

Philatelic Bulletin

Volume 9 Number 1 September 1971



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Introduction

It would have been difficult eight years ago to foresee the success of the Bulletin. Since its introduction in 1963 the circulation has risen steadily to 80,000 and it continues to head the world's philatelic press.

The ninth volume which begins this month contains many of the features which have become a traditional part of its makeup. These basic articles are a vital and integral part of the *Bulletin's* function to inform and maintain interest in British philately but we are always alive to new ideas for the interests of our readers.

Our stamps and services are becoming better known with more sophisticated publicity and this is especially true overseas. We have exhibited as far afield as S. Africa, Japan, USA and Malta and earlier this year toured Scandinavia with a mobile display. The Post Office is inevitably at the very heart of British stamps and we are pleased to play our part in furthering the hobby which unites so many.

New Embossed Stamp for Registered Envelopes

Registered envelopes bearing a new 23p embossed stamp are on sale from the Philatelic Bureau and philatelic counters; and at other post offices as stocks of the present envelope run out. The new stamp – covering registration fee and postage – replaces the existing combination of a 17½p embossed stamp and a 5½p uprating symbol which has been in use since D-Day. It is the same design and colour (grey) as the existing stamp.

A new G2 registered envelope introduced on 1 July for use by HM Forces overseas, is available to collectors from the Bureau. It carries a 20p embossed stamp coloured cherry red. The 15p embossed stamp on the old G2 envelope was cerise.

The Perforation of Postage Stamps – Britain's Pioneer Experiments Part II

Geographical Distribution of "Archer" perforations

In an article in *The Philatelist* of February 1952 Mr. Gardiner-Hill showed that perforated stamps from most of the plates between 92 and 102 were used in each year from 1850 to 1853. Also, that while the majority of copies with identifiable postmarks were used in London, other copies were used in places as far apart as Plymouth, Knaresborough, Glasgow, Malvern and Sandwich.

Archer's Struggle for Compensation

A long correspondence took place during the period 1848 to 1853 between Henry Archer and the Treasury, the Board of Inland Revenue and the Post Office on the subject of the compensation to be paid to Archer for his invention. Writing on 24 November 1848, Archer declared that "as my wish is that the Commissioners [of Stamps and Taxes] should apply the entire of the money to be paid to me for the purchase of my right, to promote an object which I am prepared to prove is of great National importance and particularly in regard to Ireland, I feel persuaded that Her Majesty's Government will not hesitate to accede to the terms which it is my intention to propose, as soon as the Commissioners are satisfied that the machine I have constructed will answer the intended purpose".

Unfortunately for Archer (and Ireland) the government not only hesitated but showed marked reluctance to spend taxpayers' money. In spite of a report on 10 August 1850 by Edwin Hill (Rowland Hill's brother who was a senior official of the Inland Revenue) which stressed the considerable advantages to the public, the greater security against fraud and the likely increase in revenue from the sale of stamps ("one farthing per sheet of 240 stamps") which would flow from the adoption of Archer's invention, the Treasury's first offer (made in September 1850) was a beggarly £500 (£300 purchase money for the machine plus £200 for his invention). This Archer rejected out of hand, as he did in-

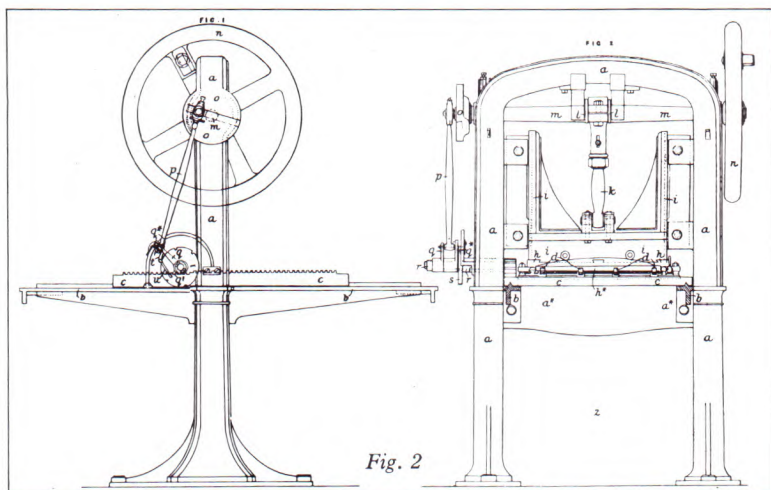
creased offers of £600 in January 1851 and £2,000 in January 1852.

