

Philatelic Bulletin



Volume 3: Number 8 April 1966



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Introduction

Further details of the new landscape issue are printed in this edition and the first day cover service for the World Cup issue is announced. We are grateful to our readers who send us suggestions for improving the Bulletin and we shall adopt them whenever possible. We have one or two exciting ideas under consideration and hope to announce details shortly.

World Cup Stamps

The World Cup football championship is to be played in England this year and to mark the occasion three stamps value 4d, 6d and 1s 3d are to be issued on 1st June, 1966. The stamps will be issued with and without phosphor lines.

Full details of the designs and artists will be given in the May edition of the Bulletin.

The Bureau will offer its normal first day cover service using specially designed envelopes for the World Cup issue, at 5s per cover and will service customers' own envelopes for 3s each.

In addition special philatelic posting boxes will be provided at the offices listed below for the use of those who wish to prepare and post their own covers. The special envelopes will be available in advance from the Bureau and the philatelic posting box offices at 6d each. For bulk orders (from the Bureau only):

250 £4 3s 4d	1,000 £15	5,000 £60
500 £8	2,500 £33	10,000 £104

(Plus 2/6 handling charge)

Special presentation packs containing the three mint plain stamps will be on sale from the Bureau and the offices mentioned below. In addition to the stamps the pack will contain information about the artistic and technical details of them and the production processes etc.

Each pack will cost 3s plus the handling charge of 6d for orders of under 10s and 2s 6d for orders of 10s and over, if ordered from the Bureau. For order of 100 or more from the Bureau the charge will be 2s 6d per pack plus 2s 6d handling charge.

List of offices with philatelic posting boxes:

London E.C.D.O. (Chief Office).
Trafalgar Square B.O. WC2.
London S.W.D.O.

Aberdeen	Leeds
Aberystwyth	Leicester
Belfast	Lincoln
Birmingham	Liverpool
Blackpool	Llandudno
Bournemouth	Londonderry
Bradford	Luton
Brighton	Maidstone
Bristol	Manchester
Cambridge	Middlesbrough
Cardiff	Newcastle upon Tyne
Carlisle	Newport, Mon.
Chelmsford	Northampton
Chester	Norwich
Colchester	Nottingham
Colwyn Bay	Oxford
Coventry	Peterborough
Croydon	Plymouth
Derby	Portsmouth
Douglas, Isle of Man	Preston
Dundee	Reading
Edinburgh	Romford
Eastbourne	Sheffield
Exeter	Shrewsbury
Fareham	Skegness
Glasgow	Southampton
Gloucester	Southend on Sea
Grimsby	Stockport
Guernsey	Stockton on Tees
Harrogate	Stoke on Trent
Harrow	Swansea
Hastings	Swindon
Hounslow	Taunton
Hull	Tunbridge Wells
Ipswich	Wolverhampton
Jersey	Worcester
Kingston on Thames	York

Any addition to this list will be printed in the May Bulletin.

New Landscape Stamps

The stamps to be issued on 2nd May, 1966 in the 4d, 6d, 1s 3d and 1s 6d denominations break with tradition in that they are the first British special stamps not to be linked to some current event or important anniversary, and that they have a cameo portrait of the Queen.

The Queen has for this issue consented to the use of a profile portrait derived from the head used on UK coinage. Its use on this occasion will give the Post Office some idea of public reaction to a change from the traditional portrait but it will not prejudice the selection of a new profile portrait for the permanent issue stamps or future special issues.

These first pictorial stamps show landscape views of the four countries. The 4d stamp printed in black, blue and green depicts a Sussex country scene. The 6d stamp illustrates a sea and country landscape in Antrim, Northern Ireland and will be printed in black, blue and green. A view of Harlech Castle will be featured on the 1s 3d stamp in black, blue and yellow while the 1s 6d denomination shows an autumn landscape in the Cairngorm Mountains in Scotland in black, blue and orange.

In all cases the profile portrait of the Queen is on a blue panel on the right of the stamp, with the denomination underneath. The head faces to the left.

All four stamps which will be horizontal and twice normal size were designed by Leonard Rosoman. They will be photogravure printed by Messrs Harrison & Sons Ltd, and will be issued with and without phosphor bands.

