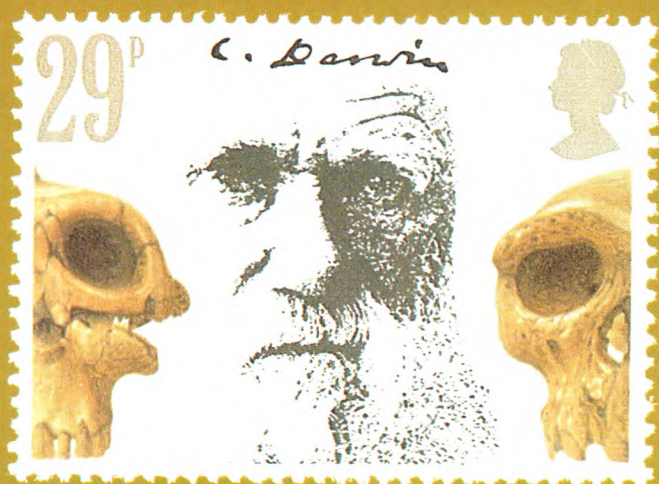


Philatelic Bulletin

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New Stamp Rolls

A new stamp roll, printed on phosphor coated paper, consisting of 700 strips of four stamps, combined value 12½p (3 x 4p and 1 x ½p) became available from 30 December 1981. Produced for special mailings by a large user of the post, the rolls are obtainable from philatelic sales counters and by post from the Philatelic Bureau, price £87.50. Single strips of the four stamps are available from the Bureau only.

Two additional rolls will be on sale from 1 February 1982; they are:

GL (contents 500 x 12½p stamps, price £62.50).

The stamps are printed on ordinary coated paper bearing a single central phosphor bar.

HL (contents 500 x 15½p stamps, price £77.50).

The stamps are printed on phosphor coated paper.

These rolls are reeled for endways delivery, and are available from the Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT, philatelic sales counters, and post offices where there is a known demand.

All three rolls are printed photogravure by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd. The adhesive is PVA dextrin.

Editorial

Looking ahead to this year's special stamp issues I see that the Post Office has quite a varied programme of subjects in store for us. From the youth of today (Boy Scouts) to the old of yesterday (pre-historic skulls); from the world of the thespian (theatre) to the world of the car mechanic (motor cars). A pen picture of the programme with the latest information available is included in this edition.

The details of two important philatelic events that take place early in the year are also to be found in this edition, the Melville Junior Stamp Competition and 'Super' Stampex. Young collectors, parents and schoolmasters should note that the closing date for entries to 'Melville' is the 27 February. The dates of 'Super' Stampex this year are 23 to 28 February, at the Royal Horticultural Society; both halls will be in use again. I wish both events every success.

JOHN MEMMOTT

Modified Paper Coating for PCP Stamps

The 22p deep blue definitive, cylinder 3, has now been printed (October 1981) on paper coated to a modified composition. There is no change in the phosphor.

The new coating should overcome the problem of variations in the gloss of the printed image which have been observed since the introduction of phosphor-coated paper.

It is likely that a further trial will take place early in 1982 before phasing in the new coating as existing stocks are used up. Details will be announced later.

Stampex 1982

Stampex 1982 will be held at the Royal Horticultural Society, using both halls in Greycoat Street and Vincent Square, London SW1, from Tuesday 23 February until Sunday 28 February.

Hours of opening:

Tuesday 1 pm — 8 pm

Wednesday to Friday 10 pm — 8 pm

Saturday and Sunday 10 pm — 6 pm

Prices of admission: First day £1.75: other days £1 (after 5 pm 50p)

The Royal Mail Postbus Service – part 5

Len Newbery

(137) WM 3 Rhyl – Meriadog, 31 October 1977.

The First Day cancellation was in six lines – the route now in one line read RHYL – MERIADOG – RHYL – with the date 31 – 10 – 1977.

The cancellation struck in violet was used for the one day on the tickets and mail collected along the route.

The undated daily cancellation was struck in black in three lines with the single line route – RHYL – MERIADOG – RHYL.

(148) WM 4 Llandrindod Wells – Llaithddu, 26 June 1978.

The First Day cancellation in six lines is now 30mm overall height (the two previous routes are 23mm). The third and fourth lines read LLANDRINDOD WELLS – LLAITHDDU. Again struck in black was used for the one day on the tickets and mail posted along the route.

The daily route personalised cancellation in four lines and undated struck in black with the last two lines reading – LLANDRINDOD WELLS – LLAITHDDU.

(150) WM 5 Usk – Bettws Newydd, 10 July 1978.

The First Day cancellation struck in black is similar to the last with third and fourth lines reading – USK – BETTWS NEWYDD 10-7-1978.

The third line of the daily cancellation reads – USK – BETTWS NEWYDD (151) WM 6 Usk – Llansoy, 10 July 1978.

The two cancellations for the second Usk service had the route line reading – USK LLANDENNY – LLANSOY.

(1) WM 1 Llanidloes – Llangurig.

As previously stated the special ticket with postage stamps was not brought into use until 26 February 1979.

The special dated cancellation was for the First Day of the ticket only whereas in the other Welsh services it commemorated the First Journey of the new service.

The cancellation struck in black read –

Dydd Cyhoeddiad Cyntaf

Bws Post Cyntaf Prydain

LLANIDLOES – LLANGURIG

26 FEB 1979

First British Postbus

First Day of Issue

The undated daily cancellation also struck in black is similar to the other services with the route line reading –

LLANIDLOES – LLANGURIG.

