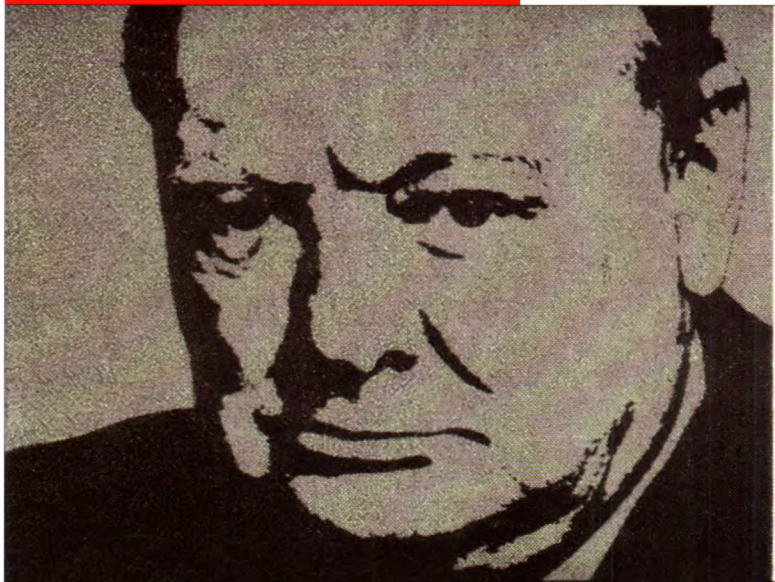


Bulletin

Joubert's 4d carmine of 1855
• Classic ITV special stamps



1/3

'In all our long history we have never seen a greater day than this. Everyone, man or woman, has done their best. Everyone has tried. Neither the long years, nor the dangers, nor the fierce attacks of the enemy, have in any way weakened the independent resolve of the British nation.'

Winston Churchill, 8 May 1945



As Royal Mail marks the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War with a new miniature sheet, we remember the Churchill stamps issued 40 years ago this month.

Forthcoming issues and withdrawals



Cover This month Royal Mail issues a miniature sheet to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and we look at the 1965 Churchill commemoratives – 40 years old this month.

Issues Some items available only from Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office Limited philatelic outlets at main post offices in Bath, Belfast, Birmingham, Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge, Canterbury, Cardiff, Chester, Colchester, Coventry, Croydon, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Grimsby, Guildford, Harrogate, Leicester, London (Trafalgar Square & Eastcheap), Newcastle upon Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Southampton, Southend-on-Sea, Stevenage, Stratford-on-Avon, Stroud, Truro, Windsor & York.

Royal Mail Tallents House 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, UK. Telephone order line (08.30-17.00 Monday to Friday): 08457 641 641; from overseas +44 131 316 7483. Minimum handling charge UK £1.30, Europe £1.55, rest of world (airmail) £2.15. Some products can be ordered on Royal Mail's website: www.royalmail.com/stamps

30 June	Withdrawal Standard airletter (July 2000) single and discount pack.
5 July	Issue End of War miniature sheet, coin and medal cover.
12 July	Issue Motorcycles stamp cards.
19 July	Issue Motorcycles stamps and presentation pack.
26 July	Issue Northern Ireland 42p Country stamp printed by De La Rue • 6 x 1st stamp book with new Smilers advertisement showing 2002 LOVE stamp.
26 July	Withdrawal Rule Britannia Smilers sheet.
9 August	Issue Stamp ingot: 1929 £1 PUC stamp.
9 August	Withdrawal Royal Society of Arts stamps, presentation pack, and stamp cards.
16 August	Issue Changing Tastes in Britain stamp cards.
23 August	Issue Changing Tastes in Britain stamps and presentation pack.

Smilers In preparation is a new version of Smilers, which will comprise definitive-size stamps with larger labels attached. The stamps will feature details from the 1990 Teddy Bear, 1996 Christmas 19p, 1997 Flowers (*Guzmania splendens*), 2001 'Union Jack', 2002 LOVE, and 2002 Hello stamps. The six stamps, all 1st class, will also be available in a self-adhesive stamp book, expected to be available from early October. Further details next month.

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The British Philatelic Bulletin is published monthly by Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ • **Editor** J R Holman • **Price** £1.10 single copies from Post Office Ltd philatelic outlets • **Annual subscription** £11.75 UK & Europe; £16.75 elsewhere. Send subscriptions to Royal Mail Talents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB • **Binders** (to hold 24 issues) £8.50, storage boxes (about 30 copies) £9.95 available by post from Royal Mail (Edinburgh address, above) • Royal Mail also publishes the fortnightly *British Postmark Bulletin*, giving details of forthcoming special handstamps. Available on annual subscription from Edinburgh address above: £12.25 UK and Europe, £24.95 rest of the world • **Copyright** Design & text Royal Mail Group plc, unless attributed to a specified author. All requests to reproduce any article should be addressed to the Editor, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ • **Design** Robert Maude • **Printed** in Great Britain by Beacon Press • **ISSN** 0953 8119 • Royal Mail is a trading name of Royal Mail Group plc. Registered in England and Wales no 4138203 registered office 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ.

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Stampex enquiries Philatelic Traders Society (organisers), telephone 01252 628006.

Philatex enquiries Trevor Davis, telephone 020 8946 4489.

Taipei 2005 enquiries <http://taipei2005.post.gov.tw>

Mega-Event enquiries e-mail asda@erols.com or visit www.asdaonline.com

Riccione enquiries email expo@commune.riccione.rn.it or website www.comune-riccione.rn.it/expo

Washington 2006 To receive e-mail announcements, click on the 'subscribe now' link at www.washington2006.org

UK exhibitions Autumn Stampex at the Business Design Centre, Upper Street, London N1 (14-18 September) will feature a variety of stands from stamp dealers to Royal Mail and from the National Philatelic Society to the Friends of the British Postal Museum and Archive. There are also the annual competitions covering traditional philately, postal history and thematics to aerophilately and literature. Younger collectors can also compete in the British Youth Championships and the Stamp Active competitions.

27-29 October will see the popular Philatex fair, to be held at the Royal Horticultural Society, New Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, London SW1 •

International exhibitions The next show will be Taipei 2005, Taiwan, which is to be held at the Taipei World Trade Center under FIAP patronage (19-24 August). 1500 frames of displays, around 150 sales booths and a souvenir on each day of the show are some of the highlights •

The Berlin International Stamp Fair will be held at Hangar 2 Tempelhof Airport, Berlin, on 8-10 September. Entrance is free and will include sports and Olympics competitive exhibits. There will also be a special display of the Penny Black 'the mother of all stamps', as the organiser's website puts it. Dealers, postal administrations (including German Post), a youth centre, first day ceremonies and society meetings complete the attractions •

27-30 October will see the 13th annual Autumn Postage Stamp Mega-Event at the Jacob Javits Convention Centre, Hall E, 655 West 34th Street, New York City. Attractions usually include over 100 national and international dealers, a special show cancel, societies/clubs, free lectures, free appraisals, a kids area and educational computer activities •

The 57th International Stamp Fair and 44th Europa International Philatelic Exhibition will be held in Riccione, Italy (26-28 August), together with the 10th Europa Card Show and the 21st Postcard Show in adjoining halls. The 55th National Numismatic Show will be held at the same venue, 3-4 September •

Washington 2006, the next major American stamp exhibition (27 May - 3 June at the Washington, DC Convention Center), is less than a year away. Anyone interested in receiving periodic e-mail announcements about activities and events may sign up to receive them automatically •

Royal Philatelic Collection Stamps from The Queen's collection will be on display at the Museum of New Zealand (Te Papa Tongarewa) in Wellington from 16 July until 15 January 2006. The display, in nine frames, will be of early NZ material (the 'Chalon' head). The display is part of a much larger exhibition - Stamped - covering communication within and to/from New Zealand and coincides with the 150th anniversary of the first New Zealand stamps in July 1855 •

Pacific Explorer Stamp Exhibition The first of this year's international exhibitions was held in Sydney, 21-24 April. The Court of Honour included displays by the British Library (Tapling Collection), Australia Post (stamps from the 53 Pacific rim countries); Michael Ho (Chinese stamps); Dr Arthur Woo (Nicaragua); and Arthur Gray (Kangaroo issues of Australia). There were 25 British collectors among the 379 exhibitors: Arthur Woo (Western Australia); David Alford (Fiji); James Crompton (New Hebrides); 'Kumala Indera' (Brunei); Mehmet Basaran (Turkey); John Dahl (Portugal); Brian Trotter (Southern Rhodesia); Alan Griffiths (Queensland); Roy Holland (Victoria); Patrick Read (Postal History); Patricia Scott (South Australia); Anthony Eastgate (Fiji); Patrick Pearson (Iraq); John Woolfe (New Zealand); Otto Hornung (Istanbul); Melvin Tillman (Transatlantic Mail); Ivan Edmondson (Gibraltar); and Alan Huggins (GB Postal Stationery). The eight UK entrants in the Literature class were: David Alford, Keith Buckingham, Donald Franks, Bill Holland, Bryan Jones, Edward Proud, Colin Salt, and Pacific Islands Study Circle. Francis Kiddle and Christine Earle served as exhibition judges.

