

British Philatelic Bulletin

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Our post-bag has revealed an increasing interest in old picture postcards as described by Malcolm James whose series 'ABC of Postcard Themes' was completed last month. This month we commence a new series by Mr James – 'Postcard Stories' – which will present some of the more unusual and interesting cards with their background stories of artists and events.

Our congratulations to Mr N W Howard of London, winner of the 1983 Post Office Stampex trophy with an exhibit entitled, 'Great Britain, the First Issues'. Mr Howard, a collector for more than 60 years, specialises in GB early line engraved. Among his successes are the 'Gold' at 'London 1980' and 'Philexfrance 1982', and the 'Silver Gilt' at 'Stampex 1978'.

JOHN MEMMOTT

Posting Boxes



Donald Hamilton Fraser at Windsor

Donald Hamilton Fraser, designer of the Commonwealth Day stamps, will be present at the post office, 38/39 Peascod Street, WINDSOR, Berks, SL4 1AA from 9.30am to 1.30pm, and 2.30pm to 4.00pm on 9 March.

He will personally autograph first day covers with the set of four stamps affixed and there will be no extra charge for this autograph. Customers will, of course, be served on a first-come, first-served basis.

Reposting facilities will be available. Fully stamped, addressed FDCs must be posted under cover, on 9 March, to the Postmaster at Windsor.

No. 45. Our illustration this month has been sent to us by Mr I G Thow when he was Deputy British Government Representative in St. Johns, Antigua. The posting box is badly in need of a coat of paint, but is still operational. Thank you Mr Thow.

The Commonwealth Collection

The Commonwealth Collection is a unique limited edition assembly of over 200 stamps from more than 50 member countries and associated territories of the Commonwealth, compiled in a luxurious presentation album by the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Every stamp commemorates Commonwealth Day, 1983, bearing the Commonwealth symbol — a globe within a 'C' — and the words 'Commonwealth Day 14 March 1983'. The new designs commissioned for these commemoratives were briefed to reflect the immense diversity of geography, culture and society within the Commonwealth, which encompasses a quarter of the world's population.

The Collection, in a handsome navy album, padded and richly embossed with gold, contains a foreword from H.M. Queen Elizabeth II, as Head of the Commonwealth, and an introduction by Mr Shridath Ramphal, Commonwealth Secretary-General. Each album in the limited edition contains a numbered certificate of authenticity.

Collectively, the stamps offer a fascinating glimpse of the life of distant peoples by showing some of the background — cultural, historical, industrial or agricultural — of each country.

Some of the stamps, however, take an ideological approach. For example, the Australian issue has a design theme of a rainbow and reaching hands woven into patterns that reflect National and Commonwealth ideals such as 'social justice and co-operation' and 'equality and dignity'. Likewise, one of the Jamaican denominations expresses another philosophical point with a stylised head illustrating the motto, 'Out of one people, many'.

Other stamps in the Collection illustrate the more practical side of life. Various industries are shown; two Seychelles stamps show industry on the islands — in food processing and agriculture. Tourism, too, is an important industry for the Seychelles and other islands. Beach scenes are shown on the St Lucia stamps, as well as those of the British Virgin Islands and Barbados.

Timber working is a CFTC aided project in

Papua New Guinea which is shown on one denomination, together with log-loading in the harbour. Trinidad and Tobago has a four stamp set showing, on one denomination, an oil well with a 'nodding donkey' pump, while others show the Parliament Buildings at Port of Spain, a scenic view of the island and a stylised map. The people of Dominica are shown at work, in nursing, the production of tourist souvenirs, banana packing and agriculture.

There are other strong themes in the Collection, with national flags and Heads of State proudly in evidence. For example, King Taufa'ahau Topou IV of Tonga appears in an informal portrait. The late King Sobhuza II of Swaziland, who died last year, is shown wearing his traditional ceremonial necklace. He appears on all the Swaziland stamps, which include pictures of a Swazi woman standing by a traditional beehive hut, crop spraying, and a global picture highlighting Swaziland's geographical position.

Botswana have government buildings on its stamps, with flags flying, and Botswana shows a Commonwealth conference in session. Bahamas, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Western Samoa each show flags and maps on two of their





four stamp sets. Maps also feature on stamps from the British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Bahamas, Barbados and Jamaica.