(162) WM 7 Newtown – New Mills, 4 June 1979.

The standard First Day cancellation struck in black and used on both mail posted along the route and the tickets had the third and fourth lines reading –

NEWTOWN – NEW MILLS

4.6.1979

and the third line of the undated daily version – NEWTOWN – NEW MILLS.



(165) WM 8 BUILT Wells – Abergwesyn, 12 November 1979.

The two cancellations both struck in black similar to the above had the third and fourth lines of the First Day reading –

BUILT WELLS – ABERGWESYN

12.11.1979

and the third line in the undated daily version – **BUILT WELLS – ABERGWESYN**.

This was the first route to have a fare stage costly enough to use a stamp of the £1 value.

(166) WM 9 Machynlleth – Aberhosan, 19 November 1979.

The two cancellations again struck in black had the third and fourth lines of the First Day reading –

MACHYNLLETH – ABERHOSAN

19.11.1979

and the third line of the undated daily – **MACHYNLLETH – ABERHOSAN**.

This was the first service in England and Wales to use a four seater Estate motorcar, and to date the only one.

() WM 10 Aberystwyth – Blaenpennal, 7 January 1980.

At the time of writing this is the last of the Welsh services though it is understood there are some more in the pipeline.

The third and fourth lines of the First Day cancellation read –

ABERYSTWYTH – BLAENPENNAL

7.1.1980

and the daily undated third line – **ABERYSTWYTH – BLAENPENNAL** both were struck in black.

National Postal Museum 1982 Programme

The Museum's exhibition of Postcards which opened on 2 November 1981 features both Post Office issued cards and the development of picture postcards in Great Britain from 1894 to the present day. This exhibition will remain open until 16 April 1982.

1982 is the centenary of the Army Postal Service and to commemorate the event, the Museum will mount an exhibition which opens on 21 April entitled the 'Post Office at War – 1704-1881'. This will be followed on 21 July by a second exhibition taking the story from 1882-1919. The exhibition will remain open until the Autumn.

Both will be accompanied by two special postcards, SS7 and SS10, depicting scenes connected

with Forces Mail in the 19th century, to be issued on 21 April and 21 July respectively.

A joint Anglo-French exhibition will be mounted in May and will be moved to Paris to be opened at the Musée Postale during the Philé France exhibition in June.

Dates of the exhibition in the NPM will be 4 May–28 May and in Paris from 10 June to 21 June. For this exhibition a special postcard SS8, will be issued on 4 May. It will be bi-lingual and will be used in both London and Paris. Issue dates will be 4 May and 10 June respectively.

A Maritime exhibition will be shown in the main gallery in June to coincide with the issue of the Maritime Heritage Special stamps at that time. There will be a special SS9, and this will be issued on 16 June.

During the latter part of the year, SS11 will be issued to coincide with The British Philatelic Exhibition in October. This will show the £5 orange stamps of 1882.

There will also be an issue of set No 10 of the Museum postcards. This will show the Essays of the Edward VIII stamps of 1936 and will be available in November. Date to be announced.

The Museum is situated in King Edward Street, near St. Paul's Cathedral in the City of London.

1982 Special Stamp Programme

Further information of the 1982 programme has now become available from which we can update the details given in the November Bulletin.

David Gentleman gets the programme under way on 10 February with his designs on a set of four stamps to mark the centenary of the death of Charles Darwin, the famous Victorian naturalist. All the stamps feature Darwin's portrait and signature and incorporate giant tortoises, iguanas, finches and prehistoric skulls.

On 24 March we salute our youth organisations with a set of four stamps designed by Brian Sanders. Featured are the Boys' Brigade, which celebrates its centenary in 1983 and is the oldest uniformed boys' organisation in the world; the Scouts, who have a triple celebration – 1982 is their 75th anniversary, the year of Scouting and the 125th anniversary of the birth of their founder, Lord Baden Powell. Two stamps featuring their sister organisations the Girls' Brigade and the Girl Guides complete the set.

The 1982 Europa (CEPT) theme is historical events, to illustrate this the chosen subject is

British Theatre. The designs, by Adrian George, feature ballet, harlequin, drama, opera and are associated with a number of anniversaries, including the 250th anniversary of the first opening of the building housing the Covent Garden opera, 250th anniversary of the death of John Gay and the 50th anniversary of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford.

This year is going to be a special year for those interested in maritime history, as the English Tourist Board have designated 1982, Maritime England Year. One of many interesting maritime events taking place is the raising of the 'Mary Rose', the pride of Henry VIII's Navy which sank in the Solent 436 years ago. The 'Mary Rose' is one of five ships depicted on a set of five stamps designed by Marjorie Saynor to be issued on 16 June. In addition to Henry VIII and the 'Mary Rose' other subjects include Blake and 'Triumph', Nelson and 'Victory', Fisher and 'Dreadnought', Cunningham and 'Warspite' – all are printed in the interesting combination of photogravure and intaglio process.

On 23 July a set of four stamps designed by Peter Hatch on the theme of textiles reflecting the different types of fabric design over the last hundred years will be issued. The designs are – Strawberry Thief, 1883, by William Morris – Silver Tulips, 1906, by F Steiner – Cherry Orchard, 1903, by P Nash, and Chevrons, 1980, by A Foster. 1982 is the 250th anniversary of the birth of Sir Richard Arkwright, a significant figure in the history of British textiles, and inventor of the spinning frame.

