
Philatelic Bulletin

Volume 15 Number 7 March 1978



Contents

- 2 Editorial
 - The Queen's Silver Jubilee Tour Handstamps
 - Tate Gallery Appeal
 - New Handstamp at Caernarfon
- 3 Gems from the RM Phillips Collection
- LIV Penny Lilac Rarities
- 4 Why the Salvation Army?
- 6 Towers and Turrets
- 7 Historic Buildings Miniature Sheet
- Postal Mechanisation Study Circle
- 1977 Checklist of Postage Stamps about Music
- 8 Preliminary Designs
- 10 Embossed Issues Exhibition by Dr A Huggins in The Gibbons Gallery
- 10½p Definitive Postage Stamp
- Change of Colour 26 April 1978
- 11 British Special Stamps
40. Centenary of the International Telecommunications Union, 1965
- Forthcoming Events
- 12 Forces Covers
- 13 The Proud Collection
1. Six Weeks Under the Sea
- 14 Sheets in Miniature
- 15 Postmark Slogans

Editorial

Because of pressure on space within the Bulletin it has not been possible to feature regularly reproductions of the preliminary stamp designs. We realise how popular these designs are to the collecting public who often discuss the merits of accepted designs against those of the preliminary. We are unable to show all the submitted work but this month there is sufficient space for us to show a selection of the preliminary designs for the 1977 issues.

We have mentioned before the pleasure we get from the willing and ready assistance we always meet from individuals and organisations when

we seek help in producing features for the Bulletin. This month is no exception. Postal history lovers will welcome our new series which will show some fascinating specimens from the Proud Collection. We are grateful to Mr Edward Proud for his co-operation in this project as we are to the Royal Institute of British Architecture who provided the background notes to the Historic Buildings stamps.

The Queens Silver Jubilee Tour Handstamps

The penultimate paragraph of the article on pages 6/7 of the December 1977 Bulletin should read:

'It was eventually decided that the Flax Plant ...' and not as printed. We offer our apologies for the omission.

Tate Gallery Appeal

The three unmounted mint 'Seahorse' £1 stamps presented by the Post Office to the Tate Gallery for the Stubbs Appeal fetched record prices at auction on 19 January. The marginal pair realised £2,800 and the single £1,300.

New Handstamps at Caernarfon

Readers of our companion journal, The Postmark Bulletin, will have seen that visitors to Caernarfon are able to post letters and cards in a special posting box, to receive a pictorial Caernarfon handstamp cancellation. The handstamp will be in use until 30 September 1978 to coincide with the Caernarfon Castle stamp, which will be on sale at Caernarfon throughout the period.

The normal reposting facilities will apply.

We regret that we were unable to print this information in the February Philatelic Bulletin, but the decision to introduce the handstamp was made after the February edition had gone to press.

Gems from the R M Phillips Collection

LIV Penny Lilac Rarities



Both this month's gems are varieties to be found — if you are very lucky — on that long-running utility stamp the 16-dot One Penny Lilac (1881-1902).

With such a large number printed, thousands of millions, it is hardly surprising that even the careful De La Rue printers occasionally slipped up, particularly in the positioning of the paper on the printing press, which led to varieties in the position of the watermark and even more spectacularly, to errors such as printing on both sides or on the gummed side of the sheet.

Illustrated above, is a particularly striking example of the latter error in a mint marginal block of four. The impression is almost as clear as in the normal stamp.

The second item illustrated concerns the

control letters printed for accountancy reasons in the margin of all one penny stamps from 1884. These letters, which were printed from a special piece of type screwed into the side of the printing plate, were changed about twice a year. In 1891 a small number of sheets were printed from a plate incorporating the (by then) obsolete control letter 'N' before the mistake was noticed. To avoid the complicated accounting (and wastage) which would have followed the destruction of the erroneous sheets, these were corrected by cancelling the 'N' with two bars and printing the correct letter 'O' alongside it. This operation was probably done by a handstamp or on a platen machine as the position and colour of the bars and the 'O' varies greatly in relation to the 'N'.

A G RIGO DE RIGHI

Why the Salvation Army



When I have collected sufficient philatelic material to stage a display, I often ask myself, 'How did I get started on this subject?'

