

Philatelic Bulletin

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Withdrawal of Definitive Stamps from Sale

The following definitive stamps were withdrawn from general sale on 14 January 1983. 14p, 15p, 18p, 25p, together with the 14p, 15p and 18p 'Country' definitives.

They will remain on sale however at Philatelic Counters, and by post from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT, for a period of one year.

Editorial

Featured in this edition is the eighth and concluding part of E Keith Parker's series of articles in which he expertly traced the history of 'Postage Dues' from the introduction of compulsory prepayment of postage in 1851 to the present time. We congratulate Keith for the high scholarship of his research into this subject, and the interesting and informative nature of his articles.

We also feature five more philatelic counter handstamps to add to the fourteen illustrated in the January edition. We aim to reproduce all the philatelic counter handstamps in due course.

In addition to the 41 philatelic counters that now have handstamps there are three other permanent special handstamps available, at the National Postal Museum, London; Heathrow and Stratford upon Avon. All items requiring a special handstamp whether posted directly into a special posting box or sent under the reposting facility should bear 2½p in addition to the correct postage.

JOHN MEMMOTT

New Stamp Books

Three new stamp books with illustrated covers, will be available from 16 February 1983 at philatelic counters, and from the British Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh. The 50p book (3 – 12½p, 4 – 3p, 1 – ½p stamps) illustrating The Bagot Goat, the first of a series depicting Rare Farm Animals, is designed by Harry Titcombe. The illustration on the £1.25 book (10 – 12½p stamps), designed by Stanley Paine, is of the GWR locomotive, 'Isambard Kingdom Brunel'. The £1.43 book (6 – 15½p, 4 – 12½p stamps), designed by John Gibbs continuing the postal history theme, is devoted to Postmark Collecting and illustrates both the 'two-penny blue' cancelled with a Maltese Cross handstamp, and a Bishop Mark. Technical details will appear in the March Bulletin.

Tailpiece

In this series of articles I have attempted to survey the progressive changes in Postage Due/To Pay label production and usage since 1914. There have, of course, been various additional events and developments parallel to this central theme and the story would not be complete without these now receiving a mention.

Overprints

On several occasions the lower value Postage Due labels have been overprinted for use in other countries. Between October 1897 and December 1932 Bechuanaland used British stamps overprinted 'BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE' and these included, in January 1926, the current ½d. 1d. and 2d. Postage Due labels. All from the Waterlow printings, the ½d. and 2d. values were on Block Cipher watermarked paper whilst the 1d. was from the printings on chalk-surfaced Simple Cipher paper (See Part 6). These labels were withdrawn in December 1932 when the Protectorate's own specially designed stamps and Postage Due labels first appeared.



Overprinted British Postage Due labels (selection from British Bechuanaland, M.E.F., B.M.A. Eritrea, B.A. Tripolitania & Southern Rhodesia).

Labels with the 'G vi R' cipher watermark were also overprinted quite extensively. With the defeat of the Italian armies in East Africa, British administration of former Italian colonies was established from 1942 onwards (and lasted, in the case of Eritrea, until 1952) and various British postage stamps and five denominations of Postage Due labels (½d. 1d. 2d. 3d. and 1s.) were overprinted 'M.E.F.' for use in these areas. When British occupation became 'British Military Administration' in 1948, the same five values overprinted 'B.M.A. Eritrea' or 'B.M.A. Tripolitania', and now surcharged respectively in 'Cents' or 'M(ilitary) A(dministration) L(ire)' were issued, whilst the change to civilian administration in 1950 produced two further issues in which the 'M' of 'B.M.A.' was removed. For quite a different reason, labels with this watermark can also be found overprinted 'SOUTHERN RHODESIA'. These were issued on 1 October 1951 when the postal authorities in Southern Rhodesia, in an attempt to stop pilfering of cash payments – which had been relatively easy with their existing Postage Due System – decided to introduce Postage Due labels and ordered supplies of these from the British Post Office. The request coincided with the introduction of colour changes to the existing British labels and, as a result, the 1d. and 4d. values supplied were in the 'new' colours (different shades of blue) whilst the ½d. (emerald) and 1s. (bright blue) were still the 'old' colours, together with 2d. (agate) and 3d. (violet) which had not changed. In error, a very small portion of the overprinting was also carried out on the 'old' dull grey-green 4d. labels and a quantity of these were issued by the Postmaster in Gwelo. These overprinted labels were used until the formation of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, in 1954.

One other example of British Postage Due labels 'used abroad' can, perhaps, be cited. At the beginning of its independence, Eire used overprinted British stamps until its own specific designs became available. Once these overprinted stamps appeared, on 17 February 1922, the basic stamps without overprint were no longer valid, but Postage Due labels were not overprinted –

they did not bear the head of the British Monarch – and it was not until 20 February 1925 that these were replaced by a newly designed Irish label. There can thus arise the intriguing situation that an item posted in Eire bearing unoverprinted British stamps which were considered *invalid*, so that the item was surcharged, then had this surcharge collected by means of unoverprinted British Postage Due labels, which were *valid*!

