

BRITISH *PHILATELIC*

The ROYAL MAIL magazine *for stamp collectors*

Bulletin

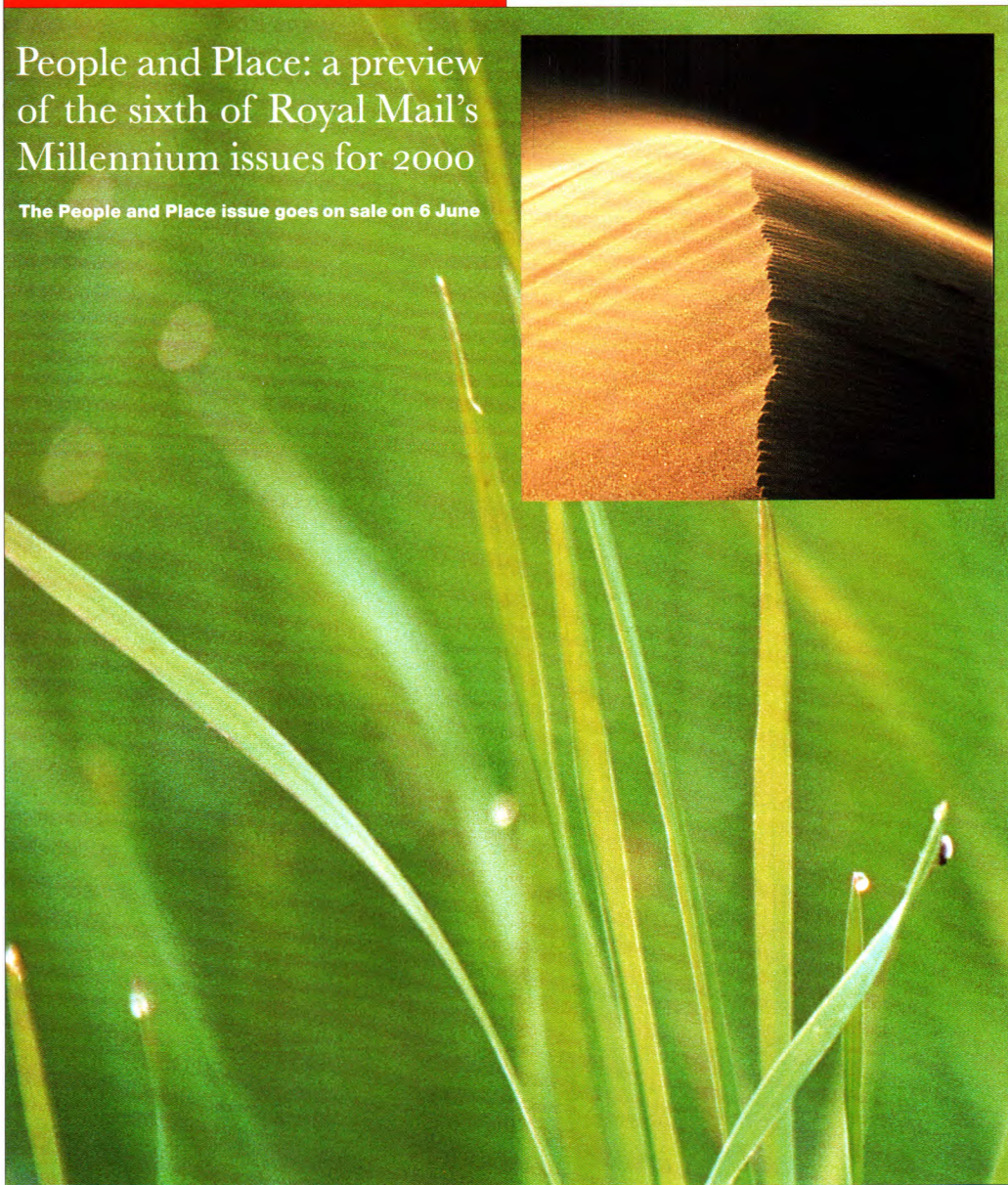
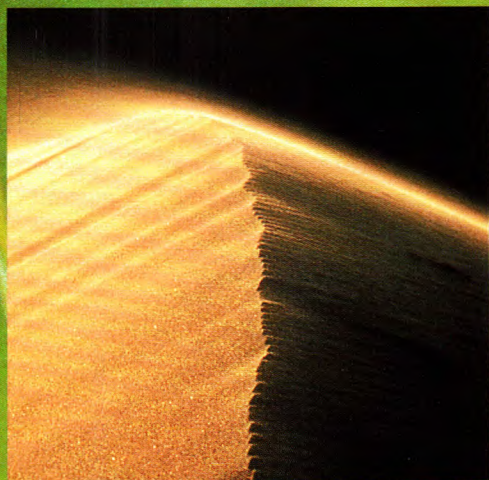
Volume 37 Number 9

MAY 2000 • 85P

Special 12-page preview of
the Stamp Show 2000

People and Place: a preview
of the sixth of Royal Mail's
Millennium issues for 2000

The People and Place issue goes on sale on 6 June



Forthcoming issues and withdrawals



Cover Millennium projects featured on the People and Place stamps include On the Line, which links the UK with countries on the Greenwich Meridian, and Millennium Greens, which brings greater access to open spaces.

Picture acknowledgements: Cover, GettyOne; Turner p259/284, National Portrait Gallery London; Bridge p259/264, Wilkinson Eyre Architects; Child p264, GettyOne; Tate Gallery p281, Hayes Davidson/© Tate London; Sir Henry Tate p281, © Tate London; *Waiting for the Shop to Open* (detail) by L. S Lowry (1943) p282-3, © Manchester City Art Galleries; The Lowry p283, Duffie White/The Lowry; L. S Lowry p283, courtesy Lord Glenamara.

Issues Note some items are available only from the British Philatelic Bureau and Post Office Counters philatelic outlets at main post offices in Bath, Belfast, Birmingham Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge Canterbury, Cardiff, Chester Colchester, Coventry, Croydon Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter Gatwick Airport, Glasgow Gloucester, Grimsby, Guildford Harrogate, Leeds, Leicester Liverpool, London (Lombard Street and Trafalgar Square) Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham Oxford, Plymouth, Portsmouth Southampton, Southend-on-Sea, Stevenage, Stratford-on-Avon, Truro, Windsor and York

2 May	Issue Millennium Art and Craft stamps and presentation pack.
3 May	Withdrawal Craft aerogrammes: England (and N Ireland), Scotland, and Wales.
7 May	Withdrawal N Ireland 20p, 26p, 37p & 63p; Scotland 20p, 26p, 37p & 63p; Wales 20(p), 26(p), 37(p) & 63(p) and presentation pack.
22 May	Issue Stamp Show 2000 miniature sheet: eight Machin definitives in Jeffery Matthews colours. Price £2.59 or £4.99 in special folder • 'Smilers' stamps: sheet of 10 greetings stamps printed with 10 personalised labels – available only at Stamp Show 2000. A similar sheet with labels showing exhibition logo will be available from the British Philatelic Bureau • Stamp cards – Pictorial label panes (4): Berlin Airlift, Rugby, Postman Pat, and National Botanic Garden of Wales • Stamp Show miniature sheet containing Millennium definitives and £1 1953 Coronation stamp (price £2.08 or £2.45 in presentation pack); stamp cards (3) showing full miniature sheet, 1st Millennium definitive, and £1 Coronation stamp.
23 May	Issue Stamp Show prestige stamp books (<i>Definitive Stamp</i> , <i>Profile on Print</i> and <i>Special by Design</i>) in special folder. Available only from Bureau and Stamp Show 2000.
26 May	Issue £2.70 stamp book: eight Millennium definitives and pane of 1st class Space Centre and London Zoo stamps from Above & Beyond and Life & Earth sets.
29 May	Withdrawal 6p & 30p definitives (issued 1 April & 27 May 1997). Note: Change of withdrawal date from that originally announced – 29 February.
30 May	Issue Millennium People and Place stamp cards.
30 May	Withdrawal 20p definitive, 1 phosphor band (issued 29 April 1997).
31 May	Withdrawal 1994 To Pay labels & presentation pack.

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The British Philatelic Bulletin is published monthly by Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ • **Editor** JR Holman • **Price** 85p for single copies, from Post Office Counters philatelic outlets • **Annual subscription** £9.50 in UK and Europe. £13.50 rest of the world. Subscriptions should be sent to: British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT • **Binders** to hold 24 issues, price £7, available by post from British Philatelic Bureau (address as above) • Royal Mail also publishes the fortnightly *British Postmark Bulletin*, giving details of forthcoming special handstamps. Available on annual subscription from British Philatelic Bureau (address above) UK and Europe £10, rest of the world £21.75 • **Copyright** Unless copyright is attributed to a specific author, any article or feature may be reproduced without formal permission, but acknowledgement should be given to *British Philatelic Bulletin*. Requests to reproduce any copyright articles should be addressed to the Editor, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ • **Design** by Robert Maude • **Printed** in Great Britain by The White Dove Press • **ISSN** 0953 8119

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Stamp scene Exhibitions • Societies news

• Philatelic websites • Postal miniatures



The Falklands Islands sheet Elizabeth I, James II (VII of Scotland), George I, William IV, Edward VIII, and Elizabeth II, with Buckingham Palace.

Autumn Stampex which includes the annual national stamp competition, takes place at the Business Design Centre, London N1, 20-24 September.

Enquiries: 020 7490 1005.

