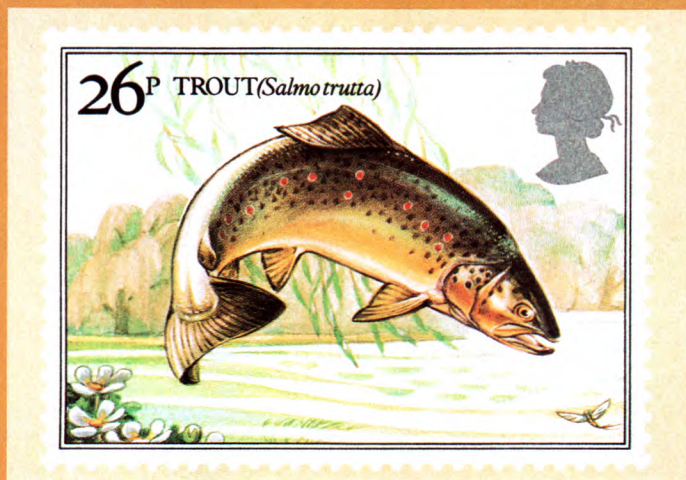


Philatelic Bulletin

Volume 20
Number 5
January 1983



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Editorial

In this edition we feature a background to the design of the British River Fishes Stamps, to be issued on 26 January, by their designer Alex Jardine. Alex, who is an expert angler, studied at St Martins School of Art, London, and also Brussels. He is a member of the Federation of British Artists Society of Wildlife Artists and his work is featured in both private and public collections. This is the first set of stamps that Alex has designed for The Post Office and he has created a powerful sense of movement in his designs.

This year's Super Stampex will again be held at the Royal Horticultural Society, using both halls. The dates are February 15-20, full details are given elsewhere in this edition. We wish the organisers every success.

JOHN MEMMOTT



Au Revoir Nigel Walmsley

Nigel Walmsley, Board Member for Postal Marketing has moved on to the challenging position of Managing Director of Capital Radio. Our picture shows Nigel saying au revoir to John Memmott and Frank Breach. We wish him all success.

British River Fish

As an artist I am interested in light and movement. To some their approach is precise to others impressionist, but the underlying factor to both is truth. I specialise in wild life, animals, birds, and fish which call for accuracy through careful study of the subject. An artist inaccurately portraying a golfer or cricketer in action, or a fisherman casting a fly results in a worthless picture for the expert. Similarly an inaccurate painting of a bird or fish is equally valueless, therefore I choose to paint from life. An artist is capable of translating what he sees in his own fashion. He possesses skills to capture 'atmosphere', form, movement, and transient colours in an individualist impression of his subject. If the criterion of art was merely representation, a photograph would have greater merit than a landscape by Constable, but it falls short of the artists interpretation because it is a mechanical image. Some 15,000 years before Daguerre and Niepce invented the photographic process Aurignacian cave dwellers of Altamira and Lascaux were executing beautiful and remarkably accurate impressions of wild animals of their times. Their stylised drawings show a supreme knowledge of their subject combining movement with simplicity of line comparable with the best graphic artists today. Thomas Bewick the 18th-century master of book illustration combined realism with conventional design, and his wood engravings of birds and animals are superb examples of the marriage of field study with artistic skill.

For the artist fish provide a rewarding subject. Fish combine all the essentials necessary for design, colour, movement, and have exciting symmetry. Their underwater background is a harmony of muted tones, their habitat holds the reflection of the sky, and their canvas is the blue flash of kingfishers, and gold of marsh marigolds amidst the changing colour down the year.

The fish chosen by the Post Office for their postage stamps represent the more important and popular British species. The ATLANTIC SALMON is widely distributed throughout the British Isles from the wild fast rivers of the north to the clear chalk rivers of the south. These fish



are migratory, dividing their life between fresh water and the sea. Salmon spawn in the upper reaches of rivers descending to the sea as yearlings or parr to return to the rivers of their birth some four years later as adults or grilse when the life cycle begins again. A notable fish of 64lbs, was caught on the River Tay by Mrs Ballantine in 1922, and so far unsurpassed. The salmon featured on the postage stamp came from the famous River Spey.

Unlike its cousins salmon and sea trout the BROWN TROUT spends its life in fresh water where its habitat is similar to the salmon, but unlike the imported rainbow trout now stocked in many lakes this is essentially a river fish, and the fly-fisherman's choice with fly rod and skilfully 'tied' imitations of river flies representing its natural food. These fish are plentiful in the tumbling little Welsh and Scottish rivers, but chiefly they are associated with the southern chalk-streams of which the River Test is famous, and the trout shown on the postage stamp is a typical example. These trout grow large in the chalk rivers, but the British record of 39lbs 8oz came from Loch Awe in 1866. PIKE termed the 'fresh water shark' are the largest of British predators, and the terror of all small creatures of lakes and rivers. Alfred Jardine, famous for the 'Jardine snap tackle' and the large pike he captured is credited with two records, a fish of 37lbs from a lake in Buckinghamshire in 1879 and another a week later of 36lbs from Kent. These remained

unsurpassed until Mr Warwick's fish of 37lb 8oz from the Hampshire Avon 65 years later! The 'model' for the stamp illustration weighed 18lbs from a lake near my home in Kent. PERCH, beautiful with their dark stripes and carmine fins, perfect camouflage for their favourite background of sunken branches and old wooden piles, are also predators growing portly on a diet of

small fish and other water creatures. Popular with anglers fishing with 'paternoster' or float tackle they reach 'specimen' size with a perch of 5lb 15oz recorded from the Suffolk Stour in 1949. Chilham lake where I enjoy quiet evenings in company with crested grebe and flighting mallard provided the fish shown on the postage stamp.