Aspects of Post Office Practice

"In no case should a packet bearing a postal surcharge be tendered for delivery unless it bears Postage Due Labels to the amount of the surcharge."

Para. 14. Surcharge Regulations, 1914.

For many years, it was the practice for a delivery postman to pay in advance small amounts of Postage Due on his surcharged items, buying the labels to be affixed to these from the Surcharging Officer. He was thus, in effect, recovering his own money when the surcharge was paid to him by the addressee. This procedure applied for sums up to 1s. and to ensure that a postman could, in fact, pay for his labels, when he first took up his duties he was advanced this amount. (Needless to say, this sum was deducted from his final wages when he left the Post Office!) On the occasions when the total of his surcharges exceeded 1s. he still paid the first 1s. and, for the amount in excess of this, handed in a datestamp slip bearing a note of the extra. On his return from delivery, he paid over cash for the amount shown on his slip, which was then destroyed. Whilst this practice has now ceased, it is interesting to note (when nowadays a *single* unpaid letter attracts a surcharge of 5s. (25p)), that the sum advanced was increased from 1s. to 2s.6d. only as recently as 12 February 1958.

There have been times, particularly just following an increase of postage rate, when individual sorting offices have found themselves short of specific denominations of Postage Due labels for which no other combination could be used. In order to comply with the regulation cited above, the Surcharging Officer has been faced with several alternatives, none of which was strictly in accordance with correct Post Office procedure. Firstly, and most simply, the mail could be delayed in the hope that fresh supplies of the required values could be obtained, but this was a very short-term solution which could only last from first to second delivery on the same day. Secondly, he could ignore the surcharge indicated

on the item – a complete contravention of the rules laid down for the execution of his duty. Thirdly, he could improvise some alternative which, whilst not strictly to the letter of the regulations, did allow him to discharge his duties as effectively as possible.

Various examples of the expedients employed are known. In rare cases it has been found that a higher value label has been altered in manuscript, despite the fact that this would then cause the Surcharging Officer problems over the value of his remaining stock of labels. More frequently the solution has been to bisect a higher value label (one example is known with a 1d. surcharge collected using a *trisected* 3d. label) thus producing a piece representing the amount of the surcharge – see Fig. 1. But the third, and most frequent, answer has been to use ordinary definitive stamps in lieu of Postage Due labels – see Fig. 2. Whilst this again produced difficulties over accounting,



Fig 1. A bisected Postage Due Label.



Fig 2. Ordinary definitive stamp in lieu of Postage Due label.

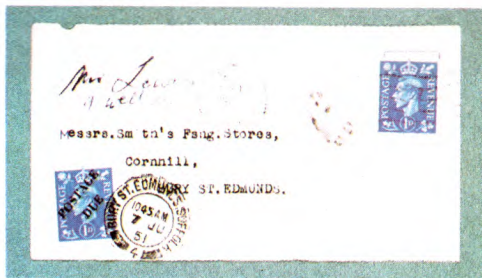


Fig 3. The Bury St. Edmunds 'Postage Due' overprint.

since definitive stamps would not form part of the Surcharging Officer's stocks, it has been carried out in a relatively large number of instances.

A few individual variations on this third method are known where the definitive stamp bears the manuscript addition 'Postage Due', 'Surcharge' or 'Charge Stamp' or has been cancelled with the handstruck charge mark of the Office of Delivery, but special mention should be made of the variety produced in Bury St. Edmunds in 1951. On 1 June 1951, printed paper rate was increased from 1d. to 1½d. and instructions were issued to Postmasters that any item found prepaid at the old rate after 4 June must be surcharged 1d. Throughout the Country, large numbers of these commercial items were found liable to this surcharge and at Bury St. Edmunds the stocks of suitable labels to collect this sum were, by 7 June, exhausted. Apparently without reference to higher authority, a decision was taken at local level to overprint half a sheet

(120 stamps) of the 1d. definitive stamp with locally produced Linotype handstamps reading 'POSTAGE' and 'DUE' which were (according to a contemporary report in the philatelic press) soon joined together in a single stamp with a vertical gap of 5mm between words. It is said that about 100 items were serviced with these 'provisionals' before a fresh supply of 1d. Postage Due labels was received, the remaining mint copies being sold, at face, to a local philatelist. Very few of the used items have ever been found, most presumably being destroyed by the firms receiving them, but one is illustrated in Fig. 3. Note the time in the cancelling date-stamp – the item was delayed until the last delivery in the hope that new stocks of the correct labels would arrive.