Kings and Queens for Stamp Show 2000 To mark the international show at Earls Court this month, four postal administrations have issued miniature sheets each containing six stamps showing British monarchs and including a London landmark as the sheet illustration. The British Virgin Islands sheet features Henry VII, Lady Jane Grey (Queen for a few days in 1553), Charles I, William III, George III, and Edward VII with The Tower of London. For the Cayman Islands sheet, showing Hampton Court Palace, the selected monarchs are: Henry VIII, Mary I, Charles II, Anne, George IV, and George V. Portrayed on the St Helena sheet are Edward VI, James I (VI of Scotland), William III & Mary II, George II, Victoria, and George VI with Windsor Castle as the sheet illustration. These attractive sheets will be available from the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau stand at Stamp Show 2000 •

Spring Stampex Over 6000 collectors visited the exhibition at the Business Design Centre in London, 1-5 March. One of the first attractions they saw was a huge packet of Spanish stamps, valued at £500, donated by Ron Shelly. Visitors had to guess the number of stamps in the packet. The correct answer was 2519; five people estimated 2500 and the winner was Glenn Morris of Essex who is no doubt making a good start to his collection of Spain. The Spanish societies and the Ship Stamp Society signed up some new members and renewed many acquaintances on their stands. The 'Ships 2000' exhibition was much praised, visitors commenting on the 'viewer friendly' displays.

By filling in their names and addresses on the entry tickets, visitors could enter daily and a star prize draw. The winners of the star prize draws were: Mr Kalloo of London (case of Cordon Negro Brut); Mr Goulding of London (30 hour Spanish language course); Mr Wright of Buckinghamshire (CD-ROM of Spain not); and Mr Davies of Essex (catalogue of the Gems of Spanish Philately). The major prize of a weekend in Madrid for the Spain 2000 exhibition was won by Mr Balch of Sreatham •

Enquiries Cavendish Philatelic Auctions, 153-157 London Road, Derby DE1 2SY.

Telephone 01332 250970.

Cavendish Auctions expand Following the highly successful association with Messengers over the last five years, Cavendish Philatelic Auctions are pleased to announce that they have now acquired the business and goodwill of this unique ephemera auction business founded 20 years ago by Barrie Evans. Barrie will remain as a Cavendish consultant on all items ephemeral, and looks forward to meeting collectors with a taste for the unusual and eclectic at the Cavendish stand (R12) at Stamp Show 2000 on 25 May •

Postal models To mark 200 years of British mailmen, BFM Collectables have produced four figures (2in tall): a Letter Carrier of 1790 ringing a bell; a Victorian shako-helmeted postman; 1930s postman; and a weather-proofed, bare-headed postie of today. The four figures are gift-boxed with a numbered certificate, price £28.95.

Before the First World War, the Great Western Railway was contracted to carry mail between Helston station and The Lizard peninsula. BFM Collectables have created one of these GWR post buses by converting a 'Model of Yesteryear'. This model is available in a limited edition of 250, price £18.95 •



Orders and enquiries BFM Collectables, PO Box 69, Fleet GU13 9YN. Credit card orders on 01252 617 952, Monday-Friday 10.00-18.00.

Stamp Lincs 2000 The Lincolnshire Philatelic Society is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year and the exhibition at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Lincoln (until 7 May) is on the theme of anniversaries. During the Easter holidays the Museum staff arranged special events for young people, with 'goody bags' including a special commemorative cover. The Museum, with Royal Mail, arranged a competition involving schools in the area – the theme was Art & Craft to tie in with the special stamps issued 2 May. The winner(s) of the competition will be treated to a trip to the Film Museum at Bradford. A Stamp Fair and Family Fun Day was held at the Museum on 29 April. This is the fourth year the Society has arranged activities for all ages and types of collector. In 1997 it won the Rowland Hill Award for work in the community, it came second in 1998 and was nominated again for 1999. One result of the activities is a junior stamp club which meets monthly at the Museum and is proving very popular •

Enquiries Arthur Long, 466 Newark Road, Swallowbeck, Lincoln LN6 8RZ. Telephone 01522 685228.

Philatelic websites The Association of British Philatelic Societies, National Philatelic Society, and British Philatelic Trust launched a website on 14 April. Target audiences for the site are: existing collectors with or without knowledge of organised philately, previous collectors, newcomers, and passers-by. Initially, topics covered will include: introduction to philately and collecting, information sources, details of UK societies, youth, award schemes, ABPS services, introduction to the Trust and its work and the British Philatelic Centre, a guide to the NPS and its library, and links to major philatelic and non-philatelic websites. Other subjects will be included as the site develops.

ABPS/NPS/BPT website www.ukphilately.org.uk

Enquiries: British Philatelic Trust, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6PT. Telephone 020 7490 3112.

The Albertino de Figueiredo Foundation for Philately, based in Madrid, has its own website which is intended to become a vast source of information on its activities, and a significant tool for anyone interested in Spanish stamps and postal history. When completed, the site, with pages in Spanish, English and French, will show the Foundation's objectives, the names of its trustees, its organisation, and the main services offered free to stamp collectors and dealers in Spain and abroad.

Albertino de Figueiredo Foundation website www.filatelia-fundacionadf.com

This site is expected to be fully operative in the next few months; work in progress can be seen at the above address.

Raflet Stamp Club website

<http://www.raflet.org.uk>.

Those not connected to the web can contact Raflet Stamp Club at 14 Hamlyn Avenue, Anlaby Road, Hull HU4 6BU.

Raflet Stamp Club, the largest postal-only general interest stamp club in the UK, has recently re-launched its website at a new address. The new site includes a brief history of the Club, extracts from its magazine, subscription rates, membership application form, and much else. Future months will see the introduction of an online auction, a buy, sell or swap feature and other attractions ●



Stamtec Strips 217mm long in seven standard widths: 24, 26, 30, 31, 35, 41 and 48mm. Strips can be cut to length for single stamps or groups. Enquiries: International Direct Ltd, City House, Sutton Park Road, Sutton SM1 2AE.

New dry-mounting system for stamps Secol Limited announce the launch of STAMTEC, the first major new development in mounting systems for stamps for many years. Secol has been a leading European manufacturer of archival storage systems for museums, galleries and national collections for over 40 years. STAMTEC, a registered trademark of Secol, is manufactured from polyester film, selected for many years by paper conservators as the ideal medium for safe storage of valuable paper based materials. The specific grade of material is MYLAR 'D' which has been used for many years for exhibition page protectors. It possesses the perfect combination of a very high strength, brilliant optical clarity and total chemical inertness which is vital to the safe enclosure of valuable material. STAMTEC combines a complete 360-degree wrap-round protective coverage of the stamp with a neat strip of peel-off acrylic adhesive to hold the mount securely on the page ●

Enquiries about the Weekend and books to: Mrs DM Martin, 46 Briardene Crescent, Kenton Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4RY. Please include a 6 × 9in SAE.

Northeast Philatelic Weekend The 24th Weekend is to be held at the Swallow Hotel, Gateshead, Friday-Sunday 12-14 May. A varied and interesting programme has been arranged to cover many aspects of collecting, catering for both new and advanced collectors. A Stamp Fair will be held at the hotel on the Sunday. These residential weekends are enjoyed in a most congenial and friendly atmosphere; all newcomers can be assured of a very warm welcome. As usual there will be a souvenir booklet produced to commemorate the event which will contain the three 'E' stamps – national Machin, Scottish, and Welsh. The booklets are a private limited edition production, not connected with Royal Mail ●

GB Philatelic Society For details of the Society, founded 1955, contact A J Lajer, The Old Post Office, Davis Way, Hurst, Reading RG10 0TR.

GB society journals The March/April issue of *The GB Journal*, published by the GB Philatelic Society, contains interesting features on the Jesus College Cambridge messenger service, Neale's Steam Press Experiment 1854-56, Penny Pink letter sheets, 1940 Centenary Exhibition miniature sheets, Numbers in Maltese Cross postmark, book reviews, useful notes, and advertisements for specialist dealers in GB stamps and postal history. Many interesting short features, and news of the Society's activities, are included in its March/April *Newsletter* which is developing into a magazine in its own right.

Studiegroep Britannia P S Gimberg, Duivesteijnstraat 16, 2272 AN Voorburg, Netherlands.

The February issue of *Britannia News*, published by the Studiegroep Britannia in the Netherlands, contains features on 19th century postmarks, Machins and details of the Group's activities. Attached is a lengthy auction catalogue, mostly, but not exclusively, of British material from pre-stamp to Machins ●

Even more help Richard West applauds the volunteers

LAST MONTH I referred to the many volunteers who will be needed to ensure The Stamp Show 2000 is a success: I could only refer to a few. I mentioned those who will be struggling in the days before the exhibition opens to the public to mount the exhibits in the display frames.

Devising the layout of these frames and organising their erection is Tony Finlayson, working in conjunction with Francis Kiddle to ensure this vital aspect of the show proves faultless.

The Jury will be working hard over the first few days to complete their work: their schedule has been arranged by the secretary to the Jury, Patrick Pearson. I will be assisting Patrick in this task.

The exhibitors will be eagerly awaiting the Palmares banquet on Saturday evening. This is being arranged by Franceska Rapkin, assisted by Anabelle Todd. Franceska is also responsible for the various prizes that will be awarded to exhibitors: in this task she has been aided by Brian Sole, who has also co-ordinated the programme of society meetings at Earls Court.

For a place to relax during the exhibition, where better than the Millennium Club? This is another of Franceska's responsibilities, helped in this by Brian Asquith.

As you enter Earls Court you will be confronted by the Information and Collector Centre, organised by the British Philatelic Trust. A large team has been gathered for this project, spearheaded by Dr Alan Huggins.

