

Philatelic Bulletin



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UNITED NATIONS 1945-1965



1'6

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Introduction

In this issue we give information about the forthcoming ITU stamps and some advance news of intended new ranges of stamps from Bahrain and Muscat.

Mr Andrew Restall discusses some of the problems of stamp designing and for added interest we reproduce some of the designs considered for the Salvation Army issues.

We are grateful for the many suggestions our readers have sent and these will be considered and adopted when possible.

International Telecommunication Union Stamps

The Centenary of the International Telecommunication Union is marked by the issue of two special stamps on 15th November 1965. The stamps were intended to be issued on 17th May 1965 but the issue had to be postponed.

The stamps are in two denominations, 9d and 1s 6d and are printed in five colours. They will be available both with and without phosphor lines. The 9d stamp has a design symbolic of world telecommunication stations and is printed in pink, blue, red, black and violet. The 1s 6d stamp is printed in a variation of the same colours while the design features a radio or sound wave emanating from a source and a symbolic representation of a switchboard.

Both stamps show the Dorothy Wilding portrait of the Queen with the denomination below. The legend 'International Telecommunication Union' and the dates '1865-1965' are also shown.

The stamps will be printed by Messrs Harrison and Sons Ltd, by photogravure.

In choosing the designs the Postmaster General has had the assistance of the Advisory Committee set up by the Council of Industrial Design at the invitation of the Post Office. The members of the Committee are Sir Kenneth Clark, K.C.B., C.H., F.B.A., the Lady Sempill, A.R.C.A., James Fitton, R.A., F.S.I.A., Milner Gray, R.D.I., F.S.I.A., Professor R. Guyatt, A.R.C.A., Abram Games, O.B.E., F.S.I.A., and Sir John Wilson, Bt, K.C.V.O.

Andrew Restall the designer of both stamps, was born at Headington, Oxfordshire, in 1931, and was educated at George Watson's College, Edinburgh. He studied drawing and painting at Edinburgh College of Art. Since then he has worked in Scotland as a designer in printing and as an advertising visualizer and art director. He is at present Senior Lecturer in Advertising Design at Coventry College of Art. Mr Restall designed the Forth Road Bridge stamps issued in September last year.

There will be no specially designed GPO First Day covers or presentation packs for this issue but the usual philatelic posting boxes will be available at the Offices shown below for customers who wish to prepare and post their own first day covers.

Trafalgar Square B.O., WC2

London S.W.D.O.

London E.C.D.O. (Chief Office)

Aberdeen	Leicester
Aberystwyth	Lincoln
Belfast	Liverpool
Birmingham	Llandudno
Blackpool	Londonderry
Bournemouth	Maidstone
Bradford	Manchester
Brighton	Middlesbrough
Bristol	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Cambridge	Newport, Mon
Cardiff	Northampton
Chelmsford	Norwich
Chester	Nottingham
Colwyn Bay	Oxford
Croydon	Peterborough
Derby	Plymouth
Douglas, IoM	Portsmouth
Dundee	Preston
Edinburgh	Reading
Exeter	Romford
Glasgow	Sheffield
Gloucester	Shrewsbury
Guernsey	Southend-on-Sea
Harrow	Stockport
Harrogate	Stockton-on-Tees
Hastings	Stoke-on-Trent
Hull	Swansea
Ipswich	Swindon
Jersey	Taunton
Kingston-on-Thames	York
Leeds	

A Century of Co-operation

The International Telecommunication Union – universally known by its initial letters as the ITU – celebrates its centenary this year. Its story, spanning the most significant hundred years in the history of communications, is one of dedicated effort to achieve, maintain and extend international co-operation throughout the entire field of telecommunications.

The ITU was formed on 17th May 1865, at a Convention in Paris called by Napoleon the Third of France to consider how the then new-fangled electric telegraph system could be internationally operated and controlled. In those days, international telegrams had to be written down on a piece of paper and carried across the borders of neighbouring countries by messengers and there was no arrangement for dividing the charges of the telegrams between the countries which carried them. Representatives from 20 nations – among them delegates from Saxony, Wurtemberg, Baden and Turkey, the latter travelling part of the way on horseback – attended the first Convention.