Mr Rosoman, who is a newcomer to Great Britain stamp designing, was born in Hampstead, London. He was educated at Deacons School Peterborough, Durham University, the Royal Academy School and the Central School of Art. He has exhibited in several London art galleries and his work has been bought by galleries and museums all over the world. He has painted murals for the Festival of Britain, the British Pavilion at the Brussels World Fair, Edinburgh University and others.

He is at present a tutor at the Royal College of Art.

The designs are in accordance with the recommendations of the Postmaster General's Stamp Advisory Committee set up by the Council of Industrial Design. The present membership of the Committee is: Mr James Fitton, RA, FSIA (Chairman), The Lady Sempill, ARCA, Mr Milner Gray, RDI, FSIA, Professor R. Guyatt, FSIA, ARCA, Mr Abram Games OBE, FSIA, Sir John Wilson, Bart, KCVO, and Mr F. H. K. Henrion, MBE, RDI.

Philatelic Posting Boxes — Landscape Issues

A philatelic posting box will be provided at Coventry. This is in addition to those offices shown on page 4 of the March Bulletin.

Postmark Slogans

Since we have been reproducing specimens of special postmark slogans there has been a large increase in the number of covers sent to the various Head Postmasters for re-posting. It has been found difficult to provide a satisfactory impression on some of the covers because of their flimsy nature and we would suggest that 'stiffeners' be inserted in the covers to overcome this difficulty.

While on the subject of postmarks it has been reported that some collectors send under

cover to Head Postmasters previously used envelopes bearing a current special stamp issue with application for cancellation and re-posting in order to obtain covers bearing more than one cancellation.

We must make it clear that an envelope which has previously been used for postal purposes, unless suitably reconditioned by completely covering all old postage stamps and impressions, must not be re-used. We are sorry, therefore, that requests for the treatment of such items cannot be complied with.

'Buckhaven and Methil The 'Quay' to Industrial Development' will be in use in the transposed position at Leven, Fife, during the period 2nd May, 1966 to 11th February, 1967. The current slogan 'Buckhaven and Methil for Industrial Expansion' will now terminate on 1st May, 1966. Covers for reposting to Head Postmaster, Leven.

Specimen not available

'For Industrial Sites in Carlisle Apply Town Clerk' and 'Carlisle for Tourists' will be in use in the transposed position at Carlisle, Cumberland during the period 4th May 1966 to 3rd May 1967. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Carlisle.

Specimen not available

'East Kilbride Scotland's First New Town' will be in use in the transposed position at East Kilbride, Glasgow during the period 15th April 1966 to 14th April 1967. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Glasgow.



'Kelso' has been in use in the transposed position at Kelso, Roxburghshire since 8th March 1966 and will continue in use until 7th March 1967. Covers for reposting to Head Postmaster, Kelso.

Specimen not available

'Salisbury July 24 to Sept. 18 1966 Son et Lumière' will be in use in the transposed position at Salisbury, Wilts. during the period 2nd May to 18th September 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Salisbury.



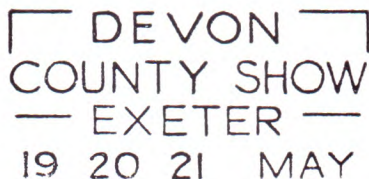
'World Cup City Sheffield City of Steel' will be in use on three dies in the standard position at Sheffield during the periods 19th May to 12th June and 28th June to 31st July 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Sheffield.

Specimen not available

'August 24-25-26 Southport Flower Show' will be in use in the transposed position at Southport, Lancs. during the period 7th April to 23rd August 1966. The present slogan 'Southport All-Year-Round Resort' will finish on 6th April 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Southport.

Specimen not available

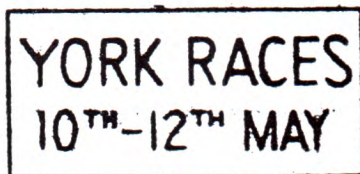
'Devon County Show Exeter 19-20-21 May' will be in use in the transposed position on three dies at Exeter, Devon; Plymouth, Devon; and Barnstaple, Devon during the period 22nd April to 19th May 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmasters concerned.