My collection of Salvation Army postal history material started when my wife gave me a postcard, depicting her mother wearing Salvation Army uniform, on the back of which was an Edward VII halfpenny, 'tied' with a nice Hertford 1909 CDS cancellation. She, my mother-in-law, had often spoken of the tough days, when, as a Captain, had worked in the streets of Clapton, in London's East End, and her words had the effect of disciplining my wife and I before and after we were married. When therefore I began looking for a thematic subject, the Salvation Army seemed a good choice.

Accordingly, I wrote to every Salvation Army address in the 'phone book, without much success, except that, most of my enquiries found

their way to my now good friend, Harry Hayes. I found that he had a mass of Army material in cartons which had never been sorted or catalogued, and I offered to do this in the hope of finding any duplicates as a basis to form my own collection. After working on it for a year or so I felt that here was some good material for a national exhibit under our joint names. I must admit, however, that as one of the band of medal collectors I was taken aback a little by the interest it aroused, plus awards of a Silver Gilt and the Link House trophy at the 1977 BPE.

Having produced the display, I continued my research by trying to visit all the Army establishments I could which are situated in and around London. Whilst it was not easy to gain admission to all these establishments, I had considerable success with some great highlights. The first place I visited was the Officers

Training College at Crystal Palace, which has a regular intake of officers from all over the world. It is here that they undertake an eight weeks intensive refresher course in surroundings where the seriousness of the study can be felt on entering the building. The letters from overseas received at the college, one imagines, must be a philatelist's dream.

Not far away, on Denmark Hill, is the International Training College, which itself has a regular intake of some 200 cadets destined to become officers, after they have completed a two year course of instruction. The latter part of this course includes considerable field training, and the whole is very costly.

The International Headquarters of the Salvation Army, about which one could write a separate article, is situated in Queen Victoria Street, in the City of London. The departments here which impressed me are the Travel and Insurance Departments, both of which are open to the public. They are run by officers in a manner which exemplifies the best Army traditions, combined with modern profit-making business methods. My next visit was to the Salvationist Publishing and Supplies Department in Islington, which among other things houses the Book and Clothing Sales, the SA Museum, and a restaurant — all open to the public. My last port-of-call in London was to the Missing Persons Bureau in Middlesex Street, which with five officers and a staff of fifteen, deals with some 2,800 enquiries annually together with 4,500 items of correspondence from all over the world. The work of the Bureau incurs a very heavy financial loss, because the fee of £2 charged for an inquiry in no way covers the cost of the valuable work undertaken. My final visit was to the ancient town of St Albans, where since 1879 The Camp-Field Press has been printing 'The War Cry'. If anything astounded me in the Salvation Army, it was this establishment. All philatelists are interested in printing, and to see the way this department is run, in a comparatively old building, housing the most modern printing methods, is truly amazing. Whilst its 'raison d'être' is the printing of 'The

War Cry', it does a considerable amount of work for organisations outside of the Salvation Army.

The efforts to increase my philatelic collection, included writing to the eighty-two countries where the Salvation Army is represented. So far I have had a good measure of success, including some excellent postally-used material from Paris, Cologne, Nairobi and Los Angeles. The following six items are among the best:

1. A Queen Victoria postcard dated 1901 (the subject of my illustration) cancelled with the NW22 Duplex—addressed to General Booth.
2. A USA printed envelope dated 1906 showing a 2C stamp tied with the flag cancellation and literally covered with texts on the front.
3. A New Zealand World War I 'On Active Service' cover dated 1919 (the Salvation Army was most active during World War I with the Australian, Canadian and New Zealand troops) showing the No5 NZ Sta Post Office CD5.
4. A postcard from Czechoslovakia, dated 1938, showing the Armada Spasy handstamp and probably one of the last cards of this type to come out of the country because the Salvation Army in Czechoslovakia was disbanded soon after.
5. A registered 1st (?) day cover bearing the 1965 Salvation Army Centenary stamps cancelled and dated two days before the first day of issue.
6. A postally-used copy of the German 'War Cry' (Der Kriegersruf) from Koln showing a Koln wavy line machine single cancel tied to a 20 pf adhesive, dated 1977.

I always become more involved with my displays than I should do, to sleep well, but if ever there was a subject with which I was pleased to be associated, it is this one, and well worth losing a little sleep for. During my research into the Salvation Army I never heard anything derogatory said about it, and would add, in my opinion, it deserves every success both spiritual and material. If the project has interested others as it has interested me, then it will have been worth while.