Cultural tradition is shown very strongly on the stamps from Uganda. The four stamp set takes traditional currency for one issue – not coins, but metal bracelets, fish hooks and necklaces. Others show a traditional homestead, ceremonial drums and dancers costumed in leopard skins and decked with feathers. The Solomon Islands also shows one of its traditions with the shells used in bride price necklaces.

The theme chosen by Zimbabwe promotes a relatively new art form in that country. The four stamp set celebrates four modern sculptors from Zimbabwe with pictures of their work. Stone sculpture has been particularly encouraged in Zimbabwe since the opening of the National Gallery in 1957; a workshop school was started at the same time in the gallery building and the sculptures represent a genuine art movement in Africa.

St Kitts-Nevis shows the seafaring tradition of

the islands with two stamps illustrated with modern ships and two with rigged sailing ships of bygone years. The modern ships on the St Kitts issue include the 'Queen Elizabeth II', and the old ships on the Nevis issue reflect Nelson's famous chase of his French opponent, Admiral Villeneuve, in 1805 across the Atlantic to the West Indies.

In the Americas, the Belize stamps, simply drawn and beautifully coloured, show the architecture of the country with illustrations of the University and Supreme Court, while a map shows the produce from both land and sea.

Black Prints

The two black prints are an exclusive feature of the Commonwealth Collection and available from no other source. Hailing from Canada and the Falkland Islands, the black prints are taken from the Commonwealth Day 1983 issue – a \$2 stamp from Canada and a four set from the Falklands Islands, using a stamp on stamp design. One of these designs, the 50 pence, uses the £2

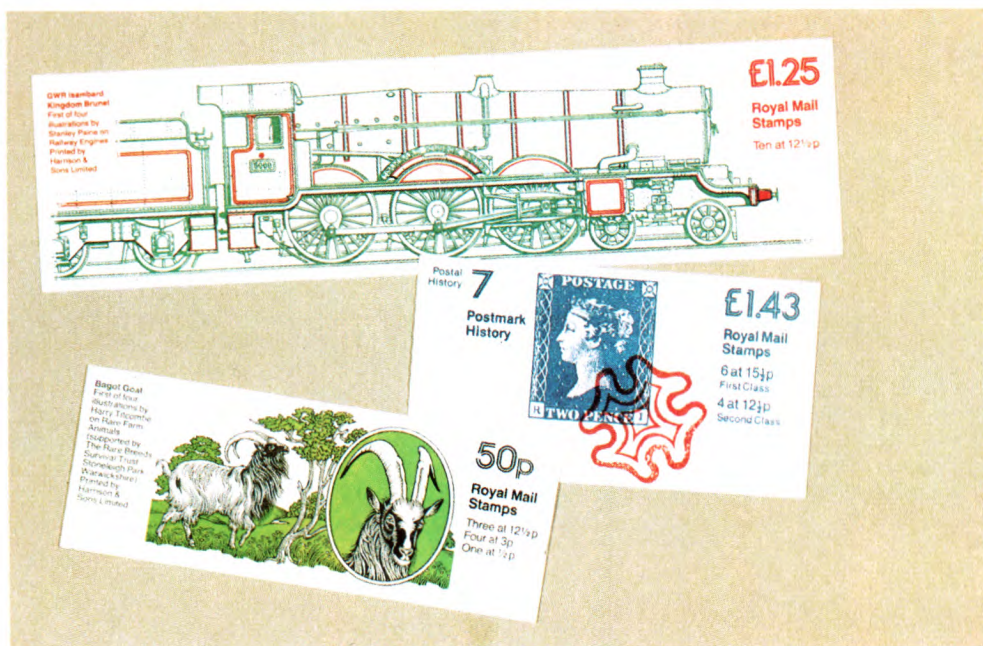
denomination of the 150th Anniversary of occupation stamp issued on 3 January 1983. The other three use the designs of the 1933 issue marking the centenary of British occupation.

It is believed to be the first time that either country has issued a commemorative black print, and each is authorised by the issuing postal authority with the name of the printer. The Falkland Islands' black print is signed by the Islands' Civil Commissioner, Sir Rex Hunt.