Britain, because its telegraph services, unlike those of most other European countries, was still in private hands, was not represented.

The first Convention, after 16 meetings, succeeded in hammering out a set of common rules for Europe's international telegraph system. Uniform tariff rates were agreed, except for the easternmost parts of the Russian and Turkish empires and the French gold franc was made the currency for payment of international accounts.

This first Convention was followed in 1868 by a second Convention in Vienna which reached a decision of almost equal importance in the history of international organisations: it set up a headquarters with a Secretariat. The headquarters, then composed of a staff of three Swiss, was established in Berne as the Bureau of the Union and remained under the control of the Swiss Government until 1947.

Throughout the remainder of the 19th century the ITU worked steadily ahead, wrestling with legal and financial problems, revising and redrafting international telegraph regulations and, among a host of other things, drawing up rules which for-

bade the sending of telegrams which 'offended public order or decency.' In 1885 the ITU formulated the first legislation for the international use of the telephone which had been brought into use in 1876 by Alexander Graham Bell.

From these relatively small beginnings, the work of the ITU began to take on an ever-increasing scope and importance. In 1895-96, after decades of research and experiment, the first successful wireless transmissions were made and almost overnight this new form of communication spread across the international scene, for the first time bringing ships at sea within the reach of telecommunications. It soon became clear that international regulations were needed for radio communication, particularly when, in 1902, Prince Henry of Prussia, returning across the Atlantic from the United States, tried to send a message to President Theodore Roosevelt, only to have it refused because the radio equipment on board the ship was of a different type from that at the shore station. Mainly as a result of this incident the German Government called a preliminary radio conference in Berlin in 1903 which prepared the way for the ITU's 1906 Berlin Radio Conference. This Conference drew up the first international radio regulations which, among other rules, incorporated the principle that ship and coastal radio stations must be able to accept messages from each other and laid down the international SOS distress signal.

Broadcasting, which began in 1928, presented new international problems and taxed the ITU with the task of allocating radio frequencies – a task which today remains one of the Union's main responsibilities. The first move to solve this problem was made at the Washington Radio Conference in 1927 when bands of frequencies were allocated to each of the different radio services.

The ITU evolved as a single entity under its present title at a Convention in Madrid in 1932. In 1947, following two conferences in Atlantic City, it became a specialised agency of the United Nations and its headquarters were transferred from Berne to Geneva.

Today the ITU headquarters is composed of four permanent bodies – the General Secretariat, the

New Stamps from Bahrain and Muscat

International Frequency Registration Board and two International Consultative Committees: the CCIR for radio matters and the CCITT for telegraphy and telephony.

With the advent of the space age the ITU is faced with a new challenge and to meet this new demand more than 6,000 megacycles, about 15 per cent of the entire radio frequency spectrum, were allocated for outer space at a world Space Radiocommunication Conference held in Geneva in 1963. The remarkable achievements of the ITU in the past hundred years are reflected in much more than the international regulations it has drawn up to govern the operation of telegraphy, telephony and radio. They are reflected, too, in the acceptance by member countries of the radio frequency allocations which determine the assignments they themselves make to their own radio stations; in the drawing up by the ITU Plan Committee of a blue-print for a future world-wide network by which telephone subscribers anywhere will be able to dial calls direct to any other subscriber anywhere else in the world; and by no means least, in the Union's technical co-operation organisation which is training engineers in the new countries in the most up-to-date techniques of telecommunications.

From 1st January 1966 the entire postal services of Bahrain and Muscat will be under the control of the respective governments and to mark the occasion both countries are to issue a new range of stamps.

The GPO Philatelic Bureau has undertaken the philatelic sales of the new stamps.

The first day of issue for the Bahrain stamps will be 1st January 1966 and that for Muscat will be announced later.

Details of the Bahrain stamps are as follows:

5, 10, 15 and 20 fils:

Show a head and shoulder portrait of the Ruler of Bahrain, His Highness Shaikh Isa Bin Sulman Alkalifah.

