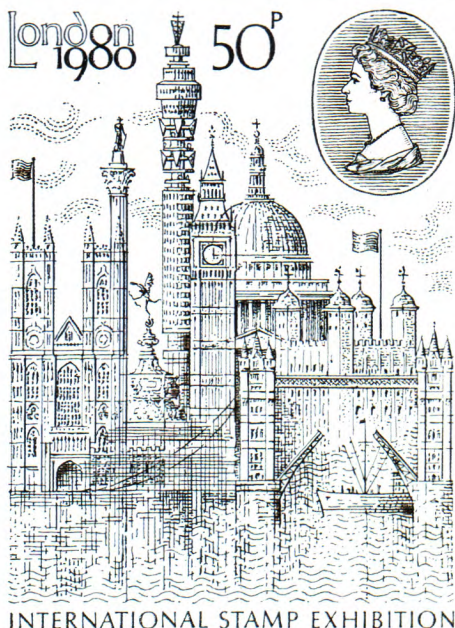
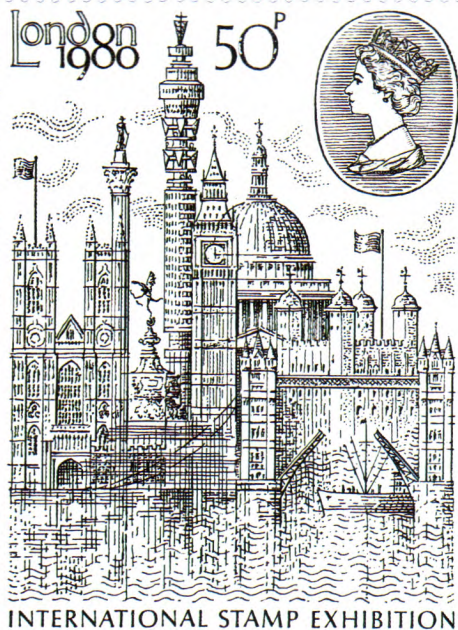
London
1980

POST OFFICE
FIRST DAY COVER

International
Stamp
Exhibition



Normal and "green" stamps (right) on first day cover



Dies 1 and 2

Railway Stamps on Plates

A really superb set of large (10.75") Wedgwood bone china plates showing the five most famous steam-engine services are being released by Royal Mail in July, to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the North British Railway.

Each plate is numbered in an edition limited to 25,000 and supplied with a certificate of authenticity from Royal Mail. Wedgwood are one of, if not the, top names in ceramics, with a heritage going back over 200 years. The plates reproduce the central designs of the 1985 Famous Trains stamps, based on paintings by Terence Cuneo – a world famous painter and steam train enthusiast, whose 1985 oil paintings led to one of Royal Mail's most popular stamp issues ever. The originals are currently in the National Postal Museum. The quality of the originals is faithfully reproduced on the plates, even down to the textured canvas finish, although enthusiasts will be able to spot some differences between the stamps and the plates. Kevin Doherty, Director Consumer Services, says, "Cuneo fully captures the appeal, colour and romance of the age of steam. We are proud to be able to offer a product of this quality at such a competitive price!" Cuneo often adorned

his paintings with his own motif, a small mouse, and Cuneo aficionados enjoy searching for the secret animal on each of his works. The artist is also known for paintings of Royalty, military events and cowboys, the latter gaining him the position of honorary deputy sheriff of Tombstone!



The plates are available from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT for just £19.95 each, which includes a full money back guarantee. The five designs feature: The Royal Scot; The Flying Scotsman; The Cheltenham Flyer; The Cornish Riviera; and The Golden Arrow.

Stamp Scene

One Hundred Years of Picture Postcards

1994 marks the centenary of the British Picture Postcard, used by tens of millions of people to write funny, poignant or trivial messages to the folks back home. Sending and collecting postcards was a national craze in the years up to 1914. Private publishers provided the public with a feast of designs to choose from in Edwardian days. Every personality imaginable – actresses, bishops, politicians, sportsmen, suffragettes, local eccentrics – adorned the picture side of cards. Photographic views of city centres, railway stations, villages, and rural scenes were eagerly bought, and comic cards explored every situation and double meaning. The First World War brought its own style of postcards: embroidered silks, sentimental song cards, and patriotic flags and bulldogs.

