

Philatelic Bulletin

Volume 11 Number 2 October 1973



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Introduction

In an effort to meet the growing demand from collectors of maximum cards we have relaxed slightly the conditions under which we will accept them. We also give details of another service under which collectors may obtain a handstamp cancellation on items posted at, or sent to Windsor. These are two more examples of our willingness to do what we can within the confines of normal operational requirements to provide services which benefit our customers.

New Postmarking Service

To meet the wishes of collectors who require a handstamp cancellation on their letters a new service for philatelists will be introduced at Windsor Berks from 8 October 1973.

From this date philatelic items will be cancelled on request with a circular handstamp which will bear the legend "Windsor Berks" together with the date. The service will not operate on first days of issue of new stamps when the normal first day cancellation will be used.

All items for handstamping should be properly addressed postal items and should bear at least the first class postage rate. Mail will be cancelled carefully and after handstamping, will be sent forward as normal mail.

The normal reposting facility will apply and philatelic items sent forward using this service should have the outer cover marked "Philatelic mail".

New County Names and Postal Addressing

The Post Office is to consult its customers about the use in postal addresses of the new county names created by the Local Government Act for England and Wales. Head Postmasters will consult local organisations and the Post Office Users' National Council is being asked for its views.

Announcing this, the Post Office pointed out that the present county structure was used as the basis of mail distribution; thus changes under the Act could affect 3,000,000 postal addresses in 300 towns.

From 1 April 1974 in England the new Act will make six new metropolitan counties; eight new non-metropolitan counties; changes in 21 existing counties and leave only eight counties unchanged. The existing 14 counties in Wales will be reduced to eight, mainly by amalgamation, which will be re-named in the Welsh language.

The ½d to 1/- Definitive issues of King George VI Part III

The 7d to 1/- Values

Between March and November 1937 both Gill and Dulac were busy on designs, not only for the values up to 6d but also for the next group, from 7d to 1/-. The only Gill design bearing a denomination in this range was the 9d design with lions and a dragon which had been considered, but rejected, for the 4d to 6d values on 25 November 1937.

Dulac, for his part, had been doing a lot of work on two basic concepts. These were, firstly, the "1840" design which he had submitted, probably in December 1936, to the Council for Art and Industry and which had been the King's second choice for the ½d to 2½d values in February 1937. Secondly there was a "hexagonal" design, of which more later.

Early in February 1937 Dulac produced a page of stamp-size water-colour sketches for a 1½d denomination stamp in this design. There are three alternative versions of the design itself, with dark or light frames and/or background and each of these is shown in five different colours (fig 16). Two of these alternatives were essayed in a wide range of colours and were, as noted above, considered by the King at the end of February.

There is no evidence of further developments of this design later in 1937, so one of the two Dulac designs considered by the Postmaster General on 25 November 1937 for the values from 7d upwards was probably the February 1937 version of the "1840 No 2" design.

The other was a hexagonal design. The germ of this design is embodied in Dulac's sketch of 21 January 1937 (illustrated as fig 7 *Bulletin* August 1973). In the summer of that year Dulac had gone back to this basic idea and in October produced four new designs for a 1/- value in which the Sovereign's head is framed in a double hexagon. The designs include rose, thistle, daffodil and shamrock emblems and the value is expressed in words, curved to follow the line of the hexagonal framing (fig 17). Essays of three

of these designs exist for 6d and 1/- values in various colours similar to those used for the 6d to 1/- values of the King George V photogravure issue (fig 18).

The Postmaster General (on 25 November) preferred the hexagonal design but expressed a wish that the emblems, especially the thistle and daffodil, should be redrawn. The designs were also shown to the Council for Art and Industry, who agreed with the PMG's choice.

Dulac submitted two alternative revised drawings of the hexagon design late in December 1937. The head was now placed on a six-sided background and both versions had the value expressed (in words) at the base of the stamp. It was one of these (fig 19) which caught the PMG's eye early in January 1938 and on his instructions it was essayed on 14 February (as a 10d value) in the established colours for 7d, 8d, 9d, 10d, and 1/- values. Further small changes were made and lighter shades used for further essays.

A separate essay of the head medallion only was printed on 10 March in blue (fig 20). This is of outstanding interest as, printed with each stamp and to the left of it, is a tonal scale. I know of no other modern British essay incorporating this feature.

