



Philatelic Bureau

Philatelic Bureau

GPO Headquarters, St. Martin's-le-Grand, LONDON, E.C.1 : HEADquarters 4583

PHILATELIC BULLETIN. No. 2 - OCTOBER 1963

COMPAC COMMEMORATIVE ISSUE

1. At 11.00 p.m. on 2nd December Her Majesty the Queen at a ceremony in London will open COMPAC. This will represent an important development in the field of Commonwealth communications. It will provide the United Kingdom, via CANTAT to Canada, and across Canada by microwave link to Vancouver, with its first direct telephone cable link with the Antipodes.
2. COMPAC will span the Pacific from Vancouver (CANADA) to Sydney (AUSTRALIA) via Honolulu (HAWAII), Suva (FIJI) and Auckland (NEW ZEALAND). Hawaii is not in the Commonwealth but the opportunity is being taken to connect the Commonwealth cable system to that of the USA which also has a link at Honolulu. The cable will replace the existing but less reliable radio telephone link with the Antipodes.
3. The Postmaster General is marking this important event by the issue of a special postage stamp in the 1s. 6d. denomination. This is the basic air mail rate to Australia and New Zealand. Both Australia and New Zealand will each issue a special stamp to mark the opening of COMPAC and all three issues will be put on sale on 3rd December.
4. Details of the design of the United Kingdom stamp will be issued shortly.
5. The stamp - double the normal size - will be printed in plain and phosphor versions. It will be available from the Philatelic Bureau and all post offices from 3rd December.

6. FIRST DAY COVERS

Normal First Day Cover service will be available from the Bureau. Application forms for this service are enclosed with this Bulletin. The total charge will be 2s. 0d. Because of the shortness of time, and particularly for the convenience of overseas customers, we will provide as an alternative to the "standard" FDC service,

a "full" FDC service for the inclusive charge of 2s. 6d. We will provide plain envelopes measuring $6\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " and will have the addresses typewritten on them.

7. The cancelling postmark for all covers serviced by the Bureau will carry the usual "First Day of Issue" slogan but the name die will, for the first time, read "Philatelic Bureau, GPO, EC1" instead of the usual "London EC".

8. In addition to the specialised Bureau facilities, Philatelic Posting Boxes will be provided in the following towns. Postings in these boxes will receive the "First day of issue" cancellation. The Boxes will be at:-

London Chief Office, King Edward Street, E.C.1.

Trafalgar Square Branch Office, London, W.C.2.

South Western District Office, Howick Place, London, S.W.1.

Brighton	Stoke	Aberdeen
Cambridge	Bradford	Dundee
Chelmsford	Hull	Edinburgh
Norwich	Leeds	Glasgow
Oxford	Newcastle-upon-Tyne	Bournemouth
Portsmouth	Sheffield	Bristol
Reading	York	Exeter
Southend	Blackpool	Gloucester
Birmingham	Liverpool	Plymouth
Derby	Manchester	Cardiff
Leicester	Preston	Llandudno and Colwyn Bay
Northampton	Belfast	Shrewsbury
Nottingham	Londonderry	

STAMP BOOKS

9. In paragraphs 20 and 21 of Philatelic Bulletin No. 1 we gave details of the 2s. 0d. Post-Card booklet with the reasons for its make-up and production. This has led to a number of enquiries about stamp books in general.

10. The existing range of Stamp books is as follows:-

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1s. 0d. - 3 panes of 4 each at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. | White cover. |
| *2s. 0d. - 4 panes of 4 each at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. 3d. | Yellow cover. |
| *3s. 0d. - 4 panes of 6 each at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. 3d. | Red cover. |

* 4s. 6d. - 3 panes of 6 each at 3d.

Violet cover

* 5s. 0d. - 5 panes of 6 each at $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d.

Blue cover

$2\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 12 at 3d.

10s. 0d. - 8 panes of 6 each at 1d. $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Green cover

and 30 at 3d.

*These books are also available with phosphor lined stamps

11. 3s., 4s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. books. The stamps are printed in sets of 40 at a time. The stamps are in the usual sheets of 240 - 12 across x 20 down - but are arranged in an unusual fashion. In vertical rows 1 to 3 and 7 to 9 the stamps are upright; in vertical rows 4 to 6 and 10 to 12 the stamps are inverted. Rows 6 and 7 are separated by a gutter $15/32$ " wide. The front and back covers and the interleaves are printed in similar up and down fashion.