Adjacent to the Collector Centre is the Specialist Society display area arranged by the Association of British Philatelic Societies. Phil Kenton has brought together some 40 specialist societies, showing material in their own spheres of interest.

There will be much to entertain the young visitor, with the chance to design a stamp on the Royal Mail stand, or have fun and games with Postman Pat and the junior section of the Royal society for the Protection of Birds. The National Youth Stamp Group, headed by John Davies and supported by many volunteers, will be showing youngsters how much enjoyment comes from stamp collecting.



The Stamp Show 2000 Advisory Board (Nigel Haworth and Pat Rothnie not shown).

No stamp exhibition could take place without the trade and postal administrations. Ensuring all runs smoothly for the dealers has been the task of Chris Rainey, Nigel Haworth and Nigel Fordham. Chris has spent many hours negotiating to ease the arrangements as regards Customs and VAT. Nigel Fordham, who is head of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, has had particular responsibility for the postal administrations, and arranging the Philatelic Passport.

And there are more. There is David Springbett, Chairman of the Philatelic Board, who have ensured that all the many tasks have been undertaken smoothly and efficiently. Charles Goodwyn and Michael Sefi, responsible for the superb display from the Royal Philatelic Collection. David Beech, who has arranged the exhibit of British Library Rarities. Douglas Muir, responsible for the display that traces British definitives from the Penny Black to the Millennium definitive.

One must not forget all those at Royal Mail who have been involved in the project, particularly over the past year: those at Clarion Events, whose responsibility includes the stand building and security; and those at the British Philatelic Centre under Susan Ellis responsible for the exhibition secretariat. Plus the FIP Co-ordinator for the exhibition, Koh Seow Chuan.

The fact remains that I have been able to mention only a few. Many, many more will be giving of their time and services quite freely to ensure this will be an exhibition not to be missed. ●

Richard West is Editor-at-Large, Stamp Magazine.



Telegraph Colour Library



Tony Stone



Millennium Greens Celebrating the Millennium at a local level in urban and rural communities throughout England, this project aims to establish 250 greens, often near schools

Mile End Park This redevelopment, brought about by the efforts of the borough council and the local community, restores recreational and sports facilities to a park which had ceased to serve residents' needs.

Technical details

Printer Walsall Security Printers

Process 2nd & 45p gravure, 1st & 65p litho

Size 37 x 35mm

Sheets 100

Perforation 14 x 14.5

Phosphor One band 2nd class, two bands others

Gum PVA

Gutter pairs Vertical

The People and Place issue will go on sale at post offices and philatelic outlets on 6 June.



Wilkinson Eyre Architects



Telegraph Colour Library

Gateshead Millennium Bridge This project (opposite, top left) provides access to Gateshead Quays, the new cultural centre which is transforming a former industrial site on the Tyne.

On the Line This Millennium project brings together the peoples who live on the Greenwich Meridian. Throughout the UK, programmes have been devised to promote the exchange of knowledge and experience.

People and Place is the sixth set of 12 Millennium issues for 2000, inspired by Millennium Projects throughout the UK. The 2nd class value, *Millennium Greens*, features the Countryside Commission project to establish a network of green breathing spaces, designed to provide wider access to attractive open spaces

- The 1st class features the Gateshead Millennium Bridge which leads to the Gateshead Quays Centre. Built with a Millennium grant of £9 million, the bridge spans 130 metres, and pivots to allow boats to pass beneath
- The 45p depicts Mile End Park in the East End

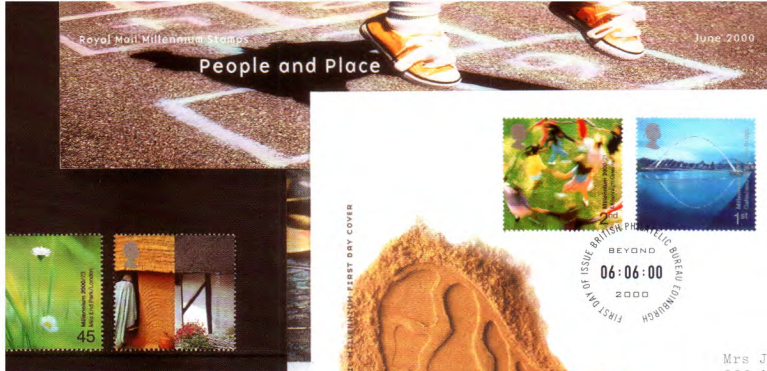
of London, now re-opened with facilities for 50,000 local people. With wind turbines and solar panels, it is the first park to derive all of its energy from renewable sources

-

On the Line, the Millennium project on the 65p, links the UK with France, Spain and African countries along the Greenwich Meridian, to demonstrate that the people of these nations share more than a common time zone

-





A well-illustrated presentation pack (above, price £1.95) and stamp cards (price 25p each) will be available at main post offices and philatelic outlets.



FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets about a week before 6 June, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of the Bureau or Gateshead must reach the Bureau by 6 June. Price £2.25 UK (including VAT) or £1.92 overseas (no VAT).

Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT, or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, Forth Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1AA (Gateshead postmark), marking the outer envelope 'F00017' (Bureau), or 'F00018' (Gateshead). Covers can be posted or handed in at main post offices for the Gateshead postmark. A non-pictorial Gateshead postmark is also available from the Special Handstamp Centre, request 'F00018 NP'.

Details of sponsored handstamps for 6 June will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from the Bureau (£10 UK/Europe; £21.75 elsewhere). For a sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ. Covers may bear just the 2nd class People and Place stamp for any philatelic postmark in use on 6 June.

Cylinders and colours

2nd W1 bistre-yellow ● W1 bright magenta ● W1 new blue ● W1 grey-black ● W1 silver

1st W1 deep ultramarine ● W1 silver ● W1 black ● W1 new blue ● W1 bright magenta ● W1 greenish yellow

45p W1 greenish yellow ● W1 magenta ● W1 pale new blue ● W1 grey-black ● W1 silver ● W1 deep turquoise-green

65p W1 silver ● W1 black ● W1 new blue ● W1 bright magenta ● W1 greenish yellow

Phosphor cylinder W2 1st, W1 others

MILLENNIUM PHILATELIC PRODUCTS Each of the Millennium packs this year includes a specially commissioned poem. The People and Place poem, entitled *The Park Had a Dream* is by Moniza Alvi, who was born in Pakistan and grew up in Hertfordshire. She was co-winner of The Poetry Business Prize in 1991 and her first collection *The Country at my Shoulder* (1993) was short-listed by both the Whitebread Poetry and the TS Eliot prizes. Her book *A Bowl of Warm* (1996) was amongst the 'Books of the Year' list of the *Independent on Sunday*. Moniza lives and teaches in London. Her poem in this pack gives a voice to Mile End Park ●

Future Millennium issues The seventh set in the Millennium 2000 series will be issued on 4 July. Entitled Stone and Soil, it features Strangford Stone, Killyleagh, Northern Ireland; Trans-Pennine Trail; Kingdom of Fife Cycle Ways; and Groundwork's Changing Places. Details next month ●

BRITISH PHILATELIC

Bulletin

May 2000 • Guide to THE STAMP SHOW 2000



Royal Mail 30 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH1 1TT



- ROYALTY
- WAR & PEACE
- COMMUNICATIONS
- COUNTRYSIDE
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- TRAVEL
- SPORTS
- WILDLIFE
- SPORT
- ENTERTAINMENT



THE
STAMP
SHOW 2000
EARLS COURT LONDON 19-20 MAY 2000

EXHIBITION SOUVENIR



ROYAL MAIL FIRST DAY COVER



ROYAL MAIL FIRST DAY COVER



ROYAL MAIL 30 BRANDON STREET, EDINBURGH EH1 1TT

The Stamp Show 2000 Latest in a long line

MAJOR philatelic exhibitions have been held every 10 years in London since 1940, the centenary of the Penny Black, and Stamp Show 2000 at Earls Court this month is but the latest and largest in a long line. The last show, at Alexandra Palace in 1990, was judged a great success and attracted almost 100,000 visitors. It is hoped that the even greater number of attractions at Stamp Show will be seen by at least that number.

Opening hours 22-28 May, 10.00-18.00. Late opening to 20.00 on Thursday 25 May.

Admission £10 on opening day (ticket also allows entry on subsequent days) or £5 other days. Children under 16 will be admitted free all days.

The £10 ticket includes a free Royal Mail Millennium Time-keeper miniature sheet with the Stamp Show logo printed in the top margin.

Getting to the Show Earls Court is easily reached by public transport, being just a couple of minutes walk from Earl's Court Underground station (District and Piccadilly lines). The Piccadilly Line provides a direct link with London Heathrow airport.

Earl's Court Underground station is easily reached from most main London rail stations: Victoria and Paddington – by District Line; Waterloo – Northern Line to Embankment, then District line; Euston – Victoria Line to Victoria, then District Line; King's Cross/St Pancras – Piccadilly Line direct; Liverpool Street – Central Line to Notting Hill Gate, then District Line; and London Bridge – Jubilee Line to Westminster, then District Line.

Earls Court is served by bus routes: C1, C3, 74, 190 and 328.

Further information The Stamp Show office is located at the British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6PT. Telephone 020 7490 3112. Fax 020 7490 4253. For the latest information, visit the Show's website at: www.thestampshow2000.co.uk •

A welcome to the Bulletin From the Editor

THIS Stamp Show supplement to the May 2000 *British Philatelic Bulletin* is also being printed as a separate guide and will be freely available at the Show. I hope it will prove interesting and useful.