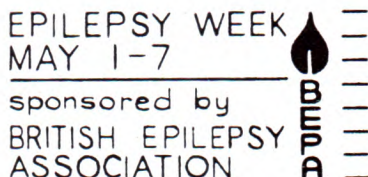
'R.N.A.S. Yeovilton Open Day 9 July Museum Open Daily' will be in use in the transposed position at Yeovil, Somerset during the period 28th April to 9th July 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Yeovil.

Specimen not available

'York Races 10th-12th May' will be in use in the transposed position at York during the period 18th April to 7th May. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, York.



'Epilepsy Week 1-7 May sponsored by British Epilepsy Association', will be in use in the standard position at 19 offices including Birmingham, Leicester, Nottingham and in use in the transposed position at Gosport, Hants, during the period 1-7th May 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmasters concerned.



'1945-1966 Remploy 21st Anniversary Year' will be in use in the standard position as follows:



Office	No. of Dies	Period
Cardiff	One	20th April to 4th May '66
Manchester	Two	3rd-17th May '66
Sheffield	Three	13th-27th June '66
Bristol	Three	29th June-13th July '66
Newcastle	Three	30th Aug.-13th Sept '66
Glasgow	Three	4th-18th October '66
London		
Western District Office	One	} 8th-22nd
North District Office	One	
East District Office	One	} November
Western District Office	One	
S.W District Office	One	} 16th August
Mount Pleasant	One	
		} to 22nd Nov.
		} 1966.

Covers for reposting to the Head Postmasters and District Postmasters, in London, concerned.

Special Handstamps

(specimens not available)

The following special handstamps will be used at the local events as shown:

'Kent Federation of Philatelic Societies Sittingbourne, Kent' at Sittingbourne, Kent on 21st May 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Sittingbourne.

'20th Yorkshire Philatelic Convention 21st May 66 Rotherham' at Rotherham, Yorkshire on 21st May 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Rotherham.

'5th European Table Tennis Championships Wembley Middx' at Wembley, Middlesex during the period 13-20th April 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Harrow and Wembley.

'Health Congress R.S.H. Blackpool Lancs.' at Blackpool, Lancs during the period 25-29th April 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Blackpool.

'Tynemouth North Shields 17th N.E.P.A. Convention' at Tynemouth, Northumberland on 16th April 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, North and South Shields.

'F.M.A.P.S. Convention Wembley Middx' at Wembley, Middlesex on 23rd April 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Harrow and Wembley.

'Oxford 1,000 Years Polish Christianity' at Oxford on 12th June 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Oxford.

'Scottish Annual Philatelic Congress Bridge of Allan' at Bridge of Allan, Stirlingshire on 16th April 1966. Covers for reposting to Head Postmaster, Stirling.

'Documentary and Philatelic Exhibition 1000 Years of Polish Christian Culture 966-1966 Birmingham' at Birmingham during the period 29th April to 1st May 1966. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Birmingham.

'Documentary and Philatelic Exhibition 1000 Years of Polish Christian Culture 966-1966 London SW7' at South Western District Office during the period 21-24th May 1966. Covers for reposting to the District Postmaster, S.W.D.O.

'Centenary of Elected House of Keys 5th July 1966 St Johns, Isle of Man' at St Johns Isle of Man on 5th July. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Douglas, Isle of Man.

'Ballater Aberdeenshire Highland Games 18th August 1966' at Ballater, Aberdeenshire on 18th August. Covers for reposting to the Head Postmaster, Aberdeen.

The Line Engraved Process

Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co Ltd have been specializing in the printing of security documents for over a hundred years. Not least in importance by any means amongst the documents they print are postage stamps.

It might be said that the company was born in 1824 when William Bradbury came to London from Derbyshire to establish himself as a printer in Fleet Street. In 1830 he formed a partnership with Frederick Mullet Evans thus founding the company of Bradbury and Evans who were publishers of 'Punch' and founders of the 'Daily News' and other publications. It was not until 1860 when Robert Wilmot Wilkinson, a celebrated copper plate printer at that time, joined the firm that a separate company was formed under the title of Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. Only then did this company begin to specialize in the designing, engraving and printing of banknotes, stamps and other documents of a security nature.

As well as printing stamps for governments all over the world, Bradbury, Wilkinson supply all the high value stamps (2s 6d upwards) of the present definitive issue to the General Post Office.