EWART SANDERS

Towers and Turrets

The historic buildings featured in this special issue of stamps represent some of the finest examples of the architecture of this country and their historical associations are manifold. In London, the Tower has been used as both palace — for monarchs down to James I — and as place of imprisonment for some eight centuries: it has been the reluctant home for such figures as Anne Boleyn, Queen Elizabeth I, Judge Jeffreys, Sir Walter Raleigh and Sir Thomas More, and, in our own century, Roger Casement and Rudolf Hess. In Wales, the castle of Caernarfon will always be associated with the title of Prince of Wales: in this century it has staged two investitures, a tradition that dates back to the reign of Edward I, who, as part of his attempt to pacify the Welsh nobility, undertook to provide them with a prince born in Wales. In Edinburgh, the palace of Holyrood House, principally representing the seventeenth century in architectural style, was the scene of the assassination of David Rizzio, the Italian secretary of the ill-fated Mary Queen of Scots. Hampton Court, one of the most important remaining examples of early Tudor architecture, is, of course, closely associated with the life and times of Henry VIII and his wives.

The Tower of London, considered to be the most important work of military architecture in England and much restored and altered, was built to protect and control the city of London. Begun by William the Conqueror, the ages have seen its appearance change from a Norman fortress with dominant hall-keep and ditch, to one with a curtain wall and bastion towers; its present area covers some eighteen acres, including the moat. Of the buildings which now constitute the Tower, the Norman keep, or White Tower — so-called because it was white-washed in the Middle Ages — is the oldest. Built just within the Roman wall, it is the earliest stone keep in England, with the exception of Colchester. Building began under the supervision of Gundulf, Bishop of Rochester some time about 1078 and was completed by 1100. Constructed of Caen stone, the White Tower is externally buttressed, and of the four distinctive

angle turrets, three are square, while the fourth, at the north east corner, is rounded. At the south east angle is the apsidal projection of the Chapel of St John. It has a basic rectangular plan, though, in fact, all four sides measure differently, the keep is 118 ft on the south side, and 107 ft on the west; from ground level to battlements measures some 90 ft. The thickness of the walls varies from 15 ft at the base to 11 ft at the top. The Tower has altered in appearance since the 11th century; for example, early in the eighteenth century, the Norman window openings were redesigned when Sir Christopher Wren was supervising structural repairs. The original entrance was on the first floor, and access was provided by an external staircase that no longer exists.

The Palace of Holyrood House, the Queen's official residence in Edinburgh, stands almost entirely as it was when built in the reign of Charles II. However, the Palace has an older building history, for it was in about 1500 that James IV embarked upon a plan to enlarge the hospice alongside the Abbey of Holyrood, itself founded in 1218. Employing the French mason Walter Merlioun and a member of the Mylne family, the King began with the existing north-west tower, then a free-standing four-storied rectangular structure, with distinctive rounds at all its corners. Following the King's death at Flodden, work on the Palace was taken up by his son James V, whose plan was to erect a tower at the south end to correspond with that of the north. However, his reign gave the Palace only an architectural facade which faced the west and in the middle of which was the main entrance: the design was never completed, and the facade suffered from fire in 1544 and was eventually demolished in 1676 as the last stage of building under Charles II. It was left to this king to complete the building; operations began in 1671, continuing into 1679, under the supervision of the Earl of Lauderdale; the builder was Robert Mylne, and the architect Sir William Bruce, who introduced into Scotland for the first time a design that employed the three orders of architecture — Doric, Ionic and Corinthian and

that was to become the first major example of Scots Palladianism.

Caernarfon Castle, situated on the peninsular formed by the mouth of the river Seion and the Menai Straits, owes much of its magnificence to the fact that it was intended from the beginning to be a seat of royal government and the palace of the Prince of Wales. Considered by many to be the finest castle in Britain, it was built by Edward I as part of an extensive castle-building programme to subdue the rebellious Welsh and to protect the English settlers. Covering an area of some three acres and with walls (which once extended to embrace the whole town) 7 to 9 ft thick, work on the castle began in 1283 and continued well into the fourteenth century, under master masons James of St George, Walter of Hereford and Henry of Ellerton; it was never quite completed. Now a ruin, the castle's shape was determined by the fact that it was built on the site on an earlier Norman motte and bailey castle erected by Hugh de Lupus, and by the rocky nature of the site. Of roughly oblong shape with a kind of narrow waist, the castle is divided into an inner and outer bailey, around which there is a curtain wall, which is itself fortified by thirteen dominant multiangular towers. Of these the most striking is the Eagle Tower, which was built so strongly that it was virtually a keep complete with its own portcullis, postern and octagonal turrets.