The next four months were spent in modifying the design in various ways and in trying out the results in essay form. The most important modification was to the style of the crown. In the Museum there is a block of six 1/- essays each retouched by hand by Dulac himself to show various treatments of the crown and the top of the head medallion.

The bi-colour trials

In the meantime, in April 1938, a curious and colourful experiment took place. Dulac produced a sheet of twelve stamp-sized sketches of his "1840 No 2" design and his earlier (curved value) hexagon, painted in various two-colour combinations (fig 21).



*King George VI:
Definitive Issue.*

*Rough Sketches
in colour
and Bromide Essays
by Edmund Dulac
of his
'1840' Design No 2
9th February 1937.*

*A pencil note (not shown)
by Dulac states "The ½d, 1d,
1½d, 2½d are definitive
suggestions, the others are
tentative. The higher
denomination might be
on coloured paper".*

Fig. 16



Fig. 17



Fig. 19



Fig. 18

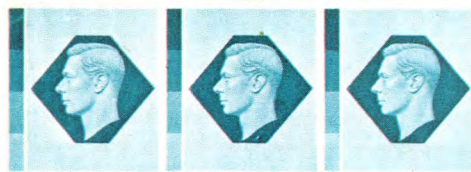


Fig. 20



Fig. 21

WINSTONES' INKS



Red 12



Orange 13



Green 11

Fig. 22

In the same month a whole series of bi-colour essays were made closely following the sketches. The curious aspect of this sophisticated trial is that I have been unable to find any reference to it in the relevant files.

A selection of these essays were reproduced in the *Philatelic Bulletin* of December 1970 and show that the hexagonal design leant itself well to the use of two colours.

The final modifications of the design, involving the frame and the size and shape of the lettering, which stemmed from suggestions by the Royal Fine Arts Commission, led to a series of essays, which also provided a range of shades, not only in the colours of the previous 7d to 1/- values but also in oranges, violets and emerald greens (fig 22). A final selection of essays in the proposed colours for each of the new values was submitted for Royal approval on 21 July 1938, and were in fact passed. Nevertheless, the possibility of confusion between the 7d and 8d values and the existing ½d and 1d stamps led to yet further colour trials which were only completed in January 1939. All the essays from

July 1938 onwards are of a 1/- face value. The issue of all five values from 7d upwards had in fact had to be deferred until the new year because of production difficulties with the lower values.

The 9d, 10d and 1/- final colour essays were approved by the Post Office on 12 September 1938, the 7d and 8d colours were approved on 9 January 1939. These two values were issued on 27 February and the 9d, 10d and 1/- on 1 May 1939.

Most values of the King George VI definitive set are listed in the Stanley Gibbons Specialised GB Catalogue, Vol 2, as existing with "CANCELLED" overprints. For the record it should perhaps be noted that most also exist (in the Museum collections) with various "Specimen" overprints. The types of overprinting known on this issue are SG types 23, 26 and 29. Copies so overprinted seem mostly to have been used for display and exhibition purposes.

The 11d value, 1941-42 pale colours, and the colours of 1950-51 will be the subject of a later article.

A G RIGO DE RIGHI

Royal Wedding Stamps



Two special stamps will be issued by the Post Office on 14 November 1973 to mark the wedding of HRH the Princess Anne to Captain Mark Phillips. The stamps, values 3½p and 20p, were designed by Collis Clements MSIA and Edward Hughes MSIA based on photographs of the couple by Lord Lichfield.

Printing details

<i>Printer</i>	Harrison & Sons Limited
<i>Size</i>	30 × 41 mm
<i>Perforation</i>	15 × 14
<i>Numbers to Sheet</i>	100
<i>Paper</i>	Coated, unwatermarked all over phosphor
<i>Format</i>	Landscape
<i>Process</i>	Photogravure
<i>Date of Issue</i>	14 November 1973
<i>Colours</i>	3½p Violet and Silver 20p Brown and Silver



Royal Wedding Stamps First Day Cover Services

Two stamps, values 3½p and 20p, will be issued on 14 November 1973. The following first day cover services will be offered by the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh.

Service A

This is the full service and consists of the official Post Office cover, addressed as requested and bearing the full set of stamps. The cover will be cancelled "Philatelic Bureau Edinburgh" or in this case "Windsor Berks" or "Westminster Abbey London SW1". The charge is 35p or 32½p for customers with deposit accounts.