Australia Post provided a new stamp issue on each day, a prestige book, postcards, personalised stamps, souvenir sheets, a souvenir cover and five postmarks: one generic and one for each day (International, Family, Pacific and Heritage). Visitors could use a perforating machine to perforate 'PE05' on a souvenir sheet reproducing designs from Australia's 1937-38 Zoological series definitives. The Royal Mail stand drew many visitors; the joint issue World Heritage Sites stamps were popular, also the Royal Wedding miniature sheet, and our range of packs and miniature sheets. Many visitors wanted the Royal Mail cachet applied to exhibition passports or other items. Julietta Edgar, Head of Royal Mail's Philatelic Sector attended the exhibition and the stand was managed by Rachel Lonsdale, putting to good use her experience as Stampex stand manager. Julietta described Royal Mail's participation as 'successful' and worth the long journey •

GB societies The Great Britain Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle is considering expanding its coverage from stamp books to all modern material issued by Royal Mail. Members are invited to offer opinions and a vote will be held in due course after a presentation at the AGM of the Circle. It is even considering a merger with its sister organisation, the British Decimal Stamps Study Circle, and initial discussions proved fruitful. This possible change of scope has come about largely because of the severe reduction in stamp books planned for issue during 2005 and the recent indication by members that their collecting interests were wider than just books •

Society meetings The National Philatelic Society's AGM will be held on 9 July (11.00) followed by auction (13.15), and members' displays (15.00). Enquiries to the address opposite, or see www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps •

The GB Philatelic Society will celebrate its Golden Jubilee with a special weekend at York on 29-30 July. Membership enquiries to the address opposite, or see website www.gbphs.org.uk •

GBDSBSC Contact T Wilkins, 3 Buttermere Close, Brierley Hill DY5 3SD, or visit website www.gbdsbsc.co.uk.

BDSSC For information and a free copy of the Newsletter, contact Dave Threadgold, 39 Scrub Rise, Billericay CM12 9PG, e-mail Davidthreadgold@bdssc.co.uk or see website www.bdssc.co.uk

National Philatelic Society 107 Charterhouse St, London EC1M 6PT.

GB Philatelic Society Greylands, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1QE.

Philatelic Congress The Philatelic Congress of GB will be held at the Midland Hotel, Derby, 7-10 July. Arrangements are being made for Signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and presenting the Congress Medal at the Royal Crown Derby Centre. The 2006 Congress will be held in Renfrew (6-9 July) and future events in Leeds (2007), Manchester (2009), London (2010), Norwich (2011) and Perth (2012). Alan J Griffiths will be awarded the Congress Medal on 9 July for his work for the British Association of Australian Philately, and as Congress Secretary since 1997 •

Stamp Lover enquiries NPS, 107 Charterhouse St, London EC1M 6PT, or see website www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps

Rundbrief www.fggb.de (there is an English language welcome page, but the body of the site is in German).

ABPS enquiries PO Box 199, Thetford IP24 3WX, or visit website www.ukphilately.org.uk/abps

Friends membership Mrs A Harms, 13 Amethyst Avenue, Davis Estate, Chatham ME5 9TX.

Society publications The April issue of *Stamp Lover*, the magazine of the National Philatelic Society, includes articles on Dr Livingston expedition covers, modern USA, Basra, stamps from Samos, and details of the forgotten country of Stampalia, plus the usual book reviews, news etc •

Issue No 139 of *Rundbrief*, the journal of the German group Forschungsgemeinschaft Grossbritannien eV, has recently been published (66 A4 pages, part-colour). It always covers a full range of British philatelic material and this issue is no exception, with articles on Victorian postal history, Charles Whiting essays, stamp papers, perfins, registered mail and London Penny Post to satisfy the traditionalist, but it is also up to date with information on new Royal Mail issues. Not surprisingly, the text is in German, but this group offers its readers the results of serious research into GB philately •

ABPS News, the Association of British Philatelic Societies magazine, has become an extremely useful publication to any active stamp collector. The April issue includes an article on Fred Melville, the legendary philatelic writer and collector, by Ken Chapman – something of a legend himself, having been Editor of the much-lamented *Stamp Collecting* and *Philatelic Magazine*. (Ken is 95 this month – see Richard West's interview with him in this *Bulletin*). The balance of the magazine contains the usual news round-ups, diaries, Post Office updates, society information pages, etc •

Cross Post is the publication of the Friends of Postal Heritage. Its Spring 2005 issue includes several fascinating articles (almost all now in colour): An India Letter from Chile?, Proposed Irish Free State High Values, Compound Plate Printing, Development of the Postal Card, the Royal Philatelic Collection, and The Post Office and the Oxford Union Society. This was the last issue under the able editorship of Geoffrey Eibl-Kaye; Richard West, well-known to *Bulletin* readers, will now take over. If Richard can bring about changes to *Cross Post* in line with those he has introduced for *ABPS News*, then an exciting era awaits its readers •



Letterbox postcard The North of Ireland Philatelic Society recently issued its 19th postcard in a fascinating series of postal-related themes. This depicts an Edwardian lamp box at Enniskillen; earlier cards have shown postmen, postal maps, post offices, postal transport, etc. Cards 3-8 and 10-19 are available mint at 40p each. Ten of the 19 are also available cancelled on the first day of availability at £1 each (card 19 is available with Belfast and Giant's Causeway cancels). Include 40p for post and packing. Orders and enquiries: Norman Scott, 49 Kingsdale Park, Belfast BT5 7BZ •



Memories of 1945 Isle of Man Post, together with the Imperial War Museum, recently issued this attractive miniature sheet (face £2) and four se-tenant pairs of stamps (£3.60) to commemorate the end of the Second World War and focused on celebration and reflection. Reproducing original black and white photographs with red text, they perfectly evoke the period depicted. Enquiries to: Isle of Man Post, PO Box 10M, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM99 1PB; e-mail stamps@iompost.com; or see website: www.iompost.com •



Stamps available from Isle of Man Post, and from new issue dealers.

New books The 28th edition of the Booth catalogue *Collect GB First Day Covers* has recently appeared, and it just keeps getting better. It is perhaps easy to scoff at this aspect of the hobby, believing that FDCs are a modern phenomenon not worthy of attention, but this book dispels that myth. In over 400 pages, this catalogue includes items from 1839 to 2005. The most expensive cover contained within appears to be £65,000 for a 2d Blue imperforate with a Maltese cross and datestamp cancelled on 8 May 1840. A special full-colour 18-page section in this edition depicts almost 80 FDCs from the short reign of King Edward VIII. A checklist of pre-release covers is included for the first time, with prices up to £2000 •

The active American Topical Association last October published volume two of *Computers on Stamps and Stationery* (ATA Handbook 152) by Larry Dodson, picking up where volume one left off in 1998. 235 predominantly black-and-white pages cover the whole subject in great detail for a reasonable US\$25 (plus US\$5 postage to UK), in a perfect-bound 'almost A5' format. Many of the items that thematic collectors treasure are to be found within, including colour, perforation and watermark variations. Overprints and surcharges are also included, although exhibitors should be careful not to include these if they change the initial theme depicted •

Auctions Sothebys will hold the third sale of the collection of Sir Gawaine Baillie, Bt in Melbourne, 13-15 July. This includes many fine unused stamps of the Australian States (1850-90), and great rarities from the first years of the Australian Commonwealth from 1913. The British Africa section of the collection will be auctioned in London in November •

Cavendish has sales lined up for 22 July, 22-23 September and 23-24 November. There will also be a postal-only literature sale on 1 August. Cavendish's sale on 22 April included the J Bruce Adam India collection,

Collect GB First Day Covers

First Day Publishing Company, PO Box 11, Arundel BN18 9SS. Retail price £9.80. Copies are available from the publisher, or from your favourite dealer.

ATA For enquiries about this and other publications covering many topical (thematic) subjects contact: ATA, PO Box 57, Arlington, TX 76004-0057, USA. E-mail enquiries to americantopical@msn.com or visit the ATA website: www.americantopicalassn.org

Sothebys 020 7293 6000.

For details of Sir Gawaine Baillie and his collection, see the *Bulletin* September 2004, pages 4-5.

Cavendish Telephone 01332 250970, or see website www.cavendish-auctions.com

with many realisations well above their estimate. In the GB section, collections saw great competition among collectors eager to fill their gaps 'in bulk', including a Lighthouse album that sold for £2760 (£1200 estimate). The 2001 self-adhesive 2nd class blue in an imperforate pane of 24, block of four and a partly imperforate strip of five surprisingly realised only £280 (£400) •

Spink will auction Stamps and Covers of the World on 7 July. Enquiries: Spink, telephone 020 7563 4000 or see website www.spink.com •

Bonhams Montpelier Street, Knightsbridge, London SW7 1HH, or see www.bonhams.com

Bonhams sale of 26 April saw over 1000 lots (close to 400 of which were GB) go under the hammer. These British items covered all periods and included two imperforate pairs of Settler's Tale 26p and 43p Millennium stamps. Estimated at £100/120 each pair they remained unsold. The 1964 Shakespeare 256d value in the so-called 'jet-black' shade realised £250 (est £150-£180). A 1934 3s advertisers promotional booklet in tête-bêche block of four sold for £1950 (£1500-1800) •

Greg Manning Auctions See www.gregmanning.com, or e-mail info@gregmanning.com

Spanish Fournier Archives Greg Manning Auctions has recently acquired the Fournier Printing Archives, containing philatelic material printed for 40 countries from 1966-91, for approximately \$6 million. It is expected that material will be made available over a period of years, such is the scale of the archive. The value of these items became apparent following the recent sale of the United Nations Archive for US\$3 million in 2003. Greg Manning, CEO, stated: 'Collectors wishing to upgrade their collections will have the opportunity to purchase proofs, imperforates and varieties in an effort to obtain gold medals at exhibitions, or simply to own a rare item.' •

CBN engravings For ordering information and illustrations of each image, visit www.cbnco.com/bluepages/vignettes-list.html

CBN engravings Canadian Bank Note (CBN) is offering engraved vignettes for purchase. These historical non-philatelic items are printed on exclusive watermarked paper containing security fibres, and use intaglio inks manufactured by CBN. Each vignette (approx 10.2 × 15.3cm) is mounted on a 21.5 × 25.4cm grey matte ready for framing. They are also available unmounted in limited quantities, printed on cream-coloured Vellum Bristol paper. The series comprises 19 images: two ships, five streetcars (trams), four animals (buffalo, elk, beaver and lion), two trains, two logging scenes, the Parliament building and three portraits (flower girl, shepherdess and American Indian). Prices are c\$25-35 mounted, or c\$20-30 unmounted, per single image. Canadian Bank Note Company Limited has been in the stamp printing industry since 1897 and supplies governments around the world •

Julian Chapman Memorial Scholarship Apply to: Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY.