In May 1852 a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to examine both the production of postage stamps and "whether or how the Perforating Machine invented by the Patentee could be applied to the same with advantage to the public", declared themselves to be of the opinion that perforation of stamps would be advantageous and that Archer's machine and patent should be purchased. This resulted in fresh negotiations and the payment to Archer, in June 1853, of the sum of £4,000 in full settlement of the cost of his machine, the patent rights and all his expenses.

The Government Perforations

Announcing to the Inland Revenue the purchase of the Archer patents, the Lords of the Treasury in a letter dated 22 June 1853 were "pleased to desire that you will forthwith take the necessary steps for supplying the public with perforated postage stamps, it being understood that the machine [Archer's] is now in your possession". This letter was annotated (at the Inland Revenue) as follows:—"Let the necessary preparation be made for bringing the machine into use, and let Mr. [Edwin] Hill consider and report to the Board as to the proper arrangement for the delivery of the sheets of labels for the purpose of perforation and their return into the stock of the Warehouse-keeper". This suggests very strongly that stamps perforated at Somerset House in the summer of 1853 were processed on the Archer machine.

Having acquired the patent right, the Inland Revenue authorities immediately ordered several other machines from Messrs. David Napier & Son of York Road, Lambeth. It is believed that at least one of these machines was in use experimentally during the Autumn of 1853. By 24 January 1854 sufficient machines (the exact number is not known) were ready for a trial run of 50 sheets of the 1d value to be perforated and as this was satis-



factory, bulk stocks of, first, the 1d and then the 2d stamp were perforated gauge 16 for general issue as beginning 28 January 1854.

All the stamps perforated on the Napier machines, from late 1853 onwards, were Alphabet II and the trial perforations can only be distinguished therefore if on covers dated earlier than 28 January 1854. Subsequently, late in 1854, the gauge of the perforating combs was changed to 14 pins; as with the perf. 16 gauge the sheets of stamps tended to come apart with prolonged handling.

“Treasury” and Private Separations

While the long trials of Archer’s machines and

his financial negotiations with the Treasury were going on, enterprising private individuals and possibly some Civil Servants were making their own arrangements for the easier separation of postage “labels”. The R. M. Phillips Collection in the National Postal Museum contains several examples of these, including a particularly fine cover with a pair of stamps showing the wavy line separation popularly known as the “Treasury Roulette”, from Chobham in 1853 (Fig. 5). In fact there is little evidence to link the Treasury with the mechanical device used to produce this peculiar wavy cut; and there was certainly more than one such machine in use, as the size and