Over the years, a host of accomplished artists have used postcards to display their talents. Donald McGill, the “King of the seaside postcard”, and Mabel Lucie Attwell, famous for drawing cute children in humorous situations, both had cards published over a 50-year period. John Hassall, Henry Wimbush, Bruce Bairnsfather, and Alfred Leete – all of whom became famous in other media – are among thousands whose work adorned cards. Top European artists like Alphonse Mucha and Raphael Kirchner favoured many postcards with their art nouveau designs or glamorous ladies.

The most prolific and inventive years of postcard design were from 1902-18, a period commonly referred to as “The Golden Age”, but the last two decades have seen a huge revival in postcard publishing.

Today both old and contemporary postcards are eagerly collected as items of nostalgia, works of art, thematic fun, examples of postal history, and important social history source material.

Modern cards include popular subjects such as film posters, glamour and pop, easily available on the High Streets of any town. Events like the Gulf War and the miners’ strike of the early 1980s, as well as political and green issues, feature on postcards from a range of specialist publishers.

1994 will be celebrated by postcard exhibitions countrywide, with the biggest at London’s Royal Horticultural Hall from 30 August-3 September.

Visitors to the five-day show, organised by the Postcard Traders Association, will be able to

delight in looking at displays of some of the finest picture postcards published over the past 100 years. The exhibition promises to be the most impressive card show ever mounted anywhere in the world and will include examples by top artists, photographers and publishers. Display boards will range from Edwardian Art Nouveau, transport and personalities to contemporary postcards featuring the Channel Tunnel, Margaret Thatcher and dinosaurs.

Over 100 of the world’s top postcard dealers will attend with millions of cards on sale: not just British postcards, but overseas views and street scenes, and postal history on cards. There will also be the opportunity to have postcards valued by experts free of charge, and as an added bonus, some of Britain’s top postcard artists and photographers will be there on each day to sign cards and chat to visitors.

Railway Letter Stamps

The Nene Valley Railway issued a new 25p stamp on 3 May 1994; this features a Swedish class B tender locomotive No. 101A, built at Nydquist, Sweden in 1944 and now preserved and running on the NVR. The stamp was designed by Stuart Hudson and printed in sheets of nine by St Ives Quickprint. Price 25p each, £2.25 complete sheet, postage extra. First day covers were produced bearing the new stamp and Royal Mail Channel Tunnel stamps – details from address below. All orders/enquiries about NVR stamps to: Brian White, Nene Valley Rly, Wansford Station, PETERBOROUGH PE8 6LR.

The North Yorkshire Moors Railway has announced that the issue of a pair of stamps scheduled for 4 July has been cancelled owing to printing difficulties. Any disappointment is regretted. A new 25p definitive stamp will be issued on 27 July; this will show LNER Class K1 locomotive No. 2005 which normally runs on the NYMR. This summer the locomotive can be seen on the West Highland Railway as part of that line’s centenary celebrations. The loco will return to the NYMR in October. The new stamp is being printed by The House of Questa in sheets of eight. First day covers, will be available. Stamps are available at face value, £2 per sheet, Postage 40p. Enquiries; Mrs M Atkins, 5 Tiber View, Brinsworth, ROTHERHAM, S Yorkshire, S60 5EA.

New Lundy Locals

A miniature sheet containing six local stamps (local carriage labels) will be issued on 12 July

Lundy miniature sheet (12 July) and Marisco Castle stamps (previewed last month).



New railway letter stamps.