Julian Chapman Memorial Scholarship Applications are invited by 30 September for this travelling scholarship, worth up to £2500, from philatelists, wherever resident, wishing to study Commonwealth stamps or postal history. For full details and an application form, apply as soon as possible •

Subscription enquiries See www.stampmagazine.co.uk/content/zinio.htm

Stamp Magazine goes global Overseas readers who cannot find the print version of *Stamp Magazine* locally may wish to know that it is now available in its entirety in a special online edition (website address opposite) •

Royal Mail news Special issues • Smilers • Collectors packs • BPMA • Stamp ingots



The coin cover for the End of the War miniature sheet. The sheet is cancelled by a special St Paul's Cathedral postmark (above). The cover carries a Royal Mint commemorative £2 coin, and medal designed by Jeffery Matthews.

Special issues The special stamps programme continues this month with a miniature sheet marking the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War (5 July) and the set of six stamps featuring Motorcycles (19 July). The issues were previewed here in May. The Changing Tastes in Britain (food) stamps go on sale on 23 August; they were previewed last month. This month we preview the Classic ITV set, marking the 50th anniversary of Independent Television, to be issued on 15 September.

The issue marking the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar is on sale from 18 October. The stamp images are from a painting by William Heath (1825), owned by the National Maritime Museum, which shows the progress of the battle; the six stamps together represent the entire panorama of this painting. There will also be a miniature sheet, prestige book, and coin, ingot, and cachet covers. The set will be previewed next month.

The annual Christmas issue (1 November) comprises 2nd, 1st, 42p, 60p, 68p, and £1.12 self-adhesive stamps featuring the Madonna and Child as seen by different cultures, including those of Haiti (2nd), India (68p), North American Indian (60p) and Australian Aborigine (£1.12), as well as more familiar European interpretations (1st and 42p). The designs are by Irene von Treskow, who designed the 1998 Christmas and 1992 Tennyson issues. The stamps will also be issued in gummed miniature sheet format. There will be Christmas stamp books (folded sheets), but no new Christmas airletters (aerogrammes); the 2004 airletters (standard and bilingual versions) will be re-issued. The Christmas issue will be previewed here in September •

This year's Christmas stamps, in the miniature sheet format.



- 10.01** Children's Book Illustration (8 + Smilers)
- 07.02** British Journey (10)
- 23.02** Brunel (6 + MS + PSB)
- 01.03** Welsh Assembly (MS)
- 21.03** Ice Age Mammals (5)
- 18.04** The Queen's 80th birthday (8)
- 06.06** World Cup (6 + MS)
- 13.06** Architecture (6)
- 18.07** National Portrait Gallery (10)
- 21.09** Victoria Cross (6 + MS + PSB)
- 03.10** Cultural Diversity (5)
- 07.11** Christmas (6 + MS)

2006 issues Further information is now to hand concerning next year's stamp programme. The date of issue and number of stamps per issue is as shown opposite (MS = miniature sheet, PSB = prestige stamp book). The Children's Book Illustrations set will be a joint issue with the United States Postal Service. The date of issue of the Welsh Assembly sheet is provisional, and will depend on the date of opening of the new Assembly building. The British Journey issue will feature North, Central, and South-East England and will be the final set in this series. A Smilers sheet containing the Fun Fruit & Veg stamps will, provisionally, be issued in March. Further details of all issues will be given in the *Bulletin* nearer the time of issue ●

Definitive and country stamps A new Collectors Pack containing the full range of low value definitives will be available from 6 September, price £7.80. It will contain: 1p, 2p, 5p, 9p, 10p, 20p, 35p (lime green), 40p, 42p, 46p, 47p, 50p, 68p and £1 values, also self-adhesive 1st class, 2nd class, Europe (to 40g), Postcard (Worldwide), and Worldwide (to 40g) stamps.

Also available from 6 September will be a new Definitive Collection folder including the low value pack, high value pack (2003), four country stamp packs (2003), plus a set of four of this year's 42p country stamp. The new collection costs £28.

The delayed Northern Ireland 42p stamp printed by De La Rue will be available from Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets from 26 July. It will go on sale at Post Office branches in Northern Ireland as stocks of the previous printing by Walsall are used up ●

Customised Smilers sheets

For details of how to order a customised version of these sheets, with your own image on the labels, see page 338.

Smilers A generic Smilers sheet containing 20 White Ensigns stamps from the 2001 Flags miniature sheet was issued on 21 June. The labels alongside the stamps feature signal flags with messages: 'I require assistance', 'Man overboard', 'I require a pilot', etc. The sheet was printed in litho by Cartor. The next Smilers sheet, 15 September, will contain 20 1st class ITV stamps (Emmerdale); and a Christmas sheet on 1 November will contain 10 × 2nd and 10 × 1st class Winter Robins stamps ●

Revised stamp book The 6 × 1st book has been reprinted with a revised advert for the Smilers service on the self-adhesive label on the inside front cover. The label now features a LOVE rather than a Hello Smilers stamp. The revised book will go on sale at Post Office branches and shops as required; it will be available from Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets from 26 July, price £1.80 ●

Coming off sale The Royal Society of Arts stamps, presentation pack and stamp cards come off sale on 9 August, and the Woodland Animal stamps on 15 September. The British Journey issues for Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland remain on philatelic sale until further notice although the books containing the self-adhesive 1st class stamps are now sold out ●

Stamp ingots The last in the series of six ingots featuring stamps of the reigns of Edward VII and George V will be available from 9 August. It features the 1929 £1 Postal Union Congress stamp showing St George and the dragon designed by Harold Nelson, and one of most popular of all British special stamps. It is certainly the scarcest, with only 61,000 sold, and now catalogued by Stanley Gibbons at £750 unused. An article on the PUC issue, by Fred Gee, was published in the *Bulletin* in May 1999.

The previous five ingots in the series, featuring the Edward VII 1d and £1 stamps, and George V 1d Mackennal head, 10s 'Seahorses', and the 1d 1924 British Empire Exhibition stamp (the first British commemorative stamp), are all still available. The six ingots cost £26.95 each, or £161.70 for the full set including a free Collection storage box. The storage box is available separately, price £15.95 (order code AG008).

A new series of ingots featuring the 1955 Castles high value stamps will start on 23 September with the Windsor Castle stamp. This will be followed by the Edinburgh Castle stamp on 17 January and the Caernarfon and Carrickfergus Castle stamps later in 2006. Each will be produced in a limited edition of 3000. The Windsor Castle ingot will cost £24.95 plus handling charge (order code AH001) ●



This plaster cast shows some of the detail in the PUC stamp ingot. Orders for ingots: telephone Tallents House, 08457 641 641.

British Postal Museum & Archive An exhibition, telling the story of British stamps in the 19th century, remains on show until 26 August; it includes unique registration sheets and items from the world-famous Phillips Collection. A new exhibition entitled 'Victorian Innovation' opens on 5 September. The Museum & Archive will be open on Saturday on 13 August, 17 September, 8 October, and 10 December. A number of special events are being held – call 020 7239 2570 to book a place. These include a visit to the Postal Heritage Museum Store at Loughton, Essex on 16 July or 17 September, and lunchtime events: Preservation Workshop – How to look after your own records (5 August), or Film Showing – GPO Animation (22 July). A series of evening lectures will be held: 27 September, The Royal Mail 1100-1635 (Philip Beale); 18 October, The Mail Coach Era (F Wilkinson); 15 November, Designing Stamps (David Gentleman); and 6 December, The Future of The Postal Heritage Trust (Tony Conder). 'Behind the Scenes' Archive Tours will be given on 14 July, 18 August, 15 September, 20 October, 10 November and 1 December ●

The BPMA Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL. Open Monday to Friday 10.00-17.00 (Thursday until 19.00). Telephone 020 7239 2570. Enquiries by e-mail to: heritage@royalmail.com

The BPMA, run by the Postal Heritage Trust, holds the collections of the former Post Office Archives and National Postal Museum.

Prize draw End of War coin and medal covers to be won

FOR THIS MONTH'S DRAW we have three End of War Coin & Medal Covers as prizes. The covers bear the miniature sheet, cancelled by a special postmark, and a Royal Mint £2 coin and commemorative medal (see illustration on page 329). Five runners up will be sent the miniature sheet first day cover. To enter the draw, simply write your name and address on the back of a postcard and send it to: Coin Cover Draw, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ to arrive by 29 July ●

Draw winners World Heritage (March *Bulletin*): J Strahan, W Matthews, K Ward, K Anson, P Sellers, C Boote, K Read, I Davidson, L Wilkins, and M Kahlbow. Jane Eyre (April): F & L van Rijn, R Dennis, Ms N Jansen, M Pullen, D Mold and H Nissen.