Fig. 4



Fig. 5

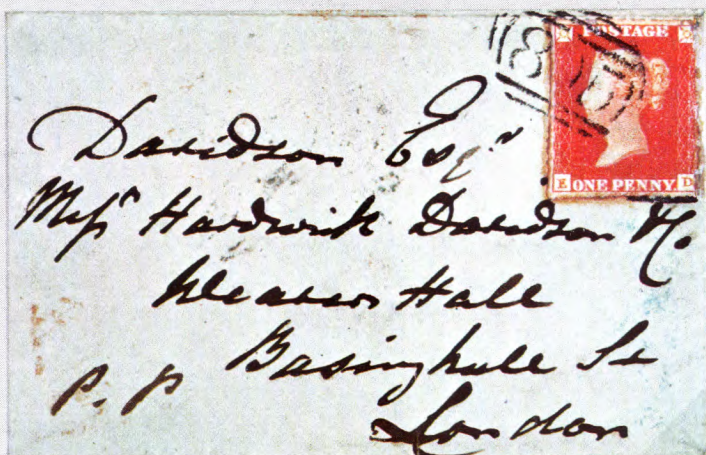


Fig. 6

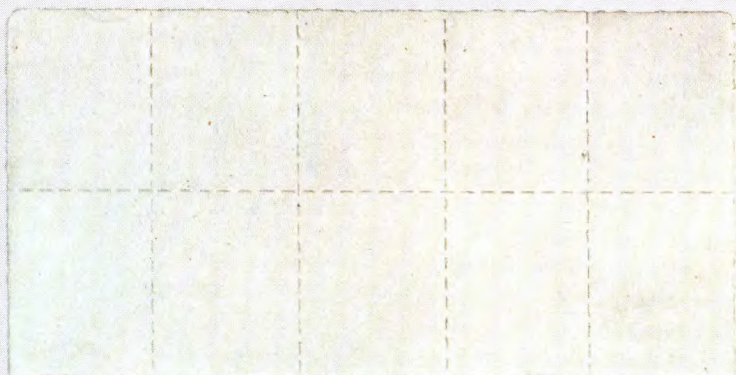


Fig. 7

shape of the "waves" differ. As the cut is a continuous one, it is improperly described as a roulette.

Actual rouletting as a means of easy separation is known to have been done privately, perhaps with a small spiked hand wheel, as,

for instance, on a letter of 1851 from Torquay (Fig. 6), while a machine with 12 blades which cut a sheet of stamps into long strips was in use at Winchester at about the same time. Examples of both these are in the Phillips Collection.

Development after 1854

Although the first known mechanical device for separating stamps was used in Boston, USA, in 1844 (on Local Carrier stamps), the enterprise of Henry Archer caused the British Post Office to become the first in the world to sell ready-perforated postage stamps to the public.

Other countries followed very quickly: Sweden and Norway in 1855-56, the United States, Victoria and Western Australia in 1857 and Austria in 1858. It is of some interest that the Napier machines at the Inland Revenue was used to perforate the Natal issue of 1859 and the 1861 issues of Queensland and Western Australia. The United States issue of 1857 was perforated on a British machine manufactured by Bemrose of Derby. This firm had in 1854 also patented a rouletting machine and sent specimens to Sir Rowland Hill (Fig. 7).

One interesting side effect of perforation is that their use compelled the makers of printing plates to be much more exact in the laying-down of the impressions on the plate. When they were careless the result was inevitably serious off-centring of the perforations and complaints from the public. The extreme misalignment of the single hand-struck impressions of the embossed issues of Britain, for instance, made machine perforations of these stamps quite impracticable – this may well have contributed to the abandonment of this type of postage stamp.

A. G. Rigo de Righi

(The illustrations cover this article and the previous feature in the August Bulletin)

Film Shows at The National Postal Museum

Lunch-time film shows will be held every Friday during September in the lecture theatre of the National Postal Museum. Each showing will start at 1 p.m., and will last for between 35 and 45 minutes; admission will be free.

The programme for September will be as follows:—

3 September

The First and the Fastest, telling of the non-stop flight of Alcock and Brown across the Atlantic in 1919 and, 50 years later, the trans-Atlantic air race; and *The Story of Letter Sorting*.

10 September

Thirty Million Letters, which looks at the huge task involved in moving Britain's mails; and *The Story of Mail Transport*.

17 September

Night Mail, made in 1936. This world-renowned documentary, directed by John Grierson, with verse commentary by W. H. Auden and music by Benjamin Britten, describes the journey of the postal express on its night run from Euston to Glasgow. With it will be *The Story of the Letter Post*, which deals with the development of postal services from the 15th century to modern times.

24 September

Picture to Post, an award winning film, which tells the story of stamp design and designers; and *One Jump Ahead*, which illustrates the use of machines in moving the mails.

The National Postal Museum is in the London Chief Office Building, King Edward Street, near St. Paul's Cathedral.

Book Review

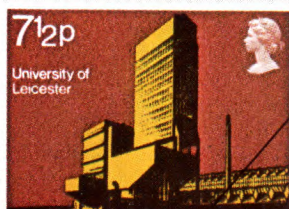
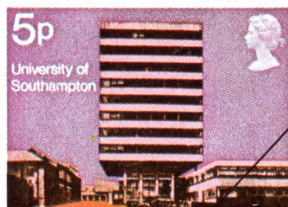
Slogan Postmarks of the UK – 1970

The ever increasing number of slogan collectors will find this new volume invaluable. It lists and illustrates the new slogans issued in the UK during 1970 and shows all previous slogans re-introduced during the same period. In addition it contains supplements to previously published Local Publicity and Slogan Postmark catalogues.