The Government designated Information Technology year, will be marked by a set of two stamps to be issued on 8 September. Details of subjects and the designer are not available at the time of writing these notes, but a backward glance at previous designs on this theme immediately arouses curiosity about the direction the designer will take on this occasion.

Stanley Paine is the designer of a set of four stamps on British Motor cars to be issued on 13 October. The models depicted are the Metro, the Escort, the Jaguar and the Rolls-Royce. This will be the first time since 1966 that British cars have featured as the subject of a special stamp.

The programme is completed by Barbara Brown's interpretation of five well known Christmas carols on the Christmas stamps to be issued on 17 November. The carols are – The Holly and the Ivy; While Shepherds watched their flocks; I saw three ships; We three Kings of Orient are, and Good King Wenceslas.

Forthcoming Events

1982 Melville Junior Stamp Competition

The next Melville Junior Stamp Competition will be held in March 1982, so now is the time to start preparing your exhibit. As in previous years, the entries will be divided into four age groups as follows:

- A For those aged 18 years and under 21 years.
- B For those aged 16 years and under 18 years.
- C For those aged 13 years and under 16 years.
- D For those aged under 13 years.

Ages to be reckoned as on 1 January 1982. A Cup will be awarded to the best entry in each class (to be held by the winners for one year), as well as silver, silver/bronze and bronze medals to all entrants who achieve a sufficiently high standard. In addition, the Cartwright Medal will be awarded to the entry in Classes C or D which shows most promise; the Hélène Leverton Medal for the most promising entry in Class B; and the National Westminster Bank Prize for the most promising entry in Class A. The School Trophy will be awarded to the school which produces the highest standard of entries. The British Post Office has most generously agreed, once again, to hold a three day seminar for up to ten children who win high awards in the competition. In order to give other children an opportunity of winning a place, winners who have attended a Post Office seminar on a previous occasion will not be eligible.

Interested juniors should now write for rules and an entry form (enclosing a stamped addressed envelope) to Mrs F Rapkin, Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane, Hatch End, HARROW, Middlesex HA5 4AL, who can also put intending entrants in touch with their nearest philatelic society. Completed entry forms should be given, with exhibits, to the Secretary of a Society, Federation or Association affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation, so that they may be sent to Mrs Rapkin at the above address to arrive not later than Saturday 27 February 1982.

Philatelic Weekend at Pendley Manor, Tring

A residential philatelic weekend will be held at Pendley Manor, Tring from Friday 22 January to Sunday 24 January 1982. This is the 15th annual course, organised this year by Douglas N Muir, Editor of the "Philatelic Magazine". Speakers will

include Alan Bosworth on forgeries; Jean Farrugia on Letter Boxes; R Martin Willcocks on GB postal history; and Barbara Last on thematics. Fees include accommodation and meals. Write for details to: The Secretary, Pendley Manor, TRING, Herts HP23 5QZ.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir

Collecting Machin Definitives Part 5 – Bulletin vol 18 pp 279-280

Perhaps your contributor, D W Staddon, would be kind enough to explain how it can be stated with accuracy that 'A perforating pin may become bent ...' with the consequence that 'This results in a perforation hole being ... out of line ...'

There are, as I understand the situation, two main methods of effecting perforation; they are by a stroke movement, and by a rotary movement.

My understanding of the stroke perforator is that the operative part of the machine consists of three plates. First, a plate holding the perforating pins (pin plate); third, a plate with holes into which the pins descend to cut the holes (die plate); but *second*, coming between the pin plate and the die plate, a plate which strips the paper from each pin after the perforation holes have been made. When the machine operates the ends of the pins protrude from the stripping plate through the paper and into the die plate; they then withdraw from the die plate and into the stripping plate but do not withdraw from the stripping plate. It is, therefore, essential that absolute coincidence occurs between three sets of holes for the machine to operate, namely, the holes in the pin plate, the stripping plate and the die plate. By the same token it is essential, if the machine is to operate, for each pin to enter its appropriate hole. If the protruding end of a pin should become bent no perforation hole there would result because the machine could not operate to effect the hole at that point.

Similarly, my understanding of the rotary machine which operates by pins and holes is that similar coincidence between pin and die cylinders is necessary, albeit the stripping is effected in a manner different from that in use in a stroke perforator.

Another form of rotary perforation is termed 'chip' perforation, whereby the underside of the paper lying on pins is chipped away by rapidly revolving blades. I do not know enough about the operation of such a machine – developed mainly

from designs by the Swedish engineer, Sune Lutteman – to be certain that a hole would not result if a pin were to become bent. However, my general understanding is that pins are made from 'needle steel', which is apt to break rather than bend.

It would be right (would it not?) for the situation arising from your contributor's statements to be clarified for the benefit of those who, like myself, are or might be wondering how the stated result can occur – otherwise than by the deliberate drilling of three holes out of the alignment of a whole new row of holes.

Yours faithfully

London NW11

L N WILLIAMS

If what Mr Williams says is correct the very occasional 'hiccups' in a row of perforations is caused by the pin and the hole beneath it being out of alignment rather than by a bent pin. Whilst I am prepared to accept that this may happen by accident if not by design it is important to know whether the bent pin theory is fallacious or not. I asked Aubrey Walker and he wasn't sure. His feeling was that a bent pin in the sheet fed Grover perforator would produce a 'hiccup', but he said he would check up with Harrison's about the rotary perforator.