1994 to mark the 25th anniversary of administration of the island by the Landmark Trust. Lundy was purchased by the National Trust in 1969 and is leased to the Landmark Trust, which administers a number of important historic buildings and areas of beauty. The stamps - three at 24p and three at 30p - show buildings on Lundy, an aerial view of the island, the supply ship *Oldenburg*, Lundy ponies and the Old Lighthouse. The values cover the cost of sending inland 2nd and 1st class mail from Lundy - British rates (19p and 25p) plus 5p Lundy fee. The attractive miniature sheet is available at face value from: Wendy Puddy, Lundy, BIDEFORD, Devon, EX39 6LY. Postage 80p

UK; £1 EU countries; £1.25 Europe, non-EU; £1.75 Rest of World. Details of first day covers available from Mrs Puddy.

Summertime 25p stamp

Specialist collectors may wish to know that part of the printing of this stamp will have the experimental gum as used for the 35p Age of Steam stamp (see *Bulletin* January 1994, p. 130). The gum will look marginally different in that it will be slightly lighter than the usual formulation. Collectors interested in gum changes can order both the normal and experimental variation from the British Philatelic Bureau.



The Winslow Boy

Bob Porton of Bristol writes:

"I was interested to read the article 'The real Winslow Boy' in the April *Bulletin*. Whilst it is reported that Lt George Archer-Shee has no known grave his name is listed on the 1914-18 war memorial in St Mary's on the Quay church in the centre of Bristol."

Tye Green

Colin Peachey of Hemel Hempstead was so impressed with the recent NPM postcard showing Tye Green, he set out to visit this Essex hamlet. He writes:

"Congratulations to the National Postal Museum for yet another fine set of postcards, as described on page 247 of the May *Bulletin*.

"I thought you might like to know that the original poster with the Tye Green address shows the wrong 'Tye Green' legend. The picture shown on the postcard carries the inscription 'Tye Green near Elsenham, Essex', and indeed I visited Tye Green on 6 May (issue date of the card) to verify that the picture shown in the poster matches with that Tye Green. The correct postal address is 'Tye Green, Elsenham, Bishops Stortford, Herts' though Tye Green is across the border in Essex (it is next to Stansted airport), and it now carries a CM22 postcode. I went on to Elsenham post office where I received a courteous welcome, and my postcard, sent by the Guaranteed Delivery service, was nicely stamped. Thank you Elsenham!

"Tye Green, Braintree, Essex is a different location and is in the CM7 postcode area. One wonders if the poster, in its incorrect form, was ever displayed in the Braintree area! Incidentally, there are two more Tye Greens (at least) in Essex, one in the southern suburbs of Harlow and one near Saffron Walden. All four are within 20 miles of each other, thus one can excuse some confusion!

"Lastly, regarding the postcard showing Stormont, Belfast, I understand from my Northern Ireland colleague that the poster is still on display in the Stormont post office."

Soliloquy of a Postage Stamp

Mr B J Snook of Warrington writes:

"On page 267 of the May 1994 *Bulletin* you

publish an essay entitled *Soliloquy of a Postage Stamp* and ask if anyone knows the author or has seen it published anywhere.

"It appears in my *Liberty Stamp Album* of United States stamps which I have had for some 20 years now. There is no indication of the author but the publisher of the album was H E Harris & Co., Inc, Boston, Massachusetts 02117, USA."

The *Soliloquy* was also recalled by Peter Williams of Berkshire: "I recall this being published as part of a beginners' stamp collecting outfit that I had in my possession as a young schoolboy, between 1967 and 1970 approximately. It was entitled 'The Story of a Postage Stamp', and I well recall it being rather philosophical for such a simple mind as mine! It did however serve to further fascinate me with the hobby that I have practised more or less ever since. It has brought back most pleasant memories to encounter it again."

Graham Phillips, Editor of *The Philatelic Exporter* has drawn my attention to correspondence about the *Soliloquy* which was published in his magazine in 1992. Ray Jones of Thomas Cliffe Ltd, album producers of Rhyl, Clwyd wrote to record that his company featured a version the *Soliloquy* in the "Gallery Stamp Album" which they produced some 15-20 years ago, believing the original version dated from the 1920s or 1930s. Dennis Hanson of D J Hanson Ltd of Goole, North Humberside recalled the *Soliloquy* used by the stamp firm H E Harris of Boston during the period 1920-50, and by Thomas Cliffe Ltd in their stamp albums and collecting outfits during the late 1920s to about 1960. D J Hanson Ltd used it in some of their free gift kiloware packets, albums, starter kits, etc during the past 30 years.