Comprising 48 pages Slogan Postmarks of the United Kingdom by C. R. H. Parsons, C. G. Peachey and G. R. Pearson is available from G. R. Pearson, 42 Corrance Road, London, SW2 5RH, price 50p post free.

British Architecture Stamp Issue

Modern University Buildings



The architecture of our University buildings is some of the most advanced in Britain today. The four buildings depicted in the new set of stamps, which are designed by Nicholas Jenkins, show the development of this type of architecture over the postwar period.

The 3p stamp depicts the Physical Sciences Building of the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth; the architects are Sir Percy Thomas & Son. The Faraday Building, designed by Sir Basil Spence, shown on the 5p stamp, is part of the Engineering Faculty of the University of Southampton. The 7½p stamp shows the Department of Engineering of Leicester University designed by Stirling and Gowan. The impressive building depicted on the 9p stamp is the Hexagon Restaurant of the University of Essex; the University architect is C. K. Capon of Architects Co-Partnership.

Nicholas Jenkins, the designer of the stamps, is a freelance graphic designer teaching at the Royal College of Art. He studied at the Byam Shaw School of Art and St. Martin's

School of Art. He worked as a mural painter and exhibition designer before becoming a graphic designer.

Printing Details

<i>Designer :</i>	Nicholas Jenkins
<i>Printer :</i>	Harrison & Sons
<i>Size :</i>	1.173 × 1.6
<i>Perforation :</i>	15 × 14
<i>No per sheet :</i>	100
<i>Machine :</i>	Sheet fed rotary
<i>Format :</i>	Horizontal
<i>Colours :</i>	3p light green, gold, yellow, olive green, black 5p lilac, tan, pink, black 7½p maroon, gold, black 9p dark blue, lilac, brown, black.

Modern University Buildings

Essex University

Essex University, founded in 1961, is one of ten totally new universities constructed in

recent years. The University buildings are situated two miles east of Colchester on a site covering 204 acres of parkland. Over a third of the development plan for a University of 6,000 students by 1980 has now been completed. The plan is the work of the University architect Mr. C. K. Capon of Architects Co-Partnership. One of the most impressive buildings on this site is the University self-service restaurant, the Hexagon Restaurant, which is depicted on the 9p stamp.

University College of Wales – Aberystwyth

The original building of this oldest constituent college of the University of Wales founded in 1872 is on the sea front near the 14th century castle. It is still in use but the centre of the college is now established in new buildings on a magnificent site at Penglais, half a mile from the centre of Aberystwyth overlooking the town and sea.

The original college building, neo-Gothic in style and originally intended as an hotel, now houses the arts faculty, the central library and registry. The Penglais site includes most of the science buildings, one of which is depicted on the 3p stamp, the social sciences building, a sports hall, swimming pool and six hostels. On the site's south side is the copyright National Library of Wales containing over a million volumes.

Southampton University

The University of Southampton was founded in 1862 but now nearly all the departments are accommodated in new buildings two miles north of the city centre. Many of the buildings are in a striking modernistic style, an example of which is shown on the 5p stamp. The stamp depicts the Faraday Building which is part of the Engineering Faculty designed by Sir Basil Spence, the University's consultant architect.

Leicester University

Founded in 1921 as the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland College, it became the University College of Leicester in 1927.

The main University buildings are situated about a mile from the city centre. The site, planned by Sir Leslie Martin, is pleasantly rural, with lawns, shrubs and drives. The original grey stone building of the University dates from 1837 but has been considerably altered and extended especially in the last few years. The latest additions include new buildings for engineering, chemistry, physics, geology, geography and mathematics, the biological sciences and a new social building shared by staff and students. The engineering building, depicted on the 7½p stamp, has won several architectural awards.