ALEX JARDINE

New Handstamps for Philatelic Counters

On 4 January 1983 the following post offices introduced new handstamps to cancel mail posted at their philatelic counters.

Romford, Chester, Truro, Nottingham, Cleveland.

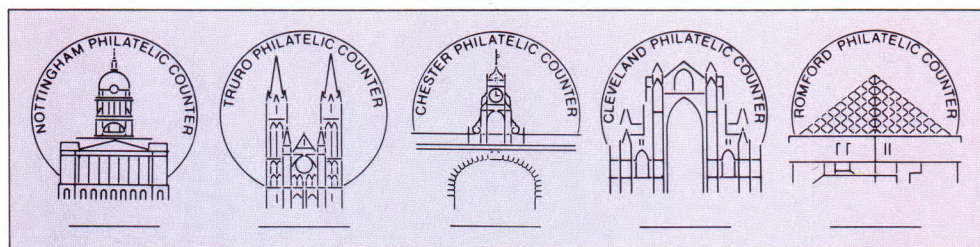
From 1 February 1983 the following offices will introduce new handstamps similarly to cancel mail posted at their philatelic counters.

Guildford, Leicester, Milton Keynes, Bristol,

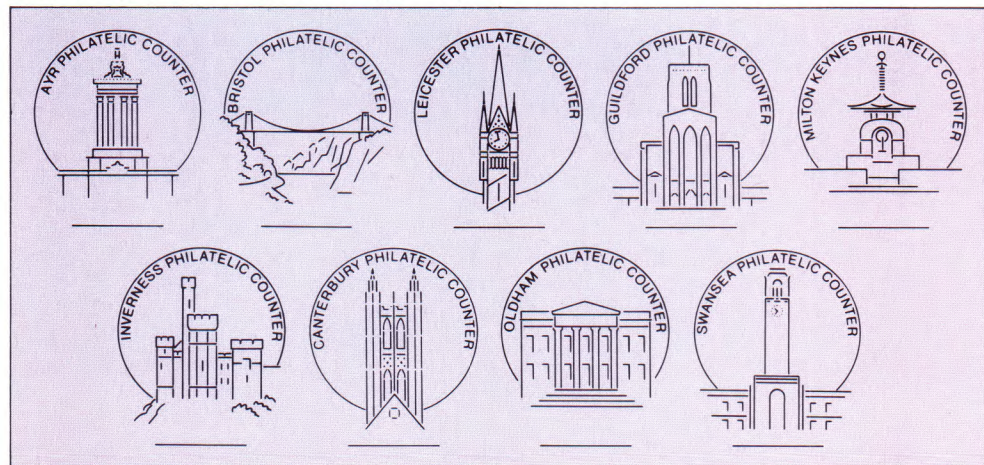
Ayr, Oldham, Inverness, Swansea, Canterbury.

These will bring the number of philatelic counters with their own postmarks to 36.

Items for reposting should bear 2½p in addition to the normal postage and should be sent to the offices shown below. The outer cover must be endorsed 'Special philatelic counter handstamp' and must bear normal postage. Items will not be backdated with a postmark prior to that which appears on the outer cover.



Handstamps to be introduced on 4 January 1983



Handstamps to be introduced on 1 February 1983

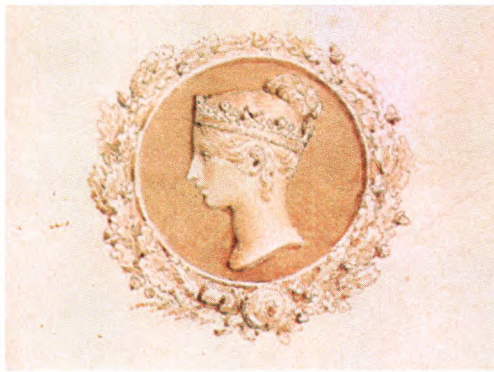
Corbould Drawings

At the risk of stating the obvious, the Reginald M Phillips Collection in the National Postal Museum is not merely a collection of Victorian postage stamps. There is also a wealth of additional material on display including essays, trials and artwork preceeding the issued (or in some cases unissued) stamps. One particular area of interest, to be found in volume II 31-4, are the drawings of the Queen's head made by the artist, Henry Corbould FSA.

Well before the events of 1839-40, which led up to the production of the world's first postage stamp, Henry Corbould had been commissioned by Perkins, Bacon and Petch. The commission was for the production of a number of profile drawings of the head of the young Queen Victoria. Four of these unique drawings are on show in the Reginald M Phillips Collection as

well as examples of the City Medal in silver and bronze which was produced in 1837. The latter featured the Queen's head as engraved by William Wyon being taken from a Corbould drawing.

The illustrations show the craftsmanship of Corbould in preparing these drawings for which he was justly famous in his own day. They are part of the story which led, via the Wyon City Medal, to the engraving by Charles and Frederick Heath for the Penny Black in 1840. While the finished engraving was slightly modified to produce a more flattering portrait of the Queen, it still faithfully reflected the sketches made by Henry Corbould. Visitors to the National Postal Museum can see these drawings and other contemporary material, including much from the 1839 Treasury Competition, in the Reginald M Phillips Collection.



