

BRITISH PHILATELIC

The ROYAL MAIL magazine *for stamp collectors*

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Bulletin

Trooping the Colour stamp
issue • Pictorial book covers



Trooping the Colour: a day of pageantry captured in Royal Mail's latest special issue, on sale from 7 June.

Forthcoming issues and withdrawals



Cover The State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry. The Trooping the Colour stamps were previewed in the *Bulletin* in April. Photograph by Henry Dallal.

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

31 May

Issue Trooping the Colour stamp cards (7 seven cards: 6 stamps and miniature sheet).

4 June

Withdrawal Self-adhesive stamp books: 4 × Euro-pean 40g, 4 × Worldwide 40g, 12 × 1st, 12 × 2nd, 6 × 1st (all issued 27 March 2003).

7 June

Issue Trooping the Colour stamps, miniature sheet, presentation pack.

14 June

Withdrawal Sheets of 100 × 1st and 2nd self-adhesive stamps (issued 18 March 2003), self-adhesive stamp book: 6 × 1st Olympic Bid (issued 15 June 2004).

21 June

Issue Smilers sheet: White Ensign stamp.

24 June

Withdrawal Royal Horticultural Society medal cover.

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

Withdrawal Rule Britannia Smilers sheet.

Correction Two dates (7 & 21 June) were given last month for the issue of the Smilers White Ensign sheet. The correct date is 21 June. We regret any confusion caused.

Contents



Trooping the Colour Royal Mail's new special issue, on sale from 7 June, celebrates a historic annual ceremony. Dave Warriner describes the day's spectacle and its Royal and military origins **300**

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

Issues and withdrawals for June and July **290**

Stamp scene Society meetings; Exhibitions; Publications; Auctions; Bath Postal Museum; Philatelic Congress; NI railway issue; British Library on-line **292**

Royal Mail news Issues; Stamp ingots; Smilers; BPMA **296**



Treasures of the BPMA A new series by Martin Robinson **299**

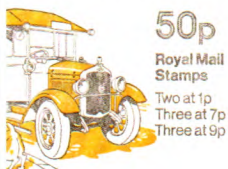
Philately on-line Linn's site, by Ron Negus **303**

Changing tastes Royal Mail's special issue for August **304**

Trafalgar The events of June 1805 and navy life, by Nigel Fordham **308**



Illustrated stamp books Folded books by Martin Robinson **311**



Mainly Machins D G A Myall's report **314**

Barrie Jay Interview by Richard West **316**

Prize draw Win a copy of David Gentleman's book *Artwork* **317**

Competitions £200 to be won **318**

Events A calendar **318**

Late news **319**

Stamp scene News of events, exhibitions, auctions and people, from Glenn Morgan

Naposta '05 enquiries www.naposta-2005.de

International exhibitions The next international exhibition will be Naposta '05 in Hanover, Germany (2-5 June) where stamps from The Queen's collection will be shown. The display will comprise 10 frames, largely consisting of material in the Collection relating to former German colonies; there will also be a frame of Heligoland, which was British until 1890. Frames 9 and 10 will show items from the British Virgin Islands (including the 'missing Virgin'), Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad, British Guiana, and Bermuda.

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

Taipei 2005, Taiwan (19-24 August) follows, with the 18th Asian International Stamp Exhibition, to be held at the Taipei World Trade Center under FIAP patronage. It will be a large-scale philatelic event and the first held by Chunghwa Post Company following its recent establishment. 1500 frames of displays and around 150 sales booths will greet visitors and a souvenir sheet will be issued on each day of the show •

Midpex e-mail: mberford@bigfoot.com, or write: Mervyn at Cloudshell, High Street, Shutford, Banbury OX15 6PQ.

UK exhibitions The sixth Midpex stamp exhibition will be held at the Midlands Sports Centre for the Disabled, Tile Hill, Coventry on Saturday 25 June from 10.00 to 16.00. It will include stands with representatives from 50 specialist stamp societies and 40 dealers and is conveniently located for non-drivers alongside Tile Hill railway station •

Thematica will be held at its usual venue, the Carisbrooke Hall in Seymour Street, London W2, on 25-26 June. All aspects of thematic philately will be covered, including displays from senior and junior collectors, and dealers from home and overseas will be offering a wide range of material •

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 2005 to 15 January 2006. The display, in nine frames, will be of early New Zealand 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 •

Royal Philatelic Society
London 41 Devonshire Place,
London W1G 6JY or see www.rpsl.org.uk

Philatelic society meetings On 9 June members of the Royal Philatelic Society London will be entertained by a visit from The Collectors Club, New York. The Society's AGM will follow on 30 June. Meetings will then resume in September •

National Philatelic Society
107 Charterhouse St, London
EC1M 6PT or www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps

The June meetings of the National Philatelic Society are: Mauritius by J Wilson (11th) and Cairo to Baghdad (Desert Service) by Robin Bertram (30th). The society's AGM will be held on 9 July (11.00) followed by auction (13.15), and members' displays (15.00) •

GB Philatelic Society Greylands, Melton, Woodbridge
IP12 1QE

The GB Philatelic Society will hold a regional meeting at Midpex on 25 June and a Golden Jubilee weekend at York on 29-30 July. Membership enquiries to the address opposite, or see website www.gbpps.org.uk •

Publications Stanley Gibbons has issued its latest full-colour catalogue on the stamps of Canada from SG1 to the end of 2004. It contains details familiar to users of the 'Part One' British Commonwealth listings and several new varieties have been added to earlier issues. It retails at £14.95.

Last published in 1994, *How to Identify Stamps* makes a welcome reappearance in an updated full-colour edition. It teaches collectors new and old how to study stamp inscriptions as the means of recognising the issuing countries. The book starts by covering 'key inscriptions' (ie all the words and figures used on stamps in addition to the design) and then lists country names as they appear in the western alphabet. This is followed by the Greek alphabet, the Cyrillic group, Indian States, Far East Scripts, other scripts and 'no-name' stamps. It also includes a section on how to use the Gibbons range of stamp catalogues. Originally compiled by the late James Watson, this fourth edition has been fully revised and updated by Michael Briggs. It contains 40 pages and retails at a reasonable £4.95.

Another old friend has returned in the form of the Gibbons Thirkell Position Finder, which has been brought back in response to popular demand from collectors. The Thirkell is used to indicate positions of flaws, retouches and re-entries on postage stamps and retails at £4.50 •

The 10th booklet in the series 'Scotland and Philately' has recently been published by Stanley Brown and Ken Norris. Entitled *Forty Years of Congress Covers* it records that the first annual gathering of Scottish philatelists occurred in 1924, but that it was not until 1962 that a special handstamp was sponsored to commemorate the event. Held in Glasgow, Bridge of Allan, Falkirk and Stirling down the years, it has, since 2002, found a new home at Perth, where events are already lined-up through to 2013 •

Forthcoming auctions Sothebys will hold the third sale of the collection of Sir Gawaine Baillie, Bt in Melbourne, 13-15 July. The sale 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. The Baillie collection, believed the most important stamp collection sold for 50 years, has been estimated to fetch in excess of £11 million •

Cavendish's Worldwide Sale on 16-17 June will feature the Adrian Cadbury Collection of West Africa, Ken Clark's Military Mail of the Far East, an outstanding collection of Sarawak, Con Rutter's Yorkshire Postal History, Japanese Occupation Mail, Gold Coast and Nigeria, and GB •

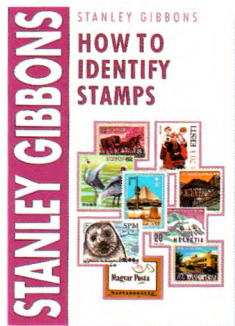
Spink will auction the Edward M Gilbert Collection of Important British Empire Stamps on 14-17 June, followed by Stamps & Covers of the World on 7 July •

The Stanley Gibbons auction in June includes George V proofs and essays, and an example of the 1991 28p map stamp with the wrong value (26p). Enquire by phone (right) or see www.stanleygibbons.com/auctions •

The next Grosvenor auction will be a General Sale in early July. Enquire by phone (right) or on-line: email info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk; or visit www.grosvenorauctions.com •

Stanley Gibbons enquiries

Telephone 01425 472363, or email sales@stanleygibbons.co.uk



40 Years of Congress Covers

32 profusely illustrated pages. Available from Stanley Brown, 14 Buchan Drive, Perth PH1 1NQ. Price £1.30, including UK postage.

Sothebys 020 7293 6000.