Service B

Customers own pre-addressed covers will be accepted for servicing with the full set of stamps and cancelling with one of the available postmarks. The charge is 29p.

Service C

For bulk orders of more than 50 covers, all with the same address, the conditions of Service A apply except that the charge is 32½p.

The usual first day of issue facilities will be available at the offices where philatelic posting boxes are provided.

Christmas Stamps

A series of six Christmas stamps will be issued on November 28 – one at 3½p and a se-tenant strip of five stamps at 3p each; they will illustrate a Christmas carol.

A pictorial Christmas air letter form will be on sale at 7p from November 21.

Design details will be announced later.

A new use for a Stamp Vending Machine Pedestal



The small table in the picture above is not, as you might think, a new scheme by the Post Office to help its customers write letters. In fact, it is the remains of a stamp vending machine – the base – which the enterprising Sub-Postmaster at Croyde in Devon decided to utilize when the machine was removed. He put a wooden table on the pedestal and painted it red. He says that as well as being useful for letter writing, it's a handy seat for people waiting for the village bus.

The table stands in the forecourt of the sub-office and seems so useful to the people of Croyde that it is likely to remain there for the foreseeable future.

We are grateful to Mr R W Parker of Bletchley, Bucks, who sent this photograph.

Ralph Allen - Post-Master of Bath

When Emanuel Bowen, Geographer to His Majesty King George II, published in 1747 his description of all the chief towns of the known world he left for posterity, in addition to a topographical record of great interest, a contemporary account of the contributions made for the benefit of mankind by Mr Allen, post-master of Bath. The same gentleman, Bowen explains, 'who first invented and farms the cross-posts'.

Ralph Allen (1693-1764) was a remarkable and highly successful man. While a clerk at Bath Post Office he uncovered a Jacobite plot and was rewarded by promotion, for he was made deputy postmaster. The cross posts he introduced in 1729 and farmed as was the custom of the day, brought him a fortune of no less than £500,000. This sum is twice as large as the profits from the Great Exhibition of 1851, which were used to fund the purchase of land for the Art and Scientific Institutions which abound in Kensington. Bath, at the time when Emanuel Bowen compiled his gazeteer-atlas was very much a boom town. Richard Nash (Beau Nash) was Master of Ceremonies and the town was crowded with visitors. The healing waters of the hot springs attracted sufferers from all classes of society and the Prince and Princess of Wales and great numbers of the nobility and gentry promoted the General Hospital or Infirmary.

Ralph Allen, who was by then doing nicely from the cross-posts, was also a quarry owner of importance, and provided free of charge for the Infirmary all the wall stone, ready wrought, the paving stone and the lime used with it. An example of princely beneficence. Generous as

he was in this matter, Ralph Allen was very much a man of affairs. He appreciated the importance of running his business economically and utilising labour saving devices so far as was practical. Bowen describes how Allen maintained a wharf on the banks of the River Avon from which he shaped and embarked the huge stones dug in the quarries on the neighbouring hill. The stone was brought down to the wharf by a gravity-powered slipway, so contrived that without horses or any help the stone was deposited just where it was wanted for shaping and subsequent embarkation by the Avon to Bristol and thence to London or elsewhere. Major building developments were under way at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and stone for this project came from Ralph Allen's quarries at Bath.

And of course Ralph Allen built himself a fine house with noble stables and offices and delightful gardens – a mansion in the style of Palladio, which still stands at Prior Park.

As one who promoted the well-being of the town he loved, few can hold a candle to Ralph Allen – Postmaster, Quarry Master, Philanthropist, and Visionary. He was indeed a Post Office Clerk who made good.

F MARCUS ARMAN

Royal Marines Commemorative Covers

During the course of 1973 the Royal Marines are issuing a series of covers commemorating the anniversaries of important events in the history of the Corps. The illustrations are the work of the well known military artist Charles Stadden and depict the event commemorated by a uniformed figure. They are being cancelled with special BFPS handstamps and where possible transported in a manner fitting the anniversary. A limited number will be autographed by the carrier and a few will also be signed by a person or persons in some way connected with the event.