University of Sussex – Philatelic Unit Inaugural Seminar

A residential Seminar is to be held at the University of Sussex from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 September 1971 on the general theme of the Future of Philately. The Seminar will start with a dinner at which Mr. George Downes, of the British Post Office will be the principal speaker.

Speakers during the weekend will include Mr. Stuart Rose and Mr. Brian Crowther from Postal Headquarters. Mr. R. F. York, Works Director, Harrison and Sons, Mr. A. L. Michael, Chairman and Managing Director of Stanley Gibbons Ltd., and Mr. Michael Clarke, Co-ordinator on behalf of the Stamp Collecting Promotions Council.

The range of topics to be covered in considering the future of Philately are design, production, marketing and promotion.

Association of Essex Philatelic Societies – Annual Autumn Rally

The Annual Autumn Rally for the Association of Essex Philatelic Societies will be held on Saturday 2 October 1971 at the College of

Education, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex. It is organised by the Brentwood and District Philatelic Society. Admission is free.

Attractions at the Rally include invited displays, a Post Office display and Sales Counter, dealer's stands, a special Rally handstamp and souvenir cover. Also sideshow competitions, an auction, an inter-society quiz and an enlarged souvenir edition of the Brentwood Society's magazine.

10p Stampbooks in New Format

A 10p stampbook with changed format is now available from the Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh, and philatelic counters. The new book contains the same stamps – two at $\frac{1}{2}p$, two at 1p, two at $1\frac{1}{2}p$ and two at 2p – but placed differently to make them more convenient to use. The new make-up is:

Stitching		Stitching	
2p	$\frac{1}{2}p$	$1\frac{1}{2}p$	1p
2p	$\frac{1}{2}p$	$1\frac{1}{2}p$	1p
First pane		Second pane	

The new 10p stampbooks are being sold from all post offices as stocks of the old books run out.

1971 Christmas Stamps – First Day Cover Services

This year's Christmas stamps will be issued on 13 October and will consist of three denominations $2\frac{1}{2}p$, 3p and $7\frac{1}{2}p$. We are offering a variety of cancellations on first day covers and introduce "Canterbury Kent" to complement the stained glass stamp designs from Canterbury Cathedral. The usual "Philatelic Bureau"

and "Bethlehem, Llandeilo Carms" postmarks will also be available. Application forms for the services are enclosed.

The charges are:

Service A	
Deposit Account customers	21 $\frac{1}{2}p$
Non Deposit Account customers	24 p
Service B	18 p
Service C	21 $\frac{1}{2}p$

Applications for the Bethlehem postmark must be sent to the Head Postmaster (Philatelic Section) Llanelli Carms. All requests which contain orders for other than Bethlehem cancellations only must be sent to the Philatelic Bureau.

Collectors who prefer to prepare and post their own covers may do so at the 180 offices throughout the country where philatelic posting boxes are provided.

For this issue we are producing a special filler card for the covers which will give considerable detail about stained glass.

National Army Museum Series – Military Covers

Covers planned for issue during September and October 1971 are as follows:–

- 12 Sept. Group 4 No. 10 Battle of Quebec.
- 13 Sept. Group 3 No. 10 General Wolfe.
- 23 Sept. Group 1 No. 10 Royal Highland Fusiliers.
- 15 Oct. Group 5 No. 7 Queens South Africa Medal.
- 20 Oct. Group 2 No. 10 Uniforms – Light Cavalry.
- 21 Oct. Group 4 No. 11 Boer War.

Orders should be sent with remittance of 25p for each cover to:–

The Philatelic Officer,
National Army Museum Appeal
Duke of Yorks Headquarters
Kings Road, London SW3 4RX

Overseas customers please add 5p for postage by surface mail or the 20z rate for airmail.



Lord Hunt (right) with H. W. Cadwalller, the Postmaster, Knighton Radnorshire, posting a special cover to H.M. The Queen at the official opening of the Long Distance Offa's Dyke Path on 10 July 1971.

The Philatelic Traders' Society – Over 40 years of service to the trade

Very soon after philately became a widespread hobby, stamp collectors felt the necessity of getting together to exchange experiences, and the first philatelic societies were formed. The great development of the hobby, especially after World War I, led to a growth of the trade. Many stamp dealers came to the conclusion that they too should have their own professional organisation. In this country it was Albert Harris who had the excellent idea of uniting the forces of the trade. In 1930 he founded a dealers' organisation within his

firm to give the much needed assistance and help to the growing stamp trade. This was the birth of the PTS.