Treasures of the BPMA In the second article of his series,

FROM 1924 ONWARDS the British Postal Museum & Archive's collections include all the artwork, adopted and unadopted, for every British stamp issue, and 500 more pieces of artwork are added each year. For our second visit to BPMA, we turn to the work of the world's most eminent and prolific stamp engraver and designer, Czeslaw Slania (1921-2005).

Slania was commissioned by the British Post Office to engrave a series of designs commemorating the bicentenary of the first mail coach run from Bath and Bristol to London, issued 21 years ago on 31 July 1984, as a se-tenant strip of five stamps with the title 'The Royal Mail'. The set included the original Bath Mail Coach of 1784, an attack on the Exeter Mail in 1816, Norwich Mail in a thunderstorm in 1827, the Holyhead and Liverpool Mail in 1828, and the Edinburgh Mail snowbound in 1831.

The collection contains other ideas for the issue as well. For instance there are some hand proofs, prepared by Slania, for an alternative design by Keith Bassford and Stanley Paine of a Datapost aeroplane, but it was the mailcoach designs that were proceeded with. The Museum possesses no fewer than 24 pages of stamp-sized progressive proofs dated between June and December 1983, with the final essays approved by HM The Queen on 13 January 1984, demonstrating the immense amount of care put into the production of this prestige set, which is obvious from the quality of the finished result.

The collection opens with hand proofs of each of the five designs prepared by Slania in various colours, with The Queen's head lightly sketched in or fully engraved in recess; the designs were proofed on white paper and mounted on perforated paper. A second set of hand proofs in different colours shows that the 'Edinburgh Mail' die had been damaged (see opposite) with a significant crack at the lower right of the design. From August there are proofs of Slania's dies in black on white paper with The Queen's head and value printed separately in gravure in various shades of green, red, blue and purple, then stuck

down. This was in anticipation of possible tariff changes, gravure being more easily changed at a late stage than recess; but in the event the 16p value was the one used. Further proofs from the same month have the head and value printed in relief in various colours (also stuck down).

Later in August there were proofs in black with a slightly smaller head in solid colour, in red or green; by this time Slania had re-engraved the 'Edinburgh Mail' die (apparently from memory). These were followed by versions with the head in grey, green or crimson, in solid colour or half-tone. By 26 October there are proofs of the dies in black on off-white paper with a smaller head printed in black, salmon pink, yellow and crimson, all solid or halftone, and halftone slate.

The next proofs, of the same date, are in brown with the head solid black, halftone slate, and solid and halftone salmon pink, brown, crimson and yellow. Essays also dated 26 October, with solid crimson heads, were used for the testing of phosphor reaction, always carried out prior to printing. The final essays, in black on off-white toned paper with The Queen's head in red, are dated December 1983, and the set concludes with the essays mounted on black on a white card with the Post Office crest, signed by L Stubbs as 'approved by HM The Queen 13.1.84'. What an insight this series gives into the development of a design.

As a footnote we should add that Slania died in March 2005 at the age of 83. He emigrated to Sweden from Poland over 40 years ago, and his distinguished career ran from forging documents in Nazi-occupied Poland to engraving portraits of monarchs and film stars: he produced more than 1000 stamps for 32 countries •

Next month Mr Robinson looks at some of the many artefacts preserved in BPMA.

The British Postal Museum & Archive Open Monday to Friday and selected Saturdays 10.00-17.00, Thursdays until 19.00. Call 020 7239 2570 or see www.postalheritage.org.uk for more details. To make an appointment to view philatelic material call the Curator of Philately, Douglas Muir, on 020 7239 2565.

Friends of Postal Heritage For details write to Mrs Avis Harms, 13 Amethyst Avenue, Davis Estate, Chatham ME5 9TX.

Martin Robinson investigates Czeslaw Slania's mail coaches



POST OFFICE



Approved by H.M. the Queen 13.1.84
X Stubbs



Above: essays approved by The Queen in January 1984, with the smaller head printed in solid colour. Left: Edinburgh Mail Snowbound in 1831 (hand proof of June 1983, showing damage to the die); and proof of August 1983 with the die re-engraved and with The Queen's head printed in halftone gravure.

J F Joubert's 1855 Fourpenny Carmine



Jean Ferdinand Joubert de la Ferté was responsible, directly or indirectly, for the classic Queen Victoria heads on the De La Rue issues from 1855 onwards. The illustration above is a detail from the portrait engraving on a colour trial of the 1865 6d stamp.



It is probably a matter of some debate whether the designer or the engraver contribute more to the beauty (or the dullness) of a stamp design. Few, however, can dispute that Jean Ferdinand Joubert de la Ferté was the most accomplished

and influential of the postage stamp engravers of the mid-19th century. Not only was he directly or indirectly responsible for the classic heads of Queen Victoria on the De La Rue (DLR) issues from 1855 onwards, but his engraved portraits were used as the central themes of innumerable Colonial and Foreign issues printed by DLR.

A refugee from post-Napoleonic France, Joubert settled in England in 1840 after having exhibited in the Paris Salon of that year. His superlative craftsmanship soon won him recognition in this country. He was awarded two silver medals by the Society of Arts in 1847 and such well-known Royal Academicians as William Etty and E.J. Poynter entrusted him with the engraving of their works. Joubert exhibited his own work at the Royal Academy on many occasions.

In April 1853 the Board of Inland Revenue decided to introduce adhesive stamps for payment of stamp duty on drafts and receipts. Since it was not practical for reasons of accommodation to produce these at Somerset House, DLR was given the work on a four-year contract from August 1853. The central portion of the design of the new adhesive fiscals was a profile portrait of Queen Victoria. There is evidence that a staff engraver of DLR engraved the relatively coarse head of the 1853 stamps (since they charged for the engraving). However, in December 1853 Joubert was commissioned directly by Ormond Hill on behalf of the Inland Revenue to engrave a head on an oval ground. This may be the head of which a recess die proof, signed by Joubert, is in the R M Phillips collection (above, top centre).

Edited by Glenn Morgan from an original article by A G Rigo de Righi. First published in the *Philatelic Bulletin* in February 1973, it is reproduced here to mark the 150th anniversary of this groundbreaking stamp.



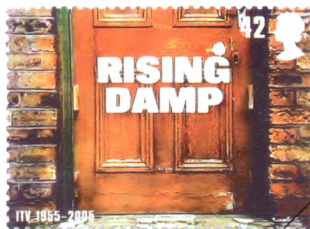
The 1855 fourpenny die. Joubert's next commission was his most famous, the head for the 1855 GB Fourpenny carmine, the world's first surface-printed postage stamp. On the evidence of the original invoices (in the DLR Private Day Books), the printers were not this time responsible for the engraving, and it was Joubert who was appointed and remunerated by the Board of Inland Revenue. It is perhaps also significant that Joubert's original 1855 master die was preserved in official archives and is held in the collection of the British Postal Museum and Archives (BPMA). It appears to be the only surface-printed die of the mid-Victorian period to have survived.

The Phillips collection in the BPMA contains a fine succession of die proofs of the 1855 Fourpenny covering progressive stages. These vary from an early marked proof of the duplicate head die, to the same die complete with the frame and lettering before and after the striking of the leads used to make up the Electro frames from which the actual printing plates were 'grown' (opposite page top right, bottom centre and bottom right). The issued design is shown above left, from the imprimatur sheet.

Joubert's 1855 head die was also used for the first surface-printed 6d value, but the design for the 1856 1s stamp required a head on an oval. The invoice in the DLR Day Books shows how this was done: 'Taking from the Original 4d die a punch from which was removed a portion of the background lines in order to substitute an elliptical for the circular border – retouching the same in other parts... – encircling the head to equal the original'. The Phillips collection includes die proofs of the 1s stamp and an essay for this value, using the same 'elliptical' head, but with elaborate ornamentation in the corners and between the inscriptions (above right).

From 1856 until 1877 Joubert worked as DLR's Chief Engraver, specialising in the Queen's heads which were the central feature of the design of the many British and Colonial surface-printed stamps produced by DLR ●

Classic ITV Celebrating 50 years of service



Technical details

Printer De La Rue

Process Lithography

Stamp size 41 x 30mm

Sheets 25 and 50

Perforation 14.5 x 14

Phosphor One band 2nd class, two bands others

Gum PVA

Gutter pairs Vertical

Plates and colours

All values D1 cyan (blue) ●
D1 magenta ● D1 yellow ● D1
black ● D1 phosphor

SIX COLOURFUL STAMPS go on sale at Post Office branches and philatelic outlets and Royal Mail Tallents House on 15 September to mark the 50th anniversary of Independent Television. The stamps feature the title sequence from a number of popular programmes in different categories: 2nd class *Inspector Morse* (drama); 1st class *Emmerdale* (serial drama); 42p *Rising Damp* (comedy); 47p *The Avengers* (cult tv); 60p *The South Bank Show* (factual); and 68p *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire* (entertainment). The serial drama category was decided as a result of a public poll. Viewers of ITV's *This Morning* programme selected *Emmerdale* over *Coronation Street* and *The Bill*. The Queen's silhouette and value or service indicator is positioned at upper right, and each stamp is captioned 'ITV 1955-2005' at lower left. The stamps were designed by Kate Stephens, who designed the 1997 Great Tudor (Henry VIII), 2002 Golden Jubilee, 2003 Coronation Anniversary, and 2004 Woodland Animals issues.