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

Cavendish Philatelic Auctions

Telephone 01332 250970 or see www.cavendish-auctions.com

Spink Telephone 020 7563 4000 or website www.spink.com

Stanley Gibbons Telephone 020 7557 4416

Grosvenor Auctions Phone 020 7379 8789

Recent auctions The Cavendish sale in January included a realisation of £2200 (against an estimate of £1000) for the 1931 SG BB33 5s British stamp booklet with a Dubarry Shalimar Hair Cream advert on the cover; while the March sale saw many lots achieving well above estimate, including an 1841 Penny Red mint block of four realising £650 (£300 estimate) •

Grosvenor's 10/11 March sale confirmed the strength of the philatelic market. The Apollonia Collection of Bermuda George VI Large Key Type issues met with an enthusiastic response, with particular emphasis placed on the scarcer varieties. One highlight was a 'Prague' cover, one of around fifteen believed to have been sent, bearing the 12s6d stamp in the distinctive grey and yellow shade, all the covers having being registered from Hamilton on 18 June 1947 and addressed to a stamp dealer in Prague. This lot sold for £3529 (est £3500-4000), with a total sale figure of £234,330 for day one. The following day's sale of Stamps and Postal History of the World realised £326,834. There were no spectacular British pieces for sale, as these tend to be reserved for the one-country sales •

Harmers Telephone 0208 747 6100, see www.harmers.com or email auctions@harmers.demon.co.uk

Harmers All World sale of 5 April included the Michael and Sylvia Goaman archive of proofs and essays from the estate of these famous postage stamp and banknote designers. Amassed over a period of 50 years, the 189 lots from many countries made an impressive £70,000. Sketches for the 1961 Post Office Savings Bank issue made £3000 (est £850) and a beautiful essay for the 1966 Birds issue realised £1600 (£750). A group of 15 £5 orange sold for £25,000, the top price being £7000 for a fine mint example. A fine used pair of the £1 Seahorses made £3250! •

Articles on the Prince Consort essays were published in the *Bulletin* in February 1974 and June 1984.

Apex Auctions held a sale on 10 April that included the third recorded example of the 2d blue perforated Prince Consort essay of 1850. Previously, it had been believed that copies only existed in the Royal Philatelic Collection and the British Postal Museum and Archive collection. This rare item made £38,080 •

Bath Postal Museum Normal hours are Monday to Saturday 11.00-17.00 but please check before visiting.

8 Broad Street, Bath BA1 5LJ. Telephone 01225 460333, see www.bathpostalmuseum.org, or e-mail enquiries to info@bathpostalmuseum.org

See March *Bulletin* for article on greetings telegrams.

Bath Postal Museum The current exhibition of greetings telegrams and postal memorabilia, on show until the end of December, starts with 1870 pre-paid telegraph forms (as telegrams were then called), delivery envelopes, photographs and other information relating to the early days of the service. It continues with numerous examples of colourful Greetings Telegrams for everyday messages and special telegrams for Valentine's Day, weddings, births and birthdays. Another section shows how people were encouraged to save money through the Post Office Savings Bank and expected to use postal orders instead of sending cash through the post •

Philatelic Congress The Philatelic Congress of GB will be held at the Midland Hotel, Derby, 7-10 July. Arrangements are being made for the Signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists and the presentation of the Congress Medal to be 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). The first Congress was held in Manchester in 1909 •

Dublin to Belfast Railway Line 2005 sees the 150th anniversary of the completion of this vital rail link, and An Post (the Irish Post Office) commemorated the event with a set of four stamps, a prestige booklet and a miniature sheet, all issued on 5 April. The stamps detail several events in the life of the line, namely: one of the first trains crossing the Boyne Valley viaduct; a train entering Connolly Station in Dublin; the ultra-modern *Enterprise* leaving Belfast; and the current *Enterprise* speeding through the Irish countryside. The service which is provided today is so fast and reliable, that attempts at establishing air-links are always stifled. Capable of 145kmph, the journey is completed in air-conditioned luxury in just over two hours •



Nelson and the Royal Navy, 1750 to 1815 Bonhams will be holding a special sale of Nelson memorabilia entitled 'The Trafalgar Sale' on 5 July. The sale will celebrate Horatio Nelson's spectacular naval career, which culminated in the decisive victory at Trafalgar, a victory that changed the international balance of power in Britain's favour for over 100 years. The sale includes a wide range of fine and decorative art, and prices for individual items will start from £500 and rise to over £100,000. The auction will encompass Nelson relics and commemorative wares, marine paintings and prints, ceramics and glass, arms, uniforms and medals, letters and manuscripts, ship models, Napoleonic prisoner-of-war work, navigational instruments, silver, jewels and other decorative arts.

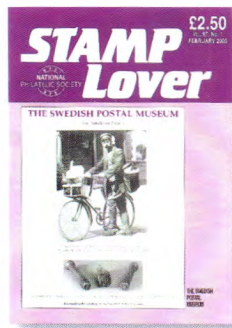
Bonhams is working closely with 'SeaBritain 2005', the National Maritime Museum's nation-wide initiative to celebrate Britain's relationship with the sea during this significant anniversary year •

Bonhams Jon Baddeley:
telephone 0207 313 3149, or
email jon.baddeley@bonhams.com;
website www.bonhams.com/nelson

Jamestown 2007 activities at Washington 2006 The US nation's capital will hold an international stamp show 27 May-3 June next year, and Jamestown 2007, which commemorates the 400th anniversary of the arrival of European settlers in the Jamestown Colony, will be taking part. Both parties will be helping each other to enhance and promote philatelic activities •

Enquiries See websites www.jamestown2007.org or www.washington-2006.org

Roll of Distinguished Philatelists New signatories to the Roll have recently been announced, and the formal signing ceremony will occur at the Derby Philatelic Congress next month. The Roll was established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, with the approval of King George V, who was the first signatory. The recipients this year are: Tore Gjelsvik (Norway), considered the leading authority on the classic stamps of Norway; George Jay Kramer (USA), a major philatelic writer, exhibitor and stamp show commissioner; Dr Jean Storch (France), the pre-eminent student and author of early 20th century French philately; Jussi Tuori (Finland), currently the foremost collector of classic Finland and Denmark; and Professor Barrie Jay (UK), a major contributor to our better understanding of British postal history through his philatelic authorship and his exhibiting. Richard West recently interviewed Barrie and his article can be found on page 316 of this *Bulletin* •



Stamp Lover The February edition of the National Philatelic Society's magazine includes a report on a recent visit to the Swedish Postal Museum, the 150th anniversary of the Australian Eureka Stockade, the NPS library and a feature on the stamps of the Maldive Islands. A thought provoking article by Michael Furnell (editor) entitled 'An Excessive Output from Royal Mail in 2005?', records the offerings contained in a publicity brochure that outlined the plans for new issues from Royal Mail. Michael concluded that the *British Philatelic Bulletin* and *Postmark Bulletin* were 'the best bargains of the lot for 12 months of interesting reading about British stamps both ancient and modern'. Enquiries: National Philatelic Society, 107 Charterhouse St, London EC1M 6PT or see www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps •

Collect Britain website
www.collectbritain.co.uk/collections/philatelic/

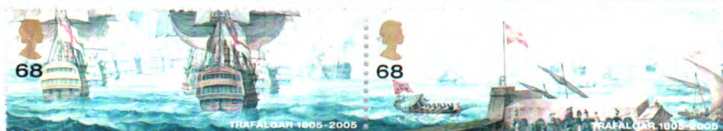
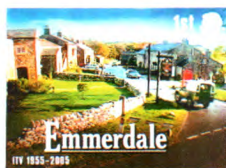
Ron Negus reviews this site in next month's 'Philately online'.

British Library Some of the world's rarest and most fascinating stamps are available to explore online at the British Library's expanded Collect Britain site. 80 items, many from the renowned Tapling Collection, can be viewed as high quality images. Treasures from overseas include the Post Office Mauritius 'Post Office' issue of 1847 and the British Guiana 1850-51 4¢ lemon-yellow. British items include the 1858-79 1d red Plate 77 and the 1912-24 1d definitive in a black proof sheet of 200 (20 × 10) for coil production. Each item is accompanied by detailed notes, giving the historical context and philatelic importance of the stamps, and can be enlarged on screen. This exciting development is the next best thing to having material in your own home, as many items can only be seen in the British Library •

Royal Mail news Special issues • Smilers • Ingots • British Postal Museum & Archive

Special issues The special stamps programme continues this month with the Trooping the Colour set (7 June) previewed here in April. The six stamps and miniature sheet feature scenes from the colourful ceremony which this year takes place on 11 June. The Trooping the Colour presentation pack is the first in a new design for packs of special stamps. While still being the same dimensions as the previous pack when folded, the new design holds the stamps in a protective plastic sheet that is attached directly to the pack. This new design completely integrates stamps and the pack. When opened out the pack is now a unique showcase for special stamps. Royal Mail is proud that this pack is written by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. As colonel of the Grenadier Guards, he is well placed to outline the Trooping the Colour ceremony. The Duke is also depicted on the £1.12 stamp. A special feature on Trooping the Colour is included on page 300 of this *Bulletin*.