I extend a welcome to all readers who are reading the *Bulletin* for the first time. The *British Philatelic Bulletin* is Royal Mail's monthly magazine for stamp collectors and is sent to subscribers throughout the world. The magazine not only provides information about forthcoming British stamps and related products, but contains feature articles written by leading philatelists, news of exhibitions and events in the philatelic world, prize competitions, readers' letters, and much else. There is also a regular supplement, *Commemorative Covers Review*, giving details of first day and special covers serviced by cover producers, charities and others. This all adds up to a well-produced and colourful 36-page magazine each month for the modest price of just 85p.

Royal Mail also publishes the fortnightly *British Postmark Bulletin* for postmark collectors. This is available only on subscription from the Bureau.

Enjoy Stamp Show 2000 – I am sure you will find much of interest.

JOHN HOLMAN •

The British Philatelic Bulletin is available from Post Office Counters philatelic outlets, or subscription from: the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT – £9.50 UK and Europe; £13.50 elsewhere (airmail).

The British Postmark Bulletin Subscription from the British Philatelic Bureau only: £10 UK and Europe; £21.75 elsewhere (airmail).

For a sample copy of both Bulletins write to: The Editor, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

Show attractions For all ages and interests

Attractions for all Details are given elsewhere of the Royal Philatelic Collection and British Library displays and the 'Eyes Right' story of definitive stamps display by Post Office Heritage. Centrepiece of the Royal Mail stand will be the 'Perspectives on Britain' exhibition which focuses on British history, culture, events and achievements through the medium of British stamps. Each of the 10 themes has a 'hero' stamp with a wonderful story to tell. Visitors can stroll through the Millennium Art Gallery which includes original artwork from some of Britain's best-known and respected artists and designers.

Visitors of all ages will enjoy the 'feature stand' provided by David Harrop of postal artefacts from his collection based at the Manchester Postal Museum. David's displays have been a popular feature at Stampex and Stamp exhibitions at Wembley in recent years.

Attractions for young visitors In the Youth Area of the Royal Mail stand, young visitors will be able to design their own stamps and see what they would look like on an envelope ready to send through the post. All sorts of materials can be used to design stamps on one of a number of subjects ranging from Entertainment and Sport to Nature and Royalty. Once a design has been created, stamp printers The House of Questa will use the latest digital technology to 'shrink' the design down to stamp size for printing as a label, which will be affixed to an envelope – a personal souvenir for each young visitor of an exciting day at the show. All the designs will go forward into the traditional 'Design-a-Stamp' competition, now in its fifth year. The best designs will later be printed as part of a special souvenir sheet by Questa. *Thanks to Questa, the Design-a-Stamp souvenir sheets have been given free to readers of this Bulletin.* ED.

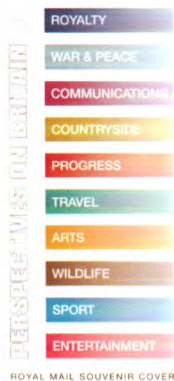
Children can take part in the quizzes, puzzles and activities arranged by Hodder Children's Books, the publishers of the famous Postman Pat stories. The area, surrounded by a dry stone wall, has been designed to look like the village of Greendale where Postman Pat makes his daily deliveries. John Cunliffe, the author, and Ivor Wood, the television creator, will be at the show on 27 & 28 May when John will read some of his Postman Pat stories. A recent competition to design a postcard to send to Postman Pat attracted thousands of entries. The winners will receive their prizes from BBC presenter Richard McCourt at 3pm on 28 May. The winning entries will be on show.

The YOC, junior section of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, will be organising competitions and staging an imaginative show to enable children to discover more about Britain's birds and wildlife.

The National Youth Stamp Group will be present so children can learn more about the hobby of stamp collecting, with a lucky dip to win packets of stamps. All young visitors to Stamp Show will be given a 'goody bag'.

A new guide to competitive philately for young people, written by Richard West, will be launched at the Show ●

Royal Mail products and Show souvenirs



Miniature sheet postmarks (below and right) Details of re-posting addresses and prices of FDCs were published in the April *Bulletin*, pages 234-5.

Exhibition cover The colours represent those of the Jeffery Matthews colour palette used for the miniature sheet stamps and labels.

Jeffery Matthews sheet The eight Machin stamps and two labels are all in colours from Mr Matthews' colour palette for definitives. Price £2.59, or

£4.99 in a translucent folder which unfolds in the shape of a Maltese Cross, containing a cancelled sheet on a postcard.



MINIATURE SHEETS The first of two miniature sheets for Stamp Show 2000 will be issued 22 May (above, on Exhibition cover). This 'Jeffery Matthews' sheet is expected to be very popular with Machin collectors. The second sheet (shown in last month's *Bulletin*) bears a £1 stamp in the design of the 1953 183d Coronation stamp plus four 1st class Millennium definitives. Issued on 23 May, this sheet costs £2.08 or £2.45 in presentation pack ●

EXHIBITION COVER A souvenir cover, price 25p, will be available at the Royal Mail stand at Stamp Show and from the Bureau. The design refers to the special 'Perspectives on Britain' displays on the Royal Mail stand covering the following subjects: Royalty, War & Peace, Communications, Countryside, Progress, Travel, Arts, Wildlife, Sport, and Entertainment. The cover, which also bears the exhibition logo, can be used for postings for the exhibition postmarks. A similar design is being used for the first day cover for the Jeffery Matthews miniature sheet, to be issued on 22 May ●

Stamp cards 25p each.
Stamp book £2.70.

STAMP CARDS AND BOOK Seven new stamp cards will go on sale at Stamp Show. These show the Berlin Airlift, Rugby World Cup, Postman Pat and National Botanic Garden of Wales stamp panes; Millennium definitive, the £1 Coronation stamp miniature sheet and £1 stamp from that sheet.

A new book will go on sale on 26 May, containing a pane of eight 1st class Millennium definitives and a pane of two 2000 Millennium stamps: National Space Centre (from January's Above and Beyond set) and London Zoo Web of Life (April's Life and Earth). Both stamps are inscribed '1st', the original Space Centre stamp was 26p value ●



Smilers stamps and Stamp Show logos

Available from the Bureau, priced £2.95 for a sheet of 10 stamps and labels. The order of stamps will not be as shown left.

Visitors to the Show will be able to have their own image printed on the labels, price £5.95 for one sheet or £10 for two.

Souvenir products A range of fine bone china, ties, souvenirs for children, jigsaw puzzles and telephone cards will all be sold at the exhibition.



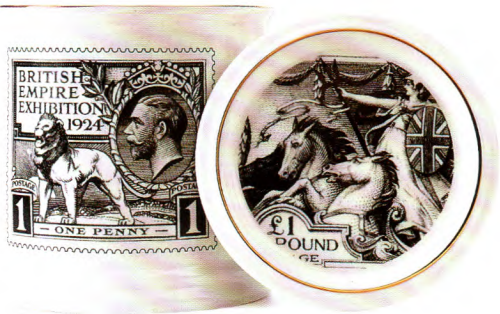
Smilers stamps and Stamp Show logo labels Above is a sheet of Smilers stamps and Stamp Show logo labels. The stamps are the 1991 Smiles greetings stamps (1st NVIS) printed by Questa in sheets. The outer margins are printed as a unique picture frame •

Souvenir products A range of souvenirs will be available linked with the Royal Mail Collectors Club (featuring Sammy the Stamp Bug) and Postman Pat. These include pencil cases, notebooks, t-shirts and other collectibles, and a stamp album specially designed for the younger collector.

Fine bone china coffee mugs (£4.99 each), coffee stands, tankards (£9.95) and plates will provide a fine memento of the Show. These feature some classic British designs such as the 1924 British Empire Exhibition, 1929 £1 Postal Union Congress, and 1951 10s St George and the Dragon stamps.

Four designs from the 2000 Millennium series will be produced as miniature jigsaws. Ties based on the Penny Black will be on sale, either in polyester featuring a single Penny Black (£5.99) or in silk with a multiple design (£14.95). Telephone cards with the Stamp Show 2000 logo cost £5 •

Passport An exhibition passport will be available for collectors to affix stamps purchased from postal administration stands for a special cachet to be applied. The passport will contain space for each of the 150 administrations represented and is expected to cost £2.50 excluding stamps •



The FIP competition exhibits and medals

by Francesca Rapkin

Stamp Show 2000 includes an international competition under the regulations of FIP (Fédération Internationale de Philatélie). Entries will cover an enormous range, from pre-stamp covers to modern thematic issues. The exhibitors of winning entries will receive various awards and medals.

THE DESIGN of the medal is based on the exhibition logo. The head of Queen Victoria will be struck in the metal of the award and inserted once the results are known. Each medal base will have the exhibitor's name and class engraved on it. This, of course, will be known in advance so this preparatory work does not need to be left to the last minute. In early discussions about the exhibition, it was decided that the theme, this Millennium year, would be Time. When this was later changed to Perspectives of Britain, it was decided to continue with a Time theme for the three major awards, the Grand Prix National, International, and d'Honneur. All of them will be time pieces. The awards in the Championship Class will also be linked to this theme. Many societies and federations, both at home and overseas, have been generous in their support of the exhibition. Special prizes have been pledged and many have already been received. It was decided early on that the number of special prizes would be limited to only 50, since it was felt that if too many were available it would lessen their worth •

Stamp Show 2000 special handstamps

When sending covers for postmarking, quote the reference number(s) below.

SPECIAL HANDSTAMPS will be used on mail posted at the show – a generic one in use each day, plus a different one for each day, the design related to the Show theme for that day. The eight handstamps are shown below.



