

Philatelic Bulletin

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29 July 1981 Postmark

In response to demand, the Post Office has arranged for operational handstamp facilities to be available at all first-day-of-issue offices on 29 July 1981. Letters bearing at least first class postage within the United Kingdom, or appropriate rate for overseas, posted in the special boxes situated in all FDOI offices between 23-28 July (except Sunday 26), will receive an operational handstamp of the office of posting bearing the date 29 July 1981. Normal reposting facilities will also apply.

A Royal Wedding: a handsome and charming Prince, a beautiful and elegant young bride – a happy royal occasion in which the nation will rejoice.

A special stamp issue to commemorate the happy event – of course.

To those many thousands of stamp collectors initially and relatively recently attracted to the hobby by the regular issues of British commemorative stamps 1964, the Royal Wedding stamps may well appear to be just another commemorative issue.

In pure philatelic terms however, it is far more important than that.

For the Prince of Wales is destined to become the next Sovereign of the United Kingdom, this fact makes the Wedding Stamps unique in that this will be the first time that the wedding of a *future* British monarch has been the subject of a special stamp issue. When he becomes monarch the stamps issued during his reign will form the next philatelic collection category; no future 'King Charles' collection will be complete without these important Wedding stamps.

In comparison to the number of stamps printed for definitive issues the 'wedding' stamps print number is limited. Inevitably the 'wedding' stamps will quite quickly become, sought after.

The implications of this to the prudent and far sighted collector are quite clear; they will need one set for their QEII collection and one for the future 'King Charles' collection.

Be sure you get the stamps you need from the Post Office when they are issued so that you do not miss the opportunity of buying this important issue at today's prices.

Royal Wedding

On 29 July 1981 Prince Charles follows his grandfather's example and takes as his royal bride a girl from the landed aristocracy. In 1923 the then Duke of York, later to be George VI, married the Scottish Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon who still retains our affectionate regard in her present role of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. For generations brides for the heirs to the throne have been foreign princesses, and the Lady Diana Spencer is the first non-royal and English bride since James, Duke of York, wed Lord Clarendon's daughter over 300 years ago. Anne Hyde died before her husband (later James II) succeeded his brother Charles (Charles II) as King, but her two daughters, Mary and Anne, both reigned as Sovereign Queens, the last of the Stuart line. Lady Diana is a descendant of Charles II. Both bride and groom share a common forefather in Henry Tudor, and can trace their lineage back through the beautiful Mary, Queen of Scots, to the old royal House of Scotland.

In 1284 Prince Edward was born within the walls of Caernarfon Castle during Edward I's Welsh campaign. In the course of battle the last native born Prince of Wales, Llewelyn ap Gruffydd, was slain. According to romantic legend the King presented his baby son, Edward of Caernarfon, to the people of Wales as their Welsh born prince. But it was not until 1343 that the real history of the English Princes of Wales truly started, when in full Parliament, Edward of Caernarfon's son, Edward III, invested the 16-year-old Black Prince as Prince of Wales. The ancient title is not acquired automatically by right of birth, but is conferred on the eldest son of the reigning sovereign as and when the Monarch pleases.

Since the beginning of this century three of the five monarchs following Queen Victoria have been in turn the Prince of Wales. In Prince Charles runs the blood of all the old Royal Houses of the United Kingdoms. He can trace his descent through Llewelyn the Great to the sovereign Princes of Wales, and on 1 July 1969 he was invested with that ancient title. In a blaze of colourful ceremonial within the walls of Caernarfon Castle, the sonorous titles proclaimed the 20-year-old as HRH the

Prince Charles, Prince of Wales, Earl of Chester, Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Lord of the Isles and Baron of Renfrew, Prince and Great Steward of Scotland, Knight Companion of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.

To mark the occasion, the Post Office issued a set of stamps which included Caernarfon's three venerable gateway towers where the Queen presented her son to the people of Wales. The Post Office has always closely consulted the Royal Family about stamps, and all new issues have to be approved by the Sovereign. Queen Victoria took a deep interest in the design of the Penny Black, and her portrait remained in use on British stamps for the duration of a very long reign. It is said that the Queen objected to a change of portrait, but whether this was due to an understandable reluctance at the thought of looking older, is not known. Her grandson, George V, was a noted philatelist who laid the foundation of the Royal Collection, an interest shared by his son, George VI. If the present Queen has not become a philatelist herself, she has ensured that the Royal Collection has grown into one of the finest in the world, and is generous in sharing its gems by exhibiting them at major internationals all over the world.

Since the Queen's Coronation the Post Office has celebrated each major royal event with a special issue of stamps. The marriage of the Heir Apparent is no exception, and two values will be issued.

Above and beyond the personal goodwill extended to any loving young couple on their wedding day lies an awareness of the continuing strength of the British monarchy with its caring devotion and service to us, its people. The warmth of mutual affection and loyalty between Throne and subjects is a bastion of light against the darkness of an increasingly destructive and greedy world. The touchingly young and lovely Lady Diana will indeed be welcome as the new Princess of Wales. Therefore let us toast the future happiness of the Prince and his youthful bride: 'Bendith duw ar Dywysog a Thywysoges Cymru'— 'God Bless the Prince and Princess of Wales.'

BARBARA LAST

The Royal Wedding Special Stamp Issue 22 July 1981



Two special stamps will be issued on 22 July 1981 to mark the wedding of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales to Lady Diana Spencer at St Paul's Cathedral, London, on 29 July 1981.

The stamps, designed by Jeffery Matthews FSIAD, featuring the happy couple, successfully capture the joy of the occasion. This is another 'Royal' for Jeffery who designed the highly successful 'Queen Mother's Birthday' stamp in 1980. The photograph was specially taken by Snowdon. Printed in photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd the stamps are vertical in format, 100 to a sheet on a coated, unwatermarked, pre-treated phosphor paper. PVA dextrin is the adhesive used and the stamp size is 30mm x 41mm, while the perforations are 14 x 15.

Values and Colours

- 14p Greenish-yellow, rose red, violet-blue, black, pale blue, blue, silver.
25p Greenish-yellow, rose red, violet blue, blue, stone, brownish-grey, silver.

Presentation Pack

The presentation pack (No 127A), price 56p, containing the stamps, was also designed by Jeffery Matthews; it is a calligraphic design silver foil blocked on a blue panel.

Postcards

Postcard reproductions of each of the stamps will be available approximately two weeks before the issue date, price 11p each.