95. Centenary of the Universal Postal Union, 1974

The first initiative towards a worldwide postal union was taken by the Postmaster-General of the United States, Montgomery Blair (1813-1883), who promoted an international conference at the Hotel des Postes, the French postal headquarters in Paris, in 1863. Blair's ideas for the unification of postal rates, transit charges and services generally throughout the world were implemented years later at Berne, Switzerland, where Dr Heinrich von Stephan, the first Postmaster-General of the German Empire, won the support of the Postal Congress for the establishment of a 'General Postal Union', effective from 1 July 1875, confirming the decisions taken at the previous year's conference. It became the 'Universal Postal Union' in 1878.

The Post Office commissioned Rosalind Dease to design the four stamps showing the development of overseas mails, also including a pioneer 'home' airmail service. Each form of transport was accompanied by a reproduction of an appropriate postmark – 3½p P & O packet-steamer *Peninsular* of 1888, with the Southampton 'Packet Letter' circular date-stamp of 1896; 5½p Farman biplane as used on the London-Windsor 'Coronation' flights of 1911, with an 'Aerial Post' cancellation; 8p an 'Airmail-blue' mail-van and post-box of 1930, with the 'London F.S. Air Mail' postmark of 1931; and 10p Imperial Airways 'C'-class Flying-boat of 1937, and the 'Southampton Air Port' (which was actually the flying-boat and seaplane berth in Southampton Docks) cancellation of 1937.

For once, the stamps were clearly labelled with the commemorative event, being inscribed 'Universal Postal Union 1874/1974'; although, as Stuart Rose commented in *Royal Mail Stamps*, nothing in the issue even attempted to explain graphically what the Universal Postal Union was all about. The designs could, however, be linked to specific developments in postal history, and they were of the greatest interest to philatelists on that account, particularly so to the aero-philatelist.

In 1840, when Cunard was establishing its supremacy across the North Atlantic, the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company inaugurated the first stage (to



Alexandria) of an ambitious mail service to Ceylon, India, Singapore and Hong Kong. The service was continued beyond Suez to Calcutta in 1843, and finally to the Far East in 1848. During the 1880s, the P & O steam packets were sailing to Australia, via Ceylon. The First UK Aerial Post between Hendon Aerodrome and Windsor Great Park in September 1911 was a novel celebration of the Coronation of King George V which had taken place in the previous June. The special commemorative cards and envelopes pictured a Farman biplane in flight over Windsor Castle, and there were several flights by distinguished aviators. In the 1930s Imperial Airways established the great Empire routes to India, Australia and the Cape, and inaugurated the airmail 'all-up' scheme in June 1937 when a Short 'C'-class flying boat took off from Southampton Water with mail for

South Africa – the first-class letters were carried at no extra fee and no necessity for an airmail label.

The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (two panes of 50, 10 x 5) on unwatermarked paper with 'all-over' phosphor. Recorded varieties include the virtual omission of the staff of the pennant on the bows of the *Peninsular* (3½p), and 'bomb-burst' damage to the wheels on the left of the Farman biplane (5½p). Quantities issued were: 3½p 38,880,800; 5½p 7,414,300; 8p 6,450,000; 10p 6,593,800; presentation packs, 105,550.

JAMES WATSON

Stampex 1983

Stampex 1983 will be held at the Royal Horticultural Society, using both halls in Greycoat Street and Vincent Square, LONDON SW1 from Tuesday 15 February until Sunday 20 February 1983.

Hours of opening:

Tuesday 1pm – 8pm

Wednesday to Friday 10am – 8pm

Saturday and Sunday 10am – 6pm

Prices of admission: First day £1.50; other days £1 (after 4pm 50p).

Children and OAPs 50p (after 4pm 25p).

Season tickets including catalogue £4.

Book Reviews

Wiltshire and its Postmarks

by Dr John Siggers.

Published by Sandcliff Press, 21 Northgate Street, DEVIZES, Wilts SN10 1JU.

Available from the Publishers,

Price £28.00 plus £1.57 postage & packing.

In recent years there has been a great upsurge of interest in local postal history. Almost every locality from Aberdeen to Yeovil has produced a postal historian prepared to put pen to paper and publish a book. These books often enjoy considerably more than a purely local popularity.

Some of them are little more than pamphlets which can be not unfairly described as part-time products of amateur research. Nevertheless they are better than nothing. Few authoritative specialists can be expected to concentrate half a lifetime's effort on the postal affairs of a restricted area. Moreover, publishing for a limited reader-

ship is a fairly certain way to lose money.

Every now and again a thoroughly competent authority will elect to become a hostage to fortune and devote time and effort to producing a really spectacular piece of research into the postal history of a single county. Dr Siggers has done precisely that. What is more, he has done it in the grand manner.

This book covers three centuries of Wiltshire's postal history. It describes over four thousand marks and illustrates nearly three thousands of them. Altogether a monumental piece of scholarly research. Its pages also incorporate a large number of antique road maps dating back to the 16th. Century. This 736 page volume will certainly set a standard by which others will be judged for a very long time.

Few serious students of Wiltshire's postal history can henceforth fail to acknowledge their debt to the author's work. Fewer still will fail to want it on their library shelves once they have held it in their hands. A splendid book which is handsomely produced, profusely illustrated, very clearly printed and well worth its not inconsiderable price.

The Guinness Book of Stamps.

Facts & Feats

by: James Mackay.

Most people know that the Penny Black is an extremely rare and valuable stamp. It was first printed in 1840 and made history as the world's first adhesive stamp. But it is not THE most valuable stamp in the world. That honour goes to the one-cent black magenta from British Guiana, 1856, which has demanded the world's highest price at auction of £380,000.

Do you know when the first postcard was invented? Or how old was the youngest stamp designer? Or where is the oldest original pillar box still in use? These answers and countless others can be found in the newly published GUINNESS BOOK OF STAMPS. The book, one of the Guinness 'Facts and Feats' series, has been written to interest both the schoolboy collector and the experienced enthusiast, and is packed with photo-illustrations, many of them in colour.