In this day and age of innumerable commemorative issues, it is perhaps refreshing to come across a stamp which relies for its appeal more on the dignity and craftsmanship of its execution than on the multiplicity of its colouring. Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. recently produced a notable example of such a stamp, the 2s 6d denomination commemorating the 900th anniversary of Westminster Abbey, printed by the recess process.

This process necessitates the original design being engraved by hand on a mild steel die.

As can be appreciated this requires a high degree of specialized skill.

The engraver works from an approved photograph of his subject. On the reverse side of a transparency made from this photograph he will trace all the details he wishes to incorporate in the engraving with a sharp steel point. The recesses thus made in the celluloid are filled with graphite or yellow ochre; the piece of film is turned over, placed on the steel to be engraved, which will previously have been coated with an acid resisting ground, and the back of the film gently rubbed. The purpose of this rubbing is to transfer the features outlined in graphite or yellow ochre onto the steel.

The engraver will then mark through the acid resisting ground with a sharp steel point following exactly the details of the tracing. When this has been completed, any remnants of the graphite or ochre are wiped off and the die is covered with acid for a very brief space. The acid will etch the die where the ground has been broken, but only just enough to shew what is to be engraved once the ground has been removed. It is not until this stage has been reached that the engraver is ready to begin actually cutting the steel with his 'graver', the tool used for this purpose.

The varying tones of any subject, be it a portrait or a vignette, are interpreted in terms of a series of lines and dots of different depth and strength. It can be readily appreciated that as all this work is done by hand, it might take as much as four or five weeks for an original die to be completed. From time to time working proofs will be pulled to show the progress of the engraving, and when the engraver is eventually satisfied with his work a final proof is submitted to the customer for approval.

Commemorative Stamps available from Philatelic Bureau

If this proof is approved, then the die will be hardened. This is to allow a soft steel cylinder to be rolled over the die under considerable pressure so that the impression will be taken up in relief. The cylinder will in turn be hardened and used for rolling out perfect replicas of the original die onto a large steel plate. A sheet proof will be taken off the plate, and once this has been passed the plate itself can be curved to fit the printing machines and then hardened. Finally the printing surface will be chromium plated.

At this stage the plate passes from the engravers to the printers. It will be affixed to a rotary intaglio printing press where, basically, four operations are carried out: inking, wiping, polishing and printing. Ink is applied to the plate in fairly liberal quantities to ensure that all the recesses are filled. The plate is then wiped clean and polished to remove all traces of ink left on the surface of the plate. At this point a sheet of paper is fed into the machine between the printing plate and impression cylinder. Enormous pressure is exerted as the sheet is being printed in order to force all the ink in the recesses of the plate onto the paper.

Each sheet has to be interleaved with waxed paper as it comes off the machine to prevent the imprint smudging or 'setting off' on the sheet above it in the stack. When the ink has dried the stamps are examined to eliminate any printing errors. They are then perforated and given a further stringent examination to ensure that no imperfect stamps are delivered to the post office concerned. A balance certificate is later drawn up to shew the quantity of paper received at the factory, the stamps delivered to the customer, and the waste material left from the printing.

Only the highest standard of printing, examination and security control have enabled Bradbury, Wilkinson and Co. Ltd to retain their reputation of unsurpassed excellence in the specialized crafts of line engraving and recess printing for over a century.

Battle of Britain	4d,* 9d, 1s 3d
Post Office Tower	3d, 1s 3d
20th Anniversary of the U.N.	3d, 1s 6d
I.T.U.	9d, 1s 6d
Robert Burns	4d, 1s 3d
Westminster Abbey	3d

**in blocks of 6*

All stamps are available with or without phosphor lines, except I.T.U. 1s 6d.

Withdrawal of Bureau Stock Items

The following issues will be withdrawn from sale on the dates shown:

Battle of Britain	31st May 1966
Post Office Tower	30th June 1966
United Nations	30th June 1966
I.T.U.	30th June 1966

Stocks of Westminster Abbey 2s 6d and presentation packs are exhausted and no further orders can be taken.

Conditions

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

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

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



Michael Goaman

Stop Press

Landscape Pictorial Stamps

In addition to the list of Philatelic Posting Boxes shown on page four of the March Bulletin, boxes will be available at the following offices: Coventry, Sunderland, Harlech, Grantown-on-Spey, Coleraine, Lewes Sussex.

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