Later he came back to say that a bent pin in the rotary perforator should be capable of causing the same effect because of the tremendous pressure it would exert before breaking off.

My own beliefs come from a series of blocks of 5d stamps from the 1970 Rural Architecture series which were sheet fed in single panes (6 x 20). These blocks show clear evidence of an out of line perforation hole being followed by a 'blind' perforation. What started off out of line ended in later blocks as blind, in the same position in each vertical column of perforations right across the sheet. The out of line perforation hole is misshapen, and in one or two instances slightly torn.

Whilst I stand to be corrected my belief is that this is the work of a bent pin which subsequently broke off, and not from a pin being set out-of-line.

D W STADDON

We hope to print in the February Bulletin the findings of Mr Aubrey Walker of The Post Office Procurement Executive. Aubrey Walker has made a study of the subject of perforations, and readers will be aware of his articles for the Bulletin on technical subjects concerning the production of British postage stamps.

New Stamped Stationery

New stamped stationery printed by McCorquodale Printers Ltd, will be issued on 1 February 1982 in line with the new postage rates which take effect on that day. The items will be available from philatelic sales counters and by post

from the Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT; and sold at all other offices as current stocks become exhausted.

Stamped lettercards – bearing the new postage rates – will not be printed – as these items are being withdrawn from the range of postal stationery in March, and replaced by a new stamped “lettersheet” (details of this new stationery item will be issued later). Air letter forms have been re-named “Aerogrammes”.

The prices of the new stationery items are as follows:

Item	Postage Rate	Registration Fee	Single	Pkt of 10
Envelopes Size 1 – Second Class	12½p		17½p	£1.67
Envelopes Size 1 – First Class	15½p		20½p	£1.97
Envelopes Size 2 – Second Class	12½p		18½p	£1.75
Envelopes Size 2 – First Class	15½p		21½p	£2.05
Registered Envelopes				
small (G)	15½p	£1	£1.23½	£12.35
medium (H)	15½p	£1	£1.26½	£12.65
large (K)	15½p	£1	£1.34½	£13.45
small G2 (Forces)	As appropriate	£1	£1.08	£10.80
Aerogrammes				
Ordinary	24p		24p	
Pictorial (when available)	24p		27½p	

Stamp Printers Logos

Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd asked to be allowed to print their logo on the sheets of stamps they produce, beginning with the ‘Darwin’ stamps issue. Waddington and The House of Questa already print their logos on the sheets they produce. This raised the question of rationalising the positions of the various logos. After inter-departmental discussions within the Post Office, it was agreed that on the sheets with a horizontal

(landscape) format, the Harrison logo should appear on the bottom left hand margin below the cylinder numbers; for the vertical (portrait) format, the logo would then appear in the top margin to the left of the cylinder numbers. Waddington and The House of Questa had been instructed to adopt similar positions for their logos on any special issues they may print in future.



Charles Darwin Stamps Issue

10 February 1982



During his long life time Charles Darwin wrote several books and thousands of letters commenting on many aspects of biology and geology. He is Britain's greatest biologist, and should be remembered not only for his 'Theory of Evolution', but also for the outstanding contributions he made to geology, soil science, the study of animal behaviour, and experimental botany.

To commemorate the centenary of his death, four stamps will be issued on 10 February 1982. Designed by David Gentleman, they illustrate: Giant Tortoises (15½p); Iguanas (19½p); Finches (26p); Prehistoric Skulls (29p), and are printed by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd, photo-gravure on phosphor coated unwatermarked paper. Horizontal in format the individual size of the stamps is 41mm x 30mm, and there are 100 to a sheet. The perforations are 15 x 14 and PVA dextrin is the adhesive.

Presentation Pack

A presentation pack, No 132, containing all four stamps, is designed by Sutherland Hawes Associates, and will be available from 10 February 1982, price £1.10.

Values and Colours

- 15½p Drab, olive-sepia, grey-black, black agate.
- 19½p Greenish-yellow, reddish-brown, slate blue, grey-black, black, violet-grey.
- 26p Greenish-yellow, bright-orange, reddish-brown, bright blue, grey-black, black, sage green.
- 29p Ochre, brown ochre, grey-black, black, sage green.

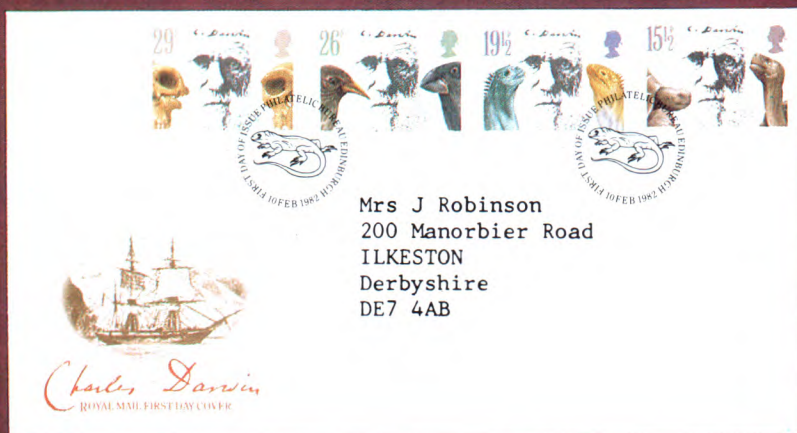
Cylinders used

- 15½p 1A1B1C1D1E.
- 19½p 1A1B2C1D1E2F.
- 26p 1A1B1C1D1E1F1G.
- 29p 1A1B1C1D1E.