But this book isn't just about STAMPS and their history. It is crammed with information about POSTAL SERVICES, POSTMARKS and COVERS and looks at new developments in the POSTAL WORLD.

Available from most bookshops, price £8.95.

British River Fishes Stamps Issue

26 January 1983



This issue of four special stamps, continuing the popular 'fauna' theme, coincides with the tercentenary of the death of Izaak Walton, author of 'The Compleat Angler'.

The stamps are designed by Alex Jardine, himself an enthusiastic salmon and trout fisherman. His background article on the stamps issue appears on page 62.

The stamps printed in photogravure by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd are in sheets of 100. Horizontal in format, they measure 41mm x 30mm with 15 x 14 perforations. The paper is unwatermarked, phosphor coated, and the adhesive is PVA Dextrin. The first day cover, price 14p, and the presentation pack, number 142, are designed by John Gibbs with illustrations by Alex Jardine.

Values and Colours

15½p – Buff, mauve, new blue, black, silver.

19½p – Bistre, yellow, olive-yellow, pink, greenish-blue, black, silver.

26p – Chrome-yellow, lemon, bright rose, pale blue, black, silver.

29p – Greenish-yellow, rosina, new blue, black, silver.

Cylinders used

15½p – 1A, 1B, 1C, 2D, 1E.

19½p – 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F.

26p – 2A, 1B, 1C, 3D, 1E, 3F.

29p – 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E.

Postcards

Postcard size reproductions of each of the four stamps will be available approximately two weeks before the issue date, price 13p each.

Presentation Pack

Also available from 26 January, the presentation pack containing all four stamps will cost £1.10.



Postmark Bulletin



For collectors of special handstamps and postmark slogans, The Post Office produces a publication entitled: POSTMARK BULLETIN.

The dates and full wording of all special cancellations are quoted, as well as details of the offices to be used together with the locations of

posting boxes for special handstamps.

Notice of the dates of use of all forthcoming cancellations is given well in advance to enable collectors to post envelopes to the offices involved.

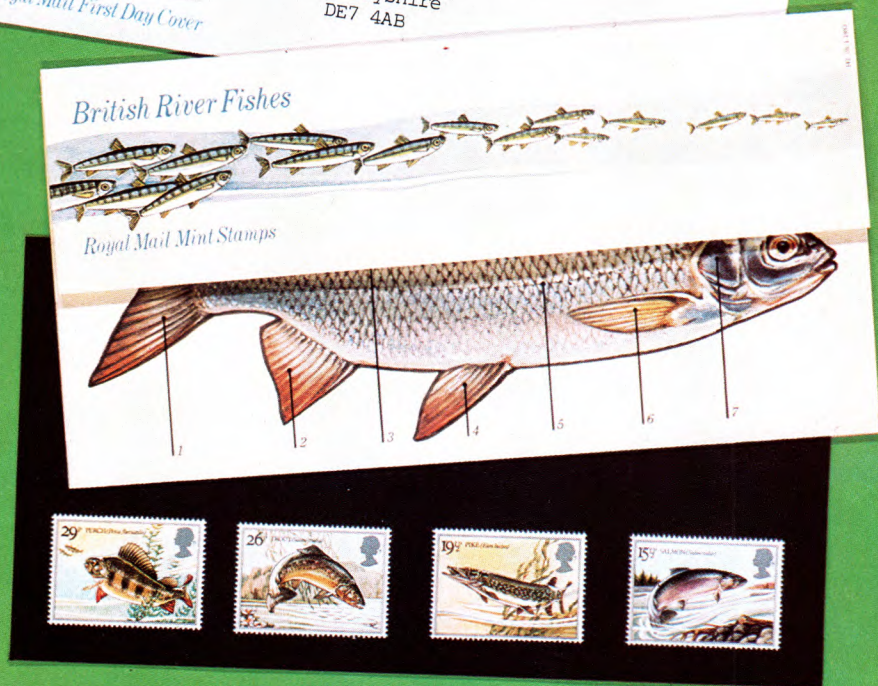
Postmarking arrangements of all British first days of issue are also detailed in the Bulletin.

The POSTMARK BULLETIN is published about 26 times a year (fortnightly) and is available from:

The Manager, British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT, at an annual subscription for the UK of £5.50 post free.

European All-up £7.00.

Outside Europe by Air £13.50.