The *Soliloquy* as published in the *Exporter* (October 1992) bears the name Ernest W Brady. Eminent philatelic journalist, Herman Herst, Jr, reported that Brady was the first to his knowledge to use the *Soliloquy* in his advertising. Brady was a stamp dealer in Chicago in the 1920s and 1930s. Mr Herst recalled doing "... business with him at that time. Although he put his name at the end of the piece I do not believe that he ever claimed to have been its author."

Greetings Stamps and Postal Addresses

H J Vincent of Yatton wrote concerning the 1993 Special Stamp Poll in the May *Bulletin*:

"I share the view of those who didn't like the Greetings stamps. I have bought some for use

but rarely find they are appropriate either for my grandchildren or for older relatives. Cannot we have some Greetings stamps with say, flowers or country scenes for the older people, and perhaps sporting scenes for the younger?

"Several years ago the Post Office published a book (on sale) of *Postal Addresses in the United Kingdom*. This was very useful as well as handy gazetteer. I have enquired for an update issue in recent years, and post offices have not heard of it. May I suggest it be revived?"

The *Postal Addresses* book has long been out of print, now superseded by *Post Towns and Localities Index* which gives the correct postal address of towns, villages and hamlets – for example Bunyions Lye, Little Stretton, CHURCH STRETTON, Shropshire. Reference is given to the volume of the *Postcode Directory* covering each place; in the case of Bunyions Lye, the Shrewsbury (SY) directory. Correct addresses are given for Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also the Republic of Ireland and Jersey. This 250 page, A4-size publication is available from: Royal Mail Postcode Products, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 0SP, price £10.

Commemoration of the Centenary of Picture Postcards

Charles Gordon of Middlesex writes:

"I do find the reason for the issue of the recent series of stamps to commemorate the above subject somewhat difficult to understand.

"To begin with, there was nothing to prevent postcards passing through the post before 1870, provided they were paid at Letter Rate. A number of these exist from various firms though these were not illustrated. I have seen one with a Penny Black in 1840.

"Similarly, there was nothing to prevent pictures being printed on the De La Rue postcards from 1870 onwards. In fact, when first issued, these cards could be bought in uncut sheets of 12 to 'facilitate printing of advertisements'. Examples of cards which both illustrate and advertise hotels have been recorded from the early 1870s, though the buff colour of the cards did not lend itself to the use of colour.

"A 'canard' perpetrated by Mr Lund in his article in the April *Bulletin* is that the General Post Office was reluctant to allow private firms to print and issue picture postcards. From 1890, the sole obstruction to the proposal to allow postcards to pass through the post under a ½d stamp was the Treasury. The GPO had agreed to

this procedure under pressure from the Stationers, but De La Rue, who held a monopoly of printing the Government cards would not accede to the proposals without some *quid pro quo*.

"The use of a ½d stamp on postcards had been allowed since 1870 provided that they could qualify as Printed Paper. I recall seeing such a Christmas postcard in a display given by the National Postal Museum to my local Society in 1983.

"Effectively, what will be celebrated in September will be the Centenary of the allowance for Postcards with written messages to pass through the post with an adhesive, rather than the pre-printed or embossed stamps. This was the *cause* which produced the ground-swell of interest in Picture Postcards not the *reason*.

"The preview of the stamps in the March *Bulletin* states 'In 1910 more than 100 million (postcards) were sold in the UK'. Reference to the Postmaster General's Report for the Year ending 31 March 1911 shows that 833,400,000 postcards passed through the post. This would include the Business usage, but this would have been less than 75,000,000. So we can assume that approximately 750,000,000 picture postcards passed through the post. In addition, about the same number could have been held in collections unused, so I would suspect that the decimal point is in the wrong place and the number sold in 1910 would be close to 1,000 million!!"

