

Philatelic Bulletin

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Philypia Souvenir Edition



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INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS

SPECIAL HANDSTAMPS

Two covers will be issued by the Royal Air Force Museum during September. No. 1 in the series will be issued on 7 September for cancellation by the special handstamp British Forces Postal Service 1119 which includes in its design the badge of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors. The cover, which will commemorate the Farnborough Air Show, will depict the B.E.2 Aeroplane designed by the late Sir Geoffrey de Havilland, at the Royal Aircraft Factory, Farnborough. Fully-serviced covers, which will be flown in one of the most up-to-date aeroplanes in the world, and suitably cacheted, are available at a cost of 5s each from:

The Philatelic Officer
RAF Upavon
Pewsey, Wilts

The 30th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain will be commemorated on 19 September by the issue of cover No. 29 in the series. It depicts a three-quarter front view of the Hawker Hurricane which Group Captain Douglas Bader, CBE, DSO, DFC, RAF(Ret'd), flew when he was a Squadron Leader commanding No. 242 Squadron at Coltishall. All covers will be flown in the RAF's last air-worthy Hurricane, which is part of the 'Battle of Britain Flight' based at RAF Coltishall, and will bear a suitable cachet.

Fully-serviced covers bearing the 5d Alcock & Brown stamp are available, at 5s each, from:

The Philatelic Officer
RAF Coltishall
Norwich
NOR 647

A further cover (not in the series) will be issued by The Philatelic Officer, RAF Cardington, Bedford, on 26 September to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of First Air-mail Service – the French authorities during the Siege of Paris in 1870 arranged for mail and passengers to be flown out of Paris by balloon on a regular basis. These covers, costing 10s each will be flown by balloon across the English Channel and will receive appropriate cachets.

A Personal Message from the Chairman of the Post Office



I am privileged to contribute to this special Philypia edition of the *Philatelic Bulletin* and I am certain that all those visiting the Exhibition will find much to interest them.

As Chairman, I speak for all in the British Post Office of the pride we hold in the significant part it has played in the development of the postage stamp – in fact, a leading role. It was Rowland Hill of the British Post Office who introduced the world's first adhesive postage stamp in 1840. From those early days the postage stamp has become part of our daily life, so much so that it now plays many significant and diverse parts and it has assumed a special place in today's society and business world. It enables the exchange between all nations of greetings and love between friends and families who may be far apart; it is the vital link for the businessman and his customer; it is the fascination and interest of millions of collectors throughout the world.

We recognize these facts and we decided to

have a National Postal Museum in which to preserve our historic postal heritage. Many of the exhibits normally on show in the National Postal Museum are now on display in the Philypia Exhibition.

While we treasure our history, the Post Office of today is concerned with its present and looking to the future in its business of world-wide communications. Our stamps are our ambassadors: they tell our correspondents at home and overseas something worthwhile about life in Britain. It is our intention that they should tell a story in a meaningful way and, judging from the reception they receive from philatelists everywhere, I believe we are achieving this.

I wish every success to Philypia 1970.

Hill, of Gyn Valley

THE VISCOUNT HALL, OF CYNON VALLEY

The Great Exhibition 1970



Top left : Entrance to cinema and general sales counter for literature and tickets.

Top right : Two sections of the display area.

Bottom left : 7-position philatelic sales counter with supervisor's room.

Bottom right : main island display of sales items and services.

It is no exaggeration to describe Philypia 1970 as the largest and most spectacular of all International Stamp Exhibitions. The massive 66-ft tower of stamps which climbs from the floor of the Empire Hall, Olympia, not only symbolizes the ever-mounting interest in British stamps at home and overseas but also links the floors of this Great Exhibition and points the way to the Post Office stand on the second floor.

The Post Office stand is an 8,000 sq ft exhibition within an exhibition. Taking over one entire side of the second floor it both demonstrates the importance the Post Office attaches to providing philatelists with the many services they require and illustrates the way the

Post Office treasures the tradition it has inherited over the past 130 years and its determination to meet the more rapidly changing challenges of the next decade. For a preview of the stand at home, bend a strip of eight stamps into an octagon and you will have the basic module to which the whole stand is designed. Stamps are more than the stars of this Great Exhibition!

The 2,000 sq ft display area on the stand is a major exercise in its own right. A year's planning has gone into mounting a display of the historic development of British stamps from 1840, through all the significant changes in shape, colour and design to meet operational and aesthetic requirements, to the present day.

Visitors can also see where we are developing to meet the more radical challenges of the 1970s. This display on the Colour Story of British Stamps will uncover new lines of research and interest and show for the first time many historic Post Office treasures in their fascinating, historical context.

And there is a cinema to seat 120 as well. Post Office films won an international reputation in the 1930s and 'Night Mail' is an acknowledged pioneer of the film as a documentary medium. 'Picture to Post', an insight into three stamp designers at work, won the 1969 Academy Award for the best British short film to echo some of our earlier achievements. 'Picture to Post' and two new film productions now nearing completion will be given a continuous performance in the Post Office cinema. Both new films are particularly interesting to philatelists. One recreates in film terms much of what is shown in the Display area.

Philatelists will be taken behind the scenes of colour development in British stamps. Historic occasions are reconstructed from the *1d* Black through the nineteenth century to the present day. We show work behind the 'Cambridge Colour Trials' which are researching a range of colours to meet mechanization and other vital developments for the 1970s.

The other new film in the trio dramatically shows the way in which British special issues depict our British heritage in its many forms. Programme music has been commissioned in four parts to illustrate in musical terms the themes of our historical and cultural heritage from 1066; our pastoral scene of birds, flowers and rural architecture; our artistic treasures from great painters, writers and poets; and our technological achievements that have revolutionized life today.