25. Y for 'Yachting'

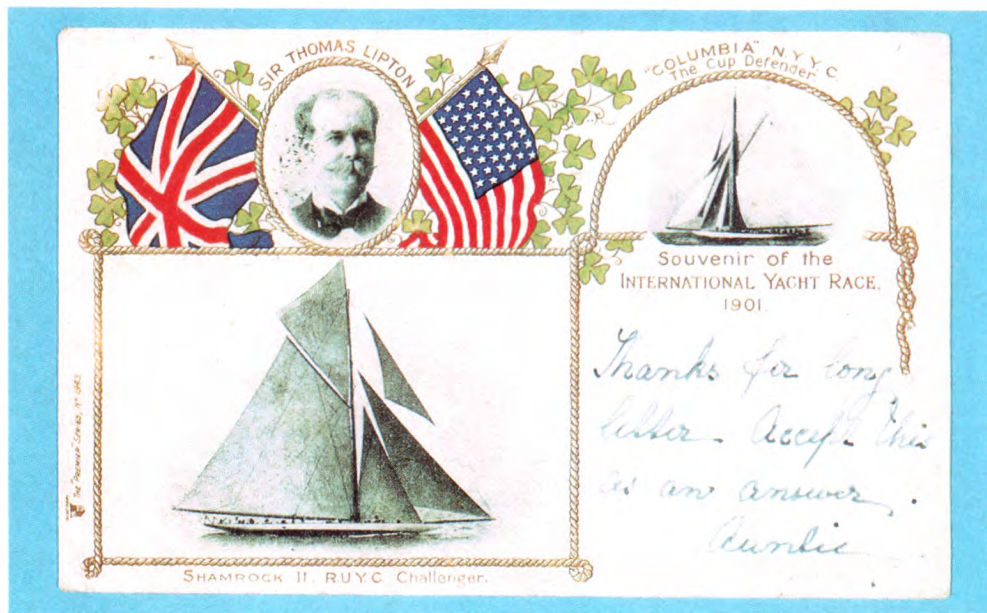
A yacht is defined variously as a sailing, steam or oil vessel with decks, built for pleasure or racing purposes. This brief article, an extension to my piece 'Shipping' in the July 1982 *Bulletin*, is mainly concerned with sailing ships, in particular those you may find on old picture postcards.

The first yacht club was formed at Cork, Ireland, in 1720, while the most famous of the existing clubs is the former Cowes Yacht Club, established in 1815. Two years later the Prince Regent joined the Club, and in 1820, when he became King George IV, the name was changed to the Royal Yacht Squadron, now the premier body in the sport which is directed by the Royal Yachting Association, formerly the Yacht Racing Federation, founded in 1875. Cowes Week, held during the first week in August, is one of the most fashionable – as well as the most competitive – sailing events of the year, usually attended by members of the Royal Family. The Duke of Edinburgh and the Royal Princes, Andrew and Edward, are keen yachtsmen.

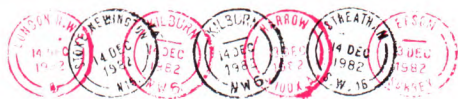
The Queen's Cup was one of the chief events

of the yachting calendar at Cowes, and when in 1851 the schooner *America*, 150 tons, won the trophy it was taken to the United States and called the America's Cup. Since then all British efforts to regain it have failed, despite the repeated attempts by Sir Thomas Lipton with his 'J'-class *Shamrock* yachts and by T O M Sopwith. My card, which was published by William Lyon of Glasgow in 1901, shows Sir Thomas, pictured between the flags of the two contending nations, his *Shamrock II* and the American defender *Columbia*, representing the international race of that year. Now Britain has a new challenger for the 1983 event – the *Victory*, sponsored by the merchant banker, Peter de Savary, under the aegis of the Royal Ocean Yachting Club.

The most keenly sought of the early picture cards range in subject from the humble sailing barges of the Thames and East Anglia, the fishing fleets and ocean-going schooners to the fast and beautiful clippers of the early 19th century, among them the famous *Cutty Sark* and her rival, the *Thermopylae*, used in the China tea trade. Regattas



Letter to the Editor



take place at the leading ports and resorts, and a strong feature of sailing in recent years has been the popularity of sailing dinghies, racing keel boats and the multihulls – catamarans and trimarans. More spectacular events include the Transatlantic and Tall Ships' races, and the Whitbread Round-the-World race organised by the Royal Naval Sailing Association – the 1981-82 event was won by the Dutch sloop *Flyer*, skippered by Cornelis van Rietschoten, who covered 27,000 miles in 120 days. Yachting is also featured in the Olympic Games and one recalls that Prince Constantine of Greece (now the exiled King) won the Olympic Dragon class event in 1960.

The Dutch word *yacht* (from *jagen*, 'to chase') became 'yacht' in the English language when Charles II returned from exile to take up the reins of government in 1660 and was presented with the Dutch vessel *Mary* – the first royal yacht. Since that time a long succession of naval craft served the reigning sovereign, among them the *Victoria* and *Albert* (third vessel of that name), *Alexandra* and *Osborne* (the latter a paddler) – all steam-powered – and King George V's 'J'-class yacht *Britannia*, all of which, with the SS *Gothic* (used as a royal yacht during the Royal Tour of the Commonwealth in 1953-54) and the current Royal Yacht *Britannia*, have appeared on picture postcards.

MALCOLM JAMES

Alex Jardine in Canterbury

Alex Jardine, designer of the Fishes stamps, will be present at the Philatelic counter of the main Post Office, High Street, Canterbury, from 9.30am to 1.30pm on January 26. He will personally autograph first day covers with the set of four stamps affixed and there will be no extra charge made to customers for this autograph. Customers will, of course, be dealt with on a first-come, first-served basis.

There will be no reposting facility offered on this occasion.

Dear Sir,

I understand that an instruction has been issued whereby the 'To Pay' stamps of the British Post Office are not to be cancelled in any way.

As this will mean that there will no longer be any way in which used stamps can be clearly identified, I shall be grateful for your comments, please?

Yours faithfully,
H W Stapleton

CROSS KEYS
Gwent

'To Pay' labels are used by The Post Office at the delivery end of postal transmission to denote that an item has been erroneously underpaid and additional payment is required.

'To Pay' labels affixed by Post Office staff to underpaid items are afforded an operational cancellation to prevent re-use.

The Post Office does not provide a service whereby 'To Pay' labels are accepted as postage or given any type of philatelic cancellation; nor will it knowingly accept underpaid items.

Editor

Beautiful Britain Year



1983 has been designated Beautiful Britain Year. The Post Office will be running a postmark slogan campaign at 10 offices for the duration of 1983 depicting the Beautiful Britain logo and the legend, 'Back Beautiful Britain 1983'.