I have been unable to locate any official records of this event, but there seems no doubt that the stamps were produced in good faith by a postal official who did not realise that he was doing wrong. They thus rank as considerable rarities among 20th Century Great Britain stamps and, indeed, are the only 'provisional' issue ever to be made in this Country in 142 years.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of the great help afforded to me by the Staff of Post Office Archives, both in my research for this series of articles, and on many other visits when they have expended considerable efforts to locate material relevant to my quest for an understanding of the Postal Regulations which a surcharged item has infringed.

E. KEITH PARKER



Fig 4. An ingenious solution to the correct Postage Due label shortage. The 1d. surcharge on each of these two items sent to the same address has been collected by means of a 2d. label, sticking the two together.

To Pay Labels



To complement Keith Parker's series of articles on 'Postage due' labels we are publishing the current set of 'to pay' labels, issued on 9 June 1982.

Publication of Reproductions of Museum Material

Although many examples of unique and colourful material in the Museum appear on their sets of cards, it has been decided to consider the production of a more detailed record of the Museum's collections which are available for research by collectors and students.

The form these records will take will be a series of about 100 double sided pages, bound and indexed, each representing four of the volumes in the Museum. These will be available for sale to collectors and Societies. They will be in black and white, but as indexing will be linked with actual volume in the vaults, it will not only be easy for researchers to find the material they wish to see, but it will be possible for Societies to select that material which they might wish to be displayed at a Museum visit.

The first books produced will deal with the submitted artwork for the early Elizabethan Commemoratives. It is estimated that a complete set of all subjects will be about 40 volumes produced over 5 to 6 years with subsequent amendments. The selling price would probably be about £5 each.

To enable us to gauge the volume of these books to be produced, and thus the cost at which we can offer these, we are inviting subscribers to the Philatelic Bulletin to indicate whether they would be interested in acquiring examples of these booklets. Please write direct to the Curator, Dept PHB, National Postal Museum, King Edward Building, King Edward Street, LONDON, EC1A 1LP.

Farthing Essays

In 1935 a card bearing six designs for a farthing stamp by Perkins, Bacon & Co (illustrated) came to light with another card bearing seven designs prepared by De La Rue & Co. Both cards are believed to be unique and can be found in Volume XXI/41 of the Reginald M Phillips Collection in the National Postal Museum. The former originated from the firm's engraving book on a page headed 20 November 1874 shown as "Drawg 6 postage stamps 1/4d. for trial." While a farthing postage stamp was never in fact issued during the reign of Queen Victoria, circumstances in the mid-Nineteenth Century might well have dictated otherwise.

Britain had been a pioneer in the introduction of the adhesive postage stamp in 1840, but had lagged behind in the development of postal services, in particular in the introduction of cheaper postal rates for printed matter. Prior to 1870 there was a considerable lobby in Britain for the provision of such a service. Several mainly shortlived Circular Delivery Companies were formed in an ultimately unsuccessful attempt to operate outside the Post Office monopoly. Their

influence, particularly those formed by Robert Brydone, did contribute to a change in the official Post Office viewpoint.

The essays from Perkins, Bacon & Co were produced in connection with the Universal Postal Union scheme. The fact that the two most important companies in the stamp-printing business both submitted essays, suggests that the Post Office did seriously consider such a postage rate. However, this was not to be, but from 1 October 1870 the Post Office had reduced the basic 1d. rate for postage for all postal packets and introduced a parcel post service. Since this change to Britain's postal services was introduced, somewhat belatedly, by 1874, the authorities no doubt felt that they had already moved as far towards a 'Universal' postage rate as they felt they were able.

Visitors to the National Postal Museum in London can see these essays and other varieties in the Reginald M Phillips Collection which is on display to the public from Mondays to Fridays (opening hours 10.00am to 4.30pm, 4.00pm closing Fridays).



Commonwealth Day Stamps Issue 9 March 1983



United by a common bond of shared history and language, the modern Commonwealth brings together forty-seven independent nations and over a thousand million people – almost a quarter of the world's population – in a voluntary association based on principles of equality and practical co-operation that cuts across all barriers of geography, climate, wealth, race, creed and culture.

To remind us of these ideals, The Post office will issue, on 9 March 1983, a new set of four commemorative stamps, designed by Donald Hamilton Fraser ARA, from an original idea by Stafford Cliff. The subjects and values are:- Tropical Island (15½p), Hot Arid Desert (19½p), Temperate Climate (26p) and Cold Mountainous Region (29p).

First Day Cover Services

The following services for first day covers will be provided. Two pictorial handstamps will be available, 'London SW' and 'Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh'.

SERVICE 'A'

This consists of the official first day cover – price 14p – addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required and bearing all four stamps. The cover will be cancelled, 'London SW' or 'Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh' as requested and despatched.

SERVICE 'B'

Customers' own pre-addressed covers bearing the correct postal address, will be given the stamps, cancelled as requested and despatched.