SS001 22-28 May



SS002 22 May



SS003 23 May



SS004 24 May



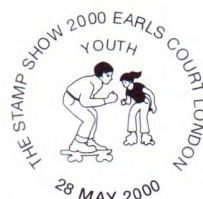
SS005 25 May



SS006 26 May



SS007 27 May



SS008 28 May

Special Handstamp Centre

Royal Mail, Mount Pleasant, London EC1A 1BB. For the generic postmark (SS001) state date(s) required.

Covers for postmarking should be sent to the address at left, bearing at least 1st class postage. If you want your covers returned 'under cover' please enclose a suitable self-addressed envelope. This need not bear return postage, postage will be paid by Royal Mail •

Finding your way around Exhibition Guide and Catalogue



MAIN ENTRANCE

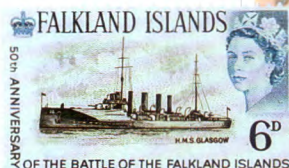
Exhibition guide A free A4-size guide will be available for all visitors; this includes a plan and list of standholders.

Catalogue A lavish 164-page, A5-size catalogue, to be sold at the exhibition, includes features on the displays of the Royal Philatelic Collection, British Library and Post Office Heritage. Also included is a complete list of all the exhibits with a brief description of each, details of the competition prizes, and lists of commissioners, jurors, standholders and postal administrations present. Edited by Richard West, the catalogue will be a useful work of reference, and a collectors' item in its own right.



The Royal Philatelic Collection display

Some items are unique, such as this original drawing made by a POW in a Japanese camp for a Victory issue adopted for Hong Kong.



From the current reign: proofs for this 1964 Falkland Islands issue; Dulac's original design for the Coronation issue; and the GB 1976 13p Rose stamp with missing value – only two unused and one used are known.

by Charles Goodwyn

Keeper, Royal Philatelic Collection



THE DISPLAY will be of about 90 frames; the largest selection from the Royal Philatelic Collection ever shown and almost 90% of which has never been seen in public before.

The display is on the theme of 'the Collector King' – King George charting the early designs of the King's Head as well as the development of the now familiar stamps of Great Britain. The section dedicated to George V's collection shows some outstanding and rare essays and colour trials of issues of GB and the Dominion and Colonial territories.

The display of commemoratives covers the period between 1906 and 1935 with the outstanding artist's drawings of the colonial Silver Jubilee issues and the colour trials of the approved designs. It also includes some 35 frames of colonial issues of King George VI's reign and of HM The Queen. These comprise some fine artists' watercolour drawings in actual stamp size, plate proofs, colour trials and definitives by engravers and printers who dominated the evolution in philatelic production and stamps which were at one time in every schoolboy's collection. They will be recognised as old friends by many visiting collectors.

The Silver Wedding commemoratives depict much artwork as well as the unique two blocks of £1 issues in black for St Vincent, which had to be replaced with an issue of a different colour as the original consignment was stolen.

A special section dedicated to the Gems of the Collection will show the acquisitions made by King George V. Display cabinets will contain historic artefacts such as the Canadian Diamond Jubilee presentation book, letters written by the King and the unique Tsarevich Album presented to HM The Queen. (See Bulletin, December 1997, ED) ●

Eyes right! Definitive display

ON THE WORLD'S FIRST STAMP, the Penny Black in 1840, Queen Victoria faced to her right. All monarchs since then have followed suit – on their stamps – unlike coins where they alternate from one reign to another. Hence the title of this display, where all British definitive stamps from 1840 to the present day are shown together with artwork, essays and unique items from the Heritage collections of The Post Office and loans from the Public Record Office, the Royal Mint and the Royal Philatelic Society. They will illustrate the design and production of definitives, based in many cases on new research and new material.

How did the Penny Black come about? The exciting story of postal reform is illustrated with many unique items, and printing will be demonstrated (see p276). Victorian developments such as perforations, different printing techniques and forgery prevention are all covered and illustrated.

A great deal of work always goes into producing new designs, normally a matter of considerable urgency when a new monarch comes to the throne. New images are required, suitable frames, effective colours. The resulting artwork and essays are often unique and the stories of how the issued stamps came about are always fascinating. Arnold Machin's classically simple sculptured portrait of Queen Elizabeth II harks back to the Penny Black but was only achieved after a vast amount of work on the sculptor's part. Many original sketches never before seen will indicate just how much he did, producing a design that has lasted for over 30 years and which there is no intention of changing.¹

Some stamps never come to fruition. The monarch may die or the project may be abandoned. Designs and essays still exist as evidence of what might have been. These are, without exception, very rare. Many can be viewed in the exhibition, such as a complete sheet of the unissued 'Tyrian Plum' 2d stamp of Edward VII, or the proposed regional stamp designs of George VI. All the work that was discarded in favour of the controversial stamps for Edward VIII provides a vivid insight into that fascinating period.

Political, social and cultural change are all reflected in microcosm in the designs of postage stamps over the years. The strong images of the recent definitives for Scotland and Wales are definitely of the present day while the Penny Black remains a classic image from the Victorian era. Design has come full circle from simplicity through elaborate decoration to simplicity again. Throughout, the monarch's head has provided a link and a symbol.

Eyes Right! will appeal to all those interested in stamps, design, printing and history. It will widen the horizons of newcomers to the hobby but also provide new information for specialist collectors ●



by Douglas N Muir

Curator, Philately, Post
Office Heritage

Above, a part of perhaps the most important and valuable philatelic item in the world, the original proof sheet of the Penny Black, to be displayed in Eyes Right!

¹ The Millennium adaptation was created after Machin died in 1999 (therefore without the knowledge of him or his heirs). It is a one-off and will only be available this year, when the design will revert and remain in its original format.



These reproduction Penny Blacks will be on sale at the exhibition only.

See for yourself how the Penny Black was printed Demonstrations of how the Penny Black was printed will take place in the Eyes Right! feature area throughout the exhibition period. An original printing press from Perkins Bacon & Petch has been loaned by the British Library Philatelic Collections. Using a modern plate (240 images) created from an original Penny Black die held by Post Office Heritage, the original printing technique will be demonstrated by a specialist printer – from the initial inking of the plate through to the finished product on dampened paper. This 1d Black reproduction will be printed on high quality, hand-made paper and replicate the original as closely as possible, though without any corner letters in the bottom corners.

As a souvenir of this, there will be a special presentation pack containing a block of four of these reproductions on sale at the exhibition only. This will cost £5. Text explains the background to the Penny Black •

British Library Rarities from the Collections

by David Beech FRPSL



From the Taping Collection
An 1858-79 1d red, Plate 77, unused. One of nine recorded copies.

WE ARE DELIGHTED to be contributing to The Stamp Show 2000 with this display showing major items from the Philatelic Collections. We have selected some of our most famous and perhaps not so famous rarities to show material from a range of different countries and periods of philately. Included are: the short-lived America Revenue tax stamps of 1765 in a sheet of 26; a pair of the Canada 12d black of 1851; a number of essays and colour trials from the Allied Occupation of Germany; the unique Gold Coast 1883 1d on 4d magenta; one of the nine recorded copies of the Great Britain 1858-79 1d red Plate 77; the essay for the GB 1876-81 £5 telegraph stamp together with colour trials in gold; examples all types of the 1851-52 Missionary issue of Hawaii; the unique entire bearing the India 1854 4 annas with the error Head inverted; one of seven copies of the unissued 1956-58 £1 of Jamaica; the 'Post Office' issue of Mauritius 1d red and 2d blue, the blue Mauritius; the original designs for the first issue of stamps for New South Wales in 1850; a printing plate for the Orange Free State 1878 5s; the Spain 1851 2 reales blue error of colour, one of only three recorded; the unique Transvaal 1870 1s tête bêche; the 1854-55 4d error inverted frame from Western Australia; and the unique unsevered horizontal strip of five of the rappen 1843 issue of Zurich, Switzerland.

We shall be describing all of these items for the philatelist and for the general visitor to the exhibition so that the importance of each will be clear and meaningful to all.

During The Stamp Show 2000 our permanent Philatelic Exhibition at the British Library at St Pancras will remain open and we hope that visitors to London will find the time to view this too. For a copy of the Philatelic collections booklet, contact British Library Philatelic Collections at the address left •

The British Library Philatelic Collections 96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB. Telephone 020 7412 7635/6.

The Library is open Monday to Saturday 09.30-18.00 and on Sunday 11.00-17.00.

British stamp printers

De La Rue Security Print As Thomas De La Rue & Co, the company first produced British stamps in 1855 and now print all definitive stamps in sheets as well as a good proportion of special issues. In 1997 they took over Harrison & Sons Ltd which had printed British stamps in typography (letterpress) from 1911 and in photogravure from 1934. Two-coloured special stamps made their debut in 1960 and three years later the 4½d National Nature Week stamp was in no fewer than five colours! The company's premises are at High Wycombe, Bucks where their famous Jumelle printing press produces stamps in up to 10 colours. This press has 10 gravure units, with two perforators perched on top. It has the capacity of printing and perforating two different stamps on the web at the same time, one of which could be a single colour definitive and the other a multicolour special stamp.

A number of the special stamps printed by Harrison/De La Rue have been voted the most popular issues of the year by *Bulletin* readers, for example the 1990 Queen Mother's 90th birthday set and the Great Tudor (Henry VIII) issue of 1997. DLR has printed both miniature sheets commemorating Stamp Show 2000.

De La Rue's stand at Stamp Show 2000 will revolve around a century of postage stamp production covering the work of both companies. There will be opportunities to examine everything from a fully authenticated sheet of 1902 1½d definitive in a previously unknown shade to viewing litho and intaglio printing plates and a gravure cylinder. There will be visits by famous stamp designers including David Gentleman on 22 May and Jeffery Matthews on 24, 26 and 28 May. Both will be available to talk about their work and answer questions. There will also be the opportunity to enter a daily draw for prizes linked to the theme of the day at the Show.