Decimalisation

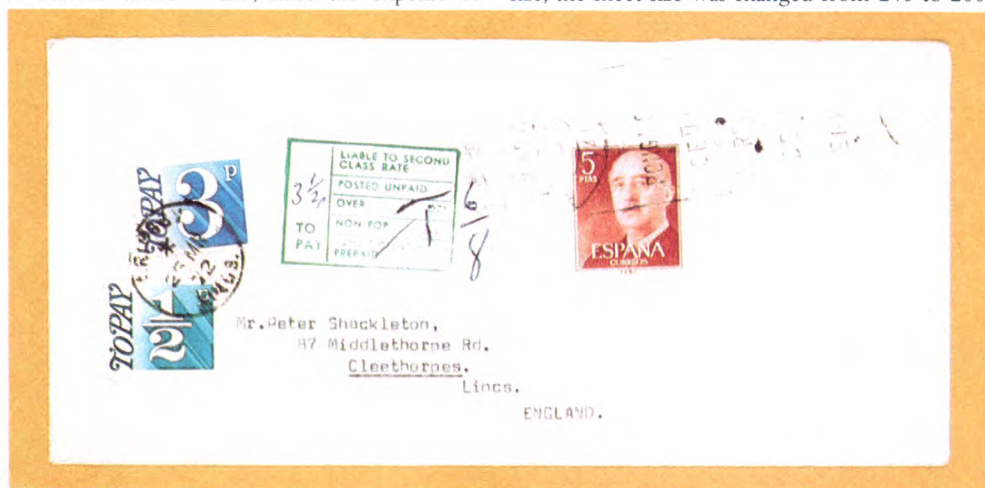
The major decisions regarding the introduction of decimal value labels were reached well in advance of the event, mainly as a result of discussion, during September 1968, about the Customs usage of the labels. Concerned at the spiralling labour costs involved in the time-consuming process of preparing 'C-dockets' for Customs charges in excess of £1-10s-0d, the Overseas Mails Division recommended that *all* such charges should be collected by the much simpler method of using To Pay/Postage Due labels. As a result of this, the question again arose about the legend on the labels, one suggestion being that a separate complete range from £5 to 1d, bearing the words 'Charges Paid', should be introduced specifically for Customs purposes. This did not meet with any support but it did ensure that discussion about Postage Due label design took place in early 1969, with impending decimalisation being seen as an opportunity to resolve this problem for ever.

A totally new design was considered necessary – 'the present design, pleasant though it is, is suited neither to the Post Office Corporation image, nor to decimal tariffs' – and, since the expense of

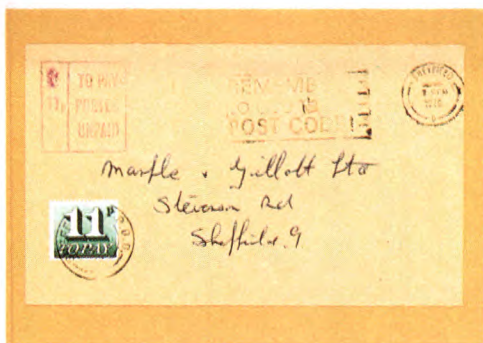
cutting a complete new set of cylinders for the whole decimal range had to be met in any event, the opportunity to also introduce a new design, for only the additional cost of the artist's fees, was not to be missed.

As with the existing labels, the suggested new labels fell into two groups. It was possible, except for the 2s.6d. value, to directly convert the 'To Pay' labels into simple units of decimal currency and so, for the upper range, denominations of 10p, 25p, 50p and £1 were suggested. For the lower values, the series ½p, 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p and 5p would make it possible for any charge to be covered. In the event, the higher values, when issued, were, like their definitive counterparts, for 10p, 20p, 50p and £1 and both 10p, 20p and 50p definitive stamps and the four high value 'To Pay' labels were introduced, prior to 'D-day', on 17 June 1970.

The designer of the new labels was Jeffery Matthews and, in keeping with the instructions originally issued to Eve in 1913, the essential feature was the value 'shown by a numeral, which should be very prominent', with a toned background, ideally suited to photogravure printing, and the words 'TO PAY' in contemporary lettering. On the lower value labels the wording appeared vertically at the side of the value; on the higher values, it was placed horizontally beneath it. As with all the decimal issues of stamps of this size, the sheet size was changed from 240 to 200



½p label. The 'T-fraction' (°/8) represents Double the Deficiency over Basic Foreign Letter Rate in the currency of the Country or origin. Multiplying this fraction by the Foreign Letter Rate of the Country of destination (at this time, 5p) automatically converts it into the surcharge due. So surcharge is $\frac{6}{8} \times 5p = 3.75p$ rounded down to 3½p.



11p label in use – September 1975. *The specific demand for this label lasted only 13½ weeks from its date of issue, giving it the shortest active life of any value.*

(10 vertical rows, each of 20 labels) so that the value of a sheet was still an exact number of Pounds. The lower value labels were officially valid from 'D-day', 15 February 1971, but, due to a national strike by Post Office workers, it was not until 8 March that normal working was resumed and they could be used.