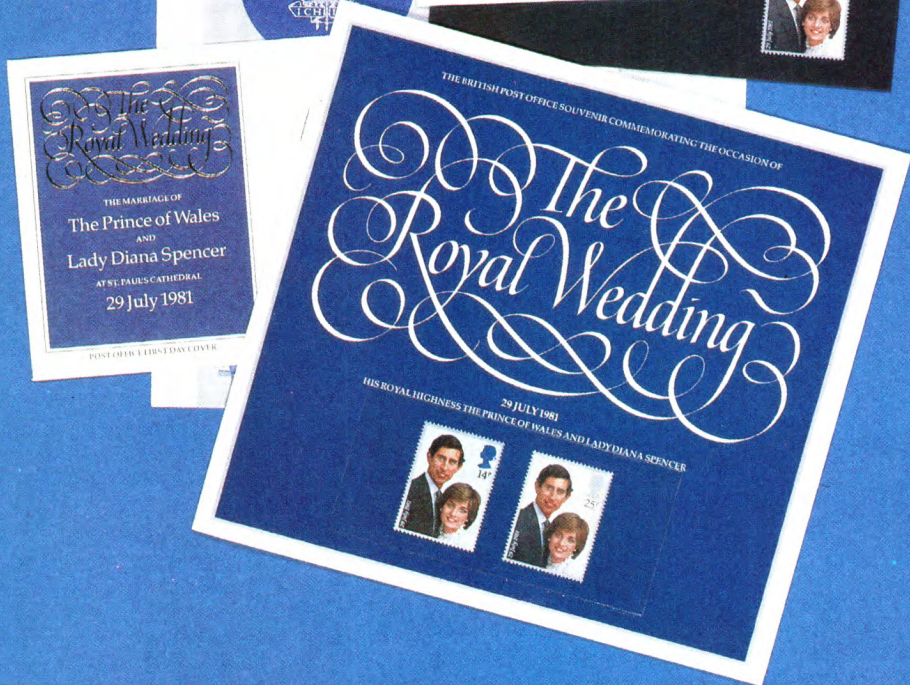
Souvenir Book

A souvenir book – incorporating both Royal Wedding Stamps in a transparent slip-in holder on the front cover – contains 12 pages of information on notable milestones in the lives of The Prince and Lady Diana, will also be on sale from 22 July. Beautifully illustrated, the book includes much information about previous Royal marriages, from that of Queen Victoria in 1840 to HM The Queen's in 1947. In addition, there are a number of reproductions of noted stamp issues associated with events occurring during the several reigns. The book, researched and written by Charity Boxall, designed by Jeffery Matthews, is priced at £1.50.



Airmail Letter

A commemorative airmail letter, price 23p, of which 20p is postage, designed by Jeffery Matthews, will also be on sale from 22 July. Printed by McCorquodale Printers Ltd, it includes photographs of The Prince and Lady Diana in company with HM The Queen.



8. H for Heraldry

Heraldry – the science of recording genealogies and blazoning coats of arms – is one of the most popular and colourful picture postcard subjects, especially the heraldic devices of one's own town or city.

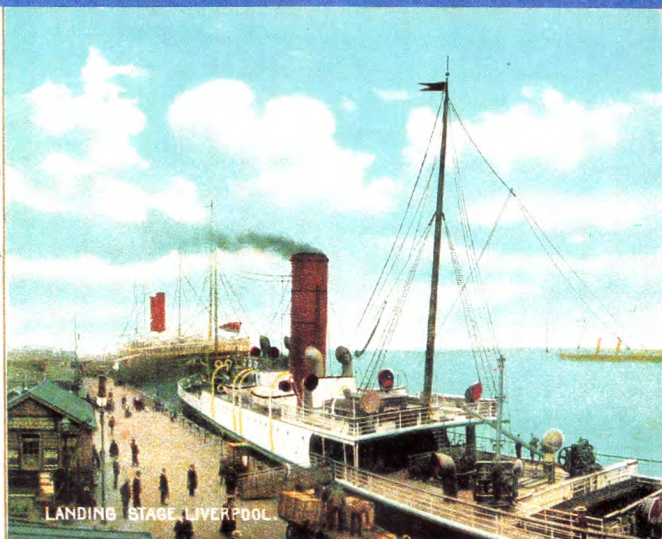
In medieval times, the herald was an officer who maintained a register of all the genealogies and armorial bearings of the nobles, and these duties are now carried on by the College of Arms (or Heralds College) in London, whose officers are specialists in genealogical and heraldic work. Since the 15th century, arms have been (and still are) granted by Letters Patent under the authority delegated to them by the Sovereign, specifically to the three Kings of Arms. Knights jousting in tournaments or waging battle wore their family crests as a means of identification, usually on their helmets and surcoats, while the complete armorial bearings comprise crest, wreath, helmet, motto, lambrequin (worn over the helmet), coronet, mantle and the principal pictorial device – the shield, with (or without) supporters.

Heraldic devices often feature animals, creatures of myth, flowers and birds – the arms of Bristol, for example, have unicorns as supporters, while my illustrated card depicts a view of the landing stage at Liverpool with the arms picturing the fanciful 'liver bird' on the shield and as the

crest, with Neptune and a (male!) mermaid as supporters. The card is one of the heraldic series published by Hildesheimer which, like the cards published by numerous other companies, are primarily view cards with heraldic adornment. Similar cards were published by Brown & Rawcliffe ('Camera' series), Faulkner, Jarrold, Valentine of Dundee, and Wrench, while Stoddart ('Ja-Ja' brand) and W. Ritchie & Sons ('Reliable') also produced picture cards of arms and crests. Scottish clans and tartans were also featured on heraldic cards.

While there are probably more different 'Ja-Ja' cards than issued by any other publisher, Raphael Tuck covered the whole of Great Britain and Ireland with about 500 beautifully designed and embossed heraldic cards in singles and sets. These were issued as single cards without the sepia pictures of towns and cities found in other series: for example, the arms of Birmingham appeared (alone) on Tuck Heraldic card No. 1864, with six separate views – Council House, Corporation Street, Aston Hall, etc – on cards numbered 923 to 928, and also on series 157, a set of six. All are early 1900s cards with undivided backs – messages had to be written on the front or picture side.

The arms of public schools, colleges and universities – notably Oxford and Cambridge – were published by Robert Peel and others, while Tuck and the German publisher, Kohl, published 'Arms of the Nations'. An interesting sideline is the Goss and Trent crested pottery, examples of which



can be found on picture postcards. Expect to pay from 50p to £1 for the ordinary heraldic view card, about the same for the 'Ja-Ja' cards and about £4 to £6 for the lovely Tuck embossed items.

MALCOLM JAMES

Regional Postcards

Midland Postal Board

A new picture postcard, printed in two colours, of the mythical Derby Ram will go on sale from 15 July 1981. No one knows when the legend of the gigantic Ram of Derbyshire originated exactly, but it was probably in Pagan times, and almost certainly to do with ancient rituals.