The first three covers have already been

issued and commemorated: the Raid on Zeebrugge in 1918, the 100th Anniversary of the Ashanti War and the 50th Anniversary of the Amalgamation of the Royal Marine Artillery and Royal Marine Light Infantry. Limited numbers of these covers are still available.

The first, issued on 23 April 1973 depicted a Sergeant of the 4th RM Battalion against a background of HMS *Vindictive* alongside the Zeebrugge Mole. The covers were carried aboard the Merseyside ferry MV *Royal Iris*, a successor to one of the vessels used on the raid, during the annual mid-river memorial service held in Liverpool on 15 April. They were transported from RM Barracks, Portsmouth to Deal by a helicopter of 3 Commando Brigade Air Squadron. A printed insert describing the anniversary is included with each cover.

The remaining covers in the series are as follows:

RM4 1 August

175th Anniversary of the Battle of the Nile (1798).

RM5 9 September

30th Anniversary of the Landing at Salerno (1943).

RM6 28 October

175th Anniversary of the Siege of Malta (1798).

RM7 1 November

25th Anniversary of the formation of the RMFVR.

RM8 29 November

21st Anniversary of the first presentation of colours to RM Commando Units.

In addition, it is hoped to issue a further cover on the granting of the freedom of Poole, Dorset to the Royal Marines in September. Details can be obtained from the Philatelic Officer, Royal Marines Museum, Royal Marines Barracks, Eastney, Southsea PO4 9PP.

Proceeds from these covers are to be donated to the Royal Marines Museum Appeal Fund.

New Postal Charges

New postal and remittance service charges, have been approved and took effect from 10 September.

The main change is that the basic first-class letter rate is now $3\frac{1}{2}p$ and the second-class $3p$. There are also increases in higher weight steps, in parcel charges and in some postal order fees. The inland money order service has ceased.

Changes in overseas postage rates, which were not subject to the Government's counter-inflation legislation but which were accepted by the Post Office Users' National Council, have also applied from the same date.

PRICES FOR INLAND POST

Letters

Weight not over	First Class		Increase	Second Class		
	Present	New		Present	New	Increase
lb oz	p	p	p	p	p	p
2	3	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	3	$\frac{1}{2}$
4	4	5	1	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4	$\frac{1}{2}$
6	6	8	2	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	—
8	8	10	2	$6\frac{1}{2}$	7	$\frac{1}{2}$
10	10	12	2	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$8\frac{1}{2}$	1
12	13	14	1	$8\frac{1}{2}$	10	$1\frac{1}{2}$
14	15	16	1	$9\frac{1}{2}$	$11\frac{1}{2}$	2
1	0	17	18	$11\frac{1}{2}$	13	$1\frac{1}{2}$
1	8	24	27	$13\frac{1}{2}$	$18\frac{1}{2}$	5
2	0	34	36			
Over } 2 lb }	17	9	for each extra $\frac{1}{2}$ lb or part thereof			
	per lb					

Parcels

Weight not over	Present	New	Increase
lb	p	p	p
$1\frac{1}{2}$	16	20	4
2	21	22	1
4	25	27	2
6	29	32	3
8	—	37	—
10	37	42	5
14	47	52	5
18	57	62	5
22	67	72	5

RAF Cover

A flown cover not in the RAF Museum series will be issued to commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force's own Stamp Club, RAFLET. It will show the Vickers Varsity which was in service when the Club was formed and the VC10, and will be cancelled by a special BFPS commemorative handstamp (1419) on 1 October. It will then be flown to various RAF stations in Germany.

Covers should be available on about 30 October from the Philatelic Officer, Royal Air Force, Aldergrove, Crumlin, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland, at $25p$ plus $3p$ postage. All proceeds from this cover will be donated to the RAF Museum Appeal Fund.

Forthcoming Exhibitions

Dorchester and Weymouth Stamps Club

The sixth annual Exhibition will be held on Saturday 10 November 1973 at the Church Hall, South Street, Dorchester between 11 am-6 pm.

Stamp-In '73 - Stamp Exhibition

The Cheshunt and District Philatelic Society, as hosts to the AEPS, are holding a public stamp exhibition on Saturday 20 October 1973 at Cheshunt School, Windmill Lane, Cheshunt, Herts, from 12 noon.

Exhibits will include invited displays from their President, Mr W R Wellsted, the Post Office, and other societies, as well as from their own members.