After World War II the Philatelic Traders' Society was reconstituted as an independent organisation of stamp dealers with an elected Council. The first secretary of the Society, Captain Leslie Hobbs, was responsible for the very good progress made and soon the Society had many hundreds of members in this country and abroad.

The most outstanding figure in the long

history of the Philatelic Traders' Society was no doubt William Ferris, chairman of the PTS Council for many years. It was a great loss for the PTS and for the whole trade when he died in 1963. William Ferris soon realised that there was a need not only for national organisations of stamp dealers, but for an international body too. He helped to organise the International Federation of Stamp Dealers' Associations.

The PTS is very much interested in the development not only of the trade but of philately as a whole. That is how the idea of organising a national stamp exhibition – STAMPEX – was born. It was William Ferris, Joe Darracott, Miss Mary Card and Arthur Stansfield who worked out the plans for the first STAMPEX, which was a great success with the philatelic public. 15,000 philatelists came to see the exhibition at the Central Hall, Westminster.

STAMPEX has been operating for 19 years, and has become an established part of Britain's national philatelic scene. The attendance has been very good at every show and reached a record figure of over 17,000 in 1968. After many years at the Central Hall, STAMPEX moved in 1969 to a new venue – the New Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society, Greycoat and Elverton Streets, London, S.W.1.

STAMPEX 1972 will again be held at the New Hall of the Royal Horticultural Society from 28 February to 4 March. STAMPEX 1972 promises to be a most interesting exhibition. The number of stamp collectors participating in the Silver Mailcoach Trophy Competition is constantly growing and with a number of new Trophies and Awards offered the competition should be most interesting.

The Philatelic Traders' Society has become a much respected organisation of great weight and importance in philatelic life not only in the United Kingdom but all over the world. At present the number of members has passed 900, the majority in this country; over 400 members live and trade in 65 countries overseas.

The services extended by the PTS to its members cover a large field. Every two months a Journal is published for the members giving them all the information of importance to the trade. Every year a Membership Directory is printed which is available not only to members but to the general philatelic public as well and can be bought for 60p. The Society helps its members in many ways. It organises the participation in stamp exhibitions abroad, provides much needed information on customers, informs of thefts and burglaries, expertises stamps for its members, and collects debts, etc. Most important of all, the emblem of the PTS has become a sign of a good reputation, respect and trustworthiness appreciated by the philatelic public.

The Philatelic Traders' Society solves many problems of philatelists, gives them addresses of specialists in the trade, helps them to dispose of their collections, gives them advice and takes up complaints. Large sums of money have been provided by the PTS to support important philatelic ventures such as international exhibitions and the promotion of the hobby.

Further information and details can be obtained from: The Secretary, Philatelic Traders' Society Ltd., 27 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HZ, Telephone: 01-930 6465.

Parisian Philatelic Agency Opens

The British Post Office recently opened a philatelic agency in Paris – its fifth overseas. Direct sales of stamps abroad earn Britain about £300,000 a year, a valuable contribution to her export trade.

The first of Britain's overseas philatelic agencies opened in New York in 1967. The second began trading in Frankfurt the following year, the third opened in Tokyo in 1969 and the fourth in Melbourne last year.

French agents for the British Post Office are the Paris firm, Ancienne Maison Theo-

dore Champion. The company was founded more than 75 years ago and is one of the oldest French stamp trade firms. In addition to its central Paris shop and international philatelic connections, Theodore Champion also publishes a stamp catalogue, Yvert et Tellier.

The Post Office's Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh has, until now, been its sales outlet to France.

Victorian Pillar Box



The earliest pillar boxes were erected in the early 1850s and some of them are still in use. One of the fluted version from 1860 was seen by a reader, Dr. A. W. Beatson of Worthing at Malvern Worcs. and we are grateful to him for lending his photograph.