Free tickets for the cinema performances will be available on the Post Office stand. This is but one more interesting reason for visiting the Post Office Philypia stand.

The Philatelic Bureau at Edinburgh will also have its own inquiry counters beside the cinema and it is expected that many visitors

will welcome the opportunity of discussing specialist questions and finding out more of the opportunities now available from the Bureau.

Many more philatelic items will be made available for the first time from a Philatelic Shop where visitors can browse at their leisure. This is a new departure, but it is hoped that it will open up new areas of exploration for collectors of all ages and interests.

Most important of all will be the philatelic sales counter facilities where the Philypia stamps' first day of issue coincides with the opening of the Exhibition. Twenty-one sales positions in three concentrations will be available to meet the very great interest the Philypia stamps must create for all collectors. It is hoped that everyone will enjoy these greatly extended amenities, the most that have ever been provided at a Philatelic Exhibition.

The whole Post Office stand has been designed around the needs of visitors to obtain the best facilities for preparing their order forms, selecting the issues and items for their collections and enjoying swift and easy posting arrangements for First Day and daily Commemorative covers.

A team of interpreters will also be continuously on hand to help our overseas visitors and we look forward to meeting a Japanese girl in national costume who is flying in from Tokyo. This is but one attractive example of the rapidly growing world-wide interest in British stamps that the Post Office is now promoting and which must gain further momentum from the interest Philypia will create.

Besides the Great Exhibition there is much of interest to philatelists in London. The Post Office has chartered a fleet of minibuses to take parties on expert-conducted tours of the National Postal Museum, behind the scenes at the Post Office Tower and to the Western District Office in the heart of London's West End and a key point on the Post Office's own underground railway. Tour tickets at a nominal charge will be available on the Post Office stand. Tickets will also act as a pass back into Philypia on return from the tours.

Last but not least there will be a Post Office too! Full counter service will be available to demonstrate that there is a whole world of essential services available through the British Post Office.

Philypia is the great 10-year international philatelic event. The Post Office is aiming to do full justice to this occasion with its own exhibition within the exhibition. We are certain it will hold considerable attractions for everyone of every age interested in the history of British stamps, in the new and current issues

available and in the far-reaching developments that are setting the pattern of British stamps over the next decade.

The Post Office looks forward to welcoming to its stand all the readers of the *Philatelic Bulletin* with their friends in Philatelic Clubs throughout Great Britain and overseas. If there is little chance of meeting distant friends during the course of the year, you can arrange to meet them at the Post Office Philypia Stand to share what we aim to make a memorable experience.

Philypia Stamp Book

A special stamp book with a distinctive Philypia cover is on sale at the Exhibition priced 5s.

The book designed by Peter Gauld is the

first to be issued by the British Post Office for such an event and contains twelve 5d stamps and advertisements from philatelic dealers and administrations.



Philypia Stamps by David Gentleman

The final appearance of the Philypia stamps might suggest that they were extremely easy to design; what could possibly be simpler than just laying out a plain design where the drawing had all been done already? But there were certain difficulties and doubts involved, and, as seems to be normal where stamp design is concerned, the hardest thing was to decide how much could be left out. For example, there had been a suggestion that as London was to be the host city this year, the designs might include London scenes as well as the basic idea of 'Stamp on Stamps'.

I had also become very interested in the strange line of development leading up to the Penny Black, which involved the Wyon medal, then Corbould's drawings of it, and finally the engraving itself. This seemed to have the makings of an attractive and interesting set; but finally I felt that it would have been too limited in its appeal – it would have interested the keen stamp collector at the expense of the general public; who would probably have found it very puzzling.

In the end I felt it was wiser to stick to one stamp alone on each design; but which? Should one try to suggest the whole development of British stamps since 1840 and how? The Penny Black (the world's first stamp) was an obvious choice; but which others should be singled out? Finally it was settled that the first design printed by each process would make the best trio. At this point I submitted designs showing only a small portion of the Victorian stamp, each portrait head enlarged to emphasize the differences of the three techniques. These were essayed, and the Penny Black in particular had remarkable quality of detail, but then it was agreed that it would be better to show the whole design, and also the surrounding paper cut or perforated as it had been originally.

I had borrowed three stamps to photograph for my original rough designs; but as all the used examples I could find were too dirty or too indistinct to reproduce well, we finally chose die proofs in the National Postal Museum as



the clearest, crispest originals. They could not all be printed exactly life size, for the shilling green was bigger and over balanced the others, so it was reduced fractionally and the other two very slightly enlarged. And, since the stamps were too big for a normal double size and too small for the $1\sqrt{2}$ proportion used on the Prince of Wales designs, Harrisons made new perforation blocks for a completely new stamp size for this occasion only.