Availability

The Commonwealth Collection is available only by mail order from the Commonwealth Secretariat in London priced at £145 plus £5.50 postage and packing. An order form is included on the leaflet inserted in this issue of the Philatelic Bulletin, or can be obtained from The Assistant Secretary-General, Commonwealth Secretariat, PO Box 61, Greater London House, Hampstead Road, LONDON NW1 7QX.

New Stamp Books Technical Details



The technical details of three new stamp books issued on 16 February 1983 are as follows: The stamps are printed photogravure by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd on the Chambon Press, and the covers on the Libra book-making machine.

The stamps in the 50p book are printed se-tenant: the 3p and ½p stamps have two side

phosphor bars, while the 12½p stamps have a single side phosphor bar. The 12½p stamps in the £1.25 book bear a single central phosphor bar.

The £1.43 book continuing the postal history theme, includes 12½p stamps with a single side phosphor bar, while the 15½p stamps have two phosphor bars.

1. 'Bubbles'

In Queen Victoria's time it was almost unheard of for works of art to be used in advertising, particularly those signed by well-known artists, so it was something of a sensation to both the art and advertising worlds (as well as a considerable shock to the artist) when the charming painting, 'Bubbles', by Sir John Everett Millais (1829-96) appeared in the national press, magazines and on posters as an advertisement for Pears' Soap. Millais, born in Southampton of an old Jersey family, studied at the Royal Academy school and exhibited his first work, 'Pizarro', at the age of 17. He is perhaps best remembered for 'The Boyhood of Raleigh' which he painted in 1870. 'Bubbles' was a sentimental study, typical of the Victorian era - he painted his four-year-old grandson, William, in the potting-shed with all the paraphernalia, clay pipe, bowl and soapsuds, for 'blowing bubbles'.

The painting attracted the attention of Sir William Ingram, owner of the *Illustrated London News* and son of its founder, Herbert Ingram, who was drowned in a boating accident in the USA in 1860. Ingram purchased the painting and featured it in his journal, then sold it to A. & F. Pears Ltd. for 2,000 guineas. It needed just the addition of a small tablet of the branded soap in the lower right hand corner of the picture (adjacent to the artist's monogram and the date 1886) to complete the advertisement.

Messrs Pears published the 'Bubbles' postcards at the commencement of King Edward VII's reign (when he himself was featured in an advertisement for Horniman's Tea) and these were sold retail in packets of a dozen cards at 6d. per packet,



"BUBBLES"
By Sir JOHN MILLAIS, Bt., P.R.A.
After the Original in the possession of Messrs. PEARS

or to the stationery trade at 3d. per packet for a minimum order of a dozen packets. The painting itself was not displayed until February 1929 when it was put on view at Fenwicks' store in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where miniature tablets of Pears' 'Golden Glory' soap were presented to all purchasers of Pears' products. Young William eventually joined the Royal Navy and, as Admiral Sir William James, he was Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth, during World War II.

MALCOLM JAMES

New Definitives Introduced

Seven new definitive stamps are to be made available from 30 March 1983. The new values have been introduced by The Post Office to be in line with the new postal charges, they are: 3½p, 16p, 17p, 20½p, 23p, 28p, 31p.

FIRST DAY COVER SERVICES

SERVICE 'A'. This consists of the official Post Office cover - price 14p - addressed to the correct

postal address of the destination required and bearing all seven stamps. The cover will be cancelled: 'Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh,' or 'Windsor, Berks', as requested and despatched.

SERVICE 'B'. Customers own pre-addressed covers bearing the correct postal address, will be given the full set of stamps, cancelled and despatched.

The usual first day of issue facilities will be available at offices with philatelic posting boxes. Application forms available from the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh, and at all Head Post Offices should be returned not later than 21 March 1983.

The following charges will apply:

	Inland	Overseas
SERVICE A	£1.87	£1.62
Deposit account customers	£1.82	£1.58
SERVICE B	£1.73	£1.50

Technical Details

PRINTER: Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd.

PROCESS: Photogravure – Jumelle

PERFORATION: 15 x 14

Denominations and Colours:

17p – steel blue

20½p – bright blue

23p – rose

28p – blue

31p – purple

New 'Country' Definitives

New 16p, 20½p and 28p 'Country' definitive stamps for Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, will be issued on 27 April 1983. The design will be similar to the current range of 'Country' stamps.