The site of the palace of Hampton Court was acquired from the Order of St John of Jerusalem by Cardinal Wolsey in 1514. The building he erected for himself beside the Thames measured about 300 by 500 ft, and consisted roughly of the present West Front, the Base Court, the Master Carpenter's Court and the Chapel. The master mason he employed was probably Henry Redman. Between 1529 and 1540 Henry VIII, who had acquired the palace shortly before Wolsey's death, made many alterations and additions: for example, the Great Hall was rebuilt and widened; remodelling work was done to the Clock Court and Chapel; and additions included a new quadrangle on the site of the existing Fountain Court. The King's mason

during this period was John Molton. Little was done to the palace until the time of William and Mary, when Sir Christopher Wren started work there in 1689. It was originally intended to rebuild the whole palace except for the Great Hall, but work was only executed on a new Fountain Court and the Clock Court colonnade. Following the death of Queen Mary in 1694, work continued until William III's death in 1702; later work included the remodelling of the Tudor buildings between the Clock and Fountain Courts in 1732. In 1771-3 the Gatehouse in the middle of the west front was rebuilt and it was rebuilt again in 1882.

Historic Buildings Miniature Sheet

The miniature sheet will be on sale at all Post Offices throughout the United Kingdom from 1 March 1978.

Postal Mechanisation Study Circle

In June 1977 we were glad to give details of this new Society formed to study all aspects of automation in the Post Office. We have just seen their first quarterly magazine 'Indent' and offer our congratulations on a nicely produced, authoritative work. They have done well in their first year of existence.

Details of the Society may be obtained from H J Lush Esq, 32 West Towers, Pinner, Middx HA5 1UA.

1977 Checklist of Postage Stamps about Music

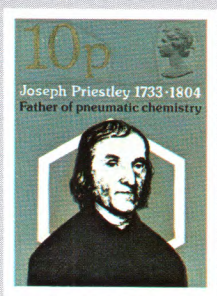
A supplement by A H R Grimsey and published by the National Philatelic Society for the 1977 Checklist of Postage Stamps about Music, is now available from the NPS and main philatelic dealers at 75p plus postage.

Full details are available from:— The President, National Philatelic Society, 1 Whitehall Place, LONDON SW1A 2HE.

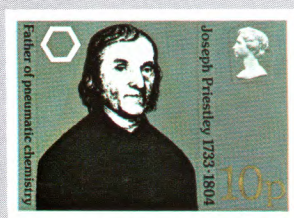
Preliminary Designs



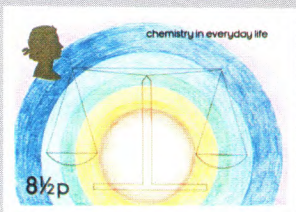
Reginald Lander



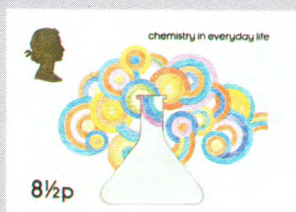
Peter Branfield



Peter Branfield



Banks & Miles



Banks & Miles



Roger Denning



Roger Denning



Roger Denning



Ken Lilley



Victor Burroughs



Kristin Rosenberg



Gordon Drummond

Embossed Issues Exhibition

by Dr. A Huggins in The Gibbons Gallery

The 1-31 March display in Stanley Gibbons Romano House Gallery, 399, Strand, London, WC2R 0LX, will feature selections from the Gold Medal Collection of postal stationery formed by Dr Alan K Huggins, FRPSL, President of the Great Britain Philatelic Society.

The display traces the development and usage of Great Britain's embossed issues (1841-1901), and contains some of the finest examples from this area of British philately.

Commencing with contemporary examples of embossing and engine turning produced in Whiting's workshop to illustrate both the high state of the art and the affinity with the eventual accepted embossed stamp designs, it continues with a range of the 1841 1d and 2d envelopes selected to show varieties of silk thread patterns, cancellation, usage in combination with adhesive stamps, and later types incorporating movable date plugs to indicate the date of stamping.