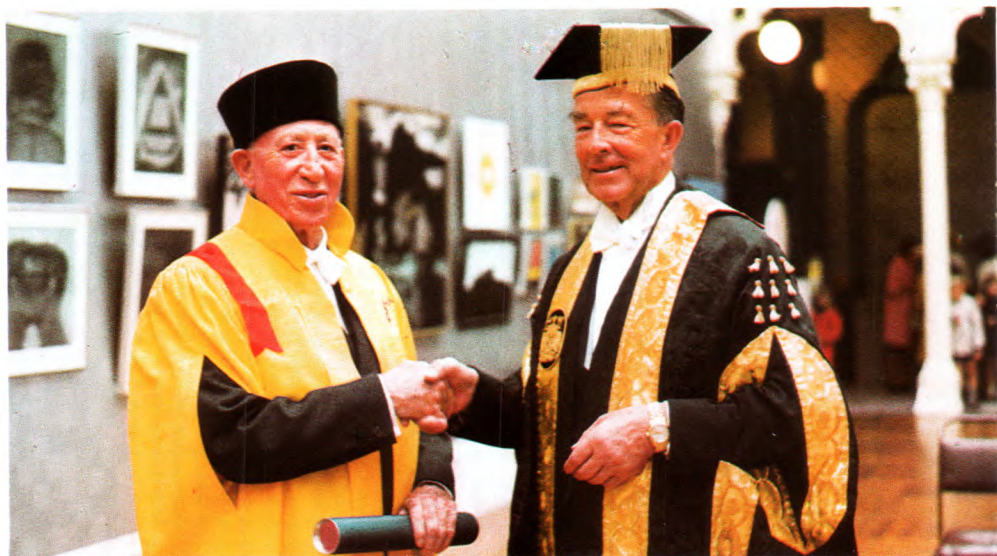
Stamp Carriers

We have occasionally been asked whether we would sell, as a separate item, the stamp carriers which form part of our presentation pack.

We are now offering these blank stamp carriers for sale at the Philatelic Bureau for £1 10s per 100 up to 900, or £1 5s per 100 for orders of 1,000 or more. Minimum order – 100.

They will also be on sale at the PO stand at Philypia, price 4d each.

Reginald M. Phillips Collection



Reginald M. Phillips with Lord Shawcross at the University of Sussex presentation ceremony.

The work of Reginald M. Phillips, CBE, LLD, of Brighton, whose unique collection of nineteenth-century British stamps and their history forms the nucleus of the National Postal Museum, is to philatelists remarkable. To non-philatelists it is little short of awe-inspiring.

The National Postal Museum was founded by Mr Phillips with the object of commemorating the history of British stamps of the Queen Victoria reign and at the same time to create as part of the British Post Office, a national home for Postal History to serve as a permanent and living record of Britain's development of Uniform Postage and invention of the adhesive postage stamp and of the vital contributions made by these far-reaching reforms to international communications.

No such collection had ever previously been formed and today it is a well recognized fact that had the collection been broken up and sold its historic record of the postage stamps of this country, which is now irreplaceable, could never have been saved for posterity and could never have served Great Britain's urgent need for a National Postal Museum.

Mr Phillips, now aged 83, began collecting as a teenager and spent 40 years building up the world's finest specialized collection of British postage stamps of the nineteenth century. He then gave it to the nation for its preservation as a national treasure together with £50,000 in cash for the purpose of founding the National Postal Museum in 1965, so that his life's work might be preserved and passed on for the permanent benefit of the British public.

The story behind the Reginald Phillips collection is a fascinating example of the dedication, patience and insatiable curiosity that is demanded of the great philatelist. In Mr Phillips's case his recognition as such existed among only a few British philatelic experts. Then in 1960 Mr Phillips startled the philatelic world by winning the Grand Prix at the London Stamp Exhibition. As the editor of a leading stamp magazine said shortly afterwards: 'The collection had never been shown before and except for perhaps a dozen people no one knew of its existence let alone its strength.'

The name of R. M. Phillips had however

caught the public eye for the first time in 1959 when he bought the famous block of forty-three unused Penny Blacks for £4,400. This was one of the high points of Mr Phillips's activities since it was during the 1950s that much of his work had been concentrated.

In 1950 two famous stamp collectors Bertram McGowan and J. B. Seymour died. The choicest parts of their collections were acquired by Mr Phillips at sales during the ensuing three years. Both McGowan and Seymour had devoted their themes to line-engraved stamps and it was this and the history of the creation of postage stamps with which Mr Phillips had become completely engrossed. Another major capture came in 1955 when he bought for £20,000 the H. V. C. Adams collection, which had won the Grand Prix in 1950. Despite paying this sum for what was a large collection, Mr Phillips's main objective was to obtain the 'abnormals' contained in the Adams collection.

The steady work of improving and adding to his now rapidly growing and already comprehensive collection continued. There was the acquisition of the Edward Granger collection. Granger had spent 40 years on his collection and stipulated in his will that Mr Phillips should have first refusal of his collection of Great Britain stamps. This proviso was gratefully accepted and put to good use. The collection of Dr Harry Osborne, a retired medical officer and a personal friend of Mr Phillips, was another to yield more valuable additions to the Phillips albums. Dr Osborne was one of the greatest students of philatelic research into line-engraved stamps and often visited Mr Phillips's home at Brighton where the two men talked and pored over their stamps for long hours.

Mr Phillips is a wealthy man. He was the pioneer of specialization in the development of commercial property for investment during the years between the wars. But it would be grossly untrue to assume that wealth alone has helped place Mr Phillips in such high esteem in the philatelic world. He is recognized as a learned and leading expert on the history of the postage

stamp and nineteenth-century British stamps. During those busy years in the 1950s Mr Phillips spent hours every day absorbed in arranging and writing up his displays. He devoted a great deal of time to the study, evidence, statements and comments of fellow philatelic students.

The Phillips collection is of course concerned with the history of all the British postage stamps of the nineteenth century. He sought to acquire, with obvious success, every kind of item that has a bearing on this period. They include, besides the most comprehensive collection of the issued stamps themselves in outstanding condition, the Treasury Competition Essays, Rowland Hill's letters, Corbould's drawings, proofs, trials and official documents.

The patience which was applied to this task is demonstrated by the fact that Mr Phillips waited for ten years to acquire the original manuscript of Rowland Hill's proposals in November 1839 for the formation of the postal service a year later. That manuscript was a prized possession and one of which the Postal Museum is proud.