The stamps will be issued to Post Office branches in sheets of 25. However sheets of 50 with gutter margins will be available from Post Office philatelic outlets and Royal Mail Tallents House. This is the first special issue printed by De La Rue since moving to new premises in Dunstable, Bedfordshire.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main Post Office branches and philatelic outlets about a week before 15 September, price 25p. The cover features a TV set of 1955 showing the first test card (experimental vision signal) from the Beulah Hill transmitter. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House or London SE19 must reach Tallents House by the day of issue. Price £3.57 UK or £3.04 overseas. London SE19 was the site of the first ITV transmitter at Beulah Hill.



CLASSIC ITV 1955-2005

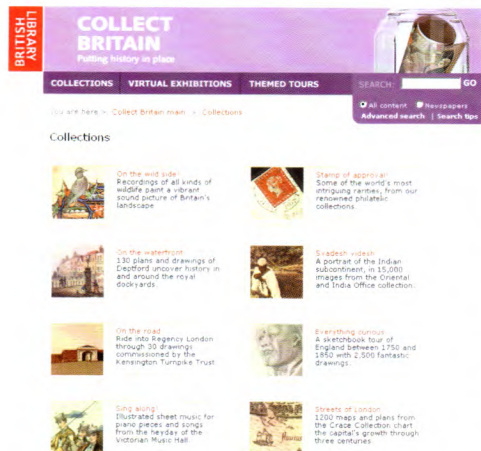
Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB (for Tallents House postmark), or to one of Royal Mail's Special Handstamp Centres (London SE19 postmark) marking the outer envelope 'FD0521' (Tallents House), or 'FD0522' (London). Covers can be posted or handed in at main Post Office branches for the London postmark. A non-pictorial London postmark is also available from the Special Handstamp Centres, request 'FD0522 NP'.

Details of sponsored handstamps for 15 September will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House (£12.25 UK/Europe; £24.95 elsewhere). For a sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ.

PHILATELIC PRODUCTS A well-illustrated pack (price £3.20) and stamp cards (30p each) will be available from main Post Office branches and philatelic outlets and Tallents House. The pack, written by Ethel King, lists chronologically some of ITV's best-known programmes under the headings the Thrills, the Laughs, the Tears; and the Facts. Also included are illustrations of the title sequences from a number of popular programmes such as *Coronation Street*, *The Adventures of Robin Hood*, *Thunderbirds*, *Spitting Image* and *The Bill*, together with scenes from some of the best-remembered TV commercials. The pack was designed by Graphic Thought Facility and printed by Walsall Security Print.



Philately on-line Ron Negus looks at the Tapling treasures



www.collectbritain.co.uk/collections This address takes you to the main Collect Britain page which shows all the collections that are available for viewing. The philatelic pages, described in this month's review, can be found by clicking on the heading 'Stamp of Approval' here.

are as late as the mid-twentieth. The selection can be divided into three groups: errors, rarities and the rather special!

Among the most notable printing errors are: the Cape of Good Hope 1861 4d printed in vermillion instead of blue, in a pair with the normal; the France 1853-61 1 franc carmine in a "tête-bêche" pair, a major piece; the "entire" from Bombay to Venice bearing two copies of the India 1854 4 annas with the head Queen Victoria inverted; the Spain 1851 2 reales printed in blue instead of red, one of only three to survive; the unique Transvaal 1870 1/- tête-bêche pair; and from Australia the Western Australia 1854-55 4d error frame inverted is one of 14 copies known.

In the rarities category the British Guiana 1850-51 4 cents lemon-yellow produced from printers type, imperforate and cut square on entire is one of only two, the second being in the Royal Philatelic Collection; from the first issues of Canada in 1851 the 12d black in a horizontal pair is one of five known; the provisional issue for Gold Coast of 1883 1d on 4d magenta is unique; and perhaps the most famous of rarities of them all are the 1d and 2d Mauritius "Post Office" issue of 1847.

The items of special note include the unique Proof sheet of tax or revenue stamps for America of 1765; the issues for Germany issued by the Allied Occupation from 1947 on cards signed by the four powers approving officers; from the new world to the old an envelope carried on the first aircraft to cross the Atlantic Ocean in 1919 and addressed by the pilot John Alcock to his sister; and the unique designs or essays for two of the stamps of New South Wales the "Sydney Views" of 1850.

Collectors at home and abroad now have the opportunity to examine these world famous issues without the need to travel to London ●

IN THE *Bulletin* of October 2003 I reviewed the British Library website, which describes the philatelic collections held there. Although this site still exists, the presentation of material from the collections has been improved considerably and is worth a further visit. The British Library has been undertaking a project partly funded by the Government's New Opportunities Fund to create more than 90,000 digital copies of images and sounds taken from its vast holdings.

One section of this project, known collectively as 'Collect Britain', included making images of rarities stored in the philatelic collections. Some 80 of these digital photographs have now been added to the website (address above) and include many items taken from the renowned Tapling Collection. Users can view the images in a large fixed format or enlarged, using a built-in zoom facility. Each item is accompanied by detailed explanatory notes providing the historical context and philatelic importance of the relevant item. The following extract from the website provides a taster for what has been included.

'Treasures from Tapling's collection form the core of the carefully chosen selection of eighty items presented here, supplemented by items from various other collections held at the British Library. They represent a range of countries and, while most date from the 19th century, some

1965 Churchill commemorative stamps



The idea of honouring Sir Winston Churchill's life and achievements with a commemorative issue of British postage stamps can be traced back to 1952 – indeed there was probably more popular demand for this issue of stamps than almost any other.

WINSTON Churchill was a great Commonwealth and world figure, so it is perhaps appropriate that the first recorded proposal for a stamp in his honour was a letter from a Mr W Sharpe of Toronto, Canada, in 1952. Between that date and Sir Winston's death in 1965 the Queen, the Postmaster General and the GPO received some 40 letters on this subject. Admirers of 'the greatest living Englishman' wrote from California, Wisconsin, Illinois, Nova Scotia and Geneva, as well as from all parts of Britain. Over 20 correspondents went to the length of enclosing rough design ideas for commemorative stamps while two (later) writers, from Bournemouth and Gloucester, both proposed that the suggested stamp or stamps should carry a charity surcharge, the proceeds of which should go to the Sir Winston Churchill Memorial Fund. By far the most professional and interesting of these privately-submitted designs for a Churchill issue was the Churchill Memorial design sent to the Post Office on 28 January 1965 by Robson Lowe, the internationally-known philatelist and postal historian (shown on the opposite page, at top right). At the time, there was no precedent for a British stamp issue commemorating any eminent man or woman, not even former Kings or Queens; the fact that Sir Winston was still living would have required an even greater innovation in stamp issuing policy. As the Director General of the Post Office expressed it (in a suggested draft reply by the Postmaster General to a proposal for an issue to celebrate Churchill's 90th birthday): 'I yield to no-one in my admiration for Sir Winston Churchill, but I believe it would be really undesirable to issue stamps to commemorate events in the lives of living people no matter how eminent they may be.'

The death of Sir Winston on 25 January 1965 altered the situation dramatically. There would be popular demand for a mourning or memorial issue, and it was likely that many other countries would issue such stamps. Post Office policy had begun to consider a limited number of selected special issues each year as standard practice. On 27 January, the Postmaster General announced that a special issue in honour of Churchill would go on sale on Commonwealth Day, 24 May 1965, and would consist of two values, 4d and 13d.

The Captains and the Ki honour the Great Comm



'WHEN there was darkness in the world and hope was low in the hearts of men, a generous Providence gave us Winston Churchill.' US President Lyndon B Johnson, 1965

CHURCHILL



U.S. 5 CENTS

CHURCHILL MEMORIAL 1874-1965



4d



"WITHOUT VICTORY, THERE IS NO SURVIVAL"

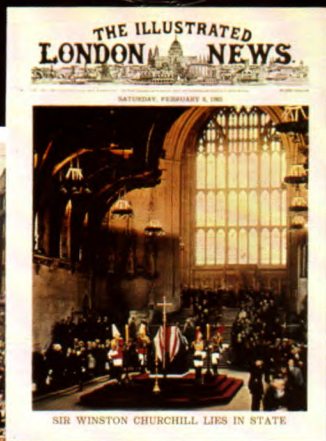


NEW ZEALAND



CANADA 5

Commemoratives of the USA, New Zealand and Canada, as well as those of Great Britain, were based on this famous photograph by Yousuf Karsh.





Printers Harrison and Sons were instructed to include the Wilding definitives in designs. Above: a proposed variant of the Wilding, and two essays.

Preparing the designs As it was likely that most designs submitted would include or be based on a portrait of Churchill himself, an approach was made to Buckingham Palace to ascertain the Queen's own views. The fact that the bust of Shakespeare had appeared on the Shakespeare Festival issue of 1964 was not, in the view of the Post Office, a valid precedent. On 31 January the Queen signified her personal decision that the portrait of a subject might, in this case, be placed alongside her own in the stamps proposed.

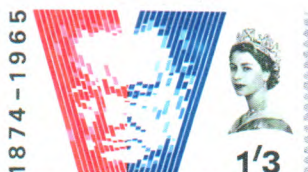
The choice of which of the very many extant portrayals of Churchill should be used was quickly decided. The two shortlisted were the 1941 photograph taken by Karsh in the Houses of Parliament at Ottawa and (at the suggestion of Lady Churchill) a marble bust by Nemon commissioned by the Queen to mark Churchill's 82nd birthday. The Nemon bust, though an excellent likeness, had the drawback that such a bust tends to lose definition when reduced to stamp size, and so the Karsh photograph, known to millions the world over, was decided on.