The miniature sheet commemorating the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War (5 July) and the set of six stamps featuring Motorcycles (19 July) were previewed last month, and this time we preview the Changing Tastes in Britain (food) stamps which go on sale on 23 August. Two of the stamps bear the EUROPA logo.



Above, four of the six Classic ITV stamps. The complete set comprises: Inspector Morse (drama category), Emmerdale (serial drama), Rising Damp (comedy), The Avengers (cult TV), The South Bank Show (factual) and Who Wants to be a Millionaire (entertainment).

Left, the Trafalgar stamps. The six stamps together represent the full panorama of a painting depicting the progress of the battle.

All stamps are shown at proof stage, at reduced size.

A set entitled 'Classic ITV', marking the 50th anniversary of Independent Television, will be issued on 15 September and will feature a number of popular programmes in different categories. 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 stamps will be previewed next month.

A key set this year will be the issue commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar on 18 October. The stamp images are taken from an individual painting by William Heath (early 19th century), owned by the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich, showing the progress of the battle. There will also be a miniature sheet and prestige book.

The Christmas issue (1 November) comprises 2nd, 1st, 42p, 60p, 68p, and £1.12 stamps featuring images of the Madonna and Child. The designs are by Irene von Treskow who designed the 1998 Christmas stamps and 1992 Tennyson issue. The stamps will also be issued in miniature sheet format ●

Smilers sheets A generic Smilers sheet containing 20 White Ensigns stamps from the 2001 Flags issue will be 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. This will be followed on 15 September with a sheet containing 20 × 1st class rtv stamps; and a Christmas sheet on 1 November (Christmas 10 × 2nd and 10 × 1st class Winter Robins stamps).

For details of how to order customised versions of the sheets, with your own image printed on the labels, see opposite. Orders using digital photos can also be placed on the web: www.royalmail.com/Smilers ●

Customised Smilers sheets

For details of how to order sheets with your own image, phone 0845 074 2000 (UK customers) or +44 131 316 7483 (overseas) or pick up a Smilers leaflet/order form at a Post Office branch.



The latest in the current series of ingots: 1924 British Empire Exhibition 1d stamp. Available now from Tallents House, price £26.95. See Tallents House stock list for handling charges.

New stamp ingot The fifth in the series of six ingots featuring stamps of the reigns of Edward VII and George V is now available. It features the 1d 1924 British Empire Exhibition stamp – the first issue of commemorative stamps. The final ingot in the series, featuring the 1929 £1 Postal Union Congress stamp, will be available from 9 August. Nos 1-4 featuring the Edward VII 1d and £1 stamps, and George V 1d Mackennal head and 10s 'Seahorses' 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). The Victorian stamp ingot series is still available, price £26.95 each – see the back cover of the September 2003 *Bulletin* for full details. The ingots are available from Tallents House •

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

British Postal Museum & Archive An exhibition telling the story of British stamps in the 19th century, from the Penny Black to the 'Jubilee' issue of 1887, on show at the BPMA until 26 August, 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 11 June.

A new BPMA handstamp was introduced on 6 May and a souvenir cover is on sale at the Museum & Archive. The distinctive handstamp features the new BPMA logo, along with a motif taken from the border of the Penny Black. The cover, decorated with the colour version of the BPMA logo and wording 'Our history through the post', is sold in packs of five at £1.25 plus 50p post and packaging. To order, send a cheque made payable to 'Postal Heritage Services Ltd' to the address given opposite. Collectors may hand in covers for the postmark at the BPMA or send them (with at least a 1st class stamp affixed) to Royal Mail Special Handstamp Centre, Mount Pleasant, London EC1A 1BB requesting handstamp no 9568.

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

Coming off sale Any remaining stock of the Royal Horticultural Society medal cover will be withdrawn from sale on 24 June. The Royal Society of Arts stamps, presentation pack and stamp cards come off sale on 9 August. 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.

Booklets containing four European 40g and Worldwide 40g stamps, also 12 × 1st, 12 × 2nd, and 6 × 1st (all issued 27 March 2003), and 6 × 1st book with Olympic Bid inscription (15 June 2004) all come off sale on 4 June, followed by sheets of 1st and 2nd class self-adhesive definitives (18 March 2003) on 14 June. The standard air letter (aerogramme) issued in July 2000 will be withdrawn on 30 June. This is available singly (42p) or in discount packs of six (£2.30). The discount version has a star on the top flap •

Treasures of the BPMA A new series by Martin Robinson

LIKE MANY philatelists I was unhappy when the National Postal Museum closed in 1998 and the King Edward Building, on the site at St Martin's-le-Grand so long connected with the Post Office, was sold. The collections joined those of the Post Office Archive at Freeling House, part of Royal Mail's Mount Pleasant complex, and we were assured that their future was guaranteed and that they would soon be available again to researchers, if not to casual visitors.

I felt gloomy enough about this to allow my membership of the Association of Friends of the NPM (or Postal Heritage, as it became) to lapse, on the grounds that there was little by way of a museum to befriend. However, having spent some time in the British Postal Museum & Archive (its latest reincarnation), and encouraged by positive talk of the acquisition of a larger site at the Royal Arsenal, in Woolwich, I have rejoined the Friends as a gesture of optimism and solidarity.

Since the old museum closed, there have been changes and improvements. The Search Room and small exhibition area are newly refurbished but the premises remain inadequate: space is so limited that some of the collections are stored elsewhere in London, and most three-dimensional objects, including vehicles and letter boxes, are in store at Debden, Essex, at the end of the Central Line. This is open to the public on a few Saturdays a year – admittedly a better situation than when they were seldom on view at all. Much has happened behind the scenes: thousands of items have been catalogued, and there is a new website.

On my visits I was privileged to tour the vaults and see how the vast array of material is lovingly conserved. On being asked to write a series of articles on the collections, the only real problem is where to start amidst such a wealth of unique and irreplaceable treasures. Subsequent articles will cover a range of items, and this time I have selected some designs submitted in November 1935 for a proposed 7d or 8d value to extend the range of the photogravure stamps. One of the artists involved was Graham Sutherland (1903–80), better known as a painter of surrealist land-



scapes and a war artist, for a portrait of Winston Churchill which Clemmie hated so much she destroyed it, and for his tapestry of Christ of the Apocalypse in the new Coventry Cathedral.

His proposed design is in the form of a lithographic print in one of three colours, brownish pink, grey and yellow (there are slightly lighter and darker versions of each), together with a pair of different hand-painted frames with the lithographed King's head inset (see above). There are eight items altogether, none of which was accepted, and the proposed new 7d/8d value was not issued in George V's reign. This is one small corner of the treasure-house that is the British Postal Museum & Archive, and we shall direct the beam of our flashlight elsewhere in future articles •

Next month Mr Robinson looks at proofs of Czesław Ślania's 1984 Mail Coaches stamps.

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.

Trooping the Colour Dave Warriner reports

The ceremony of Trooping the Colour has marked the official birthday of The Queen since 1959. Princess Elizabeth first attended the parade in 1947, and in 1951 took the salute for the first time, as King George VI was too ill to attend (shown right, on a 1951 New Zealand stamp). Royal Mail's Trooping the Colour issue, six stamps and a miniature sheet, will be on sale from 7 June. See the *April Bulletin* for a full preview.



TROOPING THE COLOUR is an annual ceremony performed by the Household Division of the Army to celebrate the birthday of the Sovereign. The parade is based upon the old military practice of displaying the regimental flag or Colour before the ranks so that soldiers would be able to recognize their own Colour as a rallying point in the heat of a battle. The origins of the parade go back to the 18th century. The earliest known reference to the parade dates from an order book for the First Guards (later known as The Grenadiers) from 1748, although it may well predate this.

It wasn't until the time of Edward VII that the Sovereign regularly attended in person. Queen Victoria took the salute on only two occasions at Windsor Castle, although she sometimes watched the parade incognito. It was George V who decided, in 1914, that the Sovereign should play a major part in the parade and lead His Guards back to Buckingham Palace.