Mr Phillips has rarely seen his collection since handing it over to the Museum five years ago. He is content that it is giving other philatelists pleasure and encouragement and that it catalogues an important part of social history of the past 130 years. He still spends his time with stamps, mainly the King George V higher values, and is carrying on further research into the history of stamps throughout the world.

Mr Phillips's latest initiative resulted in the setting up of a Philatelic Unit at the University of Sussex which is to run in harness with the National Postal Museum. This project, the first of its kind in the world, is an exciting venture and one that will interest all philatelists.

A few weeks ago the University of Sussex paid tribute to Mr Phillips by conferring upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

His services to the nation were recognized by the award of the CBE in Her Majesty's Birthday Honours List of this year.

The National Postal Museum and Philypia



The very many thousands of overseas and British philatelists coming to London for Philypia should not miss the opportunity of visiting the National Postal Museum, which will be open from 10 am to 5.30 pm each week-day during the Exhibition.

The Museum owes its inception to the enthusiasm and generosity of Mr Reginald M. Phillips, CBE, LLD, of Brighton, who in 1965 donated to the Post Office his unique collection of nineteenth-century British postage stamps which had won the Grand Prix at the London International Exhibition of 1960. This collection of over 2,500 album sheets covers all the issued postage stamps in wonderful condition, together with less usual items such as postal fiscals, railway and parcel stamps, pictorial envelopes and the stamps of private carrier companies. Of outstanding importance is the large section devoted to the conception and introduction Uniform Penny Postage and the world's first adhesive stamps, which is illustrated by many unique items such as the original draft of Rowland Hill's proposals.

The Museum also houses and has on display selected items from the Post Office's own collection which includes the proof and registra-

tion of virtually every issued British postage stamp from 1840 to 1970 as well as a vast collection of twentieth-century proofs, trials, artist drawings and the like. The Museum can thus rightly claim to be able to show an absolutely unmatched collection of the postage stamps of Great Britain.

Also housed in the Museum, and on permanent display, is an almost complete world collection of every postage stamp (and all postal stationery) issued by the member countries of the Universal Postal Union since 1878, as well as many issues prior to that date. This 'Berne' collection is of particular interest to younger collectors and to students of 'specimen' and similar issues.

Starting early in September, the National Postal Museum will also have two specialized exhibitions on view. One, to coincide with the 350th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower Pilgrims from Plymouth to Massachusetts, will illustrate Anglo-American postal relations over the past three centuries, and should particularly appeal to the many US philatelists visiting London this year. The other will show the part played by the famous printing firm of Perkins Bacon in the production of

Britain's line-engraved issues from 1840 to 1879.

Visitors to the Museum will also have the opportunity of attending one or more of a series of special lectures on the social and artistic aspects of postage stamps and showing of films, including John Grierson's classic documentary 'The Night Mail' (1935).

The National Postal Museum is also exhibiting material at Philypia itself. The theme chosen for the eight frames being exhibited by the Museum in the Court of Honour is unissued material covering the four reigns since 1910. In the form of drawings, essays, and proofs this exhibit will illustrate vividly the many problems which must be resolved before any postage stamp is put on sale. Included in the exhibit are four unaccepted designs and sixteen colour trials of the accepted design for the £1 Postal Union Congress commemorative of 1929 (see illustration). Also, of particular

interest, are the essays of a number of issues which, though projected, never went on sale. These include mourning stamps for King George V, coronation stamps for King Edward VIII and a 2½d stamp with the portraits of President Lebrun and King George VI, designed to mark the Anglo-French political union proposed by Sir Winston Churchill early in 1940.

Among the many unique items loaned from the Museum's collections to illustrate the 'Colour in Stamps' display on the Post Office stand at the Exhibition are sheets of the three stamps incorporated in the designs of the Philypia commemorative issue – the 1840 one penny line engraved, the 1847 one shilling embossed and the 1855 surface-printed four-penny. The first of these is one of the two most famous philatelic items in the world – the proof sheet of the Penny Black without corner letters.

A. C. RIGO DE RIGHI

Philatelic Accessories

We have already announced the sale of the illustrated Netto Catalogue from the Bureau and to meet a long-standing demand from philatelists we are now to sell a first-class Great Britain album based on the Netto numbers.

The album will be of the loose-leaf variety and confined to Queen Elizabeth stamps. Each stamp will be illustrated in colour in a reduced size with two or three sets appearing on each page. With this easy method of identifying the various issues the actual stamps may be conveniently mounted over the illustration thus enabling a full and professionally laid out collection to be accumulated. Additional sheets for future issues will be available.

The catalogues and albums will be on sale from our stand at Philypia and from the

philatelic sales counters priced 3s 6d and 29s 6d respectively. They will also be available by post from the Philatelic Bureau, price 4s and 30s post free.

In addition to these essential items we are to sell a map of the British Isles which combines novelty with elegance and features aspects of Britain's postal history together with modern stamps – all in full colour.

Produced by Bartholomew & Sons Ltd the map will have an immediate appeal, and it is no exaggeration to claim that it will grace any philatelist's home framed as a picture or as an addition to the younger generation's collection of wall posters.

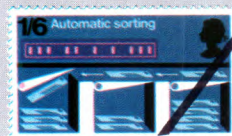
The map will be available at Philypia, the philatelic sales counters, or from the Philatelic Bureau, price 8s.

Special Stamps Available at Philympia

Your dealer will be able to supply stamps issued earlier.