Middlesex Juniors' Stamp Day

Middlesex Juniors' Day will take place on Saturday 10 November at Amersham Community Centre, Chiltern Avenue, Amersham, Bucks, hosted this year by Amersham & District Philatelic Society. The Post Office will be taking part in this event.

New Gum on Stamps

The 2½p and 3½p definitive stamps are now being issued with a mixture of PVA/Dextrine gum.

First Day of Issue Postmarking of Maximum Cards

There is a growing interest in the collection of maximum cards, which are picture postcards depicting the subject of a postage stamp and which have the postage stamp affixed to the picture side of the cards. To meet the wishes of collectors the Post Office will accept maximum cards for cancellation and delivery provided that the illustration on the card bears some relationship with the subject of a new issue stamp and that it is dealt with on the first day of issue of the new stamp.

Maximum cards will be accepted only at West Central District Office, 181 High Holborn, London WC1A 1AA, at the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh, and at those offices authorised to give a pictorial first day of issue postmark or a privately sponsored special handstamp on a first day of issue, if the card is addressed *Poste Restante*, at the office of posting and posted on the first day of issue at the philatelic posting box.

Alternatively if the customer does not wish to collect the card from the *Poste Restante* delivery point, he should still address the card *Poste Restante* but attach a separate cover bearing a normal postal address and postage stamps to cover the appropriate postage.

The card with the cover must be handed in at the counter of an office authorised to accept maximum cards.

A postmark which will satisfy philatelists cannot always be given on cards with a high gloss surface, mainly because the ink does not penetrate the surface and smudges easily. The Post Office cannot accept

responsibility for this or for stamps that become detached from the card due to a high gloss surface.

Book Review

Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth Catalogue

The 1974 edition of the *Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue* retains the three-column format of recent years. Nevertheless its 41 extra pages – as against 35 in the 1973 edition – demonstrate the continuing spate of new issues.

Great Britain has an ample share of the many price changes, evidence of the strength of the market for early or scarce material. It is illuminating to make a few comparisons with the 1969 prices: the 1840 1d intense black (SG 1) is now listed at £160 mint and £15 used, as against £40 and £8, five years ago. Less glamorous stamps show similar tendencies: the 1887 “Jubilee” 1s green (SG 211) now stands at £9 mint and £2 used, compared with 35s and 22s 6d in 1969.

However, it is the comparison with the 1973 edition which brings out the scope of the price movements. Nineteenth century line-engraved and surface-printed issues show the most frequent and substantial changes, with the most notable for mint prices. For example, the 1862 2s dull blue (SG 118) moves from £80 to £100; the 1884 £1 brown lilac (SG 185) from £300 to £500; and the 1884 4d dull green (SG 192) from £10 to £14.

Changes in the twentieth century issues are more selective, with certain used high values reflecting the comparative scarcity of good copies. The “Sea Horses”, the King George VI 10s dark blue (SG 478) and the “Festival” £1 (SG 512) illustrate this. There are numerous small changes in stamps of the current reign up to 1972.

The Stanley Gibbons British Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue (1974 Edition) is published by Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd, 391 Strand, London WC2R 0LX, price £3.

Special Handstamps

Unless otherwise stated, items for reposting bearing at least 3p in postage should be sent to the Head Postmaster of the town where the special posting box is located, marking the outer cover "Special Handstamp".

13 October 1973

Forces Postal History Society Convention HMS Belfast 13 October 1973 London SE. Special posting box on the HMS Belfast, London SE1.

10 November 1973 (P/O)

Middlesex Philatelic Federation 19th Juniors' Stamp Day 14 Amersham C No 10 73 10 November 1973 Amersham Bucks. Special posting box at Amersham Community Centre.

29 September 1973 - 23 January 1974 (C) with the exception of

25 - 26 December 1973

The Chinese Exhibition London W1. Special posting box at the Royal Academy, 1 Burlington House, London W1V 0DS.

17 October 1973 (P/C)

Haymarket Theatre 17 Oct 1973 Leicester. Special posting box in the foyer of the Theatre.

Postmark Slogans

Unless otherwise stated items for reposting should be forwarded to the Head Postmaster of the town where the slogan is to be used, with the outer cover marked "Postmark Slogan".