The ceremony begins when the massed band of the Foot Guards, some 205 musicians, leads the six 'Guards' of 73 officers and men into Horse Guards Parade. The 'Guards' line up, with the 'Guard' who will be performing the Troop (this year the Irish Guards) on the right of the line, facing Whitehall. At this point they are known as 'the Escort for the Colour'.

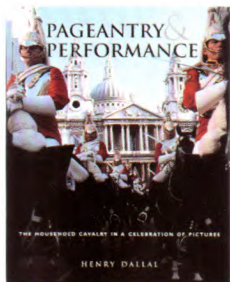
Shortly before 11am, Royal guests arrive at Horse Guards to watch the ceremony from the office that originally belonged to the Duke of Wellington. HM The Queen, Colonel-in-Chief Household Division, and the Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel Grenadier Guards, then drive onto the parade ground in a phaeton, originally built for Queen Victoria, followed by the mounted Colonels of the Household Regiments. Up until 1986, when her favourite charger Burmese was retired, The Queen attended the event on horseback in the uniform of the regiment performing the ceremony. The Queen dismounts from the carriage for the first Royal Salute as the parade is brought to attention, before returning to the carriage for the inspection. Returning to the saluting dais, she enjoys the massed bands complete with their Corps of Pipes and Drums as they troop across Horse Guards Parade.

Then the Escort for the Colour marches forward to receive the Colour from a Sergeant, flanked by two sentries. The Colour is handed to a Regimental Sergeant Major who hands it to the Ensign of the Escort. Traditionally the Ensign is the youngest officer in the 'Guard'. Now known as the Escort to the Colour, the Escort returns through the ranks to its original position.

To their appropriate regimental marches the Guards then march past The Queen in slow and quick time. The bands of the Household Cavalry then move into position, the bandsmen controlling their horses with reins attached to their stirrups, to play for the march past of The Life Guards and The Blues and Royals. At the rear of the Cavalry are the regimental



Taking part in the ceremony today are the five regiments of Foot Guards and the two regiments of the Household Cavalry, the Life Guards (as shown here) and the Blues and Royals. Since 1998 The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery have also taken part. Guardsmen are operational soldiers, and many will have seen active service.



The photographs on page 301 and the front cover are from *Pageantry and Performance* by photographer Henry Dallal. Available from bookstores or www.henrydallalphotography.com

farriers, carrying the axes once used to dispatch wounded horses. They are followed by The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery with six First World War field guns that act as their regimental Colours.

A final Royal Salute concludes the parade, and The King's Troop leave for St James Park to fire a 41-gun salute. The Household Cavalry are the next to go, and then The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh get back into the carriage and, following the massed bands, Her Majesty leads Her Guards back

up The Mall to Buckingham Palace. Later, from the balcony of the Palace, the Royal Family will watch a flypast by Royal Air Force.

Amongst the Foot Guards are the most senior infantry regiments of the British Army. The First Guards were formed in 1656 to protect the future King Charles II while in exile in Flanders; they were awarded the title of the First, or Grenadier, Regiment of Foot Guards following their action against the elite Grenadiers of Napoleon Bonaparte's Imperial Guard at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. Their regimental badge, which can be seen on their collar tunics, is a 'grenade fired proper' and as the most senior regiment they wear their buttons spaced equally apart.

The Coldstream Guards were formed from General Monck's Regiment of Foot in 1661. After the death of Cromwell, Monck had gathered his forces at Coldstream on the Scottish border, and marched to London to break the army's hold on Parliament and ensure the restoration of the Monarchy. Charles II awarded Monck the Order of the Garter. When the need arose for troops to put down an armed revolt, Monck's regiment, as the last part of Cromwell's New Model Army to stand down, was ordered to take up arms as 'the Lord General's Regiment of Foot Guards'. The name Coldstream Guards was adopted after Monck's death in 1670. Their regimental badge is the Garter Star, and they wear their buttons in pairs.

The Scots Guards were formed around the same time to garrison Edinburgh and Dumbarton castles. Their badge is the thistle, and they wear their buttons in threes. In 1900, to recognise the bravery of Irish soldiers during the Boer War, Queen Victoria formed The Irish Guards. Their badge is a shamrock and they wear their buttons in fours. In 1913, George V formed The Welsh Guards to complete the representation of the home countries. Their badge is a leek and they wear their buttons in fives.

Another way to identify the different regiments of Foot Guards is by the plumes on their bearskin caps. These plumes were originally intended to identify the regiments to the brigade commander in the centre of the line, when formed up in line of battle. Therefore the Grenadiers (on the right) wore a white plume on the left, the Coldstreams (on the left) wore a red plume on the right. The Scots Guards, who were in the centre, did not need a plume. The Irish Guards were then placed between the Coldstream and the Scots so they wore their St Patrick's blue plume on the right. The Welsh were placed between the Grenadiers and the Scots so they wore a white and green plume on the left •

Philately on-line Ron Negus takes *Linn's* refresher course



www.linns.com The mission of *Linn's Stamp News* described on this site is to help collectors enjoy the stamp hobby. To this end they are dedicated to providing entertaining, accurate, timely and easy-to-use information, to encourage active and informed collecting.

this title list show coverage has included articles about Postage Dues, us Airmail history, Revenue Stamps, Perforations, and Famous Rarities. An article is also included on creating album pages using Microsoft Word software.

The small selection of titles given in this index to whet the appetite is taken from the larger archive of Refresher Course columns that is actually stored on the site. When I was writing this review in March 2005, the full archive contained 375 separate articles that had been published in *Linn's* between 1998 and 2005. To see the full listing of these, that includes the name of the author and the date of publication, type in www.linns.com/howto/refresher/rc.asp.

Other headings found under the 'How to' tab provide items aimed at novice collectors. These include introductions to the use of common accessories, information on handling an inherited stamp collection, and guidelines to valuation, for example.

Linn's also publishes philatelic handbooks on various subjects, and the latest of these is entitled *Introduction to the Stamps of Great Britain*. This is reviewed and can be bought on the site. It is a compilation of regular monthly columns about GB which have appeared in the newspaper since 1992. Larry Rosenblum and David Alderfer wrote these. For the book they have supplemented their original material with new text, where necessary, arranged it into 10 chapters, and included over 350 illustrations. Larry Rosenblum is the official webmaster for the Great Britain Collectors Club, whose website I reviewed in the *Bulletin* in August 2001. The book was reviewed in the *Bulletin* in February (page 168).

The sections mentioned here are just a few of the extensive range that the Linns site covers. To access some parts it is necessary to register, but registration is free. Browsing is recommended ●

THE FIRST ISSUE of the American *Linn's Weekly Stamp News* appeared on 5 November 1928. It has enjoyed an unbroken circulation since that time. Now entitled simply *Linn's Stamp News*, it claims to be the world's largest weekly stamp newspaper. The first electronic version of the paper appeared in 1999 and subscribers in the UK can obtain the full edition in this format for the same price as the printed version costs in the USA.

The on-line version of the newspaper can be accessed via the overall Linn's website (address above), and this main site also contains many other sections to help collectors enjoy the hobby. Obviously there is a bias towards the interests of collectors of US material, but the majority of the content has universal appeal.

At the top of the home page on the site there are tabs under which related subjects have been grouped. Clicking on the appropriate tab reveals a drop-down index to the various content headings. One particularly broad item is found under the 'How to' tab. It is called 'Refresher Course', and allows the user to access past columns from the paper which were designed to give an introduction to different aspects of stamp collecting.

The opening page provides a sample selection of titles from 40 of these educational articles. A single click on any title brings up the full original article with coloured illustrations relevant to the subject. A few of the topics taken at random from

Changing tastes in Britain A gastronomic tour of the country, in six miniature servings



Technical details

Printer Enschedé

Process Gravure

Stamp size 35mm square

Sheet size 25 and 50

Perforation 14.5

Phosphor One band 2nd class, two bands others

Gum PVA

Gutter pairs Vertical

Cylinders and colours

All values E1 grey ● E1 black
 ● E1 cyan (blue) ● E1 magenta
 ● E1 yellow ● E1 phosphor

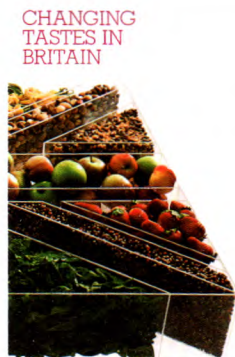
SIX STAMPS featuring traditional and recently introduced foods enjoyed by the British public go on sale at Post Office branches and philatelic outlets and Royal Mail Tallents House on 23 August.