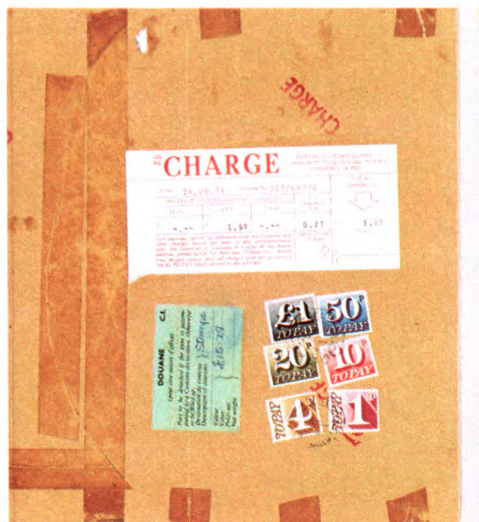
Coincident with decimalisation, letter rates were raised, making the Second Class basic weight step charge 2½p, so that the most frequently used label (representing double unpaid postage) was 5p. But, with the rampant inflation of the 1970's,

postage rates did not remain static for long and have changed no fewer than ten times in the past eleven years – see Table. For the earlier changes to

Minimum Second Class Letter Rate since
Decimalisation.
(First Class Rate in brackets).

15-2-1971	2½p	(3p)	for 4 oz.
6-3-1972	2½p	(3p)	for 2 oz.
10-9-1973	3p	(3½p)	for 2 oz.
24-6-1974	3½p	(4½p)	for 2 oz.
17-3-1975	5½p	(7p)	for 2 oz.
29-9-1975	6½p	(8½p)	for 60 g
13-6-1977	7p	(9p)	for 60 g
20-8-1979	8p	(10p)	for 60 g
4-2-1980	10p	(12p)	for 60 g
26-1-1981	11½p	(14p)	for 60 g
1-2-1982	12½p	(15½p)	for 60 g

3½p and 5½p two new denominations of labels were produced – 7p on 21 August 1974 and 11p on 18 June 1975. With further rate increases these values rapidly became redundant (the 7p value was needed for just under 6 months, the 11p value for only 3½ months) and it has now become policy to use combinations of existing values. The advent of VAT – introduced on Sunday 1 April 1973 – made a denomination higher than £1 a



VAT collection. *Part of a cover containing imported mint stamps charged VAT at 10%, June 1974.*



Decimal 'To Pay' Label Designs. *A selection of the 1971 and 1982 issues in the colours easiest for you, showing differences in design between low and high values.*

necessity and a £5 label, now printed in two colours (orange and black), was added to the range on 2 April 1973.

With no changes to the series of labels since June 1975 but with considerable changes in the level of surcharge now being raised, the range of labels available at the beginning of 1982 was, in several ways, unsuited to requirements. The reasons for 7p and 11p labels had long since gone and the ½p label – required for several years to make up charges on incoming surcharged mail from abroad – was rendered obsolete from 5 January 1976 when the practice was introduced of rounding down these surcharges to the nearest whole penny. In addition, the extensive usage of high value labels for VAT collection underlined the absence of a denomination between £1 and £5. The time was thus ripe for a rationalisation of the values and it was decided that a new series of labels, now including a £2 value, should be produced. Designed by Sedley Place Design Ltd, and again using photogravure to produce a background of light and shade, they were issued, in a revised sheet format of two panes of 100 labels each, with gutter between, in denominations of 1p, 2p, 3p, 4p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 25p, 50p, £1, £2 and £5 on 9 June 1982.



Harrison & Sons Ltd. Advertising card publicising the new issue of Decimal currency 'To Pay' labels in 1970.

E KEITH PARKER

National Postal Museum Notes

A new temporary exhibition entitled, 'Exhibitions of London 1851-1951' will open in the National Postal Museum from 6 January to 1 July 1983. It will include photographs, models, covers, postcards and a wealth of memorabilia of The Great Exhibition of 1851, International Exhibition of 1862, The British Empire Exhibition of 1924 and the Festival of Britain 1951. A special postcard depicting the 1851 Exhibition Building in Hyde Park will be available, price 20p, from the Museum. There is a discount of 25% for orders of 100 or more. An additional 15p should be added for orders by post.

Posting Boxes



No. 43. This unusual dark-grey pillar box can be seen at the Killington Lakes Service Station on the M6 motorway in Cumbria. The divergence from the usual pillar-box-red is due to a planning requirement by the County Council.

Commemorative Covers

Bi-Centenary of the Glasgow Herald

To celebrate the Bi-Centenary of The Glasgow Herald a special die stamped philatelic envelope

with a 15½p 'British Technology' stamp will be issued to compliment the 200th Anniversary handstamp in use at Glasgow on 27 January 1983. A facsimile of this paper, issue No. 1 dated 27 January 1783 will be included inside the cover and makes very interesting reading. Orders with remittance of £1.50 should be sent to Philatelic Agent, Pilgrim Philatelics Ltd, 33, St. George's Place, CANTERBURY, CT1 2XX, together with a stamped addressed envelope.

The Royal Bank European Curling Championships

The Royal Bank European Curling Championships open at Kirkcaldy, Fife, on Sunday, 5 December, 1982. A commemorative cover – thought to be the first relating to this sport – was issued depicting the official Championship Badge together with the badge of the Sponsors.

The covers are available with the 15½p 'Christmas' Stamp at 65p + 20p post and packing; with the full set of 5 'Christmas' Stamps at £1.50 + 20p post and packing.

Autographed copies signed by the winning teams are available at £1.00 + 20p, and £1.80 + 20p respectively.

Orders with remittances should be addressed to the Organising Secretary, 'European Curling Championships', Kirkcaldy Ice Rink, Rosslyn Street, KIRKCALDY, Fife KY1 3HS.

The Douglas Bader Angling Club

The DBAC for the physically handicapped are producing a commemorative cover on 26 January 1983 coinciding with the issue of British River Fishes stamps. The strictly limited printing of 1000 covers will each bear all four stamps. 100 covers will be signed by the President of the Club, The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Gainsborough JP. A special pictorial handstamp depicting the DBAC symbol will be applied. The cost is £3 each, or £5.50 for the signed cover. Orders with remittance made payable to A G Bradbury should be sent to him at 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER, LE2 6FJ.