Orders for fully serviced cards, including first class postage and first day of sale handstamping, should be sent to The Head Postmaster, Head Post Office, Midland Road, DERBY DE1 1AA. The cost of this service is 37p.

Mint cards, price 11p each, will be available by personal application from all Philatelic Counters.

Orders for bulk quantities of these postcards should be sent to The Manager (Postcards), Philatelic Bureau, Lothian House, 124 Lothian Road, EDINBURGH EH3 9BB, where normal discount facilities and handling charges will apply.

North Eastern Postal Board

A new series of 6 picture postcards (series NEPR 11-16) featuring bridges in the North Eastern Postal Region will be issued on 17 July 1981.

The views on the cards feature: The Humber Bridge, The High Level and Swing Bridges at Newcastle, The Royal Border Bridge Berwick upon Tweed, The Wearmouth Bridge Sunderland, The Transporter Bridge Middlesbrough and The Viaduct Knaresborough.

The cards will be available to personal callers at main Post Offices at Newcastle upon Tyne, Hull, Sunderland, Middlesbrough, Harrogate and Morpeth and Philatelic Counters price 11p each or 66p for the full set.

Single orders for full sets of mint cards may be ordered from: The Manager (Postcards) Philatelic Bureau, Lothian House, 124 Lothian Road, EDINBURGH EH3 9BB, at 66p per set plus normal handling charges. Bulk orders for full sets of cards may be ordered from the Bureau where discounts and normal handling charges will also apply.

A First Day of Sale Handstamp will be provided at Hull on 17 July.

Serviced cards with First Day of Sale Hand-

stamp will be available in full sets only at a charge of £2.46 which includes the cost of postcards, first class postage, handstamping and service charge. Orders for sets of serviced cards should be sent to:- The Head Postmaster, Postal Operations Branch (Postcards), Head Post Office, 60 Lowgate, HULL HU1 1AA, not the Philatelic Bureau.

Payment may be made by Postal Order or Giro Transfer, Giro Account number 607 0116.

For orders from overseas, payment must be made by means of International Money order or by a cheque drawn on a U.K. bank and payable to the Post Office. Only payment in sterling will be accepted. Orders for serviced cards will not be accepted unless received by Thursday 16 July.

Wales & The Marches Postal Region

Shrewsbury Head Post Office is producing its first picture postcard featuring an aerial photograph of the town centre, and the meandering River Severn which almost encircles the town.

Costing 11p, the postcard will be on sale Monday 13 July 1981 and a pictorial handstamp entitled 'Town of Flowers - Shrewsbury' will be applied to cards posted at Shrewsbury HPO on the first day of the sale.

Serviced postcards with the first day of sale handstamp will cost 37p each which includes postage and handling charge, and can be obtained from The Philatelic Duty, Shrewsbury Head Post Office, SHREWSBURY SY1 1AA where normal reposting facilities will also be available. Remittances, made payable to The Post Office, preferably by cheque or Giro Transfer (Giro A/C 403.7014) should be sent to the above address.

Mint cards will be available from all Philatelic Counters and Shrewsbury HPO.

Bulk orders for mint cards should be sent to:- British Post Office Philatelic Bureau, Lothian House, 124 Lothian Road, EDINBURGH EH3 9BB where normal discount facilities and handling charges will apply.

Eastern Postal Region

A new picture postcard, produced by Eastern Postal Region, will be available from 22 July 1981. The picture shows the Post Office, Cornhill, Ipswich at the time of its opening on 27 July 1881. The main features of this fine example of Victorian architecture are the four seated statues above the portico which represent Industry, Electricity, Steam and Commerce. Above the statues and central over the first floor windows, the Royal Arms are supported by the figures of 'Genius' and

'Science' in recognition of the services to the Postal and Telegraph Departments of Sir Rowland Hill and Professor Wheatstone. The postcard's first day of sale coincides with the first day of issue of the Royal Wedding stamps.

The cards will be available to personal callers at the Head Post Office, Cornhill, IPSWICH, Suffolk IP1 1AA and all Philatelic Counters, price 11p each. Orders for serviced cards with first day of sale handstamp – 22 July – including first class postage and service charge should be sent to The Head Postmaster (Postcards) at the above address, the price 37p each. In addition for the postcard bearing both 'Royal Wedding' stamps only, cancelled, and service charge, the cost is 62p. Remittances should be made payable to The Post Office and crossed A/C Payee. Ipswich HPO Giro account number 2008017.

Bulk orders for mint cards only should be sent to:– The Manager (Postcards) Philatelic Bureau, Lothian House, 124 Lothian Road, EDINBURGH EH3 9BB.

Forthcoming Events

Philatex Bournemouth

The 11th Annual Exhibition, 'Philatex Bournemouth' will take place in The Town Hall, BOURNEMOUTH BH2 6DY on Monday and Tuesday 27 and 28 July 1981. Opening times will be 12 noon-8 pm and 10 am-6 pm respectively. A number of prominent dealers will be present, and the British Post Office will provide a philatelic sales counter and display.

Full details can be obtained from Mr David Long, Winchester Stamp Centre, 6 Parchment Street, WINCHESTER, Hants SO23 8AT.

Chelmsford and District Philatelic Society

The next Philatelic Week-end arranged by Chelmsford and District Philatelic Society will, as usual, be held at the Wansfell College of Residential Further Education, at Theydon Bois, Essex, from Friday 16 October to Sunday 18 October 1981.

The programme, which commences Friday evening after dinner, will cover the following subjects:

'Auctions – how they work'

'The Postal History of France and of her occupied territories in the Napoleonic Period'

'Music as a Theme'

'Philately for Fun'

'Translantic Mail'

'The Story from Design to Finished Product'

'G B Victoria and Later'

Also arranged is a visit to Bruce Castle to see the British Postal History material held at the museum.

The all-in cost for the Week-end, including accommodation and meals from dinner on Friday night to lunch on Sunday, is £27.50. Bookings should be made as soon as possible direct to, The Registrar, Wansfell College, Theydon Bois, EPPING, Essex CM16 7LF. Cheques should be made payable to the Essex County Council.

Cameo Stampway to Collecting Exhibition, and a Royal Celebration

The latest in the series of mini exhibitions at the CAMEO STAMP CENTRE, 75 Strand, LONDON WC2R 0DE opened on National Stamp Day, 6 May 1981. It is called the CAMEO STAMPWAY TO COLLECTING EXHIBITION, and twenty-four frames are set up to capture the interest of the potential collector.

The hundreds of stamps displayed in these frames are used to illustrate many facets of collecting. Each item is captioned and the viewer can follow the exhibits through quite easily.

A ROYAL CELEBRATION EXHIBITION will open at the CAMEO STAMP CENTRE on 22 July 1981 to coincide with the 'Royal Wedding' stamps issue. A special handstamp featuring Wedding Bells will be applied to a Commemorative Cover bearing both 'Royal Wedding' stamps. The cost of this cover is £1.50, plus an additional 30p if it is required to be sent in an outer envelope.