Postcards

Postcard reproductions of each of the four stamps will be on sale from 1 February 1982, price 13p each.





84. European Communities, 1973

The three original European Communities – ‘Coal and Steel, Economic and Atomic Energy’ – were established by Belgium, France, the German Federal Republic, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands in the 1950s. In 1967 the first steps were taken towards a complete merger of the three Communities in one Commission, and in January 1973 the United Kingdom (and also Denmark and the Irish Republic) became full members of the Commission of the European Communities, an event which the British Post Office commemorated by the issue of three distinctive stamps on 3 January. The uniform design, by Peter Murdoch, of Murdoch Design Associates Ltd., was quite ingenious – a ‘jigsaw puzzle’ of nine interlocking pieces representing the member nations.

Britain’s ‘close involvement with the other countries making up the European Communities’ was indicated by the piece bearing the Union Jack,

the other pieces having neutral colours of yellow-brown (3p), and green and blue on the two 5p values. Some adverse criticism at the time of issue (principally from opponents of Britain’s entry into the ‘Common Market’) revealed that the jigsaw symbolism was not readily understood or appreciated, and it was also suggested that a silhouette head of the Queen, rather than the tiny ‘cameo’ head used, would have blended more harmoniously with the outlines and solids of the main design.

The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (10 x 10), the two 5p values being issued together in horizontal *se-tenant* pairs throughout the sheet, on unwatermarked paper with two phosphor bands. No major printing varieties are recorded. Quantities sold were: 3p 54,812,900; 5p (both together) 11,868,500; presentation packs, 105,850.

JAMES WATSON



New Design for Presentation Pack

The Post Office is to experiment with a new format of presentation pack for special stamps for one year, starting with the Charles Darwin issue in February 1982.

Packs will be larger, measuring 216mm x 115mm (8½" x 4½") and will allow a set of five stamps to be fully displayed.

The transparent pack has been re-designed, with a flap at the top, so that all the stamps are on view. Previously packs had a side flap which obscured some of the stamps inside.

With the larger size there will be more scope for display of both written and visual background information about the stamps. The date of issue and number will be clearly shown on each pack.

New-style packs will be the same size as first day covers and so can be accommodated in Post Office first day cover albums, already on sale at many post offices and the Philatelic Bureau.

A survey will be carried out by The Post Office during the experimental period to test customer reaction to the new design.

The 1879 1d Tender

On 3 April 1879 the Board of the Inland Revenue invited seven firms to submit tenders to print the 1d postage stamps. The existing contract with Perkins, Baron and Co was due for renewal so the Inland Revenue took advantage of this to try and obtain a new contract that was both cheaper and was for stamps printed in fugitive colours. One of the firms invited to tender was the De La Rue Company who submitted some 24 designs in the form of Die Proofs on white glazed card, on 17 May 1879. Four different heads were used in various combinations with 6 different frames.

This month's 'Gem' from the Reginald M Phillips Collection illustrates three of these Da La Rue essays. These have different frames but all feature the unused head with Imperial Crown and no ribbon. Visitors to the National Postal Museum can see these particular essays in volume XXXVII/34-43 of the Phillips' Collection where

there is an interesting and comprehensive selection. There are 31 die proofs in black on glazed card, some showing progressive work on the head only while others have complete or partially complete frames. There are also 3 die proofs of essays for the halfpenny, one penny and 2 pence printed in fugitive colour on glazed card.

The De La Rue Company subsequently went on to win the consolidated contract in 1880 which covered the supply of all postage stamps and postal stationery (except Registered Envelopes) for the next 10 years, and indeed held the printing contract until 1910.

Posting Boxes

No 32. This unusual letter box was once used for collecting letters on a tram in Leeds. Between the wars many of the larger towns had a tram, usually the last of the day, which carried a letter box for the collecting of letters en-route. At the terminus, the box was collected by the postman and taken to the Post Office for emptying. The example seen here is now in the collection of The Tramway Museum at Crich, near Matlock, Derbyshire.



13. M for Military

The military theme on picture postcards is broadly divisible into 'War and Peace', to borrow a phrase (incidentally Tolstoy took part in the Crimean War and afterwards wrote of its horrors in *Tales of Army Life* and similar works). The colourful soldiers' uniforms of the late Victorian and early Edwardian periods are the most attractive to collectors, and there are some very fine picture cards produced by a handful of military artists who were specialists in the subject – Harry Payne, Richard Caton-Woodville, Ernest Ibbetson, J McNeill and F O'Beirne.

Harry Payne's forte was the peacetime soldier or officer of the many different regiments in full dress uniform ('Number One's'), and among the first postcards published by Raphael Tuck at the turn of the century were numerous individually-numbered cards with the series title, 'British Army'. Later came the Tuck 'Oilettes' in sets of six for the different fighting regiments – Scots Guards, 21st Lancers etc., 'The Military in London', 'Life at Aldershot' and several series of 'Regimental Badges and their Wearers'. The 'Royal Horse Artillery' and other sets depicted Harry Payne's talent in portraying horses, which

were the subject of separate (non-military) studies. His cards were also published by Gale and Polden of Aldershot and by Stewart and Woolf.

Gale and Polden published more than a hundred cards with the series title 'British Army (History & Traditions)', the illustrations of regimental uniforms being accompanied by title, crest and historical record, and also produced a series of 'Regimental Badges'. John McNeill and Ernest Ibbetson were the principal artists, while F O'Beirne pictured regimental uniforms for the pioneer postcard publishers, Blum and Degen.