The stamps feature: 2nd class, Rice; 1st, Tea; 42p, Sushi; 47p, Pasta; 60p, Chips; and 68p, Apples. The Queen's silhouette and value or service indicator is positioned at upper right, with the caption 'Changing Tastes in Britain' on the left side. The 1st and 42p stamps include the EUROPA logo at lower right and all six stamps have the year, 2005, at bottom right.

The stamps, designed by Rose Design, feature illustrations by Swiss-born Catell Ronca, a recent graduate of the Royal College of Art. Her illustrations result from a College project exploring multi-cultural Britain. For Catell, one of the great pleasures of living in London is the variety of its restaurants, cafes and takeaways. As she walked around with her sketchbook, Catell made rapid, thumbnail-size drawings from life, initially concentrating on the foods, but later including the people eating. From these sketches, Catell developed the characters, making notes of styles of clothing and hair. Her images were worked in strong blocks of gouache colour.

Rice is the staple food for more than half the world; tea was first drunk in China 5000 years ago, and sushi started as a way to preserve fish. Pasta originated with the Etruscans, potatoes were first cultivated by the Incas, and over 10,000 different varieties of apples are recorded.

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.



Royal Mail First Day Cover



FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main Post Office branches and philatelic outlets about a week before 23 August, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House or Cookstown must reach Tallents House by the day of issue. Price £3.57 UK or £3.04 overseas.

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 (for Cookstown postmark) marking the outer envelope 'FD0519' (Tallents House), or 'FD0520' (Cookstown). Covers can be posted or handed in at main Post Office branches for the Cookstown postmark. A non-pictorial Cookstown postmark is also available from Special Handstamp Centres, request 'FD0520 NP'.

Details of sponsored handstamps for 23 August will be given 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 TV cook Keith Floyd, looks at changing tastes in food since the 1950s, beginning with an interest in French cuisine (then other European countries), and foods from India and the Orient, Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the USA.

The stamps above, opposite and on the following page are shown at proof stage.



CHANGING TASTES IN BRITAIN

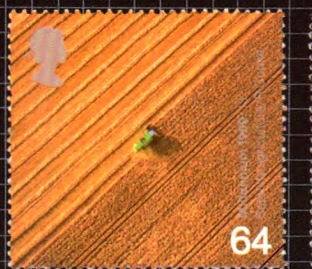
Royal Mail Mint Stamps



Noel Coward is reputed to have said that the only way to enjoy food in Britain is to have breakfast three times a day, i.e. for breakfast, for lunch, and for dinner!



The inside of the presentation pack comprises a colourful (and mouth-watering) montage of a Union Flag made up of foods, including apples, strawberries, pasta, broccoli, peppers, beans, and nuts. (Part of this montage is also shown on the first day cover.) The pack was designed by Gene Cooke and Iain Crockett •



Food on stamps From top left: Fishing Industry issue 1981, British River Fishes 1983, Fruit and Veg 2003, Industry Year 1986, two of The Four Seasons issue 1993 and two from the Farmers' Tale Millennium issue of 1999.

Food on stamps This is the first issue depicting people eating and enjoying food, although items of food have featured on a number of British stamps in recent years. The fishing industry was the subject of four stamps in 1981, and river fish and cattle featured on stamps in 1983 and 1984. The 1986 34p Industry Year stamp featured bread and cereals, and a variety of foods were shown on the 1989 Food & Farming Year issue. Fruits such as blackberry and pear appeared on the 1993 Autumn stamps, and producing food was the theme of the Millennium: Farmers' Tale issue of 1999. The subject was given a good airing on the Fruit & Veg stamps in 2003, and the 2005 Farm Animals might also be included in a thematic food collection.

Other representations include the bowl of fruit on one of the first greetings stamps (1989), ice cream and iced cake on two of the 1993 Gift Giving greetings stamps, a bowl of porridge on one of the 1994 Messages greetings stamps, a basket of foods on the 26p Millennium Settlers' Tale, and a barley sheaf on the 68p 2003 Pub Signs. Surprisingly, the only depiction of Christmas food is a turkey on the 1993 35p Christmas stamp. The traditional British Christmas pudding has yet to appear on a stamp, but is shown on the Christmas aerogramme of 1992. The forerunner of today's prestige books, the 1969 *Stamps for Cooks* book depicted food on several panes and included recipes. The front cover featured a dish of baked haddock •

Trafalgar June, 1805: Nigel Fordham follows Nelson out of



FOLLOWING his race across the Atlantic, Nelson at last anchored in Carlisle Bay, Barbados, on 4 June 1805, having shaved 11 days off the time he was behind the French fleet. He was told by General Bereton, the commanding officer of St Lucia staying in Barbados, that the enemy fleet was on its way there. Bereton was wrong, much to Nelson's anger when he found out; Villeneuve had in fact gone in a completely different direction.

Nelson was no stranger to the Caribbean. He had spent many years there on duty and he had married Fanny Nesbit on the Island of Nevis in March 1787. He knew how difficult it would be to find the enemy fleet around the numerous islands without good intelligence.

Upon arrival in the West Indies Villeneuve had in fact sailed north, and on 2 June he attacked a small island off Martinique. For almost a year and a half, Captain James Maurice and 120 men from *HMS Centaur* had held Diamond Rock, an island about one mile off the south of the French island of Martinique, and had caused continual havoc

Above: Admiral Collingwood, and sailors reefing the topsails. Opposite page: a Nauru miniature sheet featuring the French Admiral Villeneuve, and Fanny Nesbit and a quadrant shown on issues from Nevis and Tristan da Cunha.

the Caribbean, and describes a sailor's life in the Royal Navy



'Midnight, nearly calm, saw three planks which I think come from the French Fleet. Very miserable which is foolish'

From Nelson's private diary, HMS *Victory* at sea, 21 June 1805

to French interests in the area. It took two 74-gun battleships, a 36-gun frigate, a corvette, a schooner, and 11 gunboats with 400 soldiers three days to take the island, and the British garrison only surrendered when they were out of ammunition. The British had lost two men, the French 50.

Meanwhile Admiral Collingwood, a lifelong friend of Nelson, had arrived at Cadiz from Plymouth; finding Villeneuve was in the West Indies with Nelson in pursuit, he despatched two ships from his fleet to support Nelson, whose fleet had been depleted when Admiral Cochrane chased French Admiral Missiessy to Rochfort (see March article, page 212).

Nelson set sail for the south on 5 June, making for the island of Trinidad, and arriving there two days later. The French were not there, nor were they in Grenada, St Vincent or St Lucia when he visited them. It was at this time that Villeneuve learned of Nelson's presence in the West Indies, and gathered his fleet together in a matter of days before fleeing the Caribbean, rather than face the

Royal Navy in battle. Napoleon believed Nelson was still in European waters at the time, and that Collingwood had gone to India! Napoleon was angry with Admiral Villeneuve for having fled the West Indies with nothing but the capture of 14 sugar ships and the recapture of Diamond Rock to show for his trouble.

Meanwhile Nelson arrived in Montserrat on 12 June and then sailed to Antigua, sending the brig *Curieux* (captured from the French in 1804), back to England with the news that he was going to leave the West Indies the next day to chase the French and Spanish across the Atlantic.

During the long haul back across the Atlantic, Nelson entertained all his captains on board HMS *Victory*, either in groups or singly. Such was his way to bond his fleet together and enjoy the company of his 'Band of Brothers'. The enjoyment was mutual; this style was certainly not prevalent in the Royal Navy at this time. Nelson's fleet embarked on a trip across the Atlantic that would take over a month to complete.



A life on the ocean waves So what was life like on board these Royal Navy ships, carrying full sail wherever possible, trying to catch up with the enemy in June of 1805? A ship's day started at 12 o'clock as this was the only time of the day that could be confirmed by sextants and quadrants. Sandglasses, two half-hour and a four-hour, were used the rest of the time. The days were split up into seven watches or working periods. Each 'ordinary' crew member would take turns in dealing with duties such as setting the sails, navigating, trimming the ship, look-out and gun practice, and training and cleanliness. However there were certain times of the day in between these duties that a ship revolved around: cooks started their work at 5am. Most men were woken at 7am; breakfast was at 8am, usually a rough porridge 'burgoo' of coarse oats and water washed down with crushed ships biscuits or burnt bread in hot water sweetened with molasses, nicknamed scotch coffee. 11 am was punishment time, when the ship's crew assembled to witness any floggings with a 'Cat o' nine tails' (normally made by the victim). Afterwards 'salt was rubbed in to the wounds' to prevent infection and vinegar and brown paper was applied. The high point of the day was 12 o'clock, dinner time in the Royal Navy; the meal was usually hot, and consisted of a boiled salt meat (usually pork or beef), sometimes fish with oatmeal and peas. Dinner was eaten on a wooden square plate ('a square meal') by the men. However the captains, supported by Nelson, took on fresh meat and vegetables at every given opportunity. This was also the time when the first half of the spirits ration was issued to the men. The full ration was either eight pints of beer, two pints of wine or a half pint of brandy or rum. This happened every day. To prevent scurvy, the spirits issued at

Autographed by
LORD NELSON
16 June 1982

Nelson



ROYAL MAIL FIRST DAY COVER

A first day cover signed by the current Lord Nelson in 1982 and, above left, below decks on a British naval vessel.

midday were mixed with water and lime (or lemon) juice – hence the American nickname for the British 'limeys'. It should be noted that drunkenness was an offence punishable by a flogging. In these days of health consciousness it is also of interest to note that the crew were also issued 2lbs (almost a kilo) of tobacco; this was mostly chewed to prevent risk of fire.