10½p Definitive Postage Stamp Change of Colour 26 April 1978

The colour of the existing 10½p UK definitive postage stamp will be changed from yellow to steel blue, and the new colour stamp will be issued on 26 April 1978. It will be available from all offices in England; the Philatelic Bureau; all philatelic sales counters; and from offices with first day of issue posting boxes in Scotland, Wales and N Ireland.

The usual definitive first day cover will be available, price 8p each, from all offices in England; the Philatelic Bureau; all philatelic sales counters; and from offices with first day of issue posting boxes in Scotland, Wales and N Ireland. Bulk orders, from the Philatelic Bureau only, at £12.50 for 250 or £40.00 for 1000.

The following first day cover services are offered by the Philatelic Bureau, with a choice of two handstamps: Windsor, Berks and Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh.

Service A

This consists of the official Post Office cover, addressed to the correct postal address of the

The other values are presented in chronological order of issue with proofs and specimens as well as normal issues. Examples with additional embossed advertising rings are shown. Also included are the embossed stamps used to prepay the 2d registration and 7½d Patent specification fees.

The embossed adhesive stamps are represented by the essays in green and in brown. Covers include the earliest recorded date of use of the 10d value and the very unusual combination usage of 1d pink postal stationery envelopes with both embossed and line-engraved adhesive stamps used on the same cover; also a range of proofs made for the Paris Exhibition of 1867.

For many collectors unfamiliar with this aspect of Great Britain philately the range of these issues may well come as a surprise and put the embossed adhesive stamps of 1847-54 into clearer perspective.

destination required and bearing the 10½p stamp. The cover will be cancelled, 'Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh' or 'Windsor, Berks' as requested, and despatched for a charge of 28½p. For deposit account customers the charge will be 24p.

Service B

Customers own pre-addressed covers will be given the stamp, cancelled and despatched for a charge of 18½p.

Service C

For bulk orders of 50 or more covers, all to the same address, under the conditions of Service A, the charge will be 26p.

The usual first day of issue facilities will be available at all offices with philatelic posting boxes.

Application forms, obtainable from the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh, and at all head post offices in England, should be returned not later than 17 April 1978

British Special Stamps

40. Centenary of the International Telecommunications Union 1965

Hard on the heels of the United Nations' commemoratives, the British Post Office issued, on 15 November 1965, another pair of UN-inspired stamps for the centenary of one of its most important agencies, the International Telecommunication Union. The ITU was formed on 1 January 1934 (long before UN itself) by the merger of the International Telegraph Union, founded in Paris in 1865, and the International Radiotelegraph Union, founded in Berlin in 1906. Its headquarters are in Geneva.

The stamp designs, somewhat similar to the foregoing UN commemoratives in general layout, were in uniform style with two different themes contained within a semicircle — 9d a network of linked dots representing world telecommunications, and 1s6d symbolic radio waves and a switchboard, both stamps multicoloured with the Wilding portrait of the Queen on the right.



The designer was Andrew Restall and the stamps were his third accepted designs — he was responsible for the Forth Road Bridge stamps of 1964, and the 9d 'Battle of Britain' stamp of September 1965. Since then he has been a regular contributor to our stamp albums with numerous issues — British Technology 1s3d, 1s6d (1966), British Commonwealth Games (1970), 'Sailing' (1975), and the 'Racket Sports' stamps of January, 1977.

The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 120 (6 × 20) on ordinary and phosphor-banded paper, watermark multiple crowns, known inverted on the 9d, ordinary and phosphor versions. The ordinary 1s6d is recorded with the pink colour omitted, while the phosphor 1s6d is known with two bands (instead of the normal three), due to a misplacement. Also on the 1s6d, there is an unusual flaw — a red pin in the south-east of the semicircle with a projecting arm at the right on the phosphor version, later retouched but leaving slight traces of red on the pink background. Known retouched (only) on the ordinary printing.

Quantities issued (phosphor in brackets) were: 9d 5,321,880 (556,080); 1s6d 5,287,920 (589,800).

JAMES WATSON

Forthcoming Events

Morley Philatelic (Senior) Society

The Morley Philatelic (Senior) Society will commemorate its 100th meeting by staging a stamp exhibition and fair. The exhibition, to be opened by the Lord Mayor of Leeds, will take place in the Morley Town Hall, Queen Street, Morley, Leeds, on Saturday 1 April 1978 from 10 am until 5 pm. Apart from dealers stands, the Post Office will provide a mobile display and counter. There is ample parking facilities at the rear of the Town Hall.