PO Technology

5d 9d 1s 1s 6d
1 October 1969



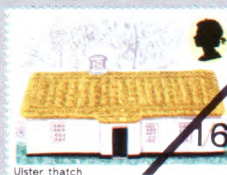
Christmas 1969

4d 5d 1s 6d
26 November 1969



British Rural Architecture

5d 9d 1s 1s 6d
11 February 1970



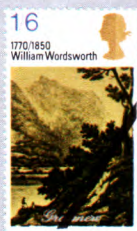
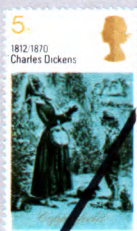
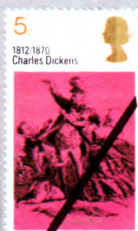
General Anniversaries

5d 9d 1s 1s 6d
1 April 1970



Literary Anniversaries

5d (four stamps) 1s 6d 3 June 1970



IXth British Commonwealth Games

5d 1s 6d 1s 9d
15 July 1970



Philypia

5d 9d 1s 6d
18 September 1970



British Post Office Philatelic Agencies Overseas

To meet the ever increasing demand for British stamps from dealers in certain overseas countries and to supplement the Bureau's services, the British Post Office has established philatelic agencies in USA, Germany and Japan. They are all successfully coping with orders and doing a great deal to help publicize our stamps.

The first, Stan Gib Ltd, was opened in September 1967 and is situated in the heart of New York at 595 Fifth Avenue, New York NY 10017. It was followed in 1968 by the appointment of another British firm, Proud

Bailey & Co Ltd, as agents in Germany and Japan – the German address is Britische Briefmarken – Agentur GmbH, 6 Frankfurt/Main, Kirchnerstrasse 2, and that in Japan is: British and Overseas Philatelic Agency Ltd, 1-7, 3 Chome, Hachobori, Chuo-Ku, Tokyo.

The services of these agencies are restricted to the sale of current stamps to bona fide dealers. They do not handle orders from individual collectors who should contact either the Bureau or their local stamp dealer.

British Post Office Philatelic Bureau

There may be visitors to Philimpia who are not aware of the services offered by our Bureau and for their benefit we list them. The address of the Bureau is 2-4 Waterloo Place, Edinburgh EH1 1AB, Great Britain.

Stamps

All current definitive stamps, postage due labels, stamp booklets, stationery and rolls are available in addition to special stamps issued within the previous twelve months. Orders should be sent by post and should include a handling charge of 6d for orders up to £2 and 3s 9d for orders of £2 and above. (9d and 4s respectively for other than UK or Commonwealth addresses.)

First Day Cover Services

For all special issues and selected other new stamps the Bureau offers first day cover services.

Service A: Under this service an official cover is provided, the address is typed, the complete set of stamps is affixed and cancelled with the Bureau's Special First Day of Issue handstamp. Normal service charge, in addition to the value of the stamps, 2s 2d (or 1s 8d for deposit account holders).

Service B: The Bureau will accept customers' pre-addressed covers, affix the full set of stamps to each cover and cancel the stamps with the Bureau's First Day of Issue handstamp. Normal service charge, in addition to the value of the stamps, 1s.

First Day Covers will not be sent by registered post nor will mint stamps be enclosed.

The specially designed blank covers are available in advance, price 8d each, or in bulk at the following discount rates: 250 – £5. 1,000 – £18.

Deposit Account Services

Customers who make frequent purchases will find it an advantage to deposit money to be credited against future purchases. The Bureau operates two types of deposit account:

Standing Order Accounts: This service is designed for clients who require regular repeat orders of all new issues of stamps or stationery. The system is of special advantage to overseas customers who wish to receive items without delay, but may not always be aware of new issues in time to place orders. Stamps and stationery of all classes, including *Philatelic Bulletin* subscriptions and loose-leaf binder covers, may be purchased in this manner.



The Head Post Office, Edinburgh – home of the Philatelic Bureau.

Non-standing Order Accounts: Customers whose requirements vary from issue to issue simply notify the Bureau of their needs as they arise without remitting money. The cost is deducted from their deposit account, and a card showing the credit balance is sent with each order.

Remittances: Sufficient funds should be advanced for one year's demands. This avoids the need for over-frequent replenishment of accounts, and ensures immediate attention. The credit balance must be adequate before an order can be despatched.

The Philatelic Bulletin

There are twelve issues of the *Philatelic Bul-*

letin, commencing in September each year, and back issues of the current volume are normally available. It is printed in full colour and contains much valuable and often exclusive information about stamp issues, first day cover services, postmark slogans, and many other subjects of interest to philatelists. The annual subscription rates are 10s post free to all parts of the world by surface mail, and £1 8s to overseas addresses by airmail. Copies addressed to countries in Europe are sent by the 'All-up' service for 10s post free.

Loose-leaf Binder Covers for Philatelic Bulletins

A handsome leatherette binder specially de-



Stamps being made up for despatch.

signed to hold 24 copies (2 years) of the *Philatelic Bulletin* is available at 15s per binder, post free by surface mail to any part of the world. As each copy of the *Bulletin* is received it can be quickly and easily inserted into the binder. Whether completely or partly filled it is equally effective, giving the appearance of a leather-bound volume with each page opening flat. Strongly made with stiff covers, each binder has the philatelic crest and title gold-blocked on the spine. It will form an elegant accessory to any stamp collector's library.

Presentation Packs

All special issues are available in the popular Presentation Packs. The packs contain the full set of stamps and details of the artists, the designs and technical details of the printing processes. The packs cost 1s above the face



Hand stamping First-Day Covers.

value of the stamps and bulk purchasers of 100 or more receive a discount of 6d per pack.

In addition special packs are available which contain the high value decimal stamps, the definitive series and an annual Collectors Pack.

Philatelic Sales Counters

For the benefit of visitors and residents we have opened philatelic sales counters at London Chief Office, King Edward Street, EC1, Belfast, Birmingham, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Sheffield and Southampton. At each of these counters the whole range of philatelic items is on sale to customers. The pleasant surroundings and expert staff make each visit a pleasure.