After dinner the men would usually carry out general duties and training such as gun practice to improve their performances. At 4 pm the crew would have supper, usually consisting of biscuits, butter and cheese all of which were well past their sell by date! The cook would sometimes prepare a Duff made from flour and dried fruit. It is also interesting to note that the cook was the only crew member allowed to whistle on board, which prevented him from eating (especially the dried fruit) whilst cooking. The Royal Marines beat to quarters after supper for the crew to attend general inspection at battle positions. Once the inspection was completed, 'down hammocks' was piped and the men had 15 minutes to grab their hammocks from the netting where they were stowed on the deck. Just imagine a crew of 800 doing this all at



once! The first watch was set at 8pm and the crew other than those 'on watch' could sleep. Darkness was a good time to eat weevil-infested biscuits from supper for obvious reasons! Weevils were reported to taste like calves foot jelly. Finally at 9 pm the ship would be patrolled to ensure all fires were out and no one was drunk. Such was a sailor's life.

So Nelson would spend another month at sea, depressed and frustrated, willing the time to pass quickly so he would be able get to grips with the French and Spanish ships ●

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

24-26.06	Scottish Traditional Boat Festival, Portsoy
25-26.06	Whitehaven Maritime Festival, Whitehaven
28.06	Royal Navy International Fleet Review
29.06	Royal Navy Drumhead Ceremony

The illustrated stamp books Martin Robinson concludes his look at the series of illustrated covers introduced in 1968

THIS CHAPTER CONCERNS folded books, which were first issued in November 1975 and May 1976 (10p and 50p machine books), and March 1976 (65p and 85p counter books). A series of illustrated 10p books appeared between February 1978 and April 1979, showing farm buildings in various parts of the British Isles. These were designed by Normal Battershill and printed by Harrison & Sons in brown and pale blue on white card, exploiting the possibility offered by the new format of having a design running continuously over the front and back of the unfolded book. An extra design, in blue and red on a white card, was issued in October of 1979 to publicise the London 1980 stamp exhibition. There were no more 10p books as postal rates continued to rise, but between February 1978 and September 1995, there were 18 series of 50p books, joined in July 1986 by £1 books (eight series) and in November 1993 by £2 books (two series), all printed in two colours on white card.

Between them they covered too many subjects to mention in detail here, but they included commercial vehicles, veteran cars, follies, rare farm animals, orchids, pond life, Roman Britain, botanical gardens, Lord's Cricket Ground and the bicentenary of the MCC, London Zoo, marine life, Gilbert and Sullivan, aeroplanes, archaeology, postal markings, coaching inns, sea charts, musical instruments, Sherlock Holmes, Charles Dickens, mills, the 150th anniversary of *Punch*, educational institutions, 20th century prime ministers, the Second World War, postal vehicles and Rowland Hill. Some of these subjects were also taken up in sets of commemorative stamps, but others were not. The specialist can find a lot of interest in these issues, for instance rate changes (including some shown in error), spelling errors (Mount Stewart National Trust house and garden being shown at first as Mount Stuart), defective printings and a trial card which produced a superior impression.

Folded counter books also appeared with pictorial covers in February of 1978. At first they were priced at 70p (10 × 7p) and 90p (10 × 9p), and sets on country crafts and canals were issued between February 1978 and April 1979. Sets followed featuring military aircraft, industrial archaeology, 19th century women's costume, postal history, museums, railway engines, Britain's countryside, trams, Fox Talbot (the pioneering photographer) and social letter writing. Like the machine books, these were printed in two colours on white card. As postage rates continued to creep up, so did the price of the books, the second class from 80p to £1, £1.15, £1.25, £1.30 and £1.40; and the first class from £1 to £1.20, £1.40, £1.55, £1.60, £1.70, £1.80 and £1.90. There were also mixed value books at £1.30, £1.43, £1.46 and £1.54.

Pictorial Christmas books appeared from 1978, at first with a mixture of first and second class stamps, but from 1983 with second class only. Increasingly, promotional books also appeared with pictorial covers; the first was a pair (first and second class) promoting the Derby Mechanised Letter Office, showing the Crich Tramway Museum and Kedleston Hall. Others carried special offers: top off postcards (in July 1982), a birthday box (April 1983), a 'Write It' wallet (February 1984), a 'Write Now' letter pack (October 1985 and January 1986), and many others. In January 1989 a Greetings stamps book was issued with a 'rolling' cover design: the elements (a teddy bear, a sun, grapes, boats, flags, arrow, flower, etc) appeared in different configurations and one needed to collect a number of covers to try to fit them together in sequence before the pattern repeated.

In August of 1987 the first window books were issued and, apart from the motifs on Christmas, Greetings and promotional stamp books, covers became pretty uniformly red or, more recently, gold or blue for the inland first and second class stamps. We should spare a mention for prestige books; the first, *Stamps for Cooks*, was issued in December 1969. These continue to be popular with collectors, not least because of the illustrations inside as well as out, and the inventive juxtaposition of previously issued stamps. The first Wedgwood book of May 1972 is shown at right ●



Above: folded books of November 1978 and May 1982, and the 'rolling' design of the January 1989 Greetings book covers. Right: May 1972 prestige book: *The Story of Wedgwood*. Above right: folded machine books featuring farm buildings (February 1978); botanical gardens (September 1987); coaching inns (April 1994); and Rowland Hill – the last of four designs (September 1995).

Christmas 1978
Royal Mail Stamps Ten at 7p Ten at 9p £1.60

£1.55
Royal Mail Stamps
Ten at 15½p

10 GREETINGS STAMPS
£1.90
Ten at 19p

Royal Mail

10 GREETINGS STAMPS
£1.90
Ten at 19p

10p
Royal Mail Stamps
Two at ½p
Two at 1p
One at 7p

50p
Royal Mail Stamps
Three at 13p
Two at 5p
One at 1p

50p
Royal Mail Stamps
Two at 25p

Rowland Hill, postal reformer, who created the uniform postage system and the prepayment of mail through stamps and special stationery. Designed by The Four Hundred. Printed by Harrison & Sons Limited. 4 of 4.

UNIFORM Penny Postage

PETITION

HOUSE OF COMMONS

£2
Royal Mail Stamps
Eight at 25p

£1 book of stamps and the story of Wedgwood
18 at 3p 17 at 2½p 7 at 1p

Mainly Machins Specialist collectors report by D G A Myall

IN READINESS FOR the tariff changes introduced on 7 April, seven new definitives were issued on 5 April. Three of them are Machins: 9p orange, 35p lime green and 46p old gold. The other four are a 42p country pictorial for each of the four countries of the United Kingdom.

The country stamps replace the 40p stamps and have the same design. Like them, they pre-pay mail to European countries up to 20g, the old 'E' rate. They were printed by Walsall as an emergency measure while De La Rue's ATN gravure press was being re-located from Byfleet to Dunstable. This is so even though the Northern Ireland stamp was printed in lithography on a different press. De La Rue are printing further supplies of these stamps and some went on philatelic sale on 10 May. Royal Mail's first day cover service was limited to the Walsall stamps. All the cylinder numbers are w1, including the phosphor ones. They are all no dot as these are single pane printings. The phosphor cylinders print two bars on each stamp from 13mm bands. Apart from the Northern Ireland stamp these are 'vignetted' and have a 1.5mm segment of coarse screen at each side. It will be interesting to compare these with the De La Rue versions, not seen at time of writing. The 9p Machin is the first of this value to be issued for over 25 years. It was last issued on 15 November 1978 in that year's Christmas counter book, vertically se-tenant with a 7p stamp. At that time these values pre-paid the 1st and 2nd class minimum letter rates. There was a sheet printing from cylinder 29 in May 1979 but this bluish violet stamp was withdrawn from general sale on 30 September 1980. Since that time there have been two major changes to Machin definitives, both from the pen (or brush) of Jeffery Matthews MBE FGSd FRSA. In 1976 he re-drew the 10p value in a narrower font when the monochrome version was in prospect, and this led to his being commissioned in 1982 to do the same for the whole definitive range. These have come to be known as the 're-drawn' values. The new 9p is in this narrower font. The other change occurred as a result of a review of stamp colours undertaken

in 1984. An account of this was given in the *Bulletin* for January and February 1993 and collectors refer to these as the Jeffery Matthews palette. In 1999, Jeffery added a further three colours: grey blue, orange and bright pink. The first of these was used for the 40p of 2000 and the £5 of 2003. The new 9p is the first in the orange colour. The third colour has not yet been used.