Since time was very short, designs were commissioned only from David Gentleman (who worked jointly with Rosalind Dease), Abram Games (designer of the 3d Olympic Games and 2½d Festival of Britain stamps) and the printers, Harrison and Sons.

The 'instructions to artists' sent to Gentleman and Games included the following specifications: the Queen's head should be on the right of the design and the Karsh portrait on the left; other design features could also be incorporated on the left-hand side; the dates 1874-1965 had to be included; the use of the words 'Sir Winston Churchill' was optional; three or more basic colours might be used; white could be used for the background but not black; and the same design would be used for both values.

Harrison's instructions specified that they should prepare designs in normal (long) commemorative format for 3d (sic) and 1s3d values featuring on the right replicas of the normal 3d and 1s3d Wilding definitives and, on the left, the Karsh portrait. The instructions regarding the wording of the inscriptions was as for the artists but Harrison's were requested to provide an essay without any wording (only the value) and also an additional essay using the 4d definitive.

The designs and essays David Gentleman and Rosalind Dease jointly submitted a total of 10 designs for the two specified values, Abram Games one design for the 1s3d value, and Harrison's three designs using definitive stamps, or based on them. The Gentleman/Dease designs consisted firstly of a 'small' Karsh head with the Queen's effigy in the top right corner;



one variant bore the 1874-1965 date along the left margin, the other did not. In neither variant were the two heads separated by the vertical white line used in the Gentleman/Dease 'large head' design.

Harrison's designs involved exact reproductions of the 3d, 4d and 1s3d Wilding stamps paired up with large unframed or small framed Karsh portraits of Churchill on the left, though they did submit one design for a 3d value which was somewhat different (opposite page, far left).

The first essays were ready by mid-February. Six were of variants of the two basic Harrison designs; as well as differences of value and colour there were variations in the amount and placing of the inscriptions and in the absence or colour of the tonal bands separating the two halves of the design (opposite page, middle and right). Essays were made of the Gentleman/Dease 'small head' design, with and without dates (above, left and middle), and of the Abram Games 1s3d 'Victory v' design (above right).

David Gentleman expressed his preference for not using a white line to separate the two heads, and the printers, Harrison's, said there would be difficulties in registration if a line were used, which might lead to up to 75% spoilage in bulk printing. However, in the Stamp Advisory Committee Sir John Wilson, the Keeper of the Queen's Collection, strongly supported the use of a line, as otherwise the Queen would 'be looking over Sir Winston's shoulder.' Further essays were then prepared for a 1s3d value of the Gentleman/Dease 'large head' and 'small head' designs, all with a white line to meet Sir John's point.

After considering the various alternatives the PMG submitted two pairs of essays for the Queen's choice: the first pair, recommended by the Stamp Advisory Committee, was one of the Gentleman/Dease designs for the 4d value and the Abram Games 'Victory v' design for the 1s3d. Her Majesty selected the Committee's second choice, a variant of the 'small head' design for the 4d and the 'large head' for the 1s3d. Both designs (by Gentleman and Dease) were to incorporate the vertical white line and omit all inscriptions (including the dates). All four essays considered by the Queen had previously been shown to Lady Churchill as a special act of courtesy.

The print order was for 154 million copies of the 4d value (inland letter rate) and 9 million of the 1s3d (airmail letter rate). Owing to an industrial dispute, the day of issue was changed to 8 July 1965. A very few copies of both values were sold in error by some sub-post offices (including BFPO 1054 near Thetford) between 5 and 7 July, and some were postally (non-philatelically) used on letters. In accordance with standing Post Office instructions the date stamps on any such items as could be intercepted were obliterated before they were delivered or forwarded ●

Two of the essays of the David Gentleman/Rosalind Dease designs, and the essay of the single Abram Games design.

This article has been edited by Glenn H Morgan FRPSL from an original article by A G Rigo de Righi. First published in the *Philatelic Bulletin* in October 1974, it is reproduced here to commemorate the 40th anniversary year of the death of Sir Winston Churchill.

Trafalgar July, 1805: Nigel Fordham looks at Nelson's work

JULY 1805 was another frustrating and worrying time for Nelson. On 8 July, he noted 'we crawled thirty three miles the last twenty four hour; my only hope is that the enemy's fleet are near us and in the same situation.' Despite his endeavours, he had no idea where the French and Spanish ships were. Arriving off Gibraltar, he kept his fleet 'as secret as possible' over the horizon, in order not to alert the enemy: a trick he would repeat before the Battle of Trafalgar some three months later.

Nelson went ashore for the first time in almost two years at Gibraltar. His crew of course did not have this luxury, and would have to wait some time yet before they set foot on dry land again.

On 20 July Nelson wrote to the Admiralty that one of his few frigates, HMS *Amazon*, intercepted an American lumber schooner, *The Sally*, bound for Antigua, and on boarding her found out that on 16 June a battle fleet of some 22 ships, which must be the combined fleet, were seen heading on a NNE or NNW course. This didn't tell Nelson where the fleet was now, but it did tell him he was probably in the right area to at least respond to the enemy, whatever their intentions.

What were Villeneuve's intentions and orders? Was he going to Ireland to support insurrection and an invasion, as Collingwood thought? Did he plan to go to Madras to attack British interests, or to double back for rich pickings in Jamaica? Nelson even thought that he may be ahead of the enemy, and that they hadn't arrived yet. All these questions continued to vex Nelson, who was still unhappy at not having enough frigates to find the enemy. Just think how more effective he would have been with another six of HMS *Amazon*!

Food and stores were also very much on Nelson's mind following his arrival off Gibraltar. His fleet had started to suffer with scurvy, although the French and Spanish crews were in far worse shape. (It had been reported that the enemy fleet had left over 1000 men in the West Indies, sick.) Nelson as always was concerned about the welfare of his 'shipmates' as he referred to one and all (much to the chagrin of other officers, older and younger).



Nelson's attention to welfare and the care of his fleet is well documented. He was, for example, a great believer in the properties of onions, ordering 3000 lbs of them for the fleet and suggesting no more than 2-2½d per lb be paid for them. His fleet was supplied with fresh water, fresh vegetables, live bullocks and 'refreshments', as some of the comforts such as wine and rum were known. Nelson was able to report to the Admiralty that his ships had been fully provisioned, except for bread, for a four month period. His crews were not sick except for the odd report of scurvy, and he had a fleet ready for battle or blockade.

Nelson realised that food was vitally important to the fleet. In addition to the day-to-day benefit felt by a well-fed crew, it was the poor food, and corruption, that was one of the major causes of the mutinies at Spithead and the Nore in 1797.

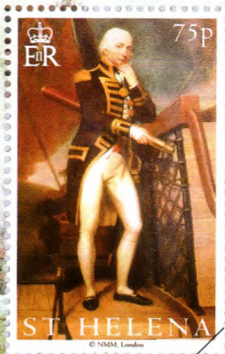
At this time Nelson had many fleet matters on his mind. The Admiralty had left both Gibraltar and Malta woefully undefended by withdrawing ships to other duties. He was alarmed that two American merchantmen, carrying British cargo,

on behalf of his shipmates, as the hunt for the foe continues



'I went ashore for the first time since 16th June 1803 and from having my foot out of the Victory two years wanting ten days.' Nelson's diary, 20 July 1805, Gibraltar

Admiral Cuthbert Collingwood is depicted here with his flagship H.M.S. Royal Sovereign, which is shown in action against the Spanish ship Santa Anna.



Much of the slang which survives from Nelson's day is concerned with food

Added Originally drinking water that had gone stale. Now used for an addled brain, suggesting someone coming up short in this department, often after drinking too much!

Bottle Originally a reprimand or scolding; now used for personal courage.

Junk Salted meat, used once fresh meat had run out on board. To make it even basically edible, this meat had to be soaked for many hours. Junk now refers to worthless goods.

Slush Fat skimmed off cauldrons of boiled meat, which was compacted and sold to the purser for making candles. The proceeds were known as a 'slush fund', now referring to monies from unusual sources for unusual uses. Slush also now refers to melting snow.

Square meal In Nelson's day sailors had at least one hot meal a day, served on a square wooden plate. Now a substantial meal.

Three sheets to the wind A sail out of control because its sheets (control ropes for the sails) were flapping in the wind. Now someone who is drunk, and out of control.

Above: shipmates eating and drinking below deck; Admiral Collingwood on a St Helena miniature sheet; and Trafalgar issues from Ascension Island and Bahamas.

had recently been captured by French privateers off Gibraltar. Nelson wrote long and detailed letters to London, and felt that Gibraltar had been 'almost abandoned.' He ordered Rear Admiral Knight in Gibraltar to take command of a number of ships, sloops and brigs in his area in order to halt the raids of enemy ships and privateers. He also advised the Governor of Malta, his old friend Alexander Ball, that the ships originally used to protect the island would be reinstated.

He was also concerned about HMS *Pickle* a 10-gun schooner which fetched and carried for the fleet, mainly dealing with the dispatch and delivery of post. She had not been seen for some time and Nelson worried that she and her dispatches might have been taken by the enemy. It would be

this small and almost insignificant little ship that would play such a vital role four months later.