12. The covers, interleaves and panes of stamps are assembled in order until the book is completed and the whole assembly is then stitched once down each outside margin and twice down the centre gutter. Guillotines then slice down between rows 3 and 4, rows 9 and 10 and the two lines of stitching in the centre gutter. The resulting strips are cut crossways at every second stamp. Of the resulting 40 books of stamps, 20 will contain stamps with upright watermarks and 20 will contain stamps with inverted watermarks.

13. The 2s. book. For the ordinary 2s. book the stamps are laid out in sheets of 480, 20 across by 24 down. The stamps are all printed sideways on the paper, every second pair of vertical rows being reversed. After every 4th vertical row the gutter is widened to $15/32$ ". The front and back covers and the interleaves are printed in similar fashion. Assembly and stitching of the book follows the same pattern as for the 3s. book, the four wide gutters each receiving a double line of stitching. The guillotining is between every pair of vertical rows and the double stitching, and between every pair of horizontal rows.

14. All the books will bear sideways watermarks but in half of them the watermark will run from left to right and in the other half it will be reversed and run from right to left.

15. The 2s. PC books were printed on a flat bed machine and were laid out differently. They were printed in sheets of 240, each sheet bearing 5 blocks

each of 12 across by 4 down, every second pair of horizontal rows being reversed, and the blocks separated by widened gutters. The covers and interleaves were printed to match and assembly and stitching was as for other books, the single stitching running across the top and bottom of the sheet and the double stitching in the widened gutters. Guillotining resulted in 60 books per sheet with upright and inverted watermarks in equal numbers.

16. 1s. books. These were laid out in sheets of 216, each sheet bearing 4 blocks each of 12 across by 4 down and 1 block of 12 across by 2 down. The assembly, stitching, guillotining and watermarking were as for the 2s. PC book, each sheet producing 54 books.

17. With all stamp books, the reversed watermarks may not be consistent throughout any one book and a book may well contain panes with watermarks running in one direction and panes with watermarks running in the other direction.

Editions

18. For stockkeeping purposes, books of stamps are printed in editions, each edition being dated with the month and year. The date appears at the foot of the postage rate pages and the outside back cover. The 3s. book is produced in monthly editions: the 4s. 6d. and 5s. books are produced in bi-monthly editions, the 4s. 6d. on even months and the 5s. on odd months. The 2s. and 10s. books are printed as demand occasions and although dated, are not produced, at present, at regular intervals.

19. We know that some people collect editions. We cannot, at this stage, meet specific requests for these. As with cylinder numbers, this is something which we are looking at.

OTHER ITEMS

20. High Value stamps. The 5s. De La Rue printings were exhausted earlier than we anticipated. The 5s. Bradbury Wilkinson printing has been available from a number of offices and from the Bureau since 2nd September.

21. The 10s. De La Rue printing has been heavily requisitioned by Head Offices for Christmas supplies. In consequence the Bradbury Wilkinson printing of this

denomination may be available from some offices before Christmas. Supplies of this printing will be on sale from the Bureau on 1st November.

The £1 Bradbury Wilkinson is expected to be available early in the New Year.

STAMPS OF THE BRITISH POSTAL AGENCIES IN THE PERSIAN GULF

22. On 11th October the 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. permanent series stamp overprinted "30 NP" for use in the Muscat and Abu Dhabi Postal Agencies was issued on white paper.

23. This is the first of the Agency stamps to be produced on this paper - the remainder are still on the earlier paper with the creamy tinge.

24. The British Postal agency at Dubai closed on June 14th and the Dubai General Post Office has issued its own range of postage stamps. The Trucial states range of postage stamps will cease to be valid for payment of postage after September 30th 1963 and sales of the stamps from the Bureau will not be made after November 7th.

Postmarks

25. A check list of those postmarks currently running and those planned for the future follows. It will be realized that there are many still under consideration and the list gives only those approved. Those postmarks in which the slogan precedes the circular part of the postmark are indicated by the word "transposed".

26. CORRECTIONS. In the first edition of Bulletin No. 1 we slipped back 24 years in paragraph number 4 in giving the make-up of the high value sheet as 5 across by 8 down. It should, of course, have read 4 across by 10 down. In paragraph 16, a misprint gave the plate numbers as "1" and "A", instead of "1" and "1A".