The 35p stamp has had an interesting history. It was first issued in dark brown on 23 August 1988 to pre-pay the basic airmail letter rate to what was then zone c (effectively the present zone 2). This was withdrawn on 30 September 1989. In 1991 it was issued in a new colour known as old gold. This was intended to meet an anticipated need for a 35p stamp to pay the second weight step for first class mail from 16 September that year but in the event this was set at 36p (for which no stamp was issued at the time). The 35p stamp continued to be printed although there was no specific use for it until it became a key value on 1 November 1993, when it pre-paid the overseas postcard rate. It was withdrawn on 6 July 1996. From 1 April 2004 it became the rate for the second weight step in the domestic second class tariff and was re-issued in the original dark brown colour. This is still its function but it has now been issued in a third colour. The only other time that a stamp has been issued in a new colour although its function did not change was the 20p purplish grey which was replaced by a sea green stamp on 23 August 1988. The occasion for this change was the introduction of the Jeffery Matthews colour standard. Unlike the 35p, the 20p stamp did not have a specific duty, being used to make up value. Maybe a reason for the 35p colour change is that the darker colours are not so favoured today, although Arnold Machin himself expressed a preference for them as being more suited to produce the sculpted effect of the head that he aimed for.

The new 35p stamp is unique in another respect. It is the first stamp above the basic rate to have a single central phosphor bar. Although it is for use on mail of between 60g and 100g, most of this will be sorted by machine and needs to be



The new definitives issued 5 April: four country pictorials at 42p, and three Machins stamps: 9p orange, 35p lime green and 46p old gold.

separated from first class mail. Above 100g, mail is less likely to be machine sorted, so there is no need to mark it out for special treatment.

The 46p stamp corresponds to the 35p in that it pre-pays the second weight step, but for first class mail. It is the first definitive issued at this value. The numerals are in the Jeffery Matthews re-drawn fount. The colour is from his palette. I find the three colours of the new Machins rather similar and lacking contrast but I assume that no problems with mail sorting by artificial light are expected. Nevertheless, there are other colours from the palette which could have been used. For example, salmon pink has not been used since the 25p stamp was withdrawn on 6 July 1996, and flame has been available since the 1st class XVI was changed permanently to gold in 2002.

The Castles miniature sheet re-visited Another consequence of De La Rue's move was the transfer of the printing of this sheet to Enschedé. This resulted in changes to the design, as mentioned in my last article. But did you know Royal Mail has published three designs? There is, of course, only one miniature sheet but it seems that two other designs based on the original artwork were used for publicity and other purposes, perhaps because of the long lead time for such ventures.

For each stamp issue, Tallents House sends collectors a publicity leaflet in their *Preview* series. The one for the Castles miniature sheet showed the stamps with elliptical perforations and the corner emblems in the colours of the stamps. This image was also used on a flyer advertising the sheet which was inserted into the Jane Eyre presentation pack.

For several years, Royal Mail has issued stamp cards for most definitive issues. These show enlarged images of the stamps. They are numbered in a series prefixed D, presumably for definitive. The first, D1, pictured the £10 Britannia stamp of March 1993. The next four, D2 to D5, featured the four Castles stamps which were issued a year before the £10 stamp. The one showing Carrickfergus Castle was re-issued as D8 when the £1 stamp was replaced with one for £3. Now the four castles have appeared on stamp cards once more. These are numbers D28a Carrickfergus, D28b Caernarfon, D28c Edinburgh and D28d Windsor. There is a fifth card, D28e, showing the miniature sheet. This shows the third of the designs. The emblems are monochrome, as on the issued sheet, but the stamps are shown with elliptical perforations. A set of these cards alongside an issued sheet would make a nice addition to a written up display of the new stamps •

Barrie Jay Richard West meets the Distinguished Philatelist

THIS HAS BEEN a momentous year for Professor Barrie Jay. In July, he will be amongst the five philatelists, and the only one from the UK, invited this year to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. In early April, he heard that he had been elected an Associate Member of the Académie de Philatélie. Having formed some outstanding collections, and written many learned papers on his specialities, he is well qualified to be the worthy recipient of the honours to be bestowed upon him.

Barrie cannot actually remember the time that he started collecting, although he does recall his father buying him in 1939 a mint copy of the PUC £1 of 1929 from the dealer Charles Nissen for the princely sum of 18s 6d. Certainly, by the end of the Second World War, he regarded himself as a moderate collector of Great Britain.

However, the turning point in his collecting came during the late 1940s, through the pages of the *Philatelic Adviser*, the house magazine of the dealer R C Alcock. An advertisement appeared from an address in central London, 18 Nottingham Street. Barrie visited: the door was opened just slightly, and a suspicious face peered out. This was Barrie's introduction to Martin Willcocks, who over the coming years would prove to be a father figure, steering Barrie into the world of serious philately. At the time his focus of attention was the repaired impressions of the Penny Red and 1841 Twopenny Blue – 'I just like fiddly things' confesses Barrie. His studies were also encouraged by Dr Wiggins, who at the time lived at Roehampton.

So protective was Martin that when Barrie met the love of his life, Martin insisted he interview her, to ensure she was suitable to be a philatelic wife. It was also with Martin that Barrie and Ron (R A G) Lee started the Great Britain Philatelic Society 50 years ago.

National Service was spent in the Army, stationed in Folkestone. With Martin's blessing, Barrie had married Marcelle and they lived in a flat



overlooking the coast. There Barrie met John Fosbery, buying from him some Cape of Good Hope triangulars. Shortly afterwards, the police were knocking at John's front door – he quickly refunded the purchase price, discovering that the stamps were stolen property.

At this time Barrie started another collecting interest, French postmarks on British stamps, and as a result became a member of the Channel Islands Specialists' Society, although he subsequently lost touch with that society for some 40 years.

On leaving the Army, Barrie returned to serious medical study, deciding to sell all his collections. It was only on completing his studies that he resumed collecting – so it was back to Martin for advice. The suggestion was the postal history of London, then quite cheap, as there was little interest shown by other collectors. Come the mid-1970s, Barrie thought the time was right to exhibit competitively, and entered the British Philatelic Exhibition. He received a silver-gilt medal, being criticised because his pages were the wrong size: it put him off exhibiting for over 20 years.

Realising that Barrie was a serious philatelist, Martin engaged his help on the series of volumes that comprise *The British County Catalogue of Postal History*, with Barrie compiling the volume on London, and assisting him with the others: this is widely regarded as the authoritative work on the subject.

In 1992 Barrie retired: he had been invited to be Master of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries, and had decided that he could not hold such a position and remain in practice. He also quickly learned an important lesson: 'when you first retire you do not know the meaning of the word "no"'. Invited to become the Secretary of The Royal Philatelic Society London, he readily agreed, and was energetically supported by Marcelle. Later he was elected President of the Society. Until that time he admits he had been a bit of a 'loner' as far as the hobby is concerned.

Other collecting interests were sought: again on Martin's advice, he turned to letters from the War of Austrian Succession. He bought a correspondence, which stimulated an interest in early campaign letters leading to a study of cross-Channel mail. This Barrie has developed, selling his London postal history as it became impossible to find new material. He has also studied the early postal history of the Channel Islands, and Martinique, in this case venturing into modern material.

Barrie likes to produce his own pages on which to mount his material, using acid-free paper of course, with the items mounted using photo corners. He spends quite a lot of time on his collections, changing the presentation, and recently adding far more pictures. While he accepts this may not be the best approach when it comes to competitions, nevertheless 'to attract people into postal history, you need to make postal history attractive'. Even so, his London postal history achieved several large gold medals, and he hopes the same will be the case with his current study of the French Revolutionary Wars. However, he competes for the fun and enjoyment, not for the rewards.