The House of Questa Known to collectors simply as Questa, this firm was founded as a litho printing business in 1966. It began general commercial printing for the Post Office two years later although did not print British stamps until early 1979 – beginning with 2p, 5p and 75p definitives, followed by the Sport set in October and country stamps for Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales in April 1981. In 1985 Questa was bought out by John Waddington & Sons, the Leeds-based security printers; the business is now part of the Canadian multinational company MDC Communications Corporation which embraces other specialist stamp printers, Ashton Potter Canada, and Ashton Potter USA. Today Questa, at their new home in Byfleet, Surrey, print Royal Mail definitive stamps in gravure – in vended and red retail books, also special issues and in some prestige stamp books. They are noted for some finely printed special issues using a 'superlitho' technique for the 1998 Lighthouses and Health stamps. The Lighthouses were voted the most popular set of 1998. Recent Questa productions include last year's World Changers prestige book and the Millennium Above and Beyond set in January. The Questa stand at Stamp Show 2000 will feature two main elements: they will be producing each and every

Britain's four current stamp printers will all have stands at Stamp Show 2000 displaying British stamps and those they print for other postal administrations.

For further information on the history of De La Rue and its production of stamp books, read Douglas Myall's article in the July 1998 *Bulletin*.

For further information on The House of Questa, see *Bulletin* articles by Douglas Myall from October 1998, February and March 2000.

design drawn by the children on the Royal Mail Design-a-Stamp stand, by scanning the sketch and reproducing it stamp size to be affixed to a pre-print envelope. The other half of the stand will be displaying philatelic material from 'Indecium', the newly named Stamp Division of MDC, Questa's parent company, comprising Ashton Potter Canada, Ashton Potter USA and, of course, The House of Questa.

Walsall Security Printers This family-owned firm was founded over 100 years ago and became a well-known name in the philatelic world with the production of gold-foil circular stamps for Tonga and the free-form self-adhesive stamps of Sierra Leone in the early 1960s. Their first stamps for Royal Mail were 14p and 19p definitives in £1 stamp books issued in April 1989. Red 'window books' followed, including books with the doubled-headed Victoria/Elizabeth II stamps marking the 150th anniversary of the Penny Black. Walsall's first special issue was the 1995 Shakespeare's Globe se-tenant strip; earlier that year they produced the 'Greetings in Art' greetings stamps. Since 1997 most production has been in gravure rather than litho. Walsall currently print 1st and 2nd class stamps in retail books and the country stamps for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Recent productions include the *Special by Design* prestige book in February and the Water and Coast set in March. In 1993 Walsall produced Royal Mail's first self-adhesive stamp (in books) and subsequently self-adhesives in trial sheets of 100. A unique printing of an embossed Machin 1st class stamp was included in the *Profile on Print* prestige book of 1998. Douglas Myall wrote about the introduction of gravure printing at Walsall in the *Bulletin* of March 1997.

Walsall Security Printers are poised to be in the forefront of self-adhesive stamp technology in the new Millennium. During Stamp Show 2000 Walsall will be handing out sample coils of self-adhesive stamps.

Joh Enschedé Stamps This famous firm based at Haarlem in the Netherlands prints stamps for the Netherlands Post Office and many other postal administrations. Founded nearly 300 years ago, this family-owned company has a reputation for reliability and quality, having been involved in stamp production for over a century. It has facilities for gravure, litho and recess printing and has used all three for Royal Mail. Its first British stamp was a limited printing of the 8p definitive in 1979 and in 1990 they made trial printings of 15p and 20p values. As a result a printing of the 18p definitive was issued in November 1991 and later Enschedé for some years held the contract for all low-value and then high-values definitives. Self-adhesive 1st and 2nd class stamps, in experimental horizontal format, produced in rolls were issued in 1997, followed by similar stamps of standard vertical format in 1998. A huge roll of these stamps, displayed on the company's stand at Stamp 99, attracted considerable attention. Enschedé's first set of British special stamps was Medical Discoveries in 1994. Recent productions include the fine engraved 1st class Machin in the *Profile on Print* prestige book and the Millennium Entertainers' Tale issue ●

Douglas Muir reported on a visit to Enschedé's printing works in the January *Bulletin*, 1992.

Royal Mail news Definitives update • 1999

Rowland Hill Award results



Definitives update Shown here are the panes of 1st and 2nd class XVI stamps in the new £1 and £2 machine books issued on 27 April, also the pictorial label pane from the National Botanic Garden of Wales book issued on 4 April.

Also shown is the new 65p Scottish stamp (25 April) which arrived too late to be illustrated in the April *Bulletin*.

New printings of the £1.50-£5 definitives by De La Rue went on philatelic sale on 11 April; they will be available at post offices as supplies of the Enschedé-printed stamps are used up. The DLR plate numbers are 1 followed by a boxed 4 for all values. The DLR imprint appears in the left sheet margin alongside the bottom row. The paper for the new printings is slightly whiter and more translucent than before; the colours seem well-matched.

Rolls of 200 self-adhesive 1st and 2nd class XVI stamps are now being supplied in shrink-wrapped packs of five rolls (ie 1000 stamps) from Post Office Supplies Dept to post offices and other outlets in the trial areas for these rolls. The shrink-wrapped packaging does not bear any bar code •

2001 stamps The special stamp programme for next year is: January Millennium; The Future; February Family Pets; March Weather; April Submarines; May Buses; June Hats; July Pondlife; September Nobel Prizes; October Puppets; and November Christmas. The prestige stamp book, scheduled for October, will be on the subject of the Royal Navy. Dates of issue will be announced later in the year •

Bulletin Publication The sixth in the Bulletin Publication series, *The British Empire Exhibition Stamps of 1924 and 1925*, by Alan Sabey, was published in April 1999 to coincide with the 75th anniversary of the issue of these, Britain's first commemorative stamps. A limited number of this publication is still available from the British Philatelic Bureau, price £2.95. Any unsold stock will be withdrawn from sale on 30 June 2000 •

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EH3 5TT



Left to right: Tony Benn MP, David Gentleman, winner of the Lifetime Achievement Award, and Jonathan Dibleby.

Rowland Hill Awards The awards for philatelic achievement during 1999 were presented at a dinner held at the Banqueting Hall, Whitehall, London on 6 April.

Comper for the evening was the TV presenter Jonathan Dibleby, with the awards presented by Mark Thomson of Royal Mail, Francis Kidde of the British Philatelic Trust and Graham Childs of the Philatelic Traders' Society, the three sponsoring organisations.

Winners received a certificate and a coveted award featuring a facsimile of the engraving die for the 1995 25p Communications stamp showing Sir Rowland Hill. Mark Thomson commented on the excellent evening and the very high standard of the nominations, which made judging exceptionally difficult. ●

The winners and runners-up

ROYAL MAIL INNOVATION AWARDS

Stamp Innovation Tutssels for designs of the stamps and pack for new Welsh country stamps. Runners up: House of Questa, De La Rue Security Print, Walsall Security Printers and Joh Enschedé Stamps; Sedley Place and Barry Lewis.

Product Innovation Complete Collections Ltd for Football Editions. Runners up: Benham; Fourpenny Post; Prinz Publications (UK) Ltd; West Cornwall Stamp Centre

Journalistic Excellence: Print & Broadcast Media Fay Sweet & Susan Marling, Just Radio for 'Benn's Gallery: The Story of Special Stamps' (BBC Radio 4, 4 January 1999). Runners up: Harry Hawkes; Jim Davies.

Journalistic Excellence: Philatelic Writing James Mackay for 'The PUC' (Stamp Magazine, June 1999). Runners up: Clive Akerman; Ron Negus.

Post Office Excellence Haslingden Post Office. Runners up: Romsey Branch Office; Galleries Branch Office, Bristol.

PTS ENTERPRISE AWARDS

Retail Development Murray Payne Ltd for the wholehearted development of an internet website, professionally built but managed in-house, which has extended the worldwide spread of their business. Runners up: Argyll Etkin Ltd; Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd.

Business Enterprise Andrew Vaughan Philatelics for providing encouragement and support to novice collectors entering the field of collecting early Great Britain. Runners up: Dauwalders of Salisbury; Euro-Yu Stamp Collecting.

Personal Contribution Frank Huxley for 20 years the Journal Editor, Auctioneer and Publications Manager of the King George VI Collectors Society. These are 'behind-the-scenes' positions essential to the good health of the Society, which he has performed with great integrity, professionalism and good humour. Runners up: Ronald G Shelley; Frank Jones.

BPT INITIATIVE AWARDS

Youth Work Anne Dummer for her outstanding work in encouraging young people into the hobby at local, regional and national level. Runners up: Pamela McDowall; Pamela Hiscock.

Young Collector Charlotte Rookes for her determined work on her own collection and her efforts in encouraging others. Runners up: Kettering Stamp & Philatelic Society Junior Section; Scott Wilson.

Authorship/Research Victor D VanderVelde for his wide-reaching and profound research in difficult areas of the hobby. Runners up: Michael Furnell; Ron Negus.