30 and 40 fils:

A view of Bahrain International Airport.

50 and 75 fils:

A view of deep water harbour, Mina Sulman.

100 fils:

Depicts a team of divers searching for famous natural pearls of the Arabian Gulf.

200 fils:

Shows a horse racing scene and falconry.

500 fils:

Symbolises Arab hospitality, and the ruler's palace.

1 Dinar

A five colour stamp of composite design featuring Bab al Bahrain, pearling, the Suq Al-Khamis Mosque, the Arab house, date cultivation, the coffee pot and the personal crest of the Ruler. A portrait of the Ruler appears in the right hand corner.

The stamps are being produced by Messrs Harrison and Sons, by photogravure. The 5 to 75 fils will be printed in sheets of 100; the 100, 200, and 500 fils in sheets of 50 and the 1 dinar in sheets of 25.

The present Bahrain air letter will remain unchanged for the time being.

The designer of the Bahrain stamps is ex-Fleet Street artist Lewis who lives and works in Bahrain. He was born in London in 1920 and studied art at The City and Guilds of London Art College, The Central School of Arts and Crafts and St. Martins School of Art.

Stamp designing

He has had a wide and varied career as an artist and has contributed to many famous publications and newspapers. These stamps are the first he has designed.

The new currency of Bahrain is fils and dinars and when ordering Bahrain stamps customers should calculate the total fils or dinar value of the order and convert it to sterling at the rate of 1000 fils — 1 dinar — 15s. 1 dinar — \$2.15.

A first day cover service will be available as follows:

Service A bearing the complete set.

Service B bearing the 5 – 75 fils stamps.

Service C bearing the 100, 200, 500 and 1 dinar stamps.

The cost for each cover will be the face value of the stamps plus a 2s (135 fils) handling charge. Applications should be sent to The Director of Posts, Philatelic Bureau, Bahrain and **NOT** to the GPO Philatelic Bureau.

Full details of the Muscat stamps will be given as soon as they are received from Muscat.

Those of our customers who have placed standing orders for new issues of Persian Gulf stamps do not, of course, need to apply for these new stamps. Such orders will be met automatically.

The existing range of Bahrain stamps will be withdrawn from sale on 31st December 1965 and the existing Muscat stamps will be withdrawn on 31st January 1966.



J. Andrew Restall

As many of our readers will know the Postmaster General announced in March that he was establishing a Fellowship in Minuscule Design, and that the selection of the Fellow would be made by the Royal College of Art in association with the Post Office.

Mr J. Andrew Restall has been awarded the Fellowship, which will be tenable for two years from 1st September 1965. He will work on postage stamps, National Savings stamps and related matters with a view to exploring new techniques and preparing exemplary designs on which a national policy might be based.

Mr Restall was born at Headington, Oxfordshire, in 1931, and educated at George Watson's College, Edinburgh. He studied drawing and painting at Edinburgh College of Art. He has worked in Scotland as designer in printing, advertising visualiser and art director. He designed the 3d and 6d Forth Road Bridge stamps last year, the 9d Battle of Britain stamp issued on September 13th this year, and the 9d and 1s 6d International Telecommunication Union Centenary stamps to be issued on November 15th.

The following article specially written for us by Mr Restall sets out some of the problems with which he is faced

Why design stamps anyway?

Stamp Design is one of those fields of Design that seems to excite public controversy. In this respect it has, I suppose, a certain amount in common with many other fields of Design, from street signs to skyscrapers.

There is, however, an important difference – the appearance of a stamp has only a very loose relationship with its function.

Stamp design might therefore perhaps be more accurately compared with fashion design. As long as a stamp satisfies certain basic requirements it does its job – and ostensibly the job of a stamp is to certify evidence of pre-payment of postage, just as the job of clothes is (or was!) to provide us with bodily protection and privacy.

So you see when a designer sits down to design a stamp he has quite a different job from, say, someone designing a Railway timetable, or even an advertisement, the criterion of which is ease of communication of certain facts:– can the would-be traveller find his way among a mass of names, departure times and platform numbers? Does the advertisement sell?