Wars and battles of past centuries were pictured by John McNeill and R Caton-Woodville, J A Stewart and others. The card illustrated here shows McNeill's conception of the charge of the Fusiliers – 1st and 2nd battalions of the Royal Fusiliers and the 1st Royal Welsh Fusiliers – at Albuhera (or Albuera), Spain, on 16 May 1811, during the Peninsular War, 1808 to 1814. The battle was won by General (later Baron and 1st Viscount) William Beresford who scored a decisive victory over the French forces of Marshal Soult. The card was published by George Falkner & Sons.

The Boer War in South Africa (1899-1902) gave postcard publishers their first opportunity to 'cash in' on the loyalty, patriotism and often maudlin sentimentality of the people at home. Artist-drawn battle scenes, personalities (Baden-Powell, Kitchener, Roberts etc), the relief of Ladysmith and Mafeking, and Boer-inspired satire were featured. Japanese cards were the most prolific souvenirs of the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-05,



while several British publishers produced maps of the war zone.

World War I is an immense subject for the picture postcard collector, summarised (from the *Gibbons Postcard Catalogue*) as follows: Air Warfare (bomb damage, Zeppelins etc); Fund Raising/Welfare (including the famous 'Arf a Mo Kaiser' card by Bert Thomas and charity cards); Heroes/Personalities/Soldiers; Humour (anonymous and artist-signed comic cards); Land Warfare (including the Daily Mail series – about 176 official cards); Patriotism/Propaganda/Sentiment (British, French and German classifications); Peace/Victory (national rejoicing); Sea Warfare; Silk Cards (embroidered or woven, featuring military badges, personalities and 'flames' ie burning cities); and Women at War (nursing the most common theme).

MALCOLM JAMES

New 'Country' Definitive Postage Stamps

New 12½p, 15½p, 19½p, and 26p 'Country' definitive stamps for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, will be issued on 24 February 1982. The design will be similar to the current range of 'Country' stamps.

Each stamp will be available from Post Offices in the appropriate country, and all twelve stamps may be obtained from the British Post Office Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT, and philatelic sales counters.

Separate First Day Covers, price 14p each, and pictorial handstamps will be provided by the Post Office for each of the countries. The three covers will be available from the Philatelic Bureau, and from all philatelic sales counters. Each country's covers will be available from Head Offices in the respective country.

For bulk orders, obtainable from the Bureau only, the costs are as follows:

250 for £25.00 or 1000 for £80.00.

The Philatelic Bureau will provide the following services for First Day Covers.

SERVICE A

The Official Post Office cover will be addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required, and given all four stamps, cancelled as requested with a Philatelic Bureau Edinburgh: Cardiff: Edinburgh or Belfast pictorial handstamp and despatched.

SERVICE B

Customers own pre-addressed covers will be

given the four stamps, cancelled and despatched.

Charges

	Inland	Overseas
Service A	£1.11½	97p
Deposit Account		
Customers	£1.06½	92½p
Service B	97½p	85p

Application forms for these services are available from the Philatelic Bureau and all Head Post Offices, and should be returned to the Philatelic Bureau by 15 February 1982.

For customers who wish to post their own covers on the day of issue, first day of issue cancellations will be in use at all offices which normally provide them in each of the three countries, and at thirty-three philatelic counter offices in England. Also on that day, the normal reposting facility will apply for special cancellations in use at each of the three countries' capitals. Covers bearing the 'Country' stamps may be sent under cover to the Head Postmasters of Belfast, Edinburgh and Cardiff, marking the outer, 'First Day of Issue Cancellation'.

Technical Details

Two printers are involved in the production of these latest issues – The House of Questa has printed the stamps for Wales and Northern Ireland and John Waddington of Kirkstall those for Scotland.

Printed by the off-set litho process, the 15½p, 19½p and 26p stamps are printed on phosphor-coated paper; the 12½p stamps bearing a single phosphor bar are printed on fluorescent-coated paper.

Book Reviews

Stoneham Catalogue of British Stamps – 1982 Edition

Retail Price: £5.95 (UK only)

The fifth edition of this now well established annual publication is currently available.

It is essentially the 'Collectors' Catalogue for British Stamps, reflecting the true market values of all the issued stamps of Great Britain at the time of going to press, published independently of the stamp trade.

Produced at the end of a year when some stamp values have fallen as a result of the withdrawal of investor interest, the genuine collector is again in a position to collect those more valuable stamps they need at reasonable prices. The collector interest in British Stamps has grown steadily in a period of

economic recession, and this proves the strength of their enthusiasm.

The new edition has 24 additional pages and now includes a full listing of GB Control Stamps. Another innovation is that all price changes from the previous edition are in bold type for quick reference.

The **STONEHAM** is the only comprehensive catalogue covering all the postage stamps of Great Britain, Jersey, Guernsey and the Isle of Man published in *one single volume*.

Available from: Stoneham Publications Ltd, Stoneham Park, EASTLEIGH, Hampshire SO5 3HT.

'Collect First Day Covers'

This is the tenth edition of a collectors' guide to Great Britain first day and commemorative covers. With more than 20,000 being sold annually this book is becoming the standard work of reference for first day cover collectors. Highly recommended, it is well worth its price of £1.75. It can be obtained from stamp shops, bookshops (including W H Smith) or direct from the publisher, B B Philatelic Publications Ltd, Ashton-under-Hill, EVESHAM, Worcestershire WR11 6TB at £2.00 including postage and packing.