The following charges will apply:

	Inland	Overseas
Service 'A'	£1.30	£1.13
Deposit account customers	£1.25	£1.09
Service 'B'	£1.16	£1.01

The usual first day of issue facilities will be available at offices with philatelic posting boxes. Application forms, available from the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh, and at all Head Post Offices, should be returned not later than 28 February 1983.

Printing Details

The stamps are printed photogravure on unwatermarked, phosphor coated paper by Harrison & Sons

(High Wycombe) Ltd. Format vertical: size 30 x 41 mm: perforations 14 x 15: number of sheet 100, and the adhesive is PVA dextrin.

Values and Colours

15½p – greenish-yellow, bright rose, new blue, yellow-brown, black, deep magenta, silver.

19½p – greenish-yellow, magenta, new blue, bright lilac, black, blue, silver.

26p – greenish-yellow, magenta, new blue, cobalt, black, blueish-violet, silver.

29p – purple, slate violet, new blue, dull violet-blue, deep blue-green, black, silver.

Cylinders used

15½p – 2A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 1G.

19½p – 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 1G.

26p – 2A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 1G.

29p – 2A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2E, 2F, 1G.

Postcards

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

Presentation Pack

A presentation pack number 143, designed by Stafford Cliff, containing all four stamps, will be available from 9 March 1983, price £1.10.





COMMONWEALTH DAY 14 MARCH
ROYAL MAIL FIRST DAY COVER



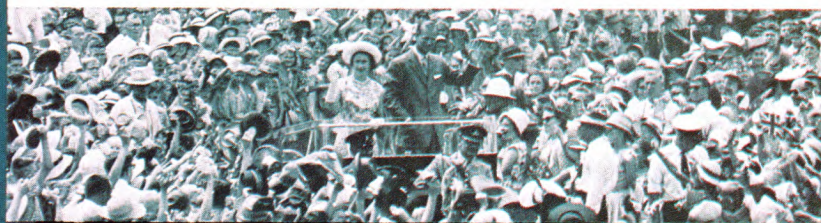
Mrs J Robinson
200 Manorbier Road
ILKESTON
Derbyshire
DE7 4AB

ROYAL MAIL
MINT
STAMPS



COMMONWEALTH DAY MONDAY 14 MARCH

A celebration shared by 47
independent nations and over
a thousand million people
around the world



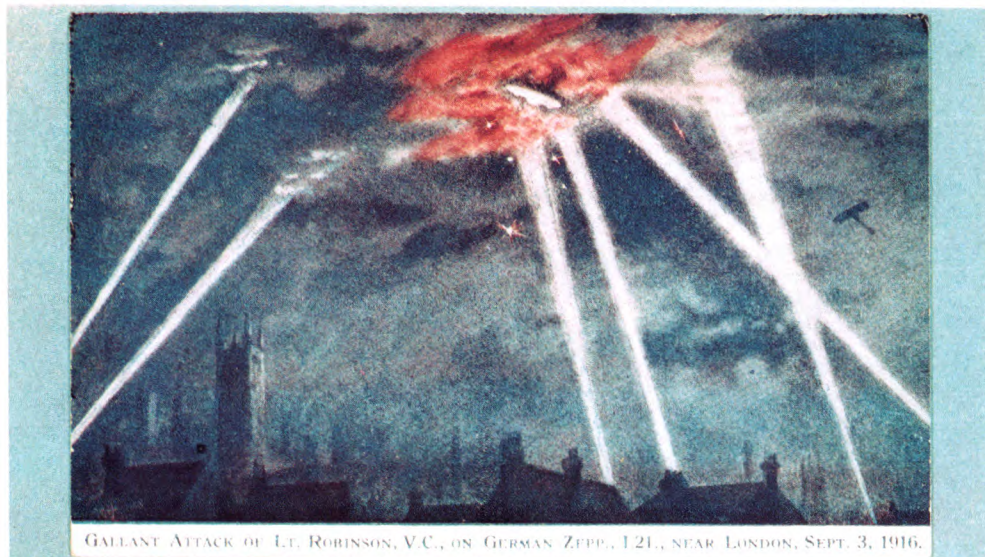
26. Z for 'Zeppelin'

The airship was a development of the free balloon, and there are three types: non-rigid, semi-rigid and rigid, all known as dirigibles (capable of being 'directed' or navigated). The non-rigid ship or 'blimp' is little more than an elongated balloon with a motor and propellor suspended beneath. The U.S. Navy uses blimps for routine coast-watch duties, and the well-known Goodyear airship is occasionally seen in flight over London. The semi-rigid airships are similar, but they are reinforced with a long, rigid keel along the length of the envelope or gas container. Most large airships, including the zeppelins and the British R100 and the ill-fated R101, were of rigid construction, the envelope embracing a long, cigar-shaped metal framework containing separate gas-chambers as well as integral control cabin, crew and passenger accommodation, and perhaps four diesel motors.