For further information please write to:— Mr A Campbell, Kilcreggan, 4 Pollard Way, Gomersal, CLECKHEATON, W Yorkshire BD19 4PR.

The Railway Philatelic Group

The 10th Annual Convention of the Railway Philatelic Group will take place on Saturday 1 April 1978 at the Buckmaster Road Church Hall, Buckmaster Road, Leicester. It will be opened to the public from 2 pm and will include a philatelic exhibition, dealers stands, society bookstall and a model railway layout. For further details, please write to Mr Peter Johnson, 20 Rockley Road, Leicester, LE4 0GJ.

North of England Philatelic Association 29th Annual Convention

Spennymoor and District Philatelic Society is the host Society at the forthcoming North of England Philatelic Convention.

The event will take place on Saturday 22 April 1978 at the Recreation Centre, Spennymoor, between 10 am and 6 pm. Apart from dealers' stands the Post Office will provide a sales and display counter. Other features will include a talk by a well known philatelist, and a display of collectors' material.

Further details can be obtained from:— Mr J A Dent, 6 Church Lane, Ferryhill Village, Co Durham DL17 8LP.

Petroleum Philatelic Society International

The Petroleum Philatelic Society International is a comparatively new Society of some 250 members, living in 30 countries, whose principal interest is the study of petroleum inspired postage stamps.

A meeting is scheduled to take place in this country, in the very near future, the object of which will be to stimulate interest in this absorbing thematic study.

For further details please write to:— Mr A Campbell, Kilcreggan, 4 Pollard Way, Gomersal, CLECKHEATON, W Yorkshire BD19 4PR

Forces Covers

900th Anniversary of the White Tower

To commemorate the 900th anniversary of the White Tower, a special cover depicting The Tower of London, a Yeoman Warder and a Pike-man became available from 1 March 1978. The cover bearing a 9p Historic Buildings (Tower of London) postage stamp and cancelled with a special BFPS handstamp No 9000, will cost 50p.

In addition, a limited number of covers will be available signed by: The Constable; the Lieutenant and the Resident Governor. The costs of the signed covers are as follows:

1. Field Marshall Sir Geoffrey Baker GCB CMG CBE MC, Constable of Her Majesty's Tower of London, £8.00 each.
2. Lieutenant General Sir Napier Crookenden KCB DSO CBE, Lieutenant of Her Majesty's Tower of London, £5.00 each.
3. Major General Digby Raeburn CB DSO MBE, Resident Governor and Keeper of the Jewel House of Her Majesty's Tower of London, £5.00 each.
4. Covers signed by all three signatories will cost £10.00 each.

All covers are obtainable from the Philatelic Office, HPCCD RE, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, LONDON NW7 1PX, plus 7p postage for each.

RAF Cover HA22 commemorates 120 Squadron's 60th Anniversary and depicts Sqrn Ldr S M Bullock DSO DFC who served for 18 months with the squadron during the last war. The covers have been flown to Iceland, over the sea lanes along which Sqrn Ldr Bullock successfully sighted and attacked so many U-Boats from his 'Liberator' aircraft. The covers bearing an 8p Scottish definitive stamp and cancelled with the BFPS 1590 handstamp, will be available at the end of March from Flt Lt L C Harvey, 120 Squadron, RAF Kinloss, Morayshire IV36 0UH, price 40p each plus 7p postage.

RAF Cover C53 commemorates the 21st Anniversary of the Meteor D16 Target Drone, in which the covers have been flown. They bear a 7p Christmas stamp, cancelled with BFPS 1599 handstamp and will be available at the end of March from Mr A Percy, Royal Aircraft Establishments, Llanbedr, GWYNEDD, LL45 2EZ, price 35p each plus 7p postage.

RAF Cover C54 bearing a 7p Christmas stamp, cancelled with BFPS 1602 handstamp, will commemorate the last flight of the Argosy aircraft in service with the RAF. The covers will be available at the end of March from Flt Lt G F Whitfield, 115 Squadron, RAF Brize Norton, Oxon OX8 3LX, price 35p each plus 7p postage.

All proceeds of these covers will be devoted to the Battle of Britain Museum Appeal Fund.