Each stamp will be available from Post Offices in the appropriate country, and all nine stamps may be obtained from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT, and philatelic sales counters.

Separate First Day Covers, price 14p each, and pictorial handstamps will be provided by the Post Office for each of the countries. The three covers will be available from the Philatelic Bureau, and from all philatelic sales counters. Each country's covers will be available from Head Offices in the respective country.

For bulk orders, obtainable from the Bureau only, the costs are as follows:

250 for £25.00 or 1000 for £80.00.

The Philatelic Bureau will provide the following services for First Day Covers:

SERVICE A

The Official Post Office cover will be addressed to the correct postal address of the destination required, and given all three stamps, cancelled as

requested with a Philatelic Bureau Edinburgh: Cardiff, Edinburgh or Belfast pictorial handstamp and despatched.

SERVICE B

Customers own pre-addressed covers will be given the three stamps, cancelled and despatched.

Charges	Inland	Overseas
SERVICE A	£1.03	89p
Deposit Account Customers	98p	85p
SERVICE B	89p	77p

Application forms for these services are available from the Philatelic Bureau and all Head Post Offices, and should be returned to the Philatelic Bureau by 18 April 1983.

For customers who wish to post their own covers on the day of issue, first day of issue cancellations will be in use at all offices which normally provide them in each of the three countries, and at forty-one philatelic counter offices in England. Also on that day, the normal reposting facility will apply for special cancellations in use at each of the three countries' capitals. Covers bearing the 'Country' stamps may be sent under cover to the Head Postmasters of Belfast, Edinburgh and Cardiff, marking the outer, 'First Day of Issue Cancellation'.

Technical Details

Two printers are involved in the production of these latest issues – The House of Questa has printed the stamps for Wales and Northern Ireland and John Waddington of Kirkstall those for Scotland.

Printed by the off-set litho process, the stamps are printed on phosphor-coated paper.

Decimal Stamp Books Technical Details

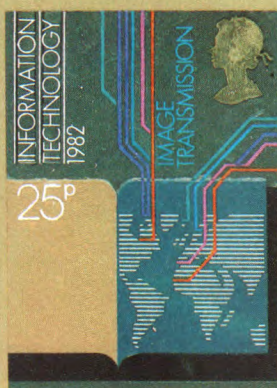
Because of the interest shown in the technical details of the Queen Elizabeth II definitive sheet stamps currently appearing in the Philatelic Bulletin, we have asked our good friend Mr Len Newbery to research a similar study of the decimal stamp booklet issues. The first instalment will appear soon.

Preliminary Designs

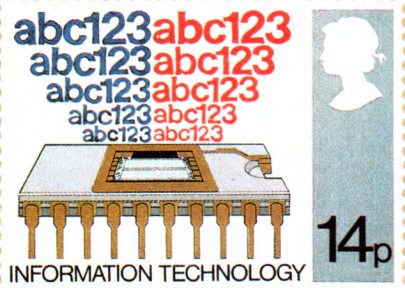
Once again we have pleasure in reproducing a number of stamp designs submitted for the 1982 programme.



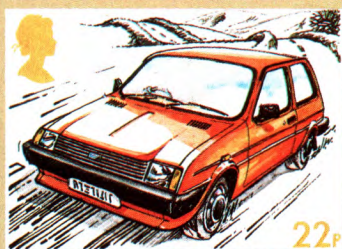
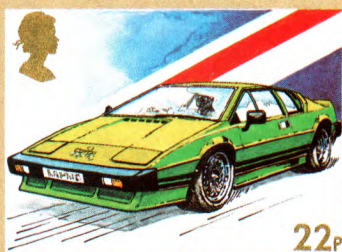
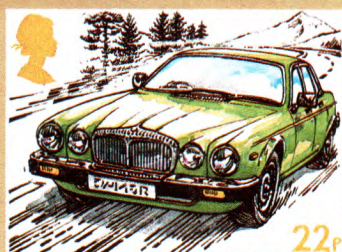
Keith Bassford, from photographs by Michael Shiel