The Postal History Annual 1981

James A Mackay

Price £3.36 (UK) £4.00 (overseas)

Available by post from the Author at:

11 Newall Terrace,

DUMFRIES DS1 1LN

Scotland

When Mr Mackay first published his multi-volume textbook on British Postmarks a few years ago he also devised a system for annually updating the text by means of an addendum. Inevitably the new material was soon followed by correspondence and snippets of opinion from all over the world.

This is the third such Postal History Annual and like its predecessors it not only performs its task of bringing the main work right up to date but also makes a spanking good read in its own right.

Any reader whose interests lie in the field of British postmarking will find this Annual chock full of information. Anyone fortunate enough to possess the main work will find it irresistible. A good deal of the new material is very rare indeed and collectors owe the author a debt of gratitude for his painstaking research.

An excellent read and very good value for money.

Forces Covers

Royal Navy

Captain Robert Falcon Scott RN arrived at the South Pole on 17 January 1912. To commemorate the 70th Anniversary of this courageous achievement, a philatelic cover will be available from 18 January 1982. Bearing a 14p 'National Trust' stamp, it will illustrate the 'Terra Nova', Captain Scott's ship, a portrait of the explorer and a small map of his route to the South Pole. The badge of the British Antarctic Expedition 1912 and the white ensign are also depicted. The stamp is cancelled with BFPS 1759 handstamp illustrating the badge. The cost is 70p.

In addition the cover as above but having the 20p 'National Trust' stamp affixed, signed by Lt Cdr Sir Peter Scott CBE DSC RNR — Captain Scott's son — and Rear Admiral D M Eckersley-Maslin, Flag Officer, Sea Training, Portland (Captain Scott attended his last Naval Review here in 'Terra Nova') will be available, price £1.95.

Alternatively the serviced cover bearing an 18p 'National Trust' stamp signed by Rear Admiral Eckersley-Maslin only will cost £1.15.

Orders with remittances made payable to 'FAA Museum', should be sent to: RN Philatelic Officer, Fleet Air Arm Museum, RNAS, Yeovilton, YEOVIL, Somerset BA22 8HL, with a 7" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

Royal Air Force

RFDC 8 cover depicts a winter military scene and will be flown from RAF Odiham to Bethlehem, Llandeilo, Dyfed. The return flight is via RAF Brize Norton to Headquarters of the British Forces Post Office, Mill Hill, London.

The cover will bear all five 'Christmas' 1981 stamps cancelled with a Bethlehem postmark on 18 November 1981. The cost is £2.50 plus 20p postage and packing. Overseas customers should add 55p. Orders should be sent to: The Project Officer, Flt Lt F W Waters, Royal Air Force Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, LONDON NW9 5LL.

FF29 This cover commemorates the 70th Anniversary of the first flight from London to Paris, and was flown in an Army Air Corps 'Beaver' aircraft. It illustrates a 'Bleriot XI' aircraft. An 11½p 'Scottish' country definitive stamp is affixed cancelled by a special BFPS handstamp 1734 dated 11 April 1981. In addition, the cover as above — bearing a 12p 'Scottish' country definitive stamp — signed by the pilot of the

aircraft, is also available. The prices are 75p for the unsigned cover and £1.05 for the signed version, plus 20p postage and packing. For overseas customers add 55p. Orders should be sent to: The Project Officer, Flt Lt J Morgan, Royal Air Force, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, LONDON NW9 5JA.

FF30 commemorates the 40th Anniversary of the first UK jet flight. This cover, flown in a Panavia Tornado aircraft, illustrates the Gloster E29/38 flying above the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell. It has an 11½p 'Welsh' country definitive affixed cancelled with a BFPS 1735 handstamp dated 15 May 1981. The charge is 75p. Also, at a cost of £1.05, the cover bearing a 12p 'Scottish' country definitive, signed by the pilot of the Tornado is currently available. 20p should be added to the above charge for postage and packing. Overseas customers are required to add 55p. Orders should be sent to The Project Officer, Mrs D Bloomfield, RAF Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon LONDON, NW9 5LL.

RAFAC2 This cover was flown in a Whirlwind helicopter to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the first United Kingdom Aerial Post — Hendon to Windsor. It has an 11½p 'Northern Ireland' country definitive affixed, cancelled on 11 September 1981 with BFPS handstamp 1912. The cost is 75p. Signed by the pilot, the cover bearing a 12p 'Northern Ireland' country definitive stamp is available for £1.05. In both cases 20p extra should be added for postage and packing, and for overseas customers, 55p. Orders should be sent to: The Project Officer, Flt Lt F W Waters, Royal Air Force Museum, Aerodrome Road, Hendon, LONDON NW9 5LL.

Commemorative Covers

Maer Hall Tribute to Charles Darwin

The Staffordshire village of Maer will be issuing a commemorative cover, 10 February 1982 as its tribute to the Charles Darwin Centenary.

The cover features Maer Parish Church where, in 1839 Charles Darwin married Emma Wedgwood whose father Josiah, of Maer Hall had been instrumental in Darwin accepting Captain Fitzroy's invitation to join the Survey ship HMS 'Beagle' on a voyage of exploration.

Serviced covers bearing a 15½p 'Darwin' special stamp, cancelled with a pictorial handstamp depicting the entrance gate and clock tower at Maer Hall will cost £1. Alternatively a set of four

covers bearing one of each of the four Charles Darwin Special Issue Stamps will cost £4.