Among the airship pioneers, the outstanding name is that of Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin (1838-1917) who created some of the finest and largest airships of the century. A former German army officer, he formed a company and started building airships to his own designs at

Friedrichshafen on the shore of Lake Constance in 1897. These were numbered from LZ-1 (*Luftschiff Zeppelin*) which, launched in July 1900, was a failure. Thereafter misfortune dogged all Count Zeppelin's efforts to produce an airworthy dirigible – of the nine machines constructed up to 1912, seven were wrecked by storm damage which usually caused disastrous fires. Only LZ-10 'Schwaben' carried passengers on more than 200 successful flights before being destroyed in June 1912. Now, however, the German army began taking an active interest in zeppelins as war machines, and during World War I they were used in large numbers for attacks on England.

There were about fifty raids, the first, on East Anglia, taking place in January 1915. The first on London was in the following May, and on the night of 3 September 1916, Lieutenant William Leefe Robinson in his fighter aircraft 'attacked an enemy airship under circumstances of great difficulty and danger, and sent it crashing to the ground as a flaming wreck.' The zeppelin, L-21, was brought down at Cuffley, Hertfordshire, and Lieut. Robinson was awarded the Victoria Cross. Numerous picture postcards were published to

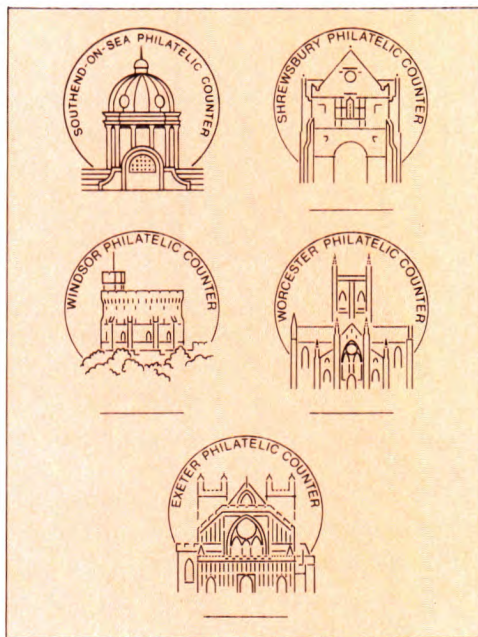


mark the event, some showing Leefe Robinson's portrait – he was one of the original RFC interceptor aces, pictures of the zeppelin's wreckage and artist's impressions of the action – one is illustrated here. In October 1917 there was a final raid on East Anglia in which six zeppelins were lost on the return journey, while others were shot down in flames. The enormous airships having been proved extremely vulnerable to attack in the air, they were eventually abandoned.

Following the death of Count Zeppelin and the end of the World War I, another airship pioneer, Dr. Hugo Eckener, took the reins at Friedrichshafen and was responsible for the launch of the famous LZ-127 'Graf Zeppelin' in 1928. This silver giant made some spectacular flights during her lifetime of nine years, and the 'Graf Zeppelin' flown covers and cards are very popular collectors' pieces. Indeed all the zeppelin picture postcards are collectable and their popularity is indicated by their comparative scarcity. The ultimate disaster occurred on 6 May 1937 when the LZ-129 'Hindenburg' suddenly exploded and caught fire while about to be moored at Lakehurst, New Jersey, with 35 lives lost, including that of her commander, Captain Ernst Lehmann. The last of the great zeppelins was LZ-130, 'Graf Zeppelin II', which made several flights until September 1939 when all zeppelins were dismantled prior to World War II.

MALCOLM JAMES

New Handstamps for Philatelic Counters



On 21 February 1983, Southend on Sea, Worcester, Exeter, Windsor and Shrewsbury, join the growing number of offices with special pictorial handstamps cancelling mail posted at their philatelic counters.

These will bring the number of philatelic counters with their own postmark to 41.

The handstamps depict:

Southend on Sea – The Kursaal

Worcester – The Cathedral

Exeter – The Cathedral

Windsor – The Castle

Shrewsbury – The Market Gate

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

Please note that the pictorial handstamp currently in use at Windsor will be withdrawn on 19 February 1983.

Book Review

Machin Cylinder Block Check List

This is a useful little book compiled with the help of a computer, and will be up-dated every three months. It is not a price list, but an average of dealers' selling prices taken from ten different dealers' lists.

Cylinders are listed in numerical order to make any cylinder block easy to find and quickly, thus being very useful to both specialist and beginner. The list contains all the stirring and decimal cylinders, high value blocks and 'Regionals'.

Price 95p, the list is available from, Tara Stamps, Charing Cross Collectors' Centre, Embankment Place, LONDON WC2N 6NN, or by post from, Tara Stamps, PO Box 336, LONDON SW1P 3DS.