POSTMARK SLOGANS 1963/4

<u>Where used</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Slogan</u>
Hastings	April 1st 1963- March 31st 1964	"We're ready for your invasion at Hastings". (Transposed from August 26th)
Lincoln	May 9th 1963- May 8th 1964	"Lincoln Cathedral Appeal".
Manchester	June 4th 1963- June 3rd 1964	"Fly direct via Manchester Airport to Europe and America".
Torquay	June 10th 1963- March 31st 1964	"Torquay for Sun" (Transposed from July 8th)
Newark	June 17th 1963- June 16th 1964	"Visit historic Newark" (Transposed from August 26th)
Penmaenmawr	June 24th 1963- June 23rd 1964	"Penmaenmawr 'twixt land and sea"
Bath	July 1st 1963- June 30th 1964	"Visit Bath's Famous Assembly Rooms including the museum of costume" (Transposed)
Exmouth	July 1st 1963- June 30th 1964	"Exmouth - Sunny South Devon for happy holidays". (Transposed from August 12th)
Isle of Man (Douglas)	July 1st 1963- March 31st 1964	"For happy holidays - the Isle of Man".
Falmouth	July 8th 1963- July 7th 1964	"Fascinating Falmouth - gem of the Cornish Riviera" (Transposed from August 12th)
Bournemouth	July 8th 1963- July 7th 1964	"Bournemouth - the resort for sun, sea sands and glorious gardens". (Transposed)
Newquay	July 15th 1963- July 14th 1964	"Europe's finest beaches. Newquay by Road, Rail and air". (Transposed from September 20th)
Weston-Super-Mare	July 15th 1963- March 31st 1964	"Weston-Super-Mare in Sunny Somerset - fine for family holidays" (Transposed from August 6th)
Dudley	July 22nd 1963- July 21st 1964	"Dudley for zoo and shopping" (Transposed from August 26th)

Wellingborough	July 29th 1963- July 28th 1964	"Wellingborough - a new industrial centre"
Middlesbrough	July 29th 1963- July 28th 1964	"Tees-side for industrial expansion"
Scunthorpe	August 1st 1963- July 31st 1964	(1) "Sites for new industry - Scunthorpe" (2) "Scunthorpe for steel - new industries welcomed"
Sheerness	August 6th 1963- August 5th 1964	"50 miles from London-Sheppey for holidays, homes and industry - Kent's own sunny Island" (Transposed)
Southend-on-Sea	August 6th 1963- October 18th 1963	"Southend illuminations August 14th- October 24th"
	October 19th 1963- February 29th 1964	"Southend-on-Sea for happy holidays" (Transposed)
	March 1st 1964- August 5th 1964	"Golden Jubilee 1964 - Southend-on-Sea" (Transposed)
Skegness	August 12th 1963- August 11th 1964	"Skegness is so bracing" (Transposed)
Hartlepoons	August 12th 1963- August 11th 1964	"Hartlepoons for factory sites and success" (Transposed from October 28th)
Portsmouth and Southsea	August 12th 1963- August 11th 1964	"Portsmouth and sunny Southsea" (3 designs)
Folkestone	August 19th 1963- April 25th 1964	"From Folkestone - holiday centre of the Sunny South Coast" (Transposed)
Edinburgh	August 19th 1963- August 18th 1964	"Edinburgh capital by the sea for festival and holiday"
Wick, Caithness	August 19th 1963- August 18th 1964	"Tourist, camping-Wick"
Shrewsbury	August 23rd 1963- November 1st 1963	"Shrewsbury - historical centre - brochure from information Shrewsbury, Salop".

Ryde	August 24th 1963- August 23rd 1964	"Choose Ryde, Isle of Wight, for happy holidays" (Transposed)
Paignton	August 24th 1963- August 23rd 1964	"Paignton Devon's Golden Playground" (Transposed)
Worthing	August 26th 1963- August 25th 1964	"At foot of Sussex Downs, Sunny Worthing" (Transposed)
Tunbridge Wells	August 26th 1963- August 25th 1964	"The Pantiles, Royal Tunbridge Wells".
Aberystwyth	September 1st 1963- August 31st 1964	"Aberystwyth - Record Sunshine".
Brighton and Hove	September 1st 1963- August 31st 1964	"There's always something on at Brighton and Hove".
Ventnor	September 1st 1963- August 31st 1964	"It's warmer at Ventnor, Isle of Wight - almost fairly land". (Transposed from October 28th)
Cardiff	September 16th 1963- November 9th 1964	"Cardiff Shopping Festival"
Paisley	September 23rd 1963- October 20th 1963 and December 9th-29th 1963	"1163 Paisley Abbey 1963, 800th Anniversary" (2 dies) (Transposed)
Sunderland	October 1st 1963- March 31st 1964	"New Industry thrives in Sunderland"
Dunoon	October 1st 1963- September 30th 1964	"Holiday at Dunoon"
Colchester	October 7th 1963- October 6th 1964	"Visited for 1900 years - follow the Romans to Colchester" (Transposed)
Doncaster	October 7th 1963- October 23rd 1963	"Visit Doncaster October Race Meeting October 25th-26th 1963".
Nottingham	October 10th-26th 1963	"Nottingham Students' Charity Carnival 21st-26th October"
50 Offices including Nottingham; Preston; Gloucester; Chester; Aberdeen; Newcastle; Cambridge; London E.D.O:	October 14th - November 11th 1963	"Post early in the Day"
Nottingham	(2 dies) October 21st 1963) (2 dies) October 28th 1963)	January 15th 1964 "Nottingham Playhouse"