Yes, We Shall Be There—at Philympia 1970



The Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, an organization of philatelic societies and philatelists serving philately in Great Britain, will have staff available to answer questions relating to Congress and the national and international fields in which it can offer assistance, advice and information.

A warm welcome awaits all serious-minded collectors at the spacious congress lounge on the first floor. We welcome also our members of Congress, members of societies affiliated to Congress and the delegates attending the 39th Congress of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie, meeting in London on 28 and 29 September.

On show will be the various annual awards made by Congress – the plaques presented to the newly elected Distinguished Philatelists to commemorate their signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, the silver Congress medal presented for service to philately, the silver plaque given to Authors of Papers presented at the annual Congresses and the silver cups and plaques presented to the winners of the annual Melville Competition for Junior Collectors.

Also on display will be the internationally known 'Roll of Distinguished Philatelists'. To be a Signatory to the 'Roll' is the highest honour that this country can bestow on a collector. It is international, in that it bears 104 signatures from 26 countries in addition to 90 from Great Britain. It is headed by his late Majesty King George V, who personally signed in 1921.

There will also be on show, in 20 frames, a complete collection on cover of the special Congress handstamps used to cancel mail at each Congress since their introduction in 1909, together with a number of interesting Congress souvenirs. This collection has been very kindly lent by Mrs Doris M. Green, RDP, FRPSL.

Postmark Slogans

Enfield Show 19–20 September 1970. The Red Devils are Dropping in on 20 September and Hoddesdon Town Show Bound Close Hoddesdon Saturday 19 September 1970 will be used until September 19 1970 at Enfield Head Office.

Son et Lumiere St Alphege Solihull 12 September–10 October will be used transposed at Birmingham and Solihull until 25 September 1970.

Remember to use the Postcode will be used transposed at Torquay from 28 September 1970 until further notice.

Sunshine Holiday Resort Clacton on Sea Free Guide from Attractions Manager Town Hall, Clacton, Essex will be used transposed at Derby from 1 December 1970–19 April 1971.

Vandalism costs you money. Help to stamp it out will be re-used transposed at Manchester until further notice.

The Rushden Amateur Operatic Society presents 'The Sound of Music' at the Cinema Rushden November 2–7 1970 will be used transposed at Rushden from 14 September–18 October 1970.

King George V School Southport 1920-1970 Golden Jubilee will be used transposed at Southport until 30 September 1970.

North Riding Sponsors Development Tel. 0609 3123 is continuing in use at Northallerton, Richmond, Co Durham, Thirsk, Saltburn and Guisborough until further notice.

Goole Ships with Speed is continuing in use at Goole for a further twelve months.

Keep your Eye on Wolverhampton See progress - fast is continuing in use at Wolverhampton until 13 July 1971.

Mansfield Festival 1970 10-24 Oct will be used at Mansfield until 24 October 1970.

BBC Radio Bristol 954 VHF will be used at Bristol from 20 September-3 October, and 17-31 October 1970.

Northern Ireland European Conservation Year 1970 will be used at Belfast, Ballymena, Bangor, Coleraine, Enniskillen, Omagh and Portadown until 12 September 1970.

Spacious and Gracious Folkestone, Holiday Guide Book, from Official Information Centre will be used at Folkestone from 1 October 1970-30 September 1971.

Remember to use the Postcode will be in use at the North Western Sub-District Offices, London, from 14 September until further notice.

Portsmouth and Sunny Southsea for the Holiday of a lifetime is continuing in use at Cosham.

Portsmouth and Southsea Naval Port Premier Resort is continuing in use at Portsmouth.

VI World Congress of Cardiology London September 1970. British Heart Foundation will be used at 50 Offices including: 10 London District Offices, Birmingham, Aberdeen, Sheffield, Norwich, Bournemouth, Liverpool, Cardiff, Teesside and Reading until 12 September 1970.

Herring will be used at Birmingham until 31 July 1971 and re-used at Edinburgh until 31 December 1970.

Industrialists stay on the Map, Invest & take advantage of Easy to Develop Sites, Available now ask Aberdare UDC will be used at Pontypridd until 24 February 1971.

Amendments

Isle of Man for Holidays free Colour Brochure from PM Dept Tourist Board Douglas is being used at Port Erin and Port St Mary until 19 September and at Douglas and Ramsey until 20 September 1970.

For Happy Retirement Isle of Man is being used at Douglas and Ramsey from 21 September-27 December 1970, and not at Port Erin and Port St Mary as previously announced.

Brent Show 12-13 September Roundwood Park, Willesden NW10 will be used at Harrow and Wembley, Kilburn NW6, Kingsbury NW9 and Willesden NW10 until 11 September 1970.

Courses in Philately

Collectors living or working in or near London can attend one of two courses of lectures in philately starting at the end of September. The courses are being arranged to appeal to new and old collectors alike, and will have an informal 'club' atmosphere.

On Wednesdays from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm the course will be held at the Bloomsbury Branch of the Stanhope Institute in Queens Square, London WC1 (starting on 30 September). Enrolment will take place on any evening Monday to Thursday of the previous week at the Stanhope Institute, Stanhope Street, London NW1.

On Thursday from 7.15 pm to 9.15 pm the venue will be Primrose Hill School, London NW1. Enrolment takes place as above, but at the Camden Institute, Holmes Road, London NW1. (Course starts on 1 October.)

Prospectuses will be available from the respective Adult Education Institutes. It is hoped that both courses will continue until June 1971.

Philympia Stamps

First news and details of all new stamp designs are given to the Press and distinguished philatelists a few weeks before the issue date.