The Proud Collection

1. Six Weeks Under the Sea



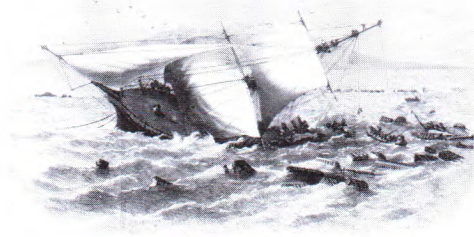
Reproduced by kind permission of Mr Edward Proud

During the small hours of Monday 13 September 1869, the P&O liner 'Carnatic' of 1,700 tons, bound for India, struck a coral reef at the mouth of the Gulf of Suez. Aboard were 230 passengers

and crew together with a valuable cargo. As there seemed to be no immediate danger of sinking, everyone remained on board. The ship, however, sank during the morning of the 14th with the loss of 30 lives.

Salvage operations commenced in October and on the 24th, 16 bags of mail were recovered. The bags were rotting and some of the contents had turned to pulp. Most of the letters, however, had been tied up in tight bundles which kept them legible.

Our illustrations show the 'Carnatic' foundering (originally printed in the 'Illustrated London News' at the time of the disaster) and a salvaged letter posted in Guernsey bound for Bombay, which arrived on 12 November. All the letters recovered had been submerged for six weeks.



Sheets in Miniature

The miniature sheet is now well-established in the philatelic scene, and some details of its origins and development may be of interest to readers of the Bulletin. It is defined as 'a small sheet containing a single stamp, pair, block or strip of stamps with inscribed and/or decorative margins, issued as a commemorative souvenir for collectors'.

It is not a new idea — in fact the first miniature sheets began to appear more than fifty years ago, and among the earliest was a Luxembourg issue of 1923 containing a single 10-franc stamp to mark the birth of Princess Elisabeth, first daughter of the Grand Duchess Charlotte and Prince Felix. In 1925, France inaugurated the trend, which has continued to the present day, of issuing miniature sheets for stamp exhibitions. The sheet for the Paris International of that year contained a block of four Exhibition stamps — it was a 'maxi' miniature sheet measuring almost $5\frac{1}{2} \times 9$ in. Then in 1926 the United States followed suit with a sheet comprising a block of 25 stamps for the New York International Philatelic Exhibition.

The decade of the 1930s saw numerous international and national shows — and their 'souvenir' sheets — springing up in Europe and the Americas. Among them were Antwerp and Brussels, Vienna ('WIPA'), featuring M von Schwind's famous painting, 'The Honeymoon', Chicago and New York, Budapest, Bratislava and Prague, Liechtenstein, Zurich ('NABA'), Buenos Aires and Rio de Janeiro, the latter containing Brazil's 'Rowland Hill' stamps.

Miniature sheets come in all sizes, but most of them conform to the regular rectangular or square shape. Some are quite small, not much larger than the single stamp they contain, others may include several stamps or a complete set and are correspondingly larger, especially if the sheets themselves show decorative scenes relating to the event.

West Germany's sheet for the inauguration of the Beethoven Hall at Bonn in 1959 included, besides the five stamps, extracts from Beethoven's music notebooks, while Brazil's sheet to honour Emerson Fittipaldi's victory in

the Formula 1 World Motor-racing Championships, issued in 1972, showed the famous driver in his racing car. The United Nations' 'Art' sheet of 1967 reproduced Chagall's Memorial Window in the UN Secretariat building in New York. Regular contributors of the 'mini' sheet include Japan — New Year greetings, South Korea — single-stamp commemoratives, and the Netherlands — the annual 'Child Welfare' issues which are also sold by various welfare institutions, including 'door-to-door' sales.

Some sheets comprise additional values and designs not included in the stamp issue, others are issued as commemoratives on their own, in place of normal stamps. The African republic of Rwanda, for example, regularly issues engraved, single-stamp sheets showing religious subjects for Christmas. Often the stamps in a sheet form a composite design and, while some sheets have perforated stamps, others are imperforate (some countries issue both types). Again, some sheets are valid for postage, others are not although the actual stamps may be valid.

Numerous British Commonwealth territories regularly issue miniature sheets — in some countries, such as Malawi, Grenada and Trinidad & Tobago, virtually every commemorative issue has its corresponding sheet. The shapely 'Miss World 1963' ('Miss Jamaica' — Carole Joan Crawford) adorned a Jamaican set of stamps and sheet in 1964, while for the 1976 'Festival of Stamps' in London, Ascension, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha joined together in the issue of a miniature sheet showing the Festival stamps of all three territories. For 'National Stamp Week' in 1976, Australia issued an 18-cents stamp depicting her first 'Kangaroo' stamp of 1913 and its designer, Blamire Young, with a miniature sheet showing the three colour separations used in printing the new stamp.