Christmas Air Letter

This year's Christmas Air Letter has doves as its theme. The 5p stamp impression shows

doves on globes of the world while the main design consists of doves carrying Christmas greetings in many languages. Two phosphor lines are printed adjacent to the stamp.

The Air Letter designed by Julian Gibb and printed by McCorquodale Ltd. will be on sale between 13 October and 24 December price 6p.

Royal Air Force – Flown Covers

The next cover to be issued in the Museum Series is SC 30 on 18 September 1971 to commemorate the Battle of Britain. Covers will be available, at a cost of 25p, from:—

The Philatelic Officer
RAF Uxbridge
Middlesex

1 October 1971 is the 25th Anniversary of the Education Branch of the RAF and will be commemorated by the issue of cover SC 38, available at 25p from:—

The Philatelic Officer
RAF Manston
Ramsgate
Kent.

Special Handstamps

27 September 1971, **Departure: Gurkha Brigade Contingent Aldershot. 27 Sept 1971. British Forces 1186 Postal Service.** Items for reposting to:— The Philatelic Officer, c/o Post Room HQ, 16 Parachute Brigade, Arnhem Barracks, Aldershot, Hants.

Collector's Pack 1971

This year's Collector's Pack will be issued on 29 September 1971.

It will contain the Philypia, Christmas 1970, Ulster Paintings, Literary Anniversaries, General Anniversaries and Modern University stamps.

The pack will be available from the Bureau and all offices which normally sell packs price £1.15.

Philatelic Counter Services at Head Offices – Opening Times

London Chief Office: 9.00a.m. – 4.30p.m. Monday – Friday.

Belfast: 9.30a.m. – 4.30p.m. Monday – Friday (9.30a.m. – 12 noon Saturday).

Birmingham: 10.00a.m. – 5.30p.m. Monday – Friday.

Blackpool: 9.00a.m. – 5.30p.m. Monday – Friday (9.00a.m. – 12.30p.m. Saturday).

Bournemouth: 9.30a.m. – 4.30p.m. Monday – Friday (9.30a.m. – 12 noon Saturday).

Bristol: 9.30a.m. – 12.30p.m. and 1.30p.m. – 4.30p.m. Monday – Friday (9.30a.m. – 12.30p.m. Saturday).

Cardiff: 10.00a.m. – 5.00p.m. Monday – Friday (10.00a.m. – 1.00p.m. Saturday).

Edinburgh: 9.00a.m. – 4.30p.m. Monday – Thursday (9.00a.m. – 4.00p.m. Friday).

Glasgow: 9.00a.m. – 4.30p.m. Monday – Thursday (9.00a.m. – 4.00p.m. Friday).

Leeds: 9.00a.m. – 5.30p.m. Monday – Friday (10.00a.m. – 12 noon Saturday).

Liverpool: 9.00a.m. – 5.30p.m. Monday – Friday (9.00a.m. – 12.30p.m. Saturday).

Manchester 9.00a.m. – 5.30p.m. Monday – Friday (9.00a.m. – 12.30p.m. Saturday).

Newcastle: 10.00a.m. – 5.00p.m. Monday – Friday (10.00a.m. – 12 noon Saturday).

Sheffield: 9.30a.m. – 5.00p.m. Monday – Friday (9.30a.m. – 12.30p.m. Saturday).

Southampton 9.00a.m. – 5.00p.m. Monday – Friday (9.00a.m. – 12.30p.m. Saturday).

London Trafalgar Square B.O. 10.00a.m. – 7.00p.m. Monday – Friday (10.00a.m. – 4.30p.m. Saturday).

York (Temporary Counter until the end of October) 1.00p.m. – 4.15p.m. Monday

10.00a.m. – 4.15p.m. Tuesday.

10.00a.m. – 12.30p.m. Wednesday.

10.00a.m. – 4.15p.m. Thursday.

10.00a.m. – 4.15p.m. Friday.

10.00a.m. – 3.00p.m. Saturday.

Change in Stamp Books to Help the Blind

We announced on June 17 that to help blind people we would be making some changes to the perforations on the small Se-tenant sized advertisements in stamp books. To the blind these advertisements are indistinguishable from stamps.