Deadman, Stone



Don Burston



Basil Smith



John Thirsk



97. Birth Centenary of Sir Winston Churchill, 1974

In common with the Commonwealth territories and several foreign countries, the British Post Office duly celebrated the birth of 'the greatest Englishman' with the issue of four handsome stamps portraying Churchill in the various caps and hats of his long and distinguished career, on 9 October 1974, the hundredth anniversary of his birth (on 30 November). The stamp designers were Collis Clements and Edward Hughes, who had previously collaborated on the designs for the Christmas stamps of 1971 and the Royal Wedding pair of 1973. The chronological events of Churchill's career are in reverse order on the stamps which depict him as War Correspondent, South Africa, 1899 (10p), Secretary for War and Air, 1919 (8p), Prime Minister, 1940 (5½p) and in the uniform of the Royal Yacht Squadron, 1942 (4½p).

Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill was born at Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxon, the eldest son of Lord Randolph Churchill. He was educated at Harrow and Sandhurst, and began his army career with the 4th Hussars in 1895, serving in India and Egypt before going to South Africa in 1899 where, as a trooper of the South African Light Horse, he acted as war correspondent for the *Morning Post* during the Boer War, was ambushed and captured at Colenso and subsequently escaped. Entering Parliament in 1900 as a Conservative MP for Oldham, he changed to a Liberal over the tariffs issue, and first took office – as Under-Secretary for the Colonies – in 1906. Then in 1908, the year in which he became President of the Board of Trade, he married Clementine Hozier, daughter of Colonel Sir H M and Lady Blanch Hozier. As Home Secretary 1910-11 he was involved in the controversial 'Sidney Street siege', and he was First Lord of the Admiralty on the outbreak of World War I, but in 1915 he was made the scapegoat for the Dardanelles catastrophe and joined the Army in France. He returned to office in 1917 and became successively Minister of Munitions, Secretary of State for War and Air, and Colonial Secretary. In 1924 he rejoined the Conservatives, becoming Chancellor of the Exchequer until 1929.

At the beginning of World War II he again



became First Lord of the Admiralty, and then succeeded Mr Neville Chamberlain as Prime Minister in 1940. His leadership during the War rallied and inspired the nation, and on taking office he declared: 'I have nothing to offer but blood, toil, sweat and tears'; followed by the rousing words: 'You ask, what is our aim? I can answer in one word – it is victory. Victory at all costs.' During the War he conferred with President Roosevelt, Marshal Stalin and other leaders in conferences in Washington, Teheran, Casablanca, Yalta and Moscow. He crossed the Rhine soon after Field-Marshal Montgomery's forces had gone over in March 1945, and on 8 May announced in Parliament the total surrender of the enemy forces. After Labour's victory in the General Election of 1945, he became Leader of the Opposition. He received the Albert Medal and the Order of Merit, and in 1951 he again became Prime Minister. His written works include *Marlborough*, *World Crisis* and *The Second World War*.

The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (two panes of 50, 5 × 10) on unwatermarked paper with 'all-over' phosphor. Recorded varieties include the following flaws: 4½p a 'severed ear' and a 'torn coat'; 5½p white spots over the '1' and '5'; and 8p a cut below Churchill's left eye. The 10p is known with 'bullet-holes' in the brim of his bush-hat. Quantities issued were: 4½p 54,000,000; 5½p 9,110,900; 8p 7,925,000; 10p 7,752,800; presentation packs, 146,050; souvenir packs, 40,630.

JAMES WATSON

Wyon Head Essays

The first items of postal stationery to be issued in Great Britain were the Mulready envelopes which appeared on 1 May 1840. Following their withdrawal in 1841 after much criticism, they were superseded by stationery bearing the oval 'embossed heads' produced by Wyon. All embossed postal stationery and adhesive stamps printed during Queen Victoria's reign, featured the 'Wyon Head'.

Several of the excellent essays produced by William Wyon for embossing can be found in volume XXX 2-3 of the Reginald M Phillips Collection in the National Postal Museum. Wyon became Chief Engraver at the Royal Mint in 1828 and in 1834 he engraved the head of the then Princess Victoria which was subsequently used for the 1837 City Medal. This head was taken from

the sketches of Henry Corbould who had been commissioned by Perkins, Bacon and Petch to produce a number of profile drawings. (The City Medal in its turn provided the head for the Penny Black in 1840).