This Exhibition will include not only the new 'Royal Wedding' stamps from Great Britain, and the rest of the world, but will incorporate also a philatelic history of the Princes of Wales from Edward the Black Prince to Prince Charles.

First Day of Issue Handstamp Facilities

First day of issue handstamp facilities will be available from the Head Post Office, 46-50 Commercial Street, LERWICK, Shetland, ZE1 1AA with the issue of the 'Royal Wedding' commemorative stamps on 22 July 1981.

The Inland Parcel Post



The above illustration shows one of the 1881 essays which were produced by De la Rue and Co for parcel post stamps. This month's 'gem' from the Reginald M Phillips collection looks briefly at the history behind these unusual items.

The Railway Companies in the Nineteenth Century were interested in the parcel market as well as their more conventional business of passengers and freight, as indeed is British Rail today. In 1851, labels were issued by a few of the Railway Companies for the prepayment of newspaper parcels. The scheme was extended, about 1877, so that the conveyance of all types of parcels was included. Each Railway Company produced its own individual stamps, which varied considerably in design although they were generally inscribed 'Prepaid Parcel' or 'Prepaid Newspaper Parcel'.

The Post Office reached an agreement in 1882 with the Railway Companies that the latter should

receive 55 per cent of the postage collected on parcels, as their share for the work of distribution. The result was that the government's Inland Parcel Post was formally introduced on 1 August 1883. The nine pence green postage stamp was issued on the same day to cater for the new parcel post rate and the scheme for separate parcel post stamps was not progressed further by the Post Office. The proposed design for the Inland Parcel Post did not, therefore, progress beyond the essay stage. It is interesting to speculate the direction stamp design would have followed if a formal system of inland parcel posts had continued in this fashion with the Railway Companies. This is not as far-fetched as it seems as the the parcel post in Belgium is handled exclusively by the Railway to this day, and they have issued their own parcel post stamps over the years to cater for it.

Visitors to the National Postal Museum can see these unusual essays in Volume XLIII/53-4 of the Reginald M Phillips Collection.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Stamps Issue 12 August 1981



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme was set up in 1956 as an experiment. Twenty-five years later over 1½ million young people from the United Kingdom and many countries of the Commonwealth and the rest of the world have found enjoyment, challenge, and satisfaction in its unique range of activities.

Four special stamps will be issued to mark the 25th anniversary of the scheme on 12 August 1981.

The values and subjects of the stamps are 14p Expeditions; 18p Skills; 22p Service and 25p Physical recreation.

First Day Cover services

The following services for first day covers will be provided. Two special pictorial handstamps will be available, 'Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh' and 'London, W2'.

SERVICE 'A'

This consists of the official first day cover, addressed to the correct address of the destination required and bearing all four stamps. The cover will be cancelled: 'Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh', or 'London W2' as requested and despatched.

SERVICE 'B'

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

The following charges will apply:

	INLAND	OVERSEAS
Service 'A'	£1.16	£1.01
Deposit account customers	£1.11	96½p
Service 'B'	£1.03	89½p

The usual first day of issue facilities will be available at offices with philatelic posting boxes. Application forms, available from the Philatelic Bureau, and at all Head Post Offices should be returned not later than 3 August 1981.

Presentation Pack

A presentation pack, price 96p, containing all four stamps, will be available from 12 August 1981.

Postcards

Postcard reproductions of each of the four stamps will be available approximately two weeks before the issue date, price 11p each.



Printing details

The stamps are designed by Philip Sharland FSIAD who also designed the 'Telephone' and the 'US Bicentenary' stamps of 1976. Printed by John Waddington of Kirkstall Ltd, by the offset litho process on phosphor coated paper, they are horizontal in format, size 41mm x 30mm, printed 100 to a sheet. The perforations are 14 x 14, and PVA dextrin is the adhesive.

Values and Colours

- 14p: Yellow, magenta, cyan, black, emerald, metallic silver.
- 18p: Yellow, magenta, cyan, black, cobalt, metallic gold.
- 22p: Yellow, magenta, cyan, black, vermillion, metallic gold.
- 25p: Flesh, magenta, cyan, black, dark flesh, metallic bronze.



Queen Elizabeth II Definitive Stamps – Technical Details (contd.)

Value	Cylinders		Printing Press	Perforator	Adhesive	Coating	Printing Date	Comments
	Colour	Phos						
2p	4	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	Sept '70	Some reported with GA
	5	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	March '71	Some with inverted "2"
	5	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	March '71	(Phosphor cylinder)
	4	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	Sept '71	
	11	7	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al	OCP	Jan '73	This might have been phos 17 with the "1" badly printed
	4	7	Halley 3	Grover	PV Al	OCP	June '73	
	11	17	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Aug '73	First use of PV Al/DEX adhesive
	11	21	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Dec '74	
	11	21	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	June '75	
	10	17	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	July '76	
	10	17	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Nov '76	
	10	30	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Dec '77	
	10	7	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Dec '77	
	10	30	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Feb '78	
	10	21	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	June '79	
	13	37	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP&PPP	Sept '79	Pre-printed phosphor paper*
	13	—	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	PCP	Nov '79	Phosphor in coating†
	13	—	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/DEX	PCP	April '80	Phosphor in coating†
	Q1/Q2	—	Heidelberg	Bickel	PV Al/DEX	PCP	March '80	Printed by House of
	Q3/Q4	—	Heidelberg	Step-and-repeat	PV Al/DEX	PCP	April '80	Questa in Web-offset-lithography
	13	—	Jumelle	Kampf	PV Al/DEX	PCP	June '80	
	14	—	Jumelle	Kampf	PV Al/DEX	PCP	Oct '80	
	13	35	Jumelle	Kampf	PV Al/DEX	PCP	Sept '79	Reported by philatelists, confirmed by J Spiteri

* Some with inverted phosphor cylinder † Variations in degree of gloss

We thank Mr J Spiteri of British Decimal Stamp Study Circle for additional information.