96. Great Britons—Medieval Warriors, 1974

The purpose of this issue was to commemorate the 700th birth anniversary of Robert the Bruce, Earl of Carrick, who belonged to a family illustrious in Scottish history, descended from a Norman knight, Robert de Bruis, who came over with the Conqueror. The series embraces three other gentlemen of noble birth – Owain Glyndwr, King Henry V (victor of Agincourt) and the Black Prince. All four warriors are depicted – by the inimitable Fritz Wegner – in armour with their features masked by visors, mounted on 'gaily caparisoned chargers' and wielding swords or a battle-axe, leading their respective armies into battle. All were suitably identified on the stamps and the bright colours of the knights' emblazoned shields, surcoats and trappings brought a touch of medieval romance to the routine of the postal services.

Robert the Bruce (4½p), 1274-1329, travelled the path of violence, plot and counterplot to become one of the most famous of the Scottish kings. At first he supported Edward I, a rival contender for the Scottish throne: then he became one of the four regents of Scotland in 1299 and, in 1306, he quarrelled with a fellow regent, John Comyn, and stabbed him. Two months later, Robert was crowned king at Scone, but he was driven out of Perth by an English army under the Earl of Pembroke, and out of Scotland by Comyn's uncle, Macdougall, whence he fled to Rathlin on the Irish coast. He returned in fine fettle and, with 30,000 supporters, cleared the English out of the country, King Edward having died in 1307. Robert the Bruce defeated the massive army of Edward II at Bannockburn in 1314, after which, in 1328, Scotland's independence was acknowledged. Robert died of leprosy at Cardross Castle on the Clyde.

Owen Glyndwr (Glendower) (5½p), c.1350-1416, the Welsh chief and patriot, claimed descent from the the old Welsh princes, and was himself proclaimed Prince of Wales c.1400. He conducted a border campaign against Henry IV which ended with King Henry's victory over him at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. Despite the help of Charles VI of France, Owen suffered a number of defeats until his death in 1416. Henry V



(8p), 1387-1422, distinguished 'warrior of the people' and conqueror of Wales (Glendower and the Welsh rebels), was created Prince of Wales in 1399. He was King of England from 1413 to his untimely death in 1422, and devoted his short life to winning the kingdom of France. In 1415 he gained the glorious victory of Agincourt and followed this with the bloody conquest of Normandy. In 1420 he married the French king's

Posting Boxes

daughter, Catherine of Valois, and by the Treaty of Troyes got himself appointed regent of France and heir to the French throne.

The Black Prince (10p), 1330-1376, Prince of Wales, son of Edward III and hero of the people, distinguished himself at Crécy in 1346 and obtained a brilliant victory at Poitiers, but involved his country in continuing hostilities with France before returning to England, broken in health, to die, preceding the death of his father by a year. Black, reputedly, was the colour of his armour.

The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (two panes of 50, 10 x 5) on unwatermarked paper with 'all-over' phosphor. Recorded varieties include the following flaws: 4½p Break in 'u' of 'Bruce'; 4½p White spot on horse's tail; 5½p Serif adjoining foot of '4' in '1416'; and 10p Curved line linking 'a' of 'Black' to horse's tail. Quantities issued were: 4½p 41,949,300; 5½p 9,207,800; 8p 7,243,600; 10p 7,467,500; presentation packs, 130,600.

JAMES WATSON



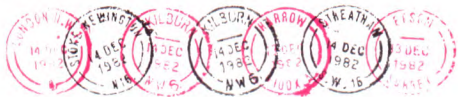
No. 44. This month's photograph, sent to us by Mr C A Lewis of Bedford, was taken by him while on holiday in Sark C.I. It illustrates a posting box made by McDowall, Steven & Co. Ltd., of Falkirk during the reign of King George VI. The box is painted royal blue, but in places the paint has been chipped revealing original red beneath.

Queen Elizabeth II Definitive Stamps

Technical Details (continued)

Value	Cylinders Colour Phos	Printing Press	Per- forator	Adhesive	Coat- ing	Printing Date	Comments
9p	27 21	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Oct '78	
16	30	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Oct '78	
27	21	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Jan/Feb '79	
29	30	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	May '79	
29	30	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Jly '79	
11	30	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	?	Reported by J Spiteri
29	21	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	?	Reported by J Spiteri
9½p	13 17	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Dec '75	
13	21	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Sept '77	
13	30	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Nov '77	
13	30	Jumelle	Kampf	PV A1/DEX	FCP	Apr '78	

Letter to the Editor



Dear Sir,

I have just acquired a copy of the Stamp Bug Calendar for 1983 and would like to comment on the picture for the 5 October issue.

May I suggest that, as the issue relates to BRITISH fairs, the rotation shown should be reversed on any reprint (and the stamps themselves should they feature a roundabout picture) if it is at all feasible.