Our photographs show two views of the

display at Postal Headquarters specially designed by Ann Bouverie, MSIA, on the occasion of the introduction of the Philympia stamps.



Collectors Pack 1970

The 1970 Collectors Pack will be issued on 14 September.

It will contain the PO Technology, Christmas 1969, Rural Architecture, General Anni-

versaries, Literary Anniversaries and Commonwealth Games stamps.

The pack will be sold from all offices which normally sell packs and the price will be 24s.



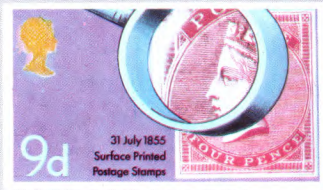
Commissioned Stamp Designs



Harrison & Sons



Bradbury Wilkinson & Co.



K. Murgatroyd

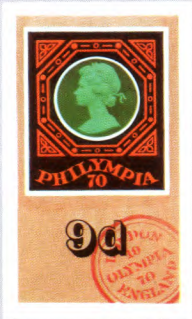


K. Murgatroyd



J. Kinnear

A. Ball



These are some of the designs which we considered when selecting the Philympia stamps.

Postal Services at Philympia

In addition to offering a full philatelic sales service our sales counter at Philympia will provide postal and Giro facilities including a special 'Philympia' registered label for those wishing to make use of that service.

To reduce waiting at the counter four stamp

machines which issue $2 \times 2d$, $3d$, $1d$ and $4d$ stamps for $1s$ will be provided and a $2s$ stamp booklet machine.

Posting boxes will be installed at various sites on all floors of the exhibition.

Special Handstamps and Postmark for Philypia London 1970

Visitors to the Philypia exhibition will be able to obtain special handstamp cancellations on items posted in the special collecting boxes.

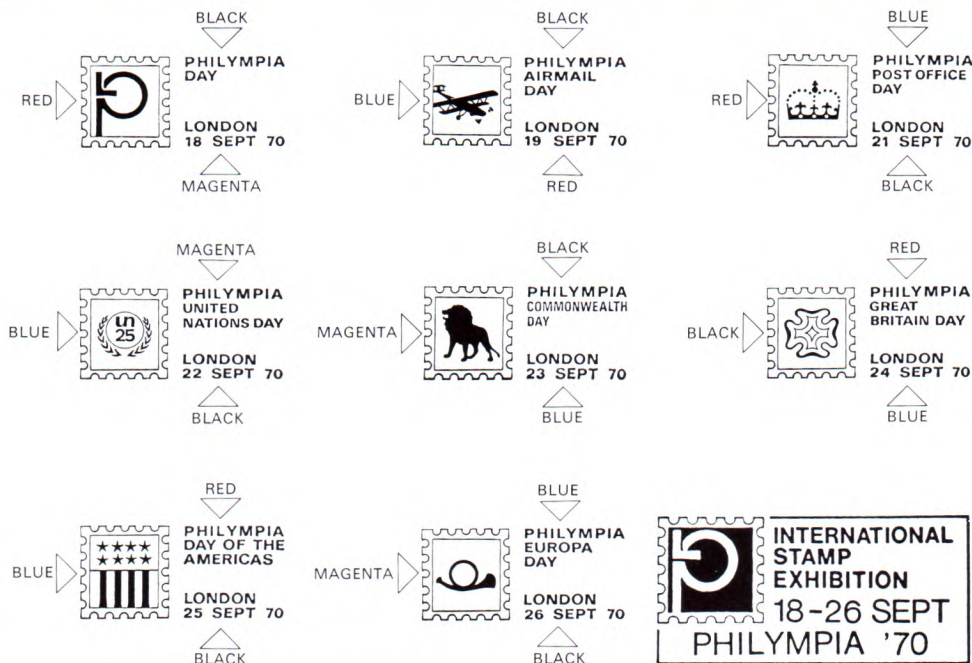
There will be a special handstamp for each day, 18–26 September 1970 with the exception of Sunday, 20 September, and there will be a different design each day. Each design is in three parts and each part will be printed in a different colour. There are four different colours, red, blue, magenta and black, but only three of these colours will be used for any one design.

Collectors who are unable to get to the exhibition can send items for re-posting to the District Postmaster, Paddington, London W2. Collectors should clearly mark the outer cover 'Philypia handstamp' and quote the day, e.g. 'Philypia handstamps Europa Day'. If the day is not clearly indicated we shall use the

handstamp in use on the day the cover is received.

We are expecting a large demand for these cancellations, and, as we give first priority to the quality of postmarking, we ask collectors to accept that in devoting time to this some delay in the delivery of covers may be caused.

We also illustrate the postmark slogan advertising the exhibition. This was used to cancel mail posted at three London District Offices from 1–14 June this year and the slogan will be used again at Eastern Central District Office, South Western District Office and Western Central District Office from 18 August–24 September 1970. Collectors can send items for re-posting to the District Postmasters concerned and please don't forget to mark the outer cover 'Philypia Postmark Slogan'.



International Philatelic Exhibitions

by James A. Mackay

A curious feature of philately, lacking in all the other acquisitive hobbies, is the competitive element. With the possible exception of numismatics (coin collecting) it would be regarded as not quite good taste for antique collectors, for example, to display their possessions beside those of other collectors – far less on a competitive basis. One would argue that such an exercise might be of some educational value, but it would hardly be edifying and the obvious comment would be that the collector with unlimited means had an unfair advantage over his humbler rivals. That this state of affairs is not only acceptable but seen to be highly desirable needs some explanation.