Brian Lund, Editor of Picture Postcard Monthly, responds:

"However Mr. Gordon argues the machinations that took place prior to 1 September 1894, that date was absolutely crucial in establishing the British picture postcard. The few 'official' issues and various adverts that had previously passed through the mails hardly qualify for the genre, and as the writer points out, the odd card slipped through before 1870, when the first official plain postcards were issued.

"The Centenary Exhibition and fair which takes place at the Royal Horticultural Halls from 30 August-3 September will truly commemorate a hundred years of delightful, ingenious and socially important picture postcards."

All letters to the Editor are carefully read; matters of general interest will be dealt with in "Postbag". The Editor regrets that he is unable to reply personally to letters.

Posting Boxes

No. 149 "C" Modified Box

This month's photo was submitted by Fred Fuzzens of Windsor. It depicts the very first "C" modified box to be installed, it is sited in Windsor Castle, at The Lord Chamberlain's Upper Stores.

This model made its first appearance in 1899; manufacturing ceased in the 1960s. The new double aperture box weighs nearly a ton, the opening doors are at the front instead of the sides, there is a rotary collection indicator. The posting apertures are for INLAND and OVERSEAS mail, the latter very useful for the large numbers of tourists to the Castle.



The box, which went into operation on 16 September 1991, is the first to have ROYAL MAIL instead of "Post Office" on the doors; the crown and cipher are also on the rear. When the doors are opened two Perspex type panels are revealed, also two hooks at the base of each door for the Delivery Officer to hook the collection bags.

Royal Mail have done a magnificent job with the box, visitors' cameras are directed at the box as much as they are at the red-coated soldiers.

Mr Fuzzens's records show, there are only six of the original Victorian "C" boxes in operation, all in London. There are 16 boxes bearing the Edward VII cipher – all, except two, in London.

Readers interested in letter boxes are reminded of the existence of the Letter Box Study Group – details of which can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to the Secretary: Sally Jones, 43 Miall Road, Hall Green, BIRMINGHAM B28 9BS.



Last August we reviewed Stanley Newman's book *Mailboats to Lundy* which told the story of the vessels that have carried supplies and mail to this island in the Bristol Channel from the 1830s to the present *Oldenburg*. Now Mr Newman has published **MS Oldenburg: Lundy's Supply and Mail Boat** giving a comprehensive account of the current ship. The *Oldenburg* was built in Germany in 1958 and spent her early years as a ferry operating to the Friesian Islands and Heligoland. In 1982 she was sold for use as a duty-free cruise vessel, sailing from Wilhelmshaven. Since May 1986 she has been the Lundy supply and mail vessel – economical to run and requiring a crew of just four, plus one or two extra to man the buffet, shop and bar. The journey from Wilhelmshaven to Bideford in November 1985 was an eventful one – fully recorded by Mr Newman, with engaging detail of the *Oldenburg's* career in the Bristol Channel and her temporary use as the supply vessel to the Isles of Scilly. The book is well written and contains numerous first-rate photographs. 40 pages, card covers. Price £3.50, postage 75p. Available from: Stanley Newman, Gemini Business Centre, 136-140 Old Shoreham Road, HOVE, E Sussex, BN3 7BD.

The Spring 1994 (Vol 5 No 2) issue of **Cross Post**, the journal of the Association of Friends of the National Postal Museum is now available. Edited by Allan Daniell, this contains many articles of interest to philatelists and postal historians. Michael Lockton looks at the postal history of Exeter from the 17th century to 1970. The Rev Christopher Beaver writes on the mail coach office, providing biographical details of Charles Johnson, Surveyor and Superintendent of Mail Coaches 1818-34. The Museum has recently acquired a fine portrait of Johnson.