Value	Cylinders Colour	Phos	Printing Press	Per- forator	Adhe- sive	Coat- ing	Printing Date	Comments
2 1/2 p	6	5	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Sept '70	One phosphor bar
	6	5	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCF	Sept '70	Short print run
	5	5	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCF	Oct '70	One phosphor bar*
	5	5	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Jly-Nov '71	One phosphor bar
	10	8	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Nov '71	One phosphor bar
	10	9	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Nov '71	One phosphor bar
	10	9	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	GA	FCP	Dec '72	One phosphor bar
	8	5	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCF	June '71	One phosphor bar*
	10	8	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	GA	FCP	Sept '72	A number of sheets were issued with phosphor bars containing various amounts of PHD "green" phosphor
	7	5	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCF	Nov '70	One phosphor bar
	7	5	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCF	Oct '71	One phosphor bar
	11	9	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	July '72	One phosphor bar
	11	9	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	GA	FCP	Jan '73	One phosphor bar
	11	9	Halley 2	Grover	GA	FCP	April '73	One phosphor bar
	9	9	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	July '72	One phosphor bar
	9	8	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	GA	FCP	Sept '72	One phosphor bar
	9	9	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	GA	FCP	Jan '73	One phosphor bar
	11	8	Halley 3	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Oct '72	One phosphor bar
	11	8	Halley 3	Grover	PV Al	FCP	May '73	One phosphor bar
	13/13A	14	Woods 10	Grover	PV Al	FCP	April '72	One phosphor bar
	10	8	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	PV Al	FCP	May '72	
	10	9	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	PV Al	FCP	May '72	
	10	8	Halley 3	Swedish Rotary	PV Al	FCP	May '72	
	10	8	Halley ?	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Not known	Reported with PHD green-phosphor contamination
	19	18	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/ DEX	FCP	Aug '73	One phosphor bar Some reported on PV Al paper
	19	17	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/ DEX	FCP	March '75	Two phosphor bars
	25	—	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/ DEX	PCP	Nov '80	Colour changed
	25	—	Jumelle	Kampf, pin-rotary	PV Al/ DEX	PCP	Dec '80	

* Sheets are known with phosphor cylinder number not printed

78. British Polar Explorers, 1972

British achievements in the remote Polar regions – North and South – were given timely recognition by the Post Office when they issued four stamps honouring some of our most famous explorers and navigators on 16 February 1972. The stamps, designed by Marjorie Saynor (who had previously designed two of the 'Anniversary' stamps of 1970), featured head-and-shoulders portraits of Sir James Clark Ross (3p), Sir Martin Frobisher (5p), Henry Hudson (7½p) and Captain R F Scott (9p), with maps in the background. The success of the issue can be judged by the fact that a similar set of (five) 'British Explorers', again by Marjorie Saynor and in the same style and format, was issued a year later, in April 1973.

Sir James Clark Ross, 1800-1862, entered the Navy in 1812, accompanied Parry and Sir John Ross on Arctic voyages, and in 1831 discovered the North magnetic pole. During his Antarctic expedition of 1839-1843 he discovered Mount Erebus, Victoria Land, the sea named after him and the South magnetic pole. His portrait was derived from a print owned by the Royal Geographical Society of an engraving by Henry Cook from the painting by J. R. Wildman, now in the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich. The background map of the South Polar Sea was printed in September 1841 by order of the House of Commons.

Sir Martin Frobisher, 1535-1594, made three attempts to discover the North-west Passage during Elizabeth's reign, accompanied Drake to the West Indies and had his name commemorated

in Frobisher's Strait, south of Baffin Land. He was knighted for his services against the Armada, campaigned against Spain, but was mortally wounded when leading an attack on Brest. His portrait is a detail from a painting in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, while the background map was adapted from 'Part of the World' by Desceliers (1550).

Henry Hudson, c.1560-1611, made three unsuccessful attempts to find a North-east Passage in the Arctic, then went north-westward and discovered the river, strait and bay (in Canada) which bears his name. His sailors in his last expedition in 1611 mutinied and set him and eight others adrift in an open boat – their exact fate was never ascertained. The portrait is a detail from the painting 'The Last Voyage of Henry Hudson' by John Collyer (Tate Gallery), while the background is adapted from Petrus Plancius' world map published in 1592.

Robert Falcon Scott, 1868-1912, born in Devonport, early joined the Navy and first took a British expedition to the Antarctic in the *Discovery* in 1901. Later (1910) he led an expedition in *Terra Nova* which culminated in a journey to the South Pole where, in January 1912, it was discovered that Amundsen had preceded him by three weeks. On the return journey, Scott and his companions – Wilson, Oates, Evans and Bowers – perished. Scott's portrait is taken from a photograph held by the Royal Geographical Society, while the background map was adapted from the charts of the main southern journey of the British Antarctic Expedition, 1910-1913, and from Bartholomew's



Comparative Atlas, 1949. Scott's son, Sir Peter Scott, CBE, DSC, is the famous naturalist and ornithologist.

The stamps were printed in photogravure by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) on unwatermarked paper with two phosphor bands. Varieties comprise mainly certain colours, embossing and phosphor omitted – a freakish colour shift placed Sir James Clark Ross's eyeballs on his cheeks. Quantities sold were: 3p 53,630,000; 5p 8,843,000; 7½p 7,191,000; 9p 5,488,300; and Presentation packs, 103,676.

JAMES WATSON

Commemorative Covers

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme will produce a commemorative cover on 12 August, coinciding with the issue of four special stamps, to mark its 25th anniversary. The cover will feature a diestamped design in green and gold based on the personal cypher of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh as used in the award scheme. The cover will bear all four stamps cancelled with a special souvenir postmark and is priced at £2.50.

There is a selection of posting locations available: Buckingham Palace, Holyrood House, Hillsborough Castle, Mansion House, Cardiff Castle. Each location will have a special posting box; the items posted there will bear a cachet to that effect and be cancelled by the special souvenir postmark of that location.

Orders, indicating the posting location required, with remittances made payable to 'The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme' and crossed A/C payee, should be sent to:- Award Scheme Covers, Liege House, Marshfield, CHIPPENHAM, Wilts SN14 8LZ. The closing date for orders is 12 August.

Devon County Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee

25th Anniversary of the Award's Scheme

To coincide with the issue of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award special stamps on 12 August, the Devon County Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee will issue its own commemorative cover. The multi-coloured cover design will illustrate the personal cypher of His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh surmounted by the Devon County Emblem. It will carry a full set of four commemorative stamps cancelled with a pictorial stamp.

The cost will be £1.50 inclusive of return postage under separate cover. All proceeds from the sales will go to the Award's Scheme.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from:- D J Wotton Esq, Commemorative Cover, 15 Barton Avenue, PAIGNTON, Devon TQ3 3JQ on receipt of a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Royal St. Georges Golf Championship

The 110th Open Golf Championship will take place at the Royal St. Georges, Sandwich, Kent. On 19 July 1981 to mark the occasion a commemorative cover, bearing a 14p 'Butterflies' stamp, will be available. It will illustrate a map of East Kent and the golf club complex. The stamp will be cancelled with a pictorial handstamp depicting St. George and the Dragon.

The cost of the cover is 50p for personal callers to Royal St. Georges.

Orders by post, at 70p per item including postage and packing, can be obtained from:- The Philatelic Agents, Open Championship Golf, 33 St. George's Place, CANTERBURY, Kent CT1 2XX. These covers only will be overprinted with the name of the winner of the championship.