What then is the criterion of successful stamp design? I believe there is no single, simple answer to that question. The important thing is, that by granting this Fellowship, the Post Office is giving itself a wonderful opportunity of having a long, hard objective look at the whole situation and I would like to hope that out of it will emerge a flexible policy; one that gives stamp designers of the future the maximum freedom. And yet one that contains British Stamp Design within an overall and consistent image.

Now how does one go about formulating such a policy? The first thing one has to do is to ask a whole lot of questions. Is British Stamp Design so desperately in need of an overhaul? After all thousands, perhaps millions, of bus tickets are sold every day (and their function is also primarily one of evidence of pre-payment) and nobody bothers very much about their design! How do British stamps compare with those of Switzerland, Poland or of New Zealand? and should they always bear the Queen's head? Why have 'Commemoratives' when for the same money you can buy 'Definitives' that do the same thing?

Why should our stamps always be rectangular? Should different methods of printing be tried? Should new ways of selling them be found? Will modern electronics find a way of dispensing with stamps altogether?

These are just a few questions. There are many more. It is now, I suppose, my job to try and find answers to them all. Only after that can any design policy be worked out. Only after that can actual designs be contemplated – and work carried out before that would at best be guesswork. It would be a bit like a man marketing a new brand of haggis-flavoured sausages without having first established that there was a potential demand for them.

Meanwhile, then with so many questions unanswered and still more unasked I am setting out on this fascinating tour. I think I can say with certainty that a lot of very knowledgeable people will contribute a lot of valuable help. If we can as a result put British stamps into a position of top-ranking ambassadors throughout the world it will all have been worthwhile.

Special Handstamp



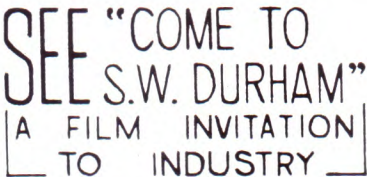
The special handstamp 'Leicester Philatelic Society Diamond Jubilee' will be used again at Leicester on the 25th October 1965.

Postmark Slogans

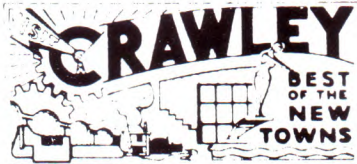
A new slogan ‘Bath The Georgian City’ will be in use in the transposed position at Bath during the period 31st October 1965 to 12th July 1966.



‘See come to S.W. Durham A Film Invitation to Industry’ will be in use a further six months in the transposed position at Bishop Auckland from 1st October 1965 to 31st March 1966.



‘Yes Crawley New Town’ will now terminate on the 28th October instead of the 27th September as previously announced. A new slogan ‘Visit Crawley Best of the New Towns’ will be used at Crawley in the transposed position and during the period 29th October 1965 to 27th September 1966.



‘The International Building Exhibition Olympia London 17th November to 1st December 1965’ will be used in the standard position during the period 31st October to 27th November 1965 at the following offices.

Office	No. of dies
Mount Pleasant	8
West Central District Office	4



Commemorative Stamp Design

Our readers will no doubt be aware that after the issue of a new commemorative stamp has been decided upon designs are invited from a panel of artists.

Many designs are submitted and the special Advisory Committee has the difficult task of making the final choice, and recommending accordingly to the Postmaster General.

Because only one design for each denomination can be accepted many excellent designs have to be declared unsuccessful but in order that the high standard may be judged we print a selection of those submitted for the Salvation Army Centenary.

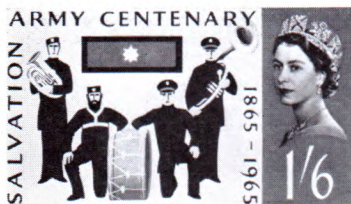
We will print further selections of unaccepted designs in future issues of the Bulletin.

A brief article on the founding and work of the Salvation Army is printed to give added interest to the designs.