In general, British roundabouts rotate clockwise; it is the Continental and American sets which rotate anti-clockwise (possibly something to do with the rule of the road). Perhaps the artist was not aware of this.

I am sure that, if questioned, the Showmen's Guild officials will bear me out on this.

Yours sincerely

WOLVERHAMPTON.

L C DIPPER

Yes Mr Dipper is absolutely right, British 'roundabouts' do rotate in a clockwise direction. The illustration on the Stamp Bug Calendar is simply an impression — artist's licence in fact.

However, we can all rest assured that the 'roundabout' featured in the forthcoming 'British Fairs' stamps issue, is travelling in the right direction.

EDITOR

1983 Melville National Junior Stamp Competition

The next Melville National Junior Stamp Competition will be held in March 1983, and now is the time to submit your exhibits. As in previous years, the entries will be divided into four age groups, as follows:

- For those aged 18 years and under 21 years
- For those aged 16 years and under 18 years
- For those aged 13 years and under 16 years
- For those aged under 13 years.

Ages to be reckoned as on 1 January 1983.

A Cup will be awarded for the best entry in each class (to be held for one year) as well as silver,

silver/bronze, and bronze medals to all entrants who achieve a sufficiently high standard.

In addition, the Cartwright Medal will be awarded to the entry in Classes C or D which shows most promise: the Helene Leverton Medal for the most promising entry in Class B, and the National Westminster Bank Prize for the most promising entry in Class A.

The School Trophy will be awarded to the school which produces the highest standard of entries.

Interested juniors should now write for rules and an entry form (enclosing a stamped addressed envelope) to Mrs B Glassborow, The Pump House, Long Sutton, LANGPORT, Somerset TA10 9HU who can also put intending entrants in touch with their nearest philatelic society.

Completed entry forms should be given, with their exhibits to the Secretary of a Society, Federation or Association affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation for forwarding to Mrs Glassborow at the above address by Saturday 26 March 1982.

Forthcoming Events

Philatelic Event in Hereford

For its first meeting in 1983, the Welsh Philatelic Society is organising a joint event with the Hereford and Mid Wales Philatelic Society, starting at 2 pm on Saturday 26 February 1983 at St John's Methodist Church Hall, St Owen's Street, Hereford. Two members of each of the participating Societies will give displays:

Canada Free Posts	— J Donaldson
GB Booklets	— R Broomfield
Animals	— Clive Roberts
Radnor and Hereford	
Postal History	— Ted Bennett

These varied themes must surely include something of interest to every philatelist.

Further information may be obtained from the Publicity Officer, Welsh Philatelic Society: Mr D Daunton, 21 Torkington Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 2AE.

British Society of Australian Philately

The British Society of Australian Philately, will celebrate their Golden Jubilee with a weekend Convention at the Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, from 25-27 March 1983.

From its inception in 1933 as a correspon-

dence society, the Australian Commonwealth Specialists' Society of Great Britain has grown to its present stature by widening its scope to embrace the philately of the Australian States, including their postal histories.

Readers who would like to know more about the Jubilee celebrations should contact: Mr A J Brander, 10 Garden Close, EAST GRINSTEAD, Sussex, RH19 4JS.

The Hon Secretary, Mr A G W Scott, 5 Breakespeare, College Road, Dulwich, LONDON SE21 7NE will be pleased to provide details of the Society.

South of England Fairs

The following fairs will take place during March.

Saturday 12 March – The Civic Hall, London Road, GUILDFORD, Surrey GU1 2AA, 10.30 am-5 pm. The price of admission for adults is 25p.

Saturday 19 March – Bligh's Hotel, High Street, SEVENOAKS, Kent, TN13 1UP, 10 am-4.30 pm. The price of admission for adults is 10p.

At both fairs there will be stamp, coin and postcard dealers. Car parking is near by.

The Finchley and District Philatelic Society

The Finchley and District Philatelic Society will host the 33rd Annual Convention of the Middlesex Philatelic Federation in 1983, to be held on Saturday 28 May 1983, at The Highgate School, (Main Dining Room) Bishopswood Road, Highgate, LONDON N6.

Societies will be competing against each other for 3 main trophies for:

STAMPS – The Ernest Bishop Cup

POSTAL HISTORY – Jim Dawes Rose Bowl

THEMATICS – Kay Goodman Trophy.

There are 38 Societies in the Middlesex Philatelic Federation and a bumper turnout is expected. A limited number of dealers tables will be available. For further information please write to: Sarah Barnett, Press Officer, 4 Manor Hall Avenue, Hendon, LONDON NW4 1NX.

Commemorative Covers

75th Anniversary 1st Christchurch (Town) Scouts 11 February 1983

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the troop, a souvenir cover will be issued illustrating the troop scout badge. A 26p 'Youth Organisations' stamp will be affixed, cancelled with

a special handstamp dated 11 February 1983.