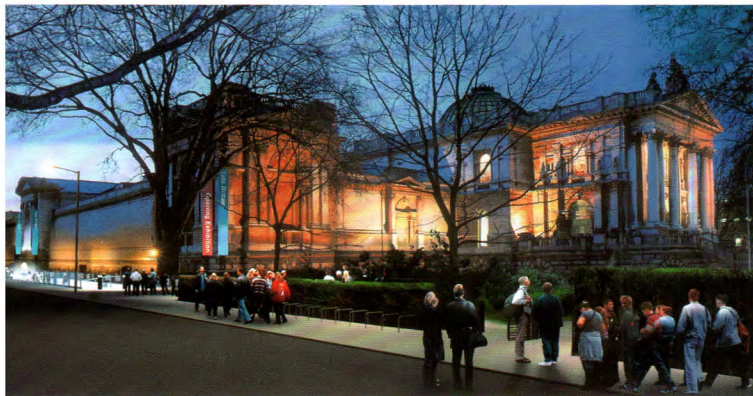
Community/Teamwork David Harrop for his determination and initiative in establishing a museum of postal ephemera and artefacts in the Manchester area. Runners up: Stamp Lincs 99; Midpex 99; Dorothy Martin and Desmond Graham.

New Horizons Cavendish Philatelic Auctions Ltd for their innovative support of youth philately, both by their own efforts and their encouragement and involvement with others. Runners up: Stanley Gibbons Ltd; Association of British Philatelic Societies.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This special award went to David Gentleman for a lifetime of stamp design achieving his 100th design during 1999.

Paintings on stamps The Tate, Lowry, and philatelic connections, by James Mackay



THE NEW TATE MODERN gallery is substantially funded by the Millennium, but it is timely to remember that the original gallery was provided by the beneficence of one man, Henry Tate. Born at Chorley, Lancashire in 1819, he became a sugar-broker in Liverpool. Not only did he overcome the setbacks in the trade caused by the American Civil War but he moved his operations to London in 1874 and went from strength to strength, his immense fortune based on his world-famous cube sugar.

From 1881 onwards he began ploughing back his vast wealth into a number of philanthropic projects, beginning with £42,000 to the newly created Liverpool University College and about £50,000 to the Liverpool hospitals. Shortly afterwards he funded four public libraries in Lambeth where his business was located. Though self-taught, he was a man of considerable discernment and taste in artistic matters and built up one of the finest private collections of British paintings which he offered to the nation in 1891, with the condition that they were not to be exhibited in the National Gallery or the South Kensington (now the Victoria and Albert) Museum. The government felt unable to accept the gift under such conditions and the impasse was only settled when an anonymous donor offered £80,000 to erect an appropriate gallery provided that the government donate the site. It soon transpired that the donor was Henry Tate himself.

In 1892 his generous offer was accepted. Millbank Prison on the north bank of the Thames was demolished, and work on the proposed National Gallery of British Art began in 1893. The Tate Gallery, as it came to be known, opened its doors on 21 July 1897 and Tate found himself a baronet in the next New Year's Honours List. He died at Streatham on 5 December 1899 but not before he had the satisfaction of seeing a substantial addition to the gallery.

The fifth of the 2000 series of stamps devoted to Millennium projects, Art and Craft, features some of the exciting developments in the fine, applied and decorative arts which are being launched this year.



Between 1908 and 1987 the Tate Gallery was extended on a number of occasions, and parts of its collections have now become established at St Ives, Cornwall (ceramics), and in Liverpool. Above left, Tate Britain, Millbank. Above, Sir Henry Tate, by Sir Hubert von Herkomer.

The 1st class Art and Craft stamp (below) shows the new Tate Modern, photographed by Richard Bryant. Set to open on 12 May, Tate Modern will be devoted to 20th century art, freeing space at Tate Britain, on Millbank, for indigenous art of earlier periods.





Tate Gallery paintings Two paintings at the Tate appeared on the 1967 British Paintings issue. The 9d is *Mares and Foals in a River Landscape* by George Stubbs (1724-1806). He is noted for his fine animal studies, notably of horses and dogs, five of the latter being reproduced on a set of stamps issued in 1991.



The 1s6d stamp (above), is *Children Coming Out of School*, by L.S. Lowry. This is a splendid example of the combination of architecture with figures in an industrial townscape for which he is renowned, as is *Waiting for the Shop to Open*, right.



L S Lowry Laurence Stephen Lowry was born in Manchester in 1887. After private lessons in painting from William Fitz in Moss Side, Lowry enrolled at the Manchester College of Art in 1905. Four years later his parents moved to Salford and it is this town with which Lowry is forever associated, although many of his larger paintings were executed in and around Manchester itself. Lowry studied at the Manchester College for ten years and then continued his studies at Salford College until 1925. By day he worked as a rent-collector, an occupation which probably explains his rather dour view of the people around him. He never married, but continued to live with his mother until her death in 1939, shortly before Lowry achieved a limited measure of success with his first major exhibition, organised by the Reid & Lefevre Gallery, whose senior partner A.J. McNeill Reid had discovered Lowry in 1938.



Even so, recognition was slow in coming. Lowry continued to live in Salford until 1948 when he moved to Mottram-in-Longdendale, Cheshire. Seven years after that he was elected ARA, and became a Royal Academician in 1962. Other honours came thereafter, including the freedom of Salford in 1965, but it was the claim that he was the favourite artist of Prime Minister Harold Wilson that really put Lowry on the map.



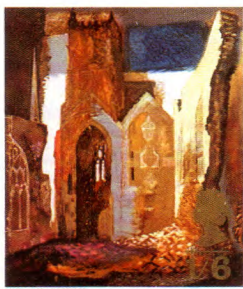
New Lowry Centre The 65p Art and Craft stamp (below), a photographic collage by Justin Pumphrey, marks the opening of The Lowry (above) in Salford. This new Centre includes a Gallery housing 55 paintings and 300 drawings by Salford's celebrated resident. Below, Lowry (right) with PMG Edward Short at the launch of the 1967 British Paintings issue.



Significantly, the selection of one of Lowry's paintings for the British Paintings stamps of 1967 (see opposite page, above left) was regarded widely at the time as setting the seal on his success. A second painting, *Children Playing* (opposite page, below), was featured on one of the Greetings stamps of 1995. Lowry also enjoyed the doubtful accolade of inspiring a top twenty hit, *Matchstick Men*, which took an affectionately wistful look at the Northern industrial scenes he re-created in his paintings. Ironically it was a sudden revulsion with the bleakness of Salford that led Lowry in 1915 to abandon the naturalistic refinement of his earliest period and concentrate thereafter on street scenes and mill life, characterised by rather lugubrious matchstick figures.

Lowry probably never made much money from his paintings, although he had an exceedingly modest lifestyle. After his death at Glossop in 1976, however, interest in his work escalated. His painting *Going to the Match*, depicting a football crowd, was sold for the record sum of £1.9 million at Sotheby's in November 1999. Painted in 1953, this was one of several large canvases said to have been inspired by the artist's memories of Bolton Wanderers' former ground at Burden Park. Appropriately the painting was bought by the Professional Footballers' Association.





St Francis and the Birds, by Sir Stanley Spencer (left) was painted in 1935 for the Church House, a project of Spencer's since 1932. The painting was savaged by the critics of 1935, the *Spectator* and *Guardian Weekly* alone defending it.

The Ruins of St Mary-le-Port, Bristol by John Piper (centre), on the 1s6d of the 1968 British Paintings series. Piper's most famous work, it was painted in 1940 and reflects his mood contemplating this fine church partially destroyed in the Blitz. J.M.W. Turner painted *Peace - Burial at Sea* (right, on 1975 4 1/2p) in 1842, as a tribute to fellow-artist Sir David Wilkie who died at sea in 1841. Below, Turner by Sir John Gilbert.

Back to the Tate Other works from the Tate Gallery which have been reproduced on British stamps include John Piper's *Ruins of St Mary le Port, Bristol*. Piper was born in Epsom in 1903 and worked as a clerk in his father's law office. Not until his mid-twenties, after his father died, did Piper take up art seriously, enrolling at Richmond College of Art and then the Royal College of Art. Originally he made his mark as an abstract sculptor before turning to collage and then landscape painting. The Tate also possesses his *Abstract 1* (1935) and *Seaton Delaval* (1941).

In 1993 Royal Mail released a set of four stamps in the Europa theme, devoted to contemporary works of art and reproduced *St Francis and the Birds* by Sir Stanley Spencer on the 33p. When it was rejected by the hanging committee of the Royal Academy in 1935, Spencer resigned in protest. Not until after he was created CBE in 1950 did he rejoin. The Tate acquired the painting in 1936.

Although the paintings and sculpture shown on the other stamps of this series were derived from other galleries, the Tate also has important works by Henry Moore and Ben Nicholson. It should also be noted that an extension of the Tate is the Gallery of Ceramics at St Ives in Cornwall where Shoji Hamada and Bernard Leach had their studio from 1920 onwards. This gallery includes not only their pottery but the work of Elizabeth Fritsch, Lucie Rie and Hans Coper whose ceramic sculptures were also featured in the Studio Pottery series of 1987.

One of the greatest English painters of all time was Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775-1851), the bicentenary of whose birth was celebrated by four stamps reproducing some of his paintings. Many of these spectacular works came to the Tate Gallery in 1908 when Sir Joseph Duveen put up the money for an extension to house the Turner Collection. The 4 1/2p shows *Peace - Burial at Sea*; the 5 1/2p depicts *Snow Storm - Steam-boat off a Harbour's Mouth* (1842) which critics rubbish as the time as 'soapsuds and whitewash'.