It is possible that other collectables would be the subject of competitive exhibitions were it practicable to do so, but stamps alone, because of their small, two-dimensional nature, lend themselves well to this sort of display. Moreover, stamps are invariably visually intriguing, if not always aesthetically pleasing, and they are a class of object which everyone, at some time or another, is using or seeing regularly. The paradoxical combination of familiarity with stamps as a class of object and the unfamiliarity of seeing stamps of other countries or eras is a powerful factor in attracting the casual visitor to a display of stamps, whether it be in a museum gallery or in a competitive exhibition.

I am not so certain that the competitive element is so desirable, although one argument in its favour is that it provides the incentive not only to get collectors to show their stamps at all but also to strive constantly to improve their material and its means of presentation. The signal success of Scophilex (the Scottish Philatelic Exhibition) held in Glasgow last April has demonstrated the honour of being invited to exhibit one's stamps can be sufficient incentive without the necessity of a competitive basis and, indeed, most international (and many national) exhibitions include a class or court of honour in which collections of proven merit are displayed *hors concours*.

Up to a point the stimulus of competition in

stamp exhibitions can be useful, but human nature being what it is and judges being mere mortals subject to human fallibility, it seems almost inevitable that every competitive exhibition, from parochial to international level, is accompanied by a certain amount of 'post mortem' discussion, which becomes more bitter and recriminatory at the higher levels of exhibition. The effect on collectors is relative to their aims and ambitions; the man who fails to win the cup in his local club show may be subject to fewer pangs of disappointment and chagrin than the eminent philatelist who just fails to secure the Grand Prix in a full-scale international exhibition and has to be content with a mere Large Gold medal.

Philatelic exhibitions of any sort are a relatively modern phenomenon. Although solitary examples can be found of general exhibitions, in which a few stamps were displayed, as early as the 1860s, it was not until the closing years of the nineteenth century that stamp exhibitions evolved in the form we understand today. The earliest exhibition which could certainly lay claim to national, if not international, status was the *Ausstellung der Postwertzeichen Aller Länder*, organized under the auspices of the Vienna Philatelic Club in November 1881. This 'exhibition of the postage stamps of all lands' was much smaller than its grandiose title implied and was confined to members of the Vienna club (though a few of the exhibitors happened to be resident in other parts of Austria or Germany). Another early contender was the exhibition organized in 1884 by the Bavarian Philatelists' Union in Munich which included a number of displays provided by non-German philatelists. This type of exhibition would today be regarded as 'national, with international participation' – the status enjoyed, for example, by the recent SABRIA 70 staged in Saarbrücken.

The first exhibition which can safely be regarded as an international was that held in Antwerp in May 1887. An announcement was published by a committee of Belgian philatelists in March of that year regarding a

competitive stamp exhibition which would be open to collectors all over the world. Unfortunately the closing date for entries was 25 April and, as a result, few foreign philatelists were able to take part. The significant point about this exhibition, however, was that medals were awarded for the first time, even though the major awards all went to Belgian entrants.

Since 1887 there have been just over a hundred full-blown international philatelic exhibitions covering every aspect of philately, and, in more recent years, a tendency to stage international exhibitions of a more specialized nature. The majority of the exhibitions have been held in Europe and, in fact, the earliest international held outside Europe was that staged in New York in 1913. Although no further internationals were held outside Europe till New York was again the venue (in 1926) the year 1928 witnessed internationals in two other continents – Africa (Durban) and Australia (Melbourne). South America's first international was held in Rio de Janeiro in 1938 and Asia's first exhibition of this nature was staged in Tel Aviv in 1957. As well as general internationals there have been more spe-

cialized exhibitions for airmails (from APEX, 1934 onwards), thematics (Tematica Poznan, 1968 and UK Thematics, 1970) and restricted to younger collectors (Juventus, Luxembourg, 1969). It is predicted that, as the scope of philately widens, the character of international exhibitions will become narrower, with separate internationals for different aspects of the hobby. A fairly recent development has been the restrictions imposed on postal history exhibits at both national and international level and it would seem logical that separate postal history exhibitions will result.

Of the eight internationals held in this country all but one (Manchester 1899) have been staged in London. All of them have produced philatelic souvenirs of some sort, ranging from the overprinted Mauritius stamps (remaindered to dealers) of 1890, to the exhibition labels, covers and postmarks which graced the 1960 exhibition. For Philypia new ground is being broken with souvenir booklets, publicity slogan postmarks and a special issue of stamps – all testifying to the much greater co-operation accorded by the Post Office to philatelic activity in Britain today.

Special Handstamps

Battle of Britain 30th Anniversary 19 Sept 70 British Forces 1120 Postal Service. Items for reposting should be set to The Philatelic Officer, RAF Coltishall, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 64Y.

G G Diamond Jubilee Visit of World Chief Guide Lady Baden Powell 19 Sept 70 Luton Beds will be used to cancel items posted in the special collecting box at the Guide Training Centre, Lancing Road, Luton.

3rd Annual Exhibition Dorchester and Weymouth Stamp Club 14 November 1970 Dorchester Dorset will be used to cancel items posted in the special collecting box at the Congregational Church Hall, South Street, Dorchester.

Mayflower 1620–1970 Southampton Boat Show Mayflower Park Southampton 2 October 1970 will be used to cancel items posted in special collecting boxes at the Information Stand in the Mayflower Park Showground and Southampton Head Post Office. The rectangular design contains a motif of the *Mayflower*.

Jimmy Armfield Testimonial Match 21 September 1970 Fylde Coast Lincs will be used to cancel items posted in a special collecting box at Blackpool Football Ground, Bloomfield Road, Blackpool.

35th Anniversary Closure of Lynton and Barnstaple Railway 29 September 1970 Barnstaple Devon will be used to cancel items posted in a special collecting box at Boutport St BO, Barnstaple.

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