Toward the end of July Nelson's thoughts had turned towards going home to England. On the 25th he wrote to his friend Admiral Collingwood saying how sorry he was that due to the weather he would probably not see him again until October following leave in England. He was right! ●

Text © Nigel Fordham 2005

Sea Britain 2005 events in July For further information visit the Sea Britain 2005 website: www.seabritain.com

01.07-30.09	The Nelson Tour: a replica HMS <i>Pickle</i> will start UK-wide visits to key ports with actors on board to re-enact events connected with Trafalgar
24.07	Southampton Old Cemetery Maritime and Shipwrecks Graves

Posting boxes 224



OUR FIRST photograph this month, from Luigi Cobisi of Italy, is of an Edward VII wall box still in use in Cathedral Place, Mdina, Malta. It bears the number 343 and collection times are shown as 11am and 7pm. Mr Cobisi's photo of a box in Castille Place, Valletta, was shown here in October 2003; he reports that this box has now been relocated to Republic Street, also in Valletta.

The second photograph, from David Harvey, is a Victorian box in the wall of the village shop in Evenley, Northamptonshire. It shows a collection time of 4.30pm, Monday-Friday.

Our third photograph, from Nicholas Stimpson, is of the Victorian box on board the *Waverley*, the last sea-going paddle steamer in the world. Mail posted in the box is given a 'Posted On Board' cachet. Mr Stimpson believes this box was originally from Glasgow, the ship's home port.

The final photograph, an Edward VIII box in Crantock Road, Catford, is from Rosalind Wicks, who asks if this is the same box featured on the cover of the October 2002 *Bulletin*. Although the houses in both photographs look similar, the box on the *Bulletin* cover is in Studley Drive, Ilford ●

A lifetime in stamps Richard West talks to Ken Chapman



Ken Chapman, at left, with Douglas Muir (centre) and David Gentleman at Stampex 2002.

FOR MANY collectors a highlight of the week was always Thursday, the day when *Stamp Collecting* came thumping through the letterbox. Each week it was full of informative articles, invariably the results of much painstaking research, the latest news and hard-hitting Editorials, never afraid of controversy. For as long as most of us can remember – 27 years in fact – the Editor was Ken Chapman. On 29 July Ken celebrates his 95th birthday, able to look back on a lifetime at the forefront of philatelic journalism in the UK.

A philatelic career was always on the cards for Ken, his interest kindled when a teacher at school showed him a Turkish stamp overprinted for Iraq in British Occupation. Ken became fascinated by technical aspects, collecting not only the obligatory 'Colonials', but also Dutch interrupted perfs. At Clapham Central School for Boys Ken was in charge of the 'large and flourishing stamp club', his school report adding, 'Chapman has shown good organising ability'. Schooldays also gave a hint of the journalistic career that would follow, for Ken was always keen on writing essays.

Ken's father, who had also collected, suggested working for a stamp dealer after leaving school. It was off to Fred Buck, trading as H S Brett, who originally had an office not far from where the Chapmans lived in Streatham, but who had now moved to Fetter Lane, just off Fleet Street (many may remember the later shop in Vigo Street, off

Regent Street). Fred, the son of a buyer at Stanley Gibbons, offered Ken £1 a week, rising to 25s at the end of the month. After a month, Ken was sacked, for apparently mis-sorting some stamps. But it's an ill wind, and Ken found himself at Harris Publications, in the literature department. Albert Harris, the owner of the business and Editor of the fortnightly *Philatelic Magazine*, recognised in Ken an editorial flair, and started to train him, making him Assistant Editor from February 1928, working on the title for five years.

It was then back to dealing, in the expanding stamp department of Selfridges on Oxford Street, under the guidance of Alan Robertson. It was not an easy time, as Selfridges did not like the idea of paying for collections with cash on the spot; they could only be bought for cash if a buyer had already been secured! So Alan started buying the material for himself – for this he was sacked. Ken was also sacked for not reporting the matter. After this, Ken started working from home for Robertson, Alan's way of apologising for the dismissal.

In 1938 Ken married Dorothy (Dot), and they moved to Shirley, now a part of the Borough of Croydon. In 1938, at Robertson's suggestion, Ken became a Special Constable and so was called up for full-time police service when war broke out. He still dabbled in stamps, opening a stamp shop in George Street, Croydon, with the help of Joe Darracott, who, with his brother Bob, established

the leading philatelic wholesalers J and R Daracott. Around this time, Ken's own collecting faded away: working with stamps was sufficient, and newly married he could not afford to collect. Added to which, the family quickly grew with a daughter and two sons.

Ken wanted to work in London, so in 1948 he became Public Relations Officer of the British Philatelic Association (BPA), at the time the umbrella organisation for UK philately (as the Association of British Philatelic Societies is now). The task involved editing the BPA journal, *Philately*, Ken's first role as an Editor (later he was elected President of the BPA). However, he had his eye on another magazine, the weekly *Stamp Collecting*. Ken heard that they were seeking a new Editor, so spoke with Douglas Armstrong, the founding Editor of the title. The former Editor, Anthony Walker, 'resigned', citing a position at a university in New Zealand as the reason. So in 1951 Ken became Editor of *Stamp Collecting*, a position he held for 27 years. Anthony was not supportive of his replacement: 'I give you three months in this job. I shall be interested to learn how long you do manage to last.' Walker never went to New Zealand, nor was he qualified as a university lecturer. His ultimate eminence was being a current affairs lecturer in a police college.

At the age of 70, Ken felt he no longer wanted the strain of editing a weekly journal, so moved on to edit *Philatelic Magazine*, now a monthly and since acquired by the Hodgsons. In addition to publishing, the family was involved in printing, becoming embroiled in union disputes followed by redundancies that drained all their finances, including those of the publishing interests. The philatelic titles closed in June 1984 for ever.

Ken's philatelic writing career continued: he was philatelic correspondent for *The Times* for 40 years, and for 30 years wrote for the Encyclopaedia Britannica yearbook. He is particularly proud of his articles on Philatelic Terms published in the *Bulletin*, June 1986-March 1995.

His involvement with the 'organised' side of the hobby included being a member of the Post Office Stamp Advisory Committee, and later of the board of the National Postal Museum. He

was a member of the Council of the British Philatelic Federation (BPF), becoming an Honorary Member in 1990; a Council Member and Vice Chairman of the Philatelic Traders' Society (not at the time dealing in stamps, he declined the invitation to be Chairman); and a Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society London. He was a member of the committee that organised the annual Philatelic Congress of Great Britain (this merged with the BPA to form the BPF, Ken being very much involved with the merger talks, and coming up with the name of British Philatelic Federation), and was involved with the annual Melville Memorial Competition (now the British Youth Stamp Championships) for young collectors. He was twice President of The Croydon Philatelic Society. He was also instrumental, with Robson Lowe, in creating the British Philatelic Exhibition (BPE), with its focus on the exhibits rather than the dealers' stands: the BPE has since been absorbed into Autumn Stampex. He also played a key role with the international stamp exhibitions held in London in 1950, '60, '70 and '80, dealing with the publicity for the events.

Honours Ken has received include the Congress Medal – he was the first professional to receive the award, which is for services to philately in a voluntary capacity – and he was invited to join the American Philatelic Society Writers' Unit Hall of Fame, an honour he has shared with only Fred Melville, the Williams brothers, and Jim Negus from the UK.

Leaving London, Ken and Dot first moved to Oxfordshire: during that time Ken was invited to be Chairman of the Congress held in Oxford in 1985. Unfortunately, failing health meant Dot needed constant care, thus they moved to Lancaster, so they could be nearer two of their children. Sadly Dot died a few years ago; they were married for nearly 64 years. Ken had long ago sold his collection, and more recently his philatelic library, although a few books remain, those which have a particularly personal connection, often signed by the author.

The family has grown, now with nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. At the end of July they will celebrate Ken's 95 years •

MORE QUESTIONS WE PUT TO KEN CHAPMAN

Apart from stamps, what has been your other main interest?

I have been a Freemason for 70 years, a member of the Polish National Lodge, and was honoured to be elected Worshipful Master in 1952. I was Secretary of the Parish Meeting of Britwell Salome, a village in Oxfordshire with a population of 250.

How did you reconcile the fact that you had been a dealer, while your editorial role was more attuned with collectors?

I feel I bridged the gap – after all, the two have to survive side by side, and each depends on the other.

What was your main success in investigative journalism?

Exposing the activities of Paul Singer and his Shanahan Stamp Auctions. There were situations we felt ought to be given wider exposure, such as the establishment of the Ghana Philatelic Agency and its handling of Abraham Lincoln miniature sheets, and later the sale of cancelled-to-order remainders.

What were your main achievements with *Stamp Collecting*?

I hope I gave it greater status and enhanced authority. The magazine always promoted thematics, which we regarded as just as important as single-country collecting. The issue which

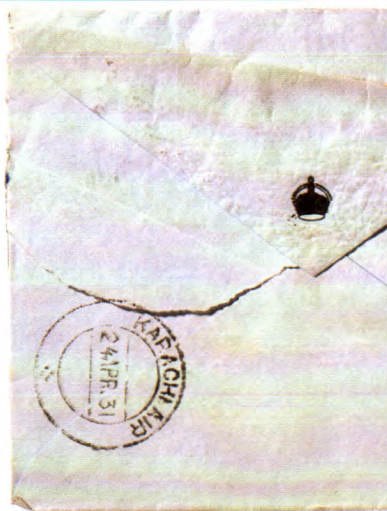
gave me particular satisfaction was the 50th anniversary issue. Producing a weekly is a non-stop burden, but Douglas Muir was there to cope, at that time my very able Assistant Editor.

What changes did you witness as Editor? At first, collectors did not specialise extensively; now there is more study, with greater interest in stamp production. Similarly, local societies have been replaced by specialist societies. When I started, to obtain overseas new issues meant writing to the Colonial Post Offices. Later the Colonial Office in London obtained supplies of new Commonwealth stamps for the trade. I always found this rather phoney, as the stamps had never been to the country concerned, but at least it was convenient.