Tony Gammons gave a talk on Post Office Uniforms to the Friends last November, a revised version is published, with no fewer than 16 interesting illustrations. Giles Allen, Philatelic Researcher at the Museum, writes on the proposed George V Memorial Stamps, and Michael Bament records the Scottish marks found in the Excise Collection of 19th century

material held at the Museum. Derek Varrier, Visits Manager Mail Rail, writes on the Post Office's famous Underground Railway and Kevin Squelch, Post Office Archivist, provides a useful account of messenger boys' uniforms. Dr J W M Stone continues his extensive précis of the "Peover Papers" – the earliest day-to-day record of the detailed administrations of the Post Office, dating from the 1670s. There is a full account of the Association's 1993 AGM and an index to Vols 3-4 of *Cross Post* (1989-93).

The Association has over 500 members, no fewer than 103 were enrolled between April 1992 and March 1993, making it probably the fastest growing philatelic organisation in the UK. The Friends organise a wide range of well-attended visits, talks and activities. One hundred people attend the AGM – a boast many philatelic societies would be proud to make.

Copies of *Cross Post* are available to non-members, price £2 each, from: Ray Pottle, Friends of the NPM, PO Box 40, UCKFIELD, E Sussex TN22 2SP (Tel. 0825-766546), who will be pleased to supply details of membership.

Six Month Digest

Listed below are the issues of the past six months and the proposed dates of issue for stamps until the end of 1994. Any change in these dates will be notified in the Bulletin. British Philatelic Bureau order codes are quoted where known.

11 Jan	NPM Valentines postcards (NQ921)
11 Jan	Age of Steam stamp cards (AQ286)
18 Jan	Age of Steam stamps (AS578)
18 Jan	Age of Steam pack (AP119)
25 Jan	1994 Greetings stamp cards (JQ012)
25 Jan	50p book – Coaching Inns 1 (TB030)
25 Jan	£1 book – Prime Ministers 1 (TB031)
1 Feb	1994 Greetings stamps book (JB009)
1 Feb	1994 Greetings stamps pack (JP003)
15 Feb	To Pay labels 1p-25p (KS002)
15 Feb	To Pay labels £1-£5 (LS002)
15 Feb	To Pay labels pack (LP002)
15 Feb	C5 size envelope 1st class (RY007)
15 Feb	C5 size envelope 2nd class (RY008)
22 Feb	Prince of Wales stamp cards (AQ292)
22 Feb	10 x 1st class book/W (UB087)
22 Feb	10 x 2nd class book/W (UB086)
1 Mar	Prince of Wales stamps (AS584)
1 Mar	Prince of Wales pack (AP120)
22 Mar	Scot Aerogramme – Stevenson (QS033)
5 Apr	Pictorial Postcards stamp cards (AQ298)
12 Apr	Pictorial Postcards stamps (AS590)

12 Apr	Pictorial Postcards pack (AP121)
26 Apr	50p book – Coaching Inns 2, H (TB032)
26 Apr	£1 book – Prime Ministers 2, H (TB033)
26 Apr	£2 book – Postal Vehicles 2, H (TB034)
26 Apr	Channel Tunnel stamp cards (AQ304)
3 May	Channel Tunnel stamps (AS596)
3 May	Channel Tunnel pack (AP122)
3 May	Channel Tunnel Souvenir book (AW055)
6 May	NPM postcards-Postcodes (NQ922)
31 May	D-Day stamp cards (AQ309)
6 Jun	D-Day stamps (AS603)
6 Jun	D-Day pack (AP123)
6 Jun	50p book – Coaching Inns 3, H (TB035)
6 Jun	£1 book – Prime Ministers 3, H (TB036)
14 Jun	Alcock & Brown aerogramme
28 Jun	Golf stamp cards



Forthcoming

5 Jul	Golf stamps and pack
19 Jul	19p definitive gum trial
19 Jul	Pictorial aerogrammes – Birds
19 Jul	Scot aerogramme – Gordon Highlanders
26 Jul	N Ireland prestige book
26 Jul	Summertime stamp cards
27 Jul	Bank of England stamp book
2 Aug	Summertime stamps and pack
2 Aug	Summertime – souvenir book
2 Aug	NPM postcards-Uniforms
9 Aug	4 x 60p stamp book
6 Sep*	50p, £1, £2 books
20 Sep	Medical Discoveries stamp cards
27 Sep	Medical Discoveries stamps and pack
Oct	Christmas aerogramme
4 Oct	10 x 1st books (Smith promotion)
25 Oct	Christmas stamp cards
1 Nov	Christmas stamps and pack
1 Nov	Christmas stamp books
1 Nov	Collectors Pack 1994
1 Nov	Year Book 1994

Notes:

H = printed by Harrison & Sons

W = printed by Walsall Security Printers

* = provisional date of issue.