The cost is £1.50 plus 18p return postage and packing. Orders for this cover should be sent to:- D A Vey, 43 Kings Avenue, CHRISTCHURCH, Dorset BH23 1NA, with remittances made payable to: '1st Christchurch (Town) Scout Group'.

London Marathon

A souvenir cover will be produced by the London Postal Region and the Marathon Organising Committee to commemorate the 3rd London Marathon on 17 April 1983. Further details will appear in the March edition of the Philatelic Bulletin.

Pike Anglers' Club

The Pike Anglers' Club of Great Britain have sponsored a special cover coinciding with the 'British River Fishes' stamps issue of 26 January 1983. The illustrated cover bearing a 19½p 'Pike' stamp was cancelled at Norwich with a pictorial handstamp illustrating the club's logo. The cost is £1.40 each plus 25p return postage and packing. Alternatively, a limited number of 300 covers serviced with a full set of stamps are available at £3.00 each plus 25p postage and packing. Orders with remittances made payable to 'The Pike Anglers' Club' should be sent to: FDC Offer, Pike Anglers' Club of Great Britain, 173 Moore Avenue, Sprowston, NORWICH, NR6 7LQ.

Bill Tidy Cartoons

Just four Bill Tidy cartoon commemorative covers are produced each year. Those selected for 1983 are: River Fishes, (26 January); Commonwealth Day, (9 March); Famous Gardens, (24 August); and British Fairs, (5 October). The covers bear a special cartoon by Bill Tidy, a full set of stamps, and a hand inscribed address. Each issue has an edition limit of 500, and both the covers and their accompanying certificates are individually numbered.

The price of each cover is £2.60. When requested to be sent in an outer cover, (extra 20p UK, 40p overseas). Orders with remittances should be sent to: Ainwhel Developments, Delph House, Parbold, WIGAN, Lancashire, WN8 7AA. Overseas customers should use Girobank account no. 6191363.

The Commonwealth Institute

The Commonwealth Institute will produce a special cover commemorating its first 21 years. Three printing techniques (die-stamping, emboss-

ing and letterpress) have been used to produce an attractive design which includes the names of all commonwealth countries. All four 'British Commonwealth' stamps will be affixed, cancelled with a pictorial handstamp dated 9 March 1982. The cost of the cover is £3.25 including return postage and packing. Orders with remittances made payable to A G Bradbury, should be sent to him at 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER, LE2 6FJ.

60th Anniversary of the Cinque Ports Angling Society

A cover is currently available commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the Cinque Ports Angling Society. Bearing all four 'British River Fishes' stamps, cancelled at Hythe with a pictorial handstamp on 26 January, the 'silk' illustration surrounded by a gold border depicts river fish painted by the well known artist, Norman Weaver.

The cost is £2.80 including return postage and packing.

Remittances made payable to Benham (A Buckingham) Ltd, should be sent to, 22-28 High Street, HYTHE, Kent, CT21 5AT.

Forces Covers

The Middlesex Regiment (DCO) Korean War 1950-1951

The second of the series of six covers commemorating the Battle Honours awarded to the Middlesex Regiment during the first year of the Korean War will be issued on 15 February 1983 (see August 1982 Philatelic Bulletin).

Issue Number 2 commemorates the Battle Honour Chaum-Ni of 15 February 1951 with an illustration of a snow covered hill and the tending of a wounded soldier. The cover also illustrates the Regimental cap badge.

A 15½p 'Maritime Heritage' stamp will be affixed, cancelled with BFPS 9994 handstamp depicting the formation sign of 27 Brigade of which the Middlesex Regiment were part. The cost of the cover is £1.25. A limited number signed by the Brigade Commander and the Commanding Officer of the day will be available at £3.50 each.

Orders together with remittances (payable to the Middlesex Regiment Korean Club) and stamped addressed envelopes measuring 9" x 4½" should be sent to, Mr S Webb, 38 Yarmouth Road, Symonds Green, STEVENAGE, Herts, SG12 2LW.

Royal Navy: Samuel Pepys

To commemorate the 350th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Pepys – 23 February 1633 – a cover will be available on 23 February 1983 bearing a portrait of Pepys and an illustration of a Naval dockyard in the background with ships at anchor. With a 15½p 'Fishes' stamp affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp number BFPS 1794, the cost of the cover is 75p.

In addition, the cover bearing a 26p 'Fishes' stamp, cancelled as above, but signed by Sir John Long GCB KCB CB, Secretary of the Admiralty 1947-1961 and Mr A R Jaffray CB, Deputy Under Secretary of State (Navy) 1982, will cost £1.95.

Signed by Mr Jaffray only, the cover bearing a 19½p 'Fishes' stamp, costs £1.15.

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

Philatelic Bulletin

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