1981 National Festival of Flower Arrangement

The Festival took place at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham from 2-4 July 1981.

To mark the event, a commemorative cover is now available bearing the 14p 'Butterflies' stamp cancelled with a pictorial handstamp which includes the words, '1981 National Festival of Flower Arrangement 2 July 1981 NEC Birmingham', price £1.25.

Orders with remittances made payable to:- 'The National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies of Great Britain' should be sent to:- Mrs M Davies, Paddock House, The Saucers, Scarrington, NOTTINGHAM NG13 9BW, together with a 9½" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

175th Anniversary of Worthing as a Post Town

The Worthing Society of Postal Historians are producing a special cover commemorating the 175th Anniversary of Worthing as a Post Town. Available on 24 July 1981 it will illustrate the Colonnade Library, Warwick Street as it was in 1806. The cost of the cover, bearing a 13p 'Rowland Hill' stamp together with a ½p definitive stamp, cancelled with a special handstamp, is 50p. Alternatively, the cover with both 'Royal Wedding'

stamps affixed will be available at 75p. An additional 25p should be added to cover handling for one or more covers required to be returned under cover. A special cachet will be applied saying, 'Carried by post horse, Worthing - Shoreham'. Orders must be received before the 24 July for the cachet to be applied, and further information can be obtained from, Mr John Hobbs, 183 Brighton Road, WORTHING, West Sussex BN11 2EX.

Royal Wedding

To coincide with the forthcoming issue of two commemorative stamps in honour of the Royal Wedding, a special cover depicting the Royal couple, bearing both stamps cancelled with a special handstamp will be available towards the end of July. The cost of the cover is £2.25, including postage and packing. Orders with remittances should be sent to: A G Bradbury, 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER LE2 6FJ.

A commemorative cover has been designed to mark the Royal Wedding celebrations taking place on 29 July. It portrays the betrothed couple and bears both the 14p and 25p stamps suitably cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. A picture postcard will also be available, produced to complement the cover with either the 14p and 25p stamp affixed, suitably cancelled.

The cost of the cover is £1.50, or, £1.75 if required to be despatched in a plain envelope. The price of the postcard is 70p with the 14p stamp affixed, or, 80p with the 25p stamp affixed. Orders with remittances made payable to Veldale Covers, should be sent to: Veldale Covers, 6 Comberton Park Road, KIDDERMINSTER Worcs DY10 3DY.

Lingholm Gardens, Keswick

A new cover is currently available illustrating Lingholm Gardens, Keswick, Cumbria. The cover bears all five 'National Trusts' stamps issued on 24 June 1981, and is cancelled with a Special handstamp which says, 'LINGHOLM GARDENS, KESWICK, CUMBRIA, OPEN DAY'. The cost is £2.50 plus 15p postage and packing. Orders with remittances, made payable to 'Hawkwood Stamps' should be sent to: Hawkwood Stamps, 60 Hawkwood Crescent, Chingford, LONDON E4 7PS.

800th Anniversary of St David's Cathedral Eglwys Gadeiriol Tyddewi Yn Wyth Gant Oed

The Cathedral Church of St David's stands as one of the most ancient Christian sites in the British Isles. The present Cathedral is the third to occupy

the site and was the inspiration of Bishop Peter de Leia. Work began in 1178 and the main part of the building was completed in 1181. However, creating such medieval splendour as we now know it, continued for many centuries.

Now we are celebrating the 800th anniversary of the completion of the work. As part of these celebrations a commemorative cover bearing a 14p Welsh definitive stamp will be available from 16 July - Friends of St David's Cathedral Day. It will be cancelled with a special handstamp. The cost is 50p. For those customers who prefer their cover sent in an outer envelope the price is 64p.

Orders should be sent to:- The Deanery, St David's, HAVERFORDWEST, Dyfed SA62 6RH, and remittance made payable to:- The Very Reverend Lawrence Bowen, Dean.

City of Hereford Show

The City of Hereford Show will be held on 11 and 12 July 1981, on the local racecourse. A commemorative cover to mark the event will be available, illustrating in colour, 'Charlie the Town Crier', the mascot for this year's show, price £1. It will bear a 14p definitive stamp cancelled with a special handstamp illustrating a sliced apple, and the words, 'City Show 11 July 1981 Hereford'.

Orders with remittances made payable to: 'Hereford City Council', should be sent to:- The Entertainments Manager, Hereford City Council, The Town Hall, HEREFORD HR1 2PJ, accompanied by an 8" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

Royal British Legion (South Staffordshire County) Diamond Jubilee 1921-1981

A commemorative cover depicting the Royal British Legion Flag, the Union Flag, the Royal British Legion Badge, and the Staffordshire Knot will be available from 1 August 1981. An enclosure card will give details of the history of the organisation and its Diamond Jubilee.

A 14p 'Royal Wedding' stamp will be affixed cancelled with a special handstamp. The price is £1.25.

Orders with remittances should be sent to: Mr A Highfield, The Manor Post Office, 296 Pleck Road, WALSALL WS2 9EU.

St Peter's Church, Cogenhoe, Northampton

To commemorate the 700th Anniversary of the completion of St Peter's Church, Cogenhoe, a special philatelic cover will be available. The cover will bear all five 'National Trusts' stamps cancelled with a special handstamp dated 24 June 1981: the cost is £1.95. Alternatively, with an 18p 'National

Trusts' – Derwentwater – stamp affixed and cancelled, the price is £1.

Orders, accompanied by a 9" x 5" stamped addressed envelope, with remittance made payable to: 'St Peter's Church, Cogenhoe', should be sent to:- Mrs E Packer, 6 Orchard Way, Cogenhoe, NORTHAMPTON NN7 1LZ.

Proceeds will be donated to the church restoration appeal.

Lakeland Rose Show

To commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Lakeland Rose Show, and the visit of Her Serene Highness, Princess Grace of Monaco, a special philatelic cover is now available depicting the rose 'Grace de Monaco'. The edition is limited to 2500. Bearing an 18p 'National Trusts' stamp, the cover will be cancelled with a special handstamp. The cost, £1 each. Orders with remittances made payable to: Lakeland Rose Show, should be sent to: M L Divane, 36 Collin Road, KENDAL, Cumbria LA9 5HN, together with a 9½" x 5" sac.

Bassetlaw District Council

The Bassetlaw District Council produced a special cover to commemorate the visit of Her Majesty The Queen to Worksop in North Nottinghamshire on 5 June 1981. This visit marked the official opening of the Queen's Buildings as the headquarters of the Bassetlaw District Council.

The cover, currently available with a 14p 'Butterfly' stamp affixed, is cancelled with a special handstamp. The cost is 50p.