Izaak Walton

To coincide with the issue of the 'British River Fishes' stamps, a limited numbered edition of 1000 covers depicting a full colour portrait of Izaak Walton have been produced. Bearing the full set of stamps, cancelled with a special pictorial handstamp, the price per cover is £3 including return postage and packing. Orders with remittances made payable

to A G Bradbury should be sent to 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER, LE2 6FJ.

To mark the tercentenary of the death of Izaak Walton, the renowned angler and writer, a commemorative cover illustrating a fishing rod and bearing all four 'River Fishes' stamps, will be available from 26 January 1983. The stamps will be cancelled with a pictorial handstamp and the cost is £3. In addition a small number will be cancelled with a related 'CIS' postmark and explanatory cachet, price £5.50. An extra 25p per order should be added for postage and packing. Orders with remittances should be sent to, Mr D G Taylor, 202 Somervell Road, HARROW, Middlesex, HA2 8TS.

The tercentenary of the death of Britain's most famous angler will be celebrated by the issue of a commemorative cover on 26 January 1983. The cover bears an illustration of Izaak Walton's cottage, which is now administered by Staffordshire County Museum. Covers bearing a 15½p 'British River Fishes' stamp with the special handstamp will cost 95p. A set of four covers each bearing one of the four 'fishes' stamps will cost £3.50.

Orders with remittances payable to Staffordshire County Council should be sent to Stafford Museum and Art Gallery, The Green, STAFFORD, ST17 4BJ, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, 9" x 5" approx. Serviced covers will be available for sale at Izaak Walton Cottage, Stafford Museum and the County Museum, Shugborough, during normal opening hours.

Birmingham Anglers Association

The BAA will issue a special cover remembering the tercentenary of Izaak Walton on 26 January 1983. All four 'British River Fishes' stamps will be affixed, cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The covers include a portrait in colour of Izaak Walton, a 100 of which will be signed by four British World Angling Champions: Kevin Ashurst (1982), Dave Thomas (1981), Ian Heaps (1975), Robin Harris (1969).

The cost per cover is £3, or £7.50 for the signed version. Remittances with orders should be sent to, A G Bradbury, 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER, LE2 6FJ.

St. Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle upon Tyne

To commemorate the centenary of St Nicholas Cathedral and the Diocese of Newcastle, a special cover is available bearing a 15½p 'Christmas' stamp cancelled by a handstamp featuring the Cathedral's world famous lantern tower. The cover features an

insert giving a short history of the Cathedral and the Diocese together with a list of Provosts and Bishops since 1882.

Covers are limited to 1,500: 150 of these are signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Newcastle. Signed covers are £5 each and unsigned covers are £1 each.

Orders, with remittances and full address, should be sent to St Nicholas Cathedral (Commemorative Cover), Chapter Office, St Nicholas Cathedral, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, NE1 1PE.

Forces Covers

Italian Submarine 'Santorre Santarosa'

The 20 January marks the fortieth anniversary of the sinking of the Italian submarine 'Santorre Santarosa'. On route to Tripoli, Libya the submarine was attacked by three MTB's, 264, 267 and 260. The torpedo from MTB260, commanded by Lt Sadds, Royal Australian Navy, was responsible for the sinking.

To mark the anniversary, a commemorative cover will be available illustrating the motor torpedo boat, the submarine, the British and Italian ensigns, together with the badge of HMS 'Hornet', Coastal Forces HQ. A 15½p 'Xmas' 1982 stamp will be affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The price is 75p.

The cover as above but bearing a 24p 'Xmas' stamp, and signed by Rear Admiral Morgan Giles DSO, OBE, GM, HM. Coastal Forces, Mediterranean 1942, and Captain P J Whitton, Royal Australian Navy, Naval Adviser to the Australian High Commission. The cost is £1.95. Alternatively the cover bearing a 19½p 'Xmas' stamp and signed by Captain Whitton only is available for £1.15.

Orders with remittances made payable to 'Fleet Air Arm Museum' should be sent to: The Philatelic Officer, RNAS, Yeovilton, YE07IL, Somerset BA22 8HL, accompanied by a 7" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

Centenary of the Forces Postal Service

A limited set of covers commemorating the centenary of the Forces Postal Service are still available. Her Majesty's Sail Training Yacht (HMSTY) 'Sabre' retraced during July - September the original voyage of SS 'British Prince' from UK to Egypt in 1882.

The cover illustrates a background of the route HMSTY 'Sabre' followed from Gosport to

Alexandria indicating the ports of call, superimposed over which will be a figurine of both an 1882 and 1982 soldier with their respective cap badges. The cover depicts both ships, and bears a 15½p 'Maritime Heritage' stamp cancelled with BFPS 1882 handstamp with the legend 'Centenary Celebrations Exercise British Prince 82'.

There were four stages to the voyage with a cover for each stage as follows:

Gosport - Gibraltar 26 July - 9 August
Gibraltar - Cagliari 10 August - 22 August
Cagliari - Cyprus 24 August - 15 September
Cyprus - Alexandria - Cyprus 16 September - 24 September.

The following prices will apply. Separate stage covers are £1 each. Set of four covers are £3.50 per set.

Orders with remittances made payable to DPCS MOD (A) should be accompanied by a 7" x 5" sae and sent to: Philatelic Officer DPCS MOD (A) BFPO 777.

Philatelic Bulletin

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