What do you miss most from your days as Editor? My visits to societies to give a display called 'Informal Philately'. It featured odds and ends, but always went down well as there was something for everyone, and I always enjoyed giving the talk.

Looking back, how do you feel about those days? I was jolly lucky. There was pressure in producing a weekly, but as others said 'the job was right for you', and I was pleased to do it. The job was my hobby, and I was happy to survey, and report on, the broad, indeed worldwide, philatelic scene for so long.

Cover corner



MR K BARBER has submitted this cover, sent air-mail from India on 22 April 1931. The 2 anna air-mail stamp is cancelled by a 'bridge' handstamp inscribed VICEROY'S CAMP P.O. This postmark was also applied to the reverse of the envelope, which bears a crown printed in black on the flap. The cover, addressed to Battersea Park, London sw, bears the wording 'Via Karachi' in red •

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



April identify The detail was from the 63p Queen's Horses stamp. The winner was J A Portugueses of Malta.

April knowledge Answers: 1) Royal Scot; 2) grey-black; 3) Brno, Czech Republic. The winner was S J Nicol of Liverpool.

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 *July Identify* Competition. Secondly, test your philatelic knowledge by answering the questions below. Send your answer to *July Knowledge* Competition.

- 1 Who designed the 1990 Thomas Hardy stamp?
- 2 What was the first watermark to be used for the Wilding definitives?
- 3 In which year were the first British Christmas stamps issued?

Send your answer (addressed to either the *July Identify* competition or the *July Knowledge* competition), name and address on a postcard or back of a sealed envelope to: British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ. The senders of the first cards drawn in each competition on 12 August will each receive £100. Ten runner-up prizes of presentation packs or first day covers will be awarded in each competition.

The competitions are not open to Royal Mail employees •

Events

25 June Midpex (ABPS National Show for Specialist Societies). Midlands Sports Centre for the Disabled, Tile Hill, Coventry, 10.00-16.00. Tile Hill Station. 50 societies, 40 dealers. **Enquiries** M Benford, Cloud-shill, High Street, Shutford, Banbury OX15 6PQ.

25-26 June Thematica at Carisbrooke Hall, Seymour Street, London W2. Saturday 10.30-17.30, Sunday 10.30-17.00.

2 July Swipex (South West Inter-Federation Philatelic Exhibition) at Peter Chalk Centre, Exeter University, 10.00-16.00. Displays, dealers, refreshments, free parking. Admission 50p, accompanied children free. **Enquiries** A Parsons, 01752 843587.

7-10 July Philatelic Congress of GB at Midland Hotel, Derby.

28-30 July GB Philatelic Society York Weekend Meeting at Moat House Hotel, York. Displays and social events. Membership enquiries D Harman, Greylands, Melton, Woodbridge IP12 1QE or see website www.gbpsmemsec@aol.com

29-30 July York Racecourse Coin and Stamp Fair at The Grandstand, York Racecourse, Fri 11.00-17.00, Sat 10.00-17.00. Admission free. **Enquiries** 01793 513431 or 020 8946 4489.

19-24 August Taipei 2005 international stamp exhibition, Taipei, Taiwan.

31 August-3 September The Picture Postcard Show (BIPEX) at Royal Horticultural Hall, London SW1 (National Postcard Week 28 August-3 September) •

Late news



Anniversary cover To mark the 150th anniversary of the 4d carmine, a cover has been produced by Buckingham Covers in association with De La Rue and the British Postal Museum & Archives. The cover shows the 4d stamp and bears a 2004 Rowland Hill stamp cancelled by an anniversary postmark and a 1970 186d stamp showing the 4d carmine tied by a special cachet. Price £5.75 plus £1.65 post & packing from Buckingham Covers, 136 Sandgate Road, Folkestone CT20 2BY. Telephone 01303 850688. A donation for each cover sold will be made to the BPMA. See page 334 for article on the 4d carmine •

Exhibition report BRNO 2005, held in the Brno Exhibition Grounds from 10-15 May under the patronage of FEPA and with FIP recognition, coincided with the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe and the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Austerlitz (known as Slavkov, in Czech), a few miles from Brno.

The exhibition was moved to a different building in the exhibition grounds to accommodate a doubling in size from the 2000 exhibition. Nearly 300 conventional competitive exhibits were on show with an additional 79 'one frame' and 'open class' exhibits. A splendid literature competition included 126 entries – proof that publishers and collectors are still prepared to share knowledge with fellow collectors. There was also a healthy number of youth exhibits. Pride of place in the Court of Honour was taken by classic items from the Royal Collection including the 'Blue Mauritius' and the Kirkcudbright wrapper with its spectacular block of Penny Blacks. The Prague Postal

Museum provided a detailed study of the 'Blue Mercury', the world's first Newspaper stamp of 1851. In a small class of invited exhibits, Otto Hornung showed 'The City Post of Istanbul'. British exhibitors claimed 24 medals, including one Large Gold, three Gold, two Large Vermeil, and four Vermeil. Nine were awarded in the literature class, no less than six going to members of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain, which has a very active publishing programme. Barrie Jay received a Large Gold for his study of 'Mail between Britain and Mainland Europe 1793-1815', and was also nominated for the Grand Prix FEPA International.

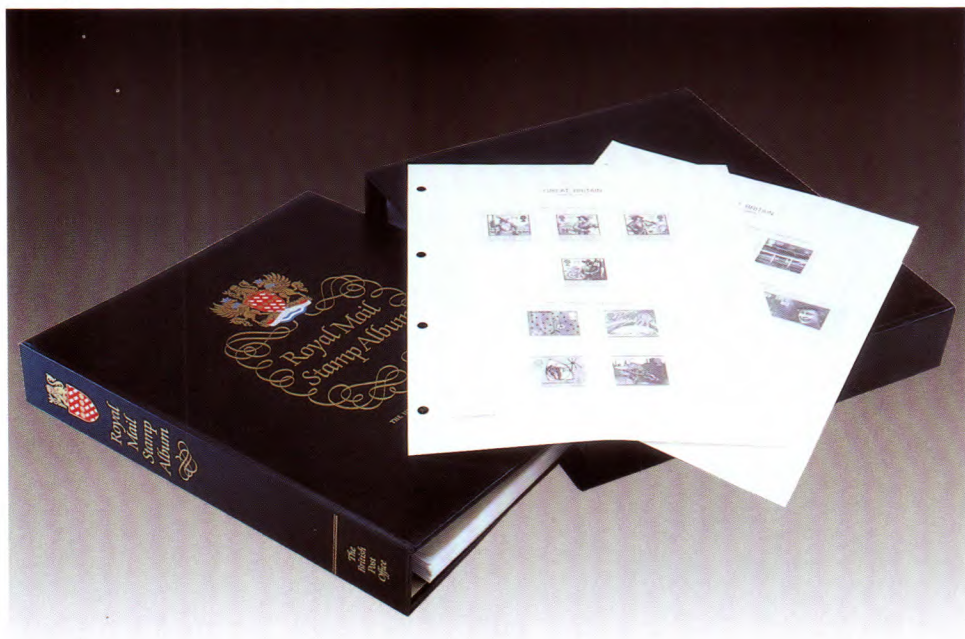
Britain's two Gold medals were awarded in the field of Traditional Philately, to Dr Arthur Woo for 'Pre UPU period of Colombia, 1868-80' and Peter Rogers for 'Berlin Packet Fahrt, 1884-1929'. The two Large Vermeil medals were won by Otto Hornung ('Postal History of Carpatho-Ukraine') and Michael Oxley ('Airmails of Sarawak, Brunei and North Borneo, 1926-70').

Brno was a good host city. There are many cultural attractions and endless possibilities for winning and dining. Special events were organised, the Royal Philatelic Society London had a social evening, the CPSGB dinner was attended by members and enthusiasts from around the world, and the 'Social Evening' on the Saturday included a 40-piece orchestra, opera singers, ballet dancers, and a superb Moravian folk music ensemble. An exhibition to remember. *Richard Beith* •

Album news A Mercury Stamp Album owned by a young John Lennon has been acquired by Fraser's Autograph Gallery in London. It contains 565 stamps and bears Lennon's name and address on the flysheet. Enquires: 020 7836 8444 •

Bulletin back issues J E Mallinson of West Yorkshire offers September 1978 - August 2003 to anyone able to collect or pay carriage – phone 01274 638101. Jeffrey Roth has copies from August 1965 to November 1971 – contact him on danrothuk@yahoo.com •

Royal Mail Deluxe Stamp Album



Royal Mail's Deluxe Album is the ideal way to display your collection of Elizabeth II stamps. The album comes complete with plastic mounts to secure your stamps safely, having been specially designed to carefully preserve your collection. Spaces are provided for all definitive, country, special, and postage due stamps, also miniature sheets. The album is available in three volumes. Vol 1 covers the pre-decimal issues (1952-70), Vol 2 the decimal issues of the 1970s and 80s, and Vol 3 the issues of the 1990s.

Prices: Vol 1 £79.95 (order code PA634), Vols 2 & 3 £99.94 each (PA635 & PA636). The three volumes can be supplied together for £245 (PA685). Additional (empty) album binders cost £39.95 (PA134).

Continuation pages for 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 are available at £14.95 per year (PW021, PW023, PW024, PW025 & PW026). Pages for 2005 issues will be available in November.

Handling charge £1.30 UK, £1.55 Europe, £2.15 elsewhere for continuation pages; £2.95 UK, £5 Europe, £14 elsewhere for albums and binders.

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