20 August - 17 November 1973 (P)

Magherafelt The Ideal Centre for Industry. To be used at Magherafelt Co Londonderry.

24 September - 7 October 1973 (P)

Bristol Light Opera Club Presents Kismet At The Bristol Hippodrome October 9 - 20 1973. To be used at Bristol, Weston-Super-Mare.

10 September - 13 October 1973

State 1973 St Austell Trades 1973 Exhibition October 9 - 13. To be used at St Austell.

13 September - 17 October 1973 (P)

Opens October 17 Haymarket Theatre Leicester. To be used at Leicester.

1 November - 29 November 1973 (P)

Keep Medicines Safe. To be used at Cambridge.

6 August - 30 November 1973

Operation Gatepost Help Emergency and Public Services Put A Number On Your Gate. To be used at Leeds.

20 August - 30 November 1973

1 January - 29 June 1974

Wearmouth 1300 Festival 27 May 1973 - 29 June 1974. To be used at Sunderland.

10 September 1973 - 9 September 1974 (P)

A Cathedral City Brechin, Angus the Ideal Centre. To be used at Brechin.

10 September - 14 October 1973

Darlington Civic Theatre Immediate Attractions include: Sleuth - Man Most Likely To - Blithe Spirit - Labi Siffre - Max Jaffa - Moira Anderson. Send today for free brochure. To be used at Darlington.

13 September - 14 October 1973

Newcastle Festival Sept 28 - Oct 14. To be used at Newcastle upon Tyne.

17 September - 13 October 1973

The Royal Ballet and English Opera Group Jant, Season at Saddlers Wells Theatre 3 - 27 October 1973 Box Office 01-837 1672. To be used at:— London— Eastern Central DO; South Eastern DO; Northern DO.

23 September - 24 November 1973

16 - 22 December 1973

27 February - 16 March 1974 (P)

York Living History. To be used at York on 1st Class Mail only.

24 September - 13 October 1973 (P)

NSPCC National Fortnight 1 - 13 October. To be used at:— London— South Eastern DO; Northern DO; Paddington DO; Southampton; Manchester.

1 October 1973 - 24 February 1974 (P)

Barnsley Civic Tel 6757 Dec 22 to

Feb 23 Ken Platt Jack Storey. Jack and the Beanstalk. To be used at Barnsley.

28 October – 3 November 1973

9 – 22 December 1973

Fire Kills! Be Safe and take Extra Care. To be used at Leicester.

11 November – 8 December 1973

Enjoy a Sauna and Relax at St Margaret's Baths. To be used at Leicester.

10 March – 6 April 1974

For Health and Safety Learn to Swim Contact Your Local Baths. To be used at Leicester.

REPEAT CAMPAIGNS

1 – 13 October 1973

15 October – 31 December 1973

Expanding Hastings. The Resort with a Future.

14 October 1973

Today is Hastings Day. Both to be reused at Hastings.

1 – 31 October 1973

Bexhill on Sea Desirable Residential Resort. To be used at Bexhill-on-Sea.

1 October 1973 – 30 September 1974

Spacious and Gracious Folkestone Holiday Guide Book From Official Information Centre. To be reused at Folkestone.

1 August – 31 December 1973

The Civic Hall Whitehaven Entertainment for Everyone. To be reused at Whitehaven, Cumberland.

18 August – 28 October 1973

7 January – 10 March 1974 (P)

Shrewsbury Historical Centre Brochure From Information Bureau Shrewsbury Salop. To be reused at Shrewsbury.

until 7 July 1974 (P)

Telford Your Opportunity. To continue in use at Telford, Salop.

20 August – 20 October 1973

Autumn Symphony Concerts Fairfield Croydon 01-688 9291. To be reused at Croydon.

1 September 1973 – 28 February 1974

Industry Prospers in Peterlee. To be reused at Peterlee.

29 September – 31 October 1973

Visit Cambridge. To be used at Cambridge.

28 October 1973 – 31 March 1974

The Holiday Coast Fleetwood Thornton Cleveley's Blackpool Lytham St Annes. To be reused at Blackpool Lancs.

30 November – 31 December 1973

Cambridge Heidelberg Twin Cities. To be reused at Cambridge.

'P' denotes Pictorial

'C' denotes Circular

'R' denotes Rectangular

Philatelic Bulletin : Back Numbers

Mr D York, 22 Queensway, Burton Latimer, Northants, NN15 5QW, requires Volume 6, nos 1, 2 and 3.