Barrie is a member of many specialist societies but has only ever joined one local society, that at Wimbledon, where he has lived for over 40 years.

His satisfaction comes from discovery, often in the most unlikely circumstances. At Stampex in February he met a non-collector, someone who

is studying the Napoleonic Wars. Barrie was able to discover personal details of British prisoners-of-war, from whom he has correspondence.

As for the future of the hobby, he believes that what are needed are avenues that can be explored which are not too expensive, and this might well be with modern material, stamps as well as postal history •

MORE QUESTIONS WE PUT TO BARRIE JAY

How did you meet Marcelle? It was through a mutual friend who held an 'open house'. I was attracted to the 'legs playing the piano'. Our courtship was mainly in Paris, where I gained my appreciation of fine food and wine.

What type of food do you most enjoy? I am cosmopolitan in my tastes, but I enjoy cooking both Chinese and Indian food – with mixed success.

What was your career? Following my studies, I went into the medical profession. I accompanied patients to Moorfields Eye Hospital, where I developed my interest in this speciality. The outcome was that I became a consultant, and later Professor. Marcelle was a senior lecturer at Moorfields, and is regarded as the leading authority on population ophthalmic genetics.

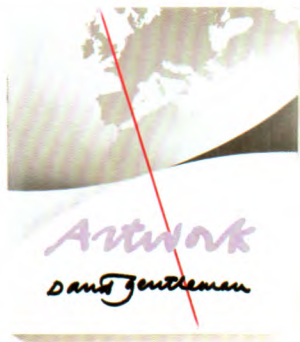
Where do you go for your holidays? We tend to take short breaks in the UK, often linked with philatelic weekends. We also enjoy visiting the larger cities of Europe, with Paris being a frequent destination.

Do you have any other interests? I used to be keen on judo, ice hockey and golf, but today it is mainly walking and gardening. I am also involved with the Wolfson Foundation, and as a result visit around fifteen schools each year.

Are there any books you frequently turn to? David Robinson's book on British postal rates is extremely useful, and similarly the series by Michele Chauvet on the rates and Acts in France.

Prize draw Win a copy of David Gentleman's book *Artwork*

FOR THIS MONTH'S PRIZE DRAW we have a copy of David Gentleman's acclaimed book *Artwork*, which deals with his stamp designs as well as his many other endeavours. The book was reviewed here in October 2002. *Artwork* will be sent to the sender of the first card drawn on 30 June. Five runners-up will be sent presentation packs of the Castles miniature sheet. To enter the draw simply write your name and address on the back of a postcard and send it to: Artwork Draw, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ •



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



March identify The detail was from the forthcoming 1st class Motorcycles stamp. The winner was R La Casse, USA.

March knowledge Answers: 1) 1994; 2) scarlet; 3) Royal Philatelic Society London. The winner was P Constantine of Buckinghamshire.

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

- 1 Which year was the Mckon featured on a stamp?
- 2 What was the venue of the Stamp Show 2000 in London?
- 3 Who designed the 1984 British Cattle stamps?

Send your answer (addressed to either the June *Identify* competition or the June *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 15 July will each receive £100. Ten runner-up prizes of presentation packs or FDCs will be awarded in each competition. The competitions are not open to Royal Mail employees ●

Events

28 May Stampessex 2005 at St Peters, Market Hill, Sudbury, Suffolk, 10.00-16.00. Dealers, displays, raffle, souvenirs. Parking and refreshments available. Admission free. **Enquiries** I Pittway, 01787 461691.

28-29 May Stampex Ulster at Wellington Park Hotel, Malone Road, Belfast, 10.00-17.00. **Enquiries** P McBride, 028 8673 7804.

2-5 June Naposta 2005 at Hanover, Germany. See Stamp Scene, page 292.

4 June Yorkshire Philatelic Association Stamp and Postcard Fair and 58th Annual Convention at Pudsey Civic Hall, Leeds, 09.30-16.30. Approx 30 dealers attending. **Enquiries** A Peel, 01924 505724.

4 June Ringpex stamp fair at Greyfriars (community centre), Christchurch Rd, Ringwood, 10.00-16.00.

Admission free. 12 stamp & postcard dealers, Penny Black prize raffle. **Enquiries** Ringpex hotline 01425 474310.

11 June Swinpex (organised by Swindon PS) at St Joseph's Lower School, Queen's Drive, Swindon.

11 June British Thematic Association meeting at Swinpex. **Enquiries** P Denly, 9 Oaklands Park, Bishops Stortford CM23 2BY.

25 June Midpex (ABPS National Show for Specialist Societies), Midlands Sports Centre for the Disabled, Tile Hill, Coventry. See Stamp Scene, page 292.

25-26 June Thematica at Carisbrooke Hall, Seymour Street, London W2. Sat 10.30-17.30, Sun 10.30-17.00 ●

Late news



Royal Mail update The cylinders used for the De La Rue printings of 42p country stamps (10 May) are: England D1 olive-green D1 silver; Scotland D1 bright lilac D1 deep lilac D1 silver; Wales D1 greenish blue D1 deep greenish blue and D1 grey-black. Phosphor D1 on all three. The delayed 42p Northern Ireland stamp printed by De La Rue will now be available from 26 July. Shown above is the joint pack for the British and Australian World Heritage Sites stamps, price £7.50 •

Thematica Shown above, at right, is the souvenir sheet which will be given to visitors to the Thematica exhibition at Carisbrooke Hall, Seymour Street, London W2, 25-26 June •

Successful Congress Despite inclement weather, the 76th Annual Scottish Philatelic Congress in Perth (15-16 April) attracted a record attendance. Congress got off to a rousing start on Friday evening with the Tom Rielly Display by Jeff Stone of Aberdeen who posed the provocative question 'Finland: an "Important" Country?' but then proceeded to show extraordinary philatelic and postal history material from the early period. This year's host society was Dundee & District, but it combined forces with two other East Coast clubs (Arbroath and St Andrews) to put on a very varied display, in which Africa was particularly well represented.

The National Exhibition was rather patchy and probably reflects the current trends in philately, with three excellent entries in the Social Philately Class, six in overseas postal history, but only one



in the Scottish national class, two in aerophilately and a solitary entry in the thematic class. On the other hand it may be due to a relative lack of interest among the Scottish clubs in competitive exhibiting, and this needs to be addressed. There were relatively few displays of British stamps or postal history. John Colman's study of the parcel labels of Hawick was outstanding, while both of the aerophilatelic entries dealt with aspects of airmails to or from Britain. It was left to the display from the host societies to remedy this, with a fine study of the Castles high values, the postmarks, cachets and postcards of John o' Groats, and the Scots local handstamps of the Dundee area. Congress does a great job in encouraging the younger collectors, with a large and well-run Youth Area as well as a Design-a-Stamp competition, which this year attracted 293 entries. The winning designs were reproduced in the Congress souvenir sheet. Disappointingly, there were no souvenir postcards available this year; the souvenir cover, marking the 700th anniversary of the execution of William Wallace, was uninspired and accompanied by a non-pictorial handstamp. *James Mackay* •

Obituary Sir Eduardo Paolozzi, one of the UK's most eminent sculptors, died in April aged 81. His image of a computer inside a human head was used on the 63p Inventors' Tale stamp of the Millennium series. His high regard in the world of art was not matched in the philatelic community – his stamp was one of three which received no votes in our stamp poll of 1999 •

New Country Definitive Coin Covers



In 2004 the Royal Mint launched a third series of its £1 coins, which unusually takes famous bridges as its theme. There are four coins depicting bridges from Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England.

Royal Mail has joined with the Royal Mint to produce a beautiful set of limited edition Coin Covers. Each cover will comprise the £1 coin and a set of 2nd, 1st, 40p and 68p definitives. The price of each Coin Cover is just £13.50.

The first in the collection, the Scottish Definitive Coin Cover, was launched on St Andrew's Day, 30 November 2004. It includes an illustration of the Forth Bridge and the most recent Scottish Country Definitive stamps cancelled with an Edinburgh postmark. Inside is a brief guide to the Firth of Forth area and a short history of the bridge and its construction. Code AN036.

The dual-language Wales Definitive Coin Cover was issued on 1 March, St David's Day. The four stamps are cancelled with a Welsh postmark, and the brilliant uncirculated coin showcases the Menai Straits Bridge. The Wales Definitive Coin Cover includes a colourful four-page insert. Order now by quoting code AN037.

The Northern Ireland and England Country Definitive Coin Covers will be issued on 17 March 2006 and 23 April 2007 respectively.

Royal Mail

Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB
Telephone orders: UK 08457 641 641; overseas +44 131 316 7483