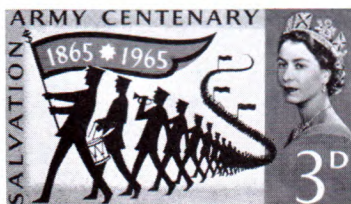
M. C. Farrar-Bell



M. C. Farrar-Bell



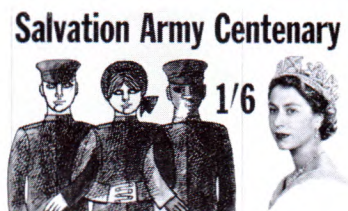
M. C. Farrar-Bell



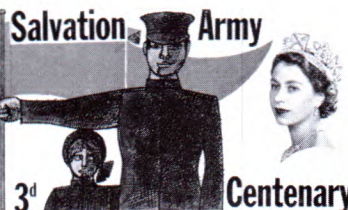
Harrison & Sons



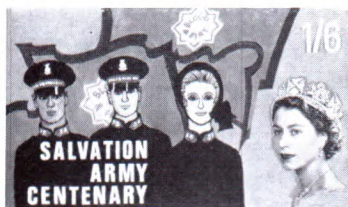
Harrison & Sons



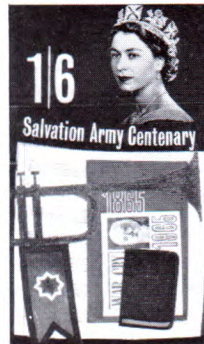
Harrison & Sons



Harrison & Sons



J. Andrew Restall

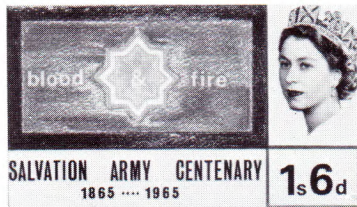
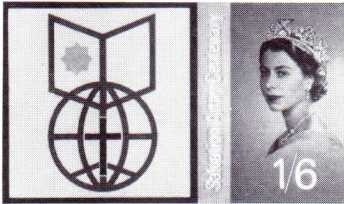


Salvation Army yesterday and today

Miss Shirley Thompson



Geoffrey Trenaman



Stewart Black



The founder of the Salvation Army, William Booth, was born in Nottingham in the year 1829. He came under the influence of the Methodists when about 14 years old, and later became a Minister of the Methodist New Connection but resigned to devote his life to the evangelical and social work to which he felt himself called.

The Inspiration for this change is attributed to a visit to Whitechapel in the East end of London. Here William Booth conducted meetings in an old tent and it was while returning home with his wife, Catherine, on a summer evening in the year 1865 that William Booth 'found his destiny.' The name 'The Salvation Army' came about almost by chance. In a draft report William Booth had described the members of his Mission as 'A Volunteer Army.' His son, Bramwell, felt that this title might give the wrong impression; the title was altered straightway to 'The Salvation Army.' This spontaneous stroke of the pen was to determine the whole character and development of the movement.

William Booth's great work was achieved among the widespread social distress that was characteristic of the times in which he lived. When he died on 20th August 1912 he left behind him nearly 16,000 officers working in 58 countries and colonies and preaching in 34 different languages.

Today, with General Frederick Coutts at their head, this work is continued in nearly 2000 institutions which include hospitals, children's homes, eventide homes, and hostels, by 25,000 officers working in 71 countries and preaching in 147 languages.

Sir Winston Churchill once said that the three most famous generals he had known were Baden-Powell, Botha and . . . Booth.

Commemorative Stamps available from the Philatelic Bureau

Conditions

Sir Winston Churchill	4d, 1s 3d
700th anniversary of Simon de Montfort's Parliament	6d, 2s 6d
Salvation Army centenary	3d, 1s 6d
Joseph Lister centenary	4d, 1s
Commonwealth Arts Festival	6d, 1s 6d
25th anniversary of the Battle of Britain	4d, (blocks of 6) 9d, 1s 3d
Post Office Tower	3d, 1s 3d
20th anniversary of the United Nations	3d, 1s 6d

NOTE: All stamps are available with or without phosphor lines **except** the Simon de Montfort's Parliament 2s 6d, which is **not** available with phosphor lines.

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

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

Stamps are NOT supplied cancelled to order.

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

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