Orders with remittances, made payable to 'Bassetlaw District Council', and accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope size 9½" x 6½", should be sent to: The Chief Executive, Bassetlaw District Council, Town Hall, WORKSOP, Notts S80 2AH.

Lincoln Cathedral

In 1301 the first Prince of Wales was proclaimed at Lincoln Cathedral. In honour of the Royal Wedding a limited printing of 800 commemorative covers will be available on behalf of the Cathedral. Bearing both special stamps, cancelled with a pictorial handstamp, the cover is priced at £2.10 including return postage and packing.

Orders with remittances made payable to A R Palmer should be sent to:- 19 Lansdall Avenue, Lea, GAINSBOROUGH, Lincs DN21 5JL.

Althorp House Northampton

To commemorate the Royal Wedding, a special philatelic cover depicting Althorp House, Northampton – the ancestral home of Lady Diana Spencer – and bearing both 'Royal Wedding'

stamps, will be available from 22 July 1981, price £2.00. The stamps will be cancelled with a special handstamp. Orders with remittances should be sent to:- Mrs C Whiley, Sub-Postmistress, Great Brington Post Office, NORTHAMPTON NN7 4JA.

Nottinghamshire County Council

On the evening of the Royal Wedding – Wednesday 29 July – the opening ceremony of the World Canoe and Kayak Rowing Championships will take place in Nottingham, sponsored by the County Council. The championships will commence the following day at Holme Pierrepont at which the patron of the event, HRH The Duke of Gloucester, will attend.

To mark the occasion, a commemorative cover will be available featuring a full colour photograph of the Royal couple taken on the day the engagement was announced, together with both 'Royal Wedding' stamps cancelled with a special pictorial handstamp.

The cost is £2.25 including return postage and packing. Orders with remittances made payable to A G Bradbury, should be sent to:- A G Bradbury, 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER LE2 6FJ.

Forces Covers

Royal Navy

The 40th anniversary of the shooting down of a Focke-Wulf aircraft by a Hurricane from HMS 'Maplin' (Fighter Catapult Ship) occurs on 3 August, 1981. A commemorative cover will be available from that date illustrating HMS 'Maplin' and her aircraft in action. A 14p 'National Trusts' stamp is affixed cancelled with a pictorial BFPS 1751 handstamp. The cost is 70p.

The cover as above, but bearing a 22p 'National Trusts' stamp and signed by Captain G Baldwin CBE DSC RN(Retd.) who was a pilot in Sea Hurricanes, and Commander MA Birrell RN who flew the first Hurricane from a catapult ship in 1941, will be available price £1.95. In addition, the cover signed by Commander Birrell only with an 18p 'National Trusts' stamp affixed costs £1.15.

Orders with remittances made payable to the 'FAA Museum', should be sent to: RN Philatelic Offices, Fleet Air Arm Museum, RNAS, Yeovilton, YEOVIL, Somerset BA22 8HL.

Royal Navy

To mark the occasion of the Royal Wedding, the Royal Navy will issue a commemorative cover on

22 July, depicting The Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer; an illustration of HMS Bronington, the ship which the Prince commanded; a Wessex V helicopter in which he trained; and the Prince of Wales Standard. It is signed by the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Henry Leach GCB ADC, and the Second Sea Lord, Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi KCB. A 14p 'Royal Wedding' stamp will be affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp depicting the Prince of Wales feathers and a BFPS No 1753, price £1.95.

As an alternative, the cover as above, bearing the signature of Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi only, the cost is £1.15.

An unsigned cover will also be available at 70p.

Orders with remittances made payable to the 'FAA Museum', should be accompanied by a 7" x 5" sae and sent to:- RN Philatelic Officer, Fleet Air Arm Museum, RNAS, Yeovilton, YEOVIL, Somerset BA22 8HL.

National Postal Museum Notes

10 Years of the Decimal Machin Design — 1971-1981

This exhibition, which opened on 6 May 1981, is not designed as a detailed study of this beautiful and interesting series of stamps. The Museum has neither the room to display an issue of such complexity, nor is there a demand for such total specialisation. It should be remembered that the vast majority of visitors to the Museum are general collectors and that during the summer we have many tourists and school parties. It is for this reason that the displays have been developed in a fashion to enable junior collectors to relate to the exhibits, but at the same time to add sufficient of the Museum's rare and unique items to make an interesting display for the specialist.

Included in the Exhibition are four frames provided by the printers of the Machin adhesives, Harrison & Sons, The House of Questa and John Waddingtons of Kirkstall.

The first frame is entitled 'Search for a New Design' and traces the development of different head designs from the Wilding Design of 1952-53, through a series of other trials to the early trials with the Machin Head.

Other frames show the change in value of the series over the last ten years and also the essays for the Regional Emblems. A frame of Recess Trials and printings concludes the ground floor.

The Mezzanine floor shows a wide range of booklet designs loaned by Mr L Newbery, together with a frame of postbus material and full sheets of Booklet stamps.

There is a final case which shows the plaster cast used for Postal Stationery and another by Arnold Machin which shows the decimal coinage head for comparison.

The exhibition was opened by Mr Arnold Machin himself on 6 May, 1981 and will remain open until 2 October 1981. From that date the Museum will be closed for the month and will re-open with a further exhibition on postcards on 2 November.

It will be possible however for postal researchers to continue their studies, and the sales counter will remain open for business.

Special Issues 1976

ISSUE AND DATE	VALUE	NUMBER ISSUED
Centenary of 1st Telephone Call by Alexander Graham Bell 10 March 1976	8½p 10p 11p 13p	41,350,000 8,660,000 7,540,000 7,130,000
British Pioneering 28 April 1976	8½p 10p 11p 13p	41,260,000 8,630,000 7,510,000 7,090,000
Bi-Centennial of American Independence 2 June 1976	11p	9,970,000
Roses 30 June 1976	8½p 10p 11p 13p	39,760,000 8,940,000 7,990,000 7,410,000
British Cultural Traditions 4 August 1976	8½p 10p 11p 13p	38,250,000 8,360,000 7,410,000 6,920,000
500th Anniversary of the Introduction of Printing into Britain 29 September 1976	8½p 10p 11p 13p	37,550,000 8,260,000 7,320,000 6,780,000
Christmas 1976 24 November 1976	6½p 8½p 11p 13p	217,910,000 94,070,000 12,790,000 11,080,000

Book Reviews

Collect British Stamps — 28th Edition

Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd, price £1.50, or £1.80 if ordered by post from the publishers.

This new edition, currently available, covers all issues up to and including the 'International Year of the Disabled' stamps issue of 25 March 1981, and for the first time a number of new definitive stamps are included: $\frac{1}{2}p$, $2\frac{1}{2}p$, $11\frac{1}{2}p$, $14p$, $15\frac{1}{2}p$, $18p$ and $25p$.