Banbury	November 1st 1963- October 31st 1964	"Ride to Banbury" (Transposed)
Pitlochry	November 1st 1963- February 29th 1964	"Ski-centre Pitlochry" (Transposed)
Isle of Man (Ramsey)	November 1st 1963- April 1st 1964	"For happy Retirement Isle of Man"
Bexhill-on-Sea	November 1st 1963- March 31st 1964	"Come to Bexhill-on-Sea" (Transposed)
	April 1st 1963- May 31st 1964	"Bexhill-on-Sea ideal for children" (Transposed)
	June 1st 1964- June 30th 1964	"Bexhill-on-Sea Regatta, Sailing and rowing" (Transposed)
	July 1st 1964- July 31st 1964	"Bexhill-on-Sea outdoor and indoor bowls Mecca" (Transposed)
	August 1st 1964- August 31st 1964	"Bexhill-on-Sea desirable Residential Resort" (Transposed)
	September 1st 1964- September 30th 1964	"Bexhill-on-Sea for Autumn holidays" (Transposed)
	October 1st 1964- October 31st 1964	"Come to Bexhill-on-Sea" (Repeat) (Transposed)
Jersey	November 1st 1963- December 31st 1963	"Jersey for a happy springtime holiday" (Transposed)
	January 1st 1964- March 31st 1964	"Jersey for Summer Holidays" (Transposed)
	April 1st 1964- June 30th 1964	"Jersey for Sunny Autumn Holidays" (Transposed)
	July 1st 1964- September 30th 1964	"Jersey for sunshine in the winter" (Transposed)
	October 1st 1964- October 31st 1964	"Jersey for a happy Springtime Holiday" (Transposed)
Rhyl	November 9th 1963- March 7th 1964	"Rhyl for happy family holidays" (Transposed)
Bridport	November 11th 1963- December 21st 1963 and March 2nd 1964- April 5th 1964	"Bridport and West Bay, a holiday with a difference" (Transposed)

50 offices throughout the country including:- Clacton on Sea Basingstoke Windsor and Kidderminster	November 26th 1963- December 10th 1963	"Declaration of Human Rights"
Jarrow	November 26th 1963- November 25th 1964	"Invest in success - come to Jarrow"
Various offices including:- E.C.D.O; E.D.O; Leeds; Edinburgh; Cambridge; Bristol; Birmingham; Cardiff; Liverpool.	November 28th 1963- December 11th 1963	"Are you on the voters list - check now"
Stirling	December 1st 1963- February 29th 1964	"Come to Stirling"
Margate	December 1st 1963- May 31st 1964	"Book your place in the sun at Margate" (Transposed)
Inverness	December 1st 1963- November 30th 1964	"Inverness the Highland Capital" (Transposed)
Midlothian	December 2nd 1963- May 31st 1964	"Midlothian for Industrial Sites"
Shrewsbury	December 2nd 1963- January 4th 1964	"Christmas Shopping Illumina- tion Shrewsbury 1st December - 6th January 1964"
Dunbar	December 8th 1963- December 7th 1964	Dunbar for happy holidays (Transposed)
Scarborough	December 8th 1963- March 7th 1964	"Scarborough Booklet"
Various offices including:- London Battersea D.O: Chelmsford: Darlington: Newry: Taunton: Hounslow: Crewe: Lancaster: Dumfries Wrexham.	December 9th December 12th	"Post Early for Christmas" December 19th 1963

SPECIAL HANDSTAMPS

<u>Where used</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Slogan</u>
Henfield	October 19th 1963	"Henfield stamp Club Exhibition Henry Bishop's Village"