Many other oil paintings by Turner are in the Tate, while his watercolour sketchbooks are preserved in the Department of Prints and Drawings at the British Museum •



Cover corner

THIS MONTH'S ITEM is 60 years old – posted on 6 May 1940 at the 27th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain held at Bournemouth at the invitation of the Postal History Society. It features 1d stamps of Victoria, Edward VII, George V and Edward VIII and bears the six Stamp Centenary commemoratives cancelled by two strikes of the Congress handstamp. This postmark includes a small representation of the Maltese Cross above the date. Present-day collectors will note that special handstamps were not so well applied then as they are now – not everything philatelic has changed for the worse over the past 60 years! ●

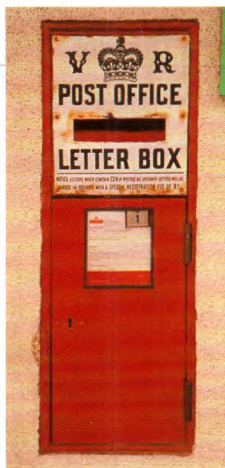


Philatelic Congress cover from Geoff Isherwood of Cheshire.

Posting boxes 194

THANKS to Bernard La Roche, we feature two interesting boxes photographed by him in Kent. The first is a Victorian 'Ludlow' wall box in the village of Monkton. This bears the warning: 'NOTICE letters which contain COIN posted as ordinary letters will be charged on delivery with a SPECIAL REGISTRATION FEE of 8d'. The second box is a 'Penfold' which stands near St John's Church, Bexley.

For details of the Letter Box Study Group send a SAE or IRC to the Membership Secretary, Mrs V Scott, 38 Leopold Avenue, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham B20 1ES. The Group produces many interesting publications and postcards ●

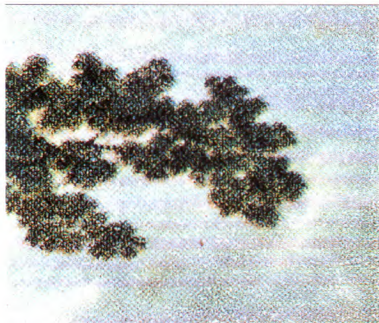


Special draw New printings of high value stamps to be won

NEW PRINTINGS of the £1.50, £2, £3 and £5 Machin definitives were released last month, now printed by De La Rue instead of Enschedé. We have blocks of four of the four stamps for the sender of the first postcard drawn on 9 June. Simply write your name and address on the back of a postcard and send to: Machin Draw, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ. Single sets of the new stamps will be sent to four runners-up ●



Competitions Win £200 in two easy-to-enter competitions



February identify The detail was from the 1966 6d World Cup stamp. The winner was R Carling, of Somerset.

February knowledge The answers: 1) Treasury Competition; 2) Alexandra Palace; 3) green. The winner was J Watson of Lincs.

Ten runner-up prizes were also sent for each competition. Our thanks to all who entered.

FIRSTLY, IDENTIFY THE STAMP from the detail above. Send your answer to May *Identify* Competition. Secondly, test your philatelic knowledge by answering the questions below. Send your answer to May *Knowledge* Competition.

- 1 Which stamp features a starfish?
- 2 In what year was Harlech Castle shown on a stamp?
- 3 Who designed the 1966 British Birds issue?

Send your answer (addressed to either the April *Identify* Competition or the April *Knowledge* Competition), name and address on a postcard or back of a sealed envelope to: British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

The senders of the first cards drawn in each competition on 16 June will each receive £100. Ten runner-up prizes will also be awarded in each competition. The competitions are not open to Royal Mail employees ●

Events

6 May Thatcham & District PS Millennium Stamp Fair at Newbury College, Oxford Road, Newbury, 10.00-17.00. Stamps, covers, postal history, postcards, etc. 20 dealers, refreshments, car parking. **Enquiries** Graeme Stewart 01635 866942.

6 May Exeter & District Phil Soc Millennium Stamp Exhibition and Fair at the Priory High School, off Topsham Road, Exeter, 10.30-16.30. Children's Corner, Club Competition & Displays, Wessex Federation Schools Competition, valuation service by Harmers of London, dealers, refreshments. **Enquiries** Andrew Pavey, 01392 445194.

12-14 May 24th Northeast Philatelic Weekend at Swallow Hotel, Gateshead. Displays by participants and guest speakers, dinner, raffle, etc. **Booking enquiries** Mrs D Martin, 46 Briardene Crescent, Kenton Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4RY.

20 May Presentation 'Introduction to Religion on Stamps' by Guild of St Gabriel at St Wilfrid's Convent, Tite Street, London SW1, 14.30. **Enquiries** Peter Greening, 020 8755 2867.

20-21 May Scout & Guide Stamps Club 2000 exhibition at Conference Room, Baden-Powell House, London SW7. 10.00-18.00 20th; 10.00-14.30 21st. Admission free. **Enquiries** P Duck, 020 8891 5746.

21-24 May London Millennium Stamp & Postal History Event at Chelsea Football Club, London SW6.

26-28 May Stamp, Coin & Postcard Collectors Fair at National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham. Open Fri noon-19.00, Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun 10.00-16.00. Admission £4 adults, £2.50 concessions. **Enquiries** 01683 220787 ●

Late news

Stamp Show 2000 In response to the burgeoning interest in revenue stamps, the Revenue Society has taken a stand (U18) at the show, offering a wealth of revenue stamps from starter collections through to award winning collections, also individual stamps and sets ranging from the inexpensive to the rare. Experts will be available to offer advice and guidance. Membership of the Society, which caters for revenues of the world, is £15. Enquiries: Tony Hall, 53a High Street, Whitwell, Hitchin SG4 8AJ.

Neopost, the leading supplier of mailroom equipment, will launch an innovative personalised franking machine at their stand (B6). Using small portable, Neopost AutoStamp 1J25 machines, visitors will be able to have digital photographs taken and printed directly onto an envelope or postcard, as a demonstration of the speed and flexibility of the new technology. The machine can service 20 envelopes/cards a minute. These personalised souvenirs, price £5, are likely to become highly sought after by collectors. *From information supplied by Peter Jennings* ●

Barbara Lloyds retires After 27 years in the Post Office, Barbara Lloyds has recently retired from Royal Mail's Stamp Production Dept – a small, hard-working team dealing with printers to ensure the regular supply of millions of stamps, stamp books and postal stationery for post offices, the Bureau and retail outlets. Over the years, Barbara supplied much useful information for publication in the *Bulletin*. The Editor joins with other colleagues in Royal Mail Stamps & Collectibles in wishing her well in retirement ●

TPO demonstrations 'Didcot Steam 2000', billed as 'the Great Western steam experience of the Millennium' will be held at the Didcot Railway Centre in Oxfordshire, 27 May-4 June. This will include Travelling Post Office demonstrations on 28, 29, & 31 May and 4 June. Souvenir covers will be put through the TPO Letter Exchange apparatus. Enquiries to: Didcot Railway Centre, Didcot OX11 7XJ. Telephone 01235 817200 ●

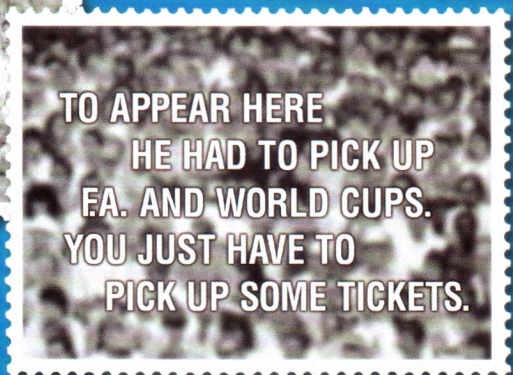


Slania's 1000th stamp To mark the 1000th stamp by master engraver Czeslaw Slania, the Swedish Post Office issued a miniature sheet bearing a 50kr stamp on 17 March. Slania, the Swedish Court Engraver, has engraved stamps for many postal administrations, including Royal Mail. His portraits of Rowland Hill and Guglielmo Marconi graced the 1995 Communications set, and his engraving of the head of The Queen appears on our current high values and on the recess-printed printed stamp in the 1999 *Profile on Print* prestige stamp book. An article on Slania was published in the *Bulletin* of September 1995.

Illustration courtesy of Harry Allen, Sweden Stamp Agency in GB ●

Stanley Gibbons launches website This new site is designed, says SG's Ian Boulton 'to cater for all collectors, both young and old and will hopefully inspire a new generation of collectors to take up the hobby.' Visitors to the website can view a comprehensive range of SG catalogues and other publications, along with an impressive selection of stamps, FDCs and postal history. Visitors will be able to use the site to take part in SG auctions. The website address is: www.stanleygibbons.com. Ron Negus will be reporting later on this website in a new series entitled 'Philately on-line' beginning in next month's *Bulletin*.

The website of the GB Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle has moved to a new address: <http://members.kabsi.at/gbdsbse> ●



Getting your face on a stamp will be a walk in the park compared to the lengths Bobby Moore had to go to. Just collect your pass to The Stamp Show 2000 in Earls Court, London, between May 22 – 28, for your moment of glory on a personalised Smilers Stamp.

Plenty of other rarities will be on display as well. Including a privileged viewing of items from Her Majesty The Queen's Private Collection, many on public display for the first time.

Browse our Definitive Exhibition and you'll find every stamp we've produced since the Penny Black. You'll also get to view some exceptional items, kindly on loan from the British Library.

The eagerly anticipated results of the FIP international stamp competition are also expected to be quite breathtaking.

Come along and make or create your own discoveries at the biggest stamp show in a decade.

By reserving a first day ticket for £10 now, you'll receive a complimentary Millennium Timekeeper miniature sheet and free entry on the remaining days. If you just want to come on days 2-7, pre-registering also allows you to get in for free, otherwise you'll pay £5 per day. To take advantage of this offer, or for more information, write to The Stamp Show 2000 ticket desk, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TX, phone us on 0845 072 2000, or visit www.royalmail.co.uk

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