Several countries issued small sheets for the Queen's Silver Jubilee last year, notably New Zealand where the annual 'Health' stamps also appear in miniature sheet form. The NZ Jubilee sheet comprised different portraits of the Queen by local photographer, Warren Harrison, on a strip of five stamps.

JAMES WATSON

Postmark Slogans

Unless otherwise stated, items for reposting bearing the appropriate postage rate should be forwarded to the Head Postmaster of the town where the slogan is to be used marking the outer cover 'Postmark Slogan'.

9 January 1978 (UFN)

Remember to Use the Postcode. To be used at WCDO.

23 January-1 April 1978

1978 Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition Olympia March 7 - April 1. To be used at the following offices:

EDO (E17), Paddington DO, SWDO, NDO, ECDO, Mount Pleasant, NWDO.

13 February-30 September 1978 (P)

Look After Yourself The Health Education Council. To be used at the following offices:

Belfast, Cardiff, Bangor, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Liverpool, Sheffield, Nottingham, Coventry, Bristol, Plymouth, Southampton, Bournemouth, Brighton, Basingstoke, Ipswich, Aldershot, Oxford, Croydon, Harrow and Wembley, Battersea, ECDO, WCDO, SWDO, NWDO

Team Up with Tartan Youngers Tartan — Sponsors of the Scottish Cup. To be used at the following offices:

Glasgow

27 February-11 March 1978 (P)

3-15 April 1978 (P)

24 April-6 May 1978 (P)

Dundee

27 February-11 March 1978 (P)

3-15 April 1978 (P)

24 April-6 May 1978 (P)

Aberdeen

27 February-11 March 1978 (P)

3-15 April 1978 (P)

24 April-6 May 1978 (P)

1st and 2nd class.

6 February 1978-12 February 1979 (P)

Except for dates 5-9 June 1978

Tayside Scotland's Region of the Rivers. To be used at Dundee. 1st class.

6 March-2 September 1978 (P)

10 Years of Steam Trains on the Keighley and Worth Valley Rly. To be used at Bradford, Keighley.

Bellahouston Park Glasgow 25th March VI I.A.A.F. Cross Country World Championships. To be used at:

Glasgow 27 February-25 March 1978 (P)

Edinburgh 6-18 March 1978 (P)

1st and 2nd class.

Repeat Campaigns

2 January-31 December 1978

The British Deaf Association Cares. To be reused at Carlisle. 1st and 2nd class.

9 January 1978-8 January 1979 (P)

Barnardo's Cares About Children Dr Barnardo's Dept 6 22 Drumsheugh Gdns Edinburgh EH3 7RP. To be reused at Edinburgh.

17 January-1 April 1978

19 August 1978-16 January 1979

Southport The All Year Round Resort. To be reused at Preston. 1st class.

23 January-18 March 1978 (P)

Morecambe — Gateway to the Lakes. To be reused at Lancaster. 2nd class.

In Use Until 31 March 1978 (P)

South Woodham Ferrers The Place for Your New Home. To be reused at Chelmsford. 1st and 2nd class.

6 March-1 April 1978 (P)

Bristol Speedway Fridays April to October. To be reused at Bristol. 1st class.

6 March-1 April 1978 (P)

Exeter Speedway Mondays April to October. To be reused at Exeter. 1st class.

P denotes Pictorial

Stop Press

We have just heard that Ewart Sanders — a contributor to this edition — has won the Post Office Stampex Trophy. We offer to him our sincere congratulations.

Requests to reproduce articles and illustrations appearing in the *Bulletin* should be addressed to the Editor, Philatelic Bulletin, PMK 3, Postal Headquarters, St Martin's-le-Grand, LONDON EC1A 1HQ.

The annual subscription to the Philatelic Bulletin for 12 issues a year is £1.25 including postage by surface mail to anywhere in the world, or air mail to anywhere in Europe. For airmail to countries outside Europe the subscription is £2.15.

Subscriptions should be sent to the British Post Office Philatelic Bureau, Lothian House, Lothian Road, EDINBURGH EH3 9BB.