All the advertisements are carried next to the sewn edge of the stampbooks. Now they will not be perforated at this edge, and blind people will be able to detach stamps and identify the “stub”.

The changes affect the three counter selling books – the 25p, 30p and 50p values. The August 30p book incorporating the changes has already been issued and the August 25p and November 50p books (the first editions of these two books with the changed format) will be issued shortly; probably in mid-September. At time of going to press we are not sure exactly when the two books will first be put on sale from the Bureau and philatelic counters but this will be announced separately as soon as possible.

Postmark Slogans

9 June 1971 until further notice **Remember to use the Post Code.** To be used at Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill.

14 June 1971 – 13 June 1972 **Business comes to Life in Cwmbran – Garden City of Wales.** To be used at Cwmbran.

1 July 1971 until further notice **Skegness Illumination Nightly from August 8 on the dry Lincolnshire coast.** To be used at Skegness.

From earliest possible date to 7 June 1972 **Port of Manchester serves British Industry.** To be used at Manchester.

The following dies will be used at Newmarket:–

21 August – 2 October **Newmarket Races**

Wednesday Thursday Saturday 29-30 September and 2 October.

3 October - 15 October Newmarket Races Thursday Friday Saturday 14-15-16 October.

17 October - 29 October Newmarket Races Thursday Saturday 28-30 October.

British Diabetic Assn. 50th Year of Insulin in Diabetic Research. Defeat Diabetes in 1971. Will be reused at the following office:-

Northampton 15 August - 11 September 1971.

8 July-25 July 1971 and 1-13 September 1971 and 5 October-19 December 1971 **City of York 1900th Anniversary Celebrations January 1971 December.** To be used at York.

26 July-15 August 1971 and 17 August-30 August 1971 and 14 September-4 October 1971 **York Races.** To be used at York.

22 August-12 September 1971 and 12-18 December 1971 **Professional and Technical Education from 16 Filton Technical College Bristol 694211.** To be used at Bristol.

1 September 1971-30 November 1971 **Wigan is Growing - Come and Grow with it.** To be used at Wigan, Lancs.

16 September-13 October 1971 and 15 October-31 March 1972 **Hastings Popular With Visitors since 1066.** To be used at Hastings, Sussex.

10 October-30 October 1971 and 20 February 1972-11 March 1972 **Kelso Races.** To be used at Kelso, Roxburghshire.

14 October 1971 **Today is Hastings Day.** To be used at Hastings, Sussex.

1 November 1971-19 February 1972 and 12 March-24 April 1972 **Kelso Abbey.** To be used at Kelso, Roxburghshire.

23 July-16 September 1971 **Victoria Line now open to Brixton.** To be used at Battersea DO, London SW11, South Western DO, London SW1, South Eastern DO, London SE1, Western Central DO, London WC1 and Eastern Central DO, London EC1.

2 August 1971-1 August 1972 **Invest and Advance with Hartlepool.** To be used at Hartlepool.

1 September-23 October 1971 **Mansfield Festival 1971 9-23 October.** To be used at Mansfield, Notts.

The following postmark slogans will now be used at Bexhill on Sea:-

23 June-31 December 1971 **1200th Charter Celebrations.**

1 January 1972-30 April 1972 **Send for a Guide.**

1 May 1972-30 September 1972 **1200 Charter Celebrations.**

The programme as previously announced is therefore cancelled.

2 August-12 September 1971 **Restore Woodbridge Tide Mill.** To be used at Woodbridge and Ipswich.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I write to observe on the choice of emblems on the recently issued Regional Definitive stamps.

While the designs are generally pleasing and suitable for their declared purpose, I find it unfortunate that there should be such a similarity in appearance of the Scottish and Welsh designs. Truly, unless one looks closely the difference is hardly apparent at all! Surely it would be better if the regions could be distinguished at a glance.

While, too, I realise many experienced persons, the Stamp Advisory Committee among others, have decided for good reasons that the lion and dragon should show their respective 'colours', it appears obvious to me that the difference could well and effectively have been established by using the thistle for the Scottish stamps. (They were on the old issue).

Yours faithfully,

SQDN.-LDR. J. H. WITHEROW
Odiham, Basingstoke, Hants.

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