Mr K Grayson, "Oakleigh", Lansdown Road, Cheltenham, GL51 6QW, requires Volume 1, nos 2-12 inclusive; Volume 2, nos 1-5 inclusive; Volume 2, nos 11 and 12.

Mr J P Branch, "Collingwood", 2 Nelson Road, Dovercourt, Harwich, Essex, requires Volume 5, no 4; Volume 5, no 10.

Leslie Chua, 6 J Dato Ibrahim Majid, Kluang, Johore, Malaysia, requires back issues Volumes 5, 6 and 7.

Mr Giuseppe Prestia, Viale Pasteur, 3600144 Roma, Italia, would like Volumes 1-6.

Mr R Perkins, No 403, 1890 Washington St, San Francisco, California 94109 USA would like to buy Volumes 1-6 inclusive.

Mrs M L Stockley, 309 Norbury Avenue, Norbury, London SW16, has Volume 2, nos 5-10 inclusive; Volume 3, nos 2-12 inclusive; Volume 4, nos 1-5 inclusive and nos 7-12 inclusive; Volumes 5-9 inclusive for sale.

Mr T F Levy, 9 Leahurst Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, would like Volume

Volume 6 no 2 and 10.

Mr C Morns, PO Box 35040, Central Station, Jamaica, New York 11435 USA, would like Volumes 1-6 inclusive.

Mr G N Miller, 25041 Mitchell Drive, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070 USA, would like, Volume 8, nos 8, 9, 11 and 12.; Volume 9, nos 1 and 12; Volume 10, nos 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 11.

Mr A Cooper, Pine Holm, 10 Blenheim Gardens, Sanderstead, Surrey CR2 9AA has from Volume 6 no 1 to the current issue for sale.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

Referring to the letters in *Bulletin* 10 June 1973 I want to add some aspects from a German view.

To the definitives – I don't understand Mr Brinkhoff who seems to want "definitive series" like Arabian Emirates. Philatelists in Germany had to buy six definitive series during the last ten years, mostly two series at the same time, mostly not the best designs. We envy British people who have such a beautiful series like the Machin design. The old fashioned former issue was sold from 1952 to 1967, and it would be inexcusable to change this modern series after only 6 or 7 years! Besides, I cannot imagine sailing ships on stamps of definitive size, considering that only one-colour-printing is possible.

To the special issues – The sales figures of the 7½p and 9p values show that there is nearly no postal need. Most of them will be bought by collectors needing the complete series. On the other hand, a 2½p-stamp is issued only before Christmas, that means, is not to be used during the year. So I would welcome very many more low values – for example a series 2½p-3p-3½p-5p (without se-tenant pairs)-if it should be necessary to issue always a whole series for one event. Some more single 3p stamps instead of a 9p value every month would be adequate for the true postal need!

(For better organisation, some stamps could be issued the same time – like the "General Anniversaries").

Additionally, I would like to see the old commemorative size again used during the sixties. They looked much more interesting, and they did not remind me of the multi-coloured so-called stamps of Arabic States' agencies, as the present too large issues do sometimes . . .

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL GIESENHAUS

Velbert, Germany

Dear Sir,

As an Australian collector of British stamps I hold the opposite point of view about the number of high value commemoratives issued to that held by Mr Paul Ladds. About 75% of the cards and letters I receive have Machin 5p and 9p stamps rather than commemoratives, and the writers tell me "These were all the Post Office had". Perhaps instead of cutting down the number of high-value stamps you should issue more to smaller Post Offices, when there will be less easily obtainable for speculators to salt away, and more available for postage.

I too would like to see a change of definitive stamp design – the Machin head may be a thing of beauty but after 6 years I am tired of it. Why could you not issue a pictorial definitive? Australia currently issues floral coil stamps, and series of famous Australians on small-size stamps, and Papua-New Guinea has a beautiful series of shell stamps. Britain is endowed with such a great heritage of traditions, buildings, art etc. and has such variety of flora and fauna that it is a pity not to show them off to the rest of the world on postage stamps. Surely even HM The Queen must be tired of looking at her own face after 21 years.

Yours faithfully,

MRS BARBARA GODFREY

Para Hills, South Australia

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