This ever popular catalogue continues to fulfil the needs of the non-specialist collector of Great Britain stamps. Each year more people join the ranks of GB collectors and this check list with its colour illustrations of all stamps is the ideal answer to the question, 'Where do I begin?'

Great Britain Railway Letter Stamps

This handbook and catalogue compiled by David Potter is the fourth edition of the popular catalogue of modern Great Britain Railway Letter Stamps and extends the study from 1957-1980. The page size is larger than that used for earlier editions, to allow more space for additional illustrations and information.

Published by the Railway Philatelic Group, the handbook is available from the Publications Officer: Mr A J Lowe, Stable Becks, Grasmere, AMBLESIDE, Cumbria LA22 9PK at £2.80 including postage and packing.

British Maritime Postal History. Vol. 1

The P&O Bombay & Australian Lines 1852-1914
by R Kirk

Price £15.00 + £1.00 p&p

Available from:- Mrs H A Wellsted, 10 Fiddlers Hamlet, Coopersale, EPPING, Essex CM16 7PQ. This is a very nicely produced book which combines scholarly research with devotion to detail. It is the first of a two-part work and if the second book is as complete a study as the first it is going to be difficult to resist buying them both.

At first sight 166 pages for £15 is far from cheap — even when the volume is clothbound — but informed philatelists have long since learned to live with the cost of specialisation. As soon as the book is scanned the reader is certain that he is buying the fruits of a lifetime's research and closer reading serves to convince him that he is getting splendid value for his money.

It is extremely doubtful if the history of P&O services on the Bombay-Australia routes has previously been recorded with such a wealth of detail. Its authority is clearly beyond dispute and no

serious student will wish to be without this book unless he is prepared to go out and research the subject himself. If he does so he will soon find it costs him ten times as much and at the end of the day he will be lucky to have done it one tenth as thoroughly.

In short, it is a major exposition that no maritime postal historian with interests 'East of Suez' can afford to overlook.

Scottish Airmails 1919-1972

by Richard Beith

Price £5.40 inc. postage.

Available from the author at:

2 Wallace Road, DUNBLANE, Perthshire FK15 9HY.

To the aerophile whose interest has been largely confined to items despatched to or from Heathrow or Gatwick, Mr Field's book will come as something of a revelation. It tells us that at one time or another no less than 94 airports have operated in Scotland. Very few were used for official mail despatches but not too many escaped unofficial items particularly in the pioneering days.

It all leads the reader to conclude that collecting Scottish air covers is likely to be a more complicated business than most beginners assume. In such circumstances even an advanced student will be tempted to seek advice. He need look no further than this little book.

Mr Field lists 60 years of official and unofficial mails, domestic and international flights, rocket mails and much else in a clear, interesting fashion. The illustrations are excellent and very numerous. Much of the material has hitherto been available only to dedicated researchers. Some of it has not been seen in print before.

This is a limited edition of 750 numbered copies. If your interest lies in Scottish air covers you had better buy it while stocks last. As a source for writing-up a collection or identifying a specimen it is invaluable. What is more it will very speedily become a collector's piece.

Islands Postal History Series No. 12

Isle of Wight

Price £6.90 (post paid UK) £8.30 (overseas)

by James A Mackay, 11 Newall Terrace, DUMFRIES DG1 1LN.

Having recently completed an eleven volume postal history of the Scottish islands, Mr Mackay has now directed his attention to more southern latitudes. Volume 12 of the series concerns itself with the Isle of Wight, that erstwhile quiet place which, in the last 200 years, has become one of Britain's most popular holiday resorts.

The study is carried out with the author's customary thoroughness. He has a very nice eye for those slightly off-beat details which stick like a burr in the back of a student's mind and subsequently prick him into remembrance just when he needs it.

It so happens that the reviewer has known the southern half of the Isle of Wight for many a long year and can vouch for the care with which Mr Mackay has traversed the ground around Undercliff and Chale. On the assumption that he has been equally meticulous in covering the remainder, his latest volume will constitute a noteworthy contribution to the postal history of this most delightful island.

A very pleasant and worthwhile read.

The Connoisseur Catalogue of Machin Printings

Published by Connoisseur Publications, 184/186, Portland Road, LONDON SE25 4QB.

Price £2.25

This is the fifth edition of a Machin catalogue which has become a deserved favourite of those who collect post-1967 GB stamp issues of the Definitive series.

Sixteen pages of useful introductory notes are followed by another seventy of detailed listings of stamps, PD labels, booklet panes and coils. All are copiously annotated, carefully listed, and generously illustrated.

Needless to say the pricing appears to be as reliable and realistic as ever. Users of the earlier editions will be aware that the 4th edition won a medal at Stampex. The 5th is every bit as good.

The amount of information given in the sectional notes alone is worth the purchase price. To anyone with a special interest in the 'Machins' this handy size pocket book is invaluable.

The Concorde Collectors Handbook

by Brian C Asquith at £5.25 including postage and packing.

Available from the author at: Alandale, Radcliffe Gardens, Carshalton Beeches, CARSHALTON, Surrey SM5 4PQ.

Aero-philatelists and students of aviation history will welcome this handbook because the author has spared neither time nor energy in assembling one of the most satisfying complete studies of an aeroplane, its mails and desiderata ever published.

Concorde has suffered from certain problems, all of which have been over-emphasised by rivals for obvious reasons; as will be realised when perusing the final sections of this work.

It is good to find that the author does not confine himself solely to lists of dates, mail flights and other familiar catalogue entries. He reveals collecting attitudes and demands that prove aerophilately is becoming more and more a distinctly individual hobby — not merely one devoted only to stamps, postmarks and covers. Very wisely, with an eye to the future therefore, he includes sections for postcards (and their publishers), to the desiderata of the Russian 'TU 144', and surveys of locals and souvenir sheets.

This Concorde vade mecum therefore sets the pace for other special aero and postal studies not only for its comprehensiveness but also because consideration of the months involved in its preparation proves its cost is really a modest one.

Local Publicity Slogan Postmarks 1963-1969 1981 EDITION

by Cyril R H Parsons, Colin G Peachey and George R Parsons.

Available from authors at 19 Moorland Road, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, Herts HP1 1NH.

Price £2.75 postage paid.

It is some eighteen years since the Post Office began local publicity slogan postmarks of the 'Come to Sunny Bournemouth' type. They soon became very popular not only with local authorities but also with collectors.

This compact forty-eight paged reference catalogue with over four hundred illustrations qualifies for the alternative title of, "All you need to know about Local Publicity Slogan Postmarks of the UK 1963-1969".

Philatelic Bulletin

Editor John Memmott

Assistant Editor Frank Brench

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