Proceeds from the sales will be donated to the Maer Parish Church and Maer Cricket Club.

Orders with remittances payable to 'Maer Village Stamp Account', should be forwarded to "The Maer Hall Cover", Maer Hall, Maer, NEWCASTLE, Staffs ST5 5EF accompanied by a 9" x 5" S.A.E.

Charles Darwin

The Charles Darwin Foundation and the Wildlife Trust are collaborating to produce a commemorative cover to assist the conservation and research efforts of both organisations.

The cover bears a reproduction in full colour of a specially created watercolour painting by Sir Peter Scott of wild life on South Plaza Island, Galapagos Archipelago.

There are five versions of the cover each with the following coats of arms and emblem, and appropriate special cancellations: Type A Darwin College (named in honour of Charles Darwin) and Cambridge postmark; Type B Christ's College (at which Darwin attended as a student) and Cambridge postmark; Type C Shrewsbury School (attended by Darwin as a pupil) and Shrewsbury postmark; Type D Borough of Shrewsbury and Atcham (his birthplace) and Shrewsbury postmark; Type E Slimbridge (Headquarters, The Wildlife Trust and home of Sir Peter Scott) and Slimbridge postmark.

All covers will have a full set of the 'Darwin' stamps affixed and cancelled on 10 February 1982. The cost is £2.50 each. In addition a limited number of the covers, signed by distinguished internationally known signatories, will also be available for a donation above the basic charge.

Type A cover signed by S Dillon Ripley for a donation of £5.50.

Type B cover signed by G T Corley Smith for a donation of £3.50.

Type C cover signed by Harold Jefferson Coolidge for a donation of £5.50.

Type D cover signed by David Attenborough for a donation of £3.50.

Type E cover signed by Sir Peter Scott for a donation of £3.50.

Order forms are available from:— Charles Darwin Cover, Administrative Officer, The Wildfowl Trust, SLIMBRIDGE, Gloucester GL2 7BT.

Schneider Trophy Flown Cover

To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Britain's

outright win of the Schneider Trophy, a limited edition of 2000 covers is now available having been flown in a replica of the Supermarine S5 aircraft. The covers illustrate the winning S6B seaplane, and are cancelled with a pictorial handstamp which includes the words, 'The Schneider Trophy 50th Anniversary 1931-1981 Calshot Southampton 13 Sept. 81'.

All covers are numbered and certified as having been flown in the S5 replica. The cost is £2 each. Orders with remittances made payable to 'G K Eldridge', should be sent to Mr G K Eldridge, 29 Chalk Hill, West End, SOUTHAMPTON, SO3 3BY.

University of Leicester

David Attenborough Exhibition

Leicester University is currently celebrating a double jubilee – 60 years from its foundation as a University college, and 25 years since the granting of its Charter as a University. As part of the celebrations the University is arranging an exhibition by David Attenborough entitled, 'Tribal Encounters', and sponsoring a commemorative cover marking the event. The cover, bearing a single 15½p 'Darwin' stamp, will cost 95p. In addition the cover with all four 'Darwin' stamps affixed, will be available at £2.95; a limited number of these signed by David Attenborough will also be available price £6.75 each. The covers will be cancelled with a pictorial handstamp on 10 February 1982 – the day of issue of the 'Darwin' centenary stamps.

Orders with remittances made payable to 'A G Bradbury' should be sent to A G Bradbury, 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER LE2 6FJ.

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

To coincide with the issue of the 'Darwin' stamps on 10 February 1982 the RSPB has commissioned Wildlife artist, Norman Arlott, to design a unique memorial cover which will bear the four stamps, cancelled on the first day of issue with a special pictorial handstamp, priced at £2.20 each.

Also available: a limited edition of 250 covers autographed by David Gentleman at £10 each plus 20p postage; 500 autographed by Max Nicholson CB CVO – President of the RSPB – at £5 each plus 20p postage; 500 autographed by Norman Arlott, at £5 each plus 20p postage.

If covers are to be sent to more than one location please add 20p for each despatch and appropriate additional postage if the order is to be sent overseas.

Covers will be dispatched in an outer cover. Order with remittances made payable to 'RSPB' should be sent to Dept FDCI, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, SANDY, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL. Please allow 28 days from 10 February for delivery.

Special Bird Art Exhibition, Bedford

An art exhibition and sale will be held at the Central Library, Harpur Street, BEDFORD MK40 1PG from 3 February 1982 – 27 February 1982 (excluding Sundays). Many well-known bird artists will exhibit including Norman Arlott, Peter Hayman and Michael Warren. Admission is free.

Stewart Petty Charity Appeals

Charles Darwin died on 19 April 1882 at Down House his home for forty years. The house is now the Charles Darwin Memorial, in the care of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, who, in association with the Stewart Petty Charity Appeals, are producing a commemorative cover bearing a full set of 'Darwin' stamps cancelled with pictorial handstamp dated 10 February 1982. The cover illustrates an embossed profile portrait in Wedgwood Blue of Darwin in latter years, together with his signature. The cost, inclusive of return postage and packing, is £2.75, of which 50p will be donated to the Down House Fund. Orders with remittances made payable to, 'Stewart Petty Charity Appeals' should be sent to Stewart Petty Charity Appeals, Freepost, WEYBRIDGE, Surrey KT13 0BR.

Philatelic Bulletin

Editor John Memmott

Assistant Editor Frank Branch

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