July/August Digest

Issued in July/August

5 July: Golf stamps – 19p, 25p, 30p, 35p, 41p; presentation pack.

19 July: 19p definitive – gum trial (PVA without dextrin).

19 July: Scottish Aerogramme – Gordon Highlanders.

19 July: Pictorial Aerogramme – Birds. Pack of six different designs.

26 July: Northern Ireland prestige stamp book.

26 July: Summertime stamp cards.

27 July: Bank of England stamp book – 4 x 1st class NVI and commemorative label.

2 August: Summertime stamps – 19p, 25p, 30p, 35p, 41p; presentation pack; souvenir book.

9 August: 60p definitive. Issued in books of four.

Withdrawn in July/August

5 July: 50p and £1 stamp books (issued 6 July 1993).

19 July: Inland Waterways stamps, presentation pack and stamp cards.

26 July: 30p definitive, issued 26 September 1989.

16 August: 35p definitive, issued 10 September 1991.

Events

Until 17 Jul 94. Windsor & Slough PS Diamond Jubilee display at Slough Museum. Open Wed-Fri Noon-1600, Sat & Sun 14.00-1700. Admission free. History of Society, stamps, postal history, models of postal vans and figures, pillar boxes, etc.

Until April 95. "Addressing Postcodes" exhibition at National Postal Museum, King Edward Street, LONDON EC1A 1LP. Open Mon-Fri 9.30-16.30. Admission free. Enquiries: Tel. 071-239 5420.

2 Jul 94. Weston-super-Mare Phil Soc Annual Exhibition and Stamp Fair at St Paul's Church Hall, Walliscote Road, Weston-super-Mare,

10.00-16.00. Dealers will be present. Enquiries: Tel. 0934-813631.

2 Jul 94. Convention of Yorkshire Phil Assn (hosted by Sheffield Phil Soc) at Ecclesfield School, Chapeltown, Sheffield, 10.00-16.30. Stamp Fair. Enquiries: B Wilkinson, Tel. 0742-301745.

2-3 Jul 94. Thematica 94 exhibition at Carisbrooke Hall, Seymour Street, London W2. Enquiries: B Sole, Tel. 0372-467652 (evenings).

5 Jul-31 Aug 94. Tercentenary Exhibition of Stamp Duties and The Stamp Office at Courtauld Institute, Somerset House (Strand Entrance), London WC2. Mon-Sat, 10.00-17.00. Admission free.

9 Jul 94. Bodmin Stamp Club Stamp Fair at Shire House Suite, Bodmin, Cornwall, 10.00-16.00. Admission 20p, accompanied children free. Free stamps for children. Enquiries: John Booth, Tel. 0579-340079.

16 Jul 94. Telford Phil Soc stamp & postcard fair at Belmont Hall, Wellington, Telford, 10.00-16.00. Enquiries: P Morris-Jones, 190 Holyhead Road, Wellington, TELFORD TF1 2DW.

16-25 Aug 94. Philakorea 1994 international stamp exhibition at Korea Exhibition Centre, Seoul, Korea.

30 Aug-3 Sep 94. Picture Postcard Centenary Exhibition at Royal Horticultural Society Hall, London SW1. Promoted by Postcard Traders Association. Enquiries: John Bateman, Tel. 0550-777064.

Postal Memorabilia Displays

9-10 July: 21st Scottish Transport Extravaganza, Glamis Castle, Tayside.

17 July: "Tram Sunday", Fleetwood, Lancs.

Enquiries: David Harrop, 15 Hawthorne Road, Heaton Mersey, STOCKPORT SK4 3 DQ.



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