The illustration shows examples of essays for embossed postal stationery stamps produced by Wyon which are on display in the Reginald M Phillips Collection. During the first half of 1840 at least eleven different essays were produced, the lathe work on the borders being mainly the work of Alfred Deacon, an engraver employed by Charles Whiting. The successful use of Wyon's engraved head for the whole of Queen Victoria's reign underlines the beauty and craftsmanship of his work.



New Postal Museum Postcard

To coincide with the issue of the new definitive stamps, the National Postal Museum has produced another postcard featuring the famous Machin head, and giving information about the Museum. The background colour of the card will be the same as that for the new 17p stamp – steel blue.

The postcard number A4 will be available from 30 March 1983, price 13p, from the National Postal Museum, all philatelic counters, and by post from the British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT, where normal handling charges will apply.

New Philatelic Charges

Letter to the Editor



Subject to discussion with POUNC the following increases in philatelic charges will come into force from 5 April 1983.

Postage Rates

INLAND

First Class Base rate 16p

OVERSEAS

Surface Basic rate 20½p

Airmail Zone A Basic rate 26p

Zone B 28p

Zone C 31p

Collector's Pack

(In addition to face value of stamps) 60p

Philatelic Bulletin

Inland Per Annum £3.50

Airmail Per Annum £5.75

Single Copy 30p

Bulletin Binder £3.75

Postmark Bulletin Per Annum £6.50

Bureau Services

Deposit/account FDC 'A' Services 10p

Non-deposit/account 'A' and 'B' Service 15p

First Day Cover Album

Large £9.00

Small £6.00

Postcard Album £9.00

ALBUM LEAVES

FDC large (pkt. 10) £2.25

FDC small (pkt. 10) £1.50

Postcard (pkt. 10) £2.25

Special Handstamps

Fixed Date £175.00

Interchangeable Date £190.00

Additional Handstamps of same design £50.00

Handstamping Charge 3p

Postmark Slogans

Local £87.50

National £135.00

First Die £57.50

Additional Dies Each £52.50

Time Charge £8.00

There is no increase in the price of the second class base rate. Readers will be pleased to note that the prices of three major philatelic items remain unchanged: first day envelopes, PHQ postcards, and presentation packs.

Dear Sir,

May I issue a cordial invitation to readers of the Philatelic Bulletin to consider membership of the British Decimal Stamps Study Circle. The Circle was founded over eight years ago and has developed into the major source of information on British decimal stamp issues, with regular newsletters, articles, auctions and meetings, an authoritative catalogue which is constantly updated, and an approach to the subject which caters for the needs of specialists and beginners alike.

Subscriptions remain at modest levels, and membership of the Circle is now open to Philatelic Societies as well as to individual collectors. Readers of the Philatelic Bulletin are invited to write for details to the Circle's Membership Secretary: Mr Ian Rose, 1 Avonborne Way, EASTLEIGH, Hants. SO5 1TF.

PETER DANIELS

(Hon. Secretary, BDSSC).

Book Review

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue

Falkland Islands and British Atlantic Islands

Renewed interest in the stamps of the Falklands and their Dependencies: St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha has prompted this work, which basically includes brief histories and geographies of the territories together with an account of their stamp issues. Some hitherto unrecorded watermark and perforation variations have been added to the amalgamation of listings from the Part 1 and Elizabethan catalogues.

This publication retails at £4.95 and is available from Stanley Gibbons Publications Ltd, 399 Strand, LONDON WC2R 0LX.

Forthcoming Events

An International Thematic Display at the National Postal Museum

In anticipation of the Tembal Thematic International Exhibition which is being held in Basel from May 21-29 1983, an international thematic

display will be held in the National Postal Museum from 14-25 March.

This display, which will be held in the Main Gallery of the Museum will comprise 8 frames: 4 from Swiss Collectors and 4 from British Collectors all of whom will be exhibiting at Tembal. The Swiss exhibitors have all won major awards to vermeil, gold and large gold levels and it will make an interesting comparison of British and Continental standards.

There will not be a special postcard, but a one-day postmark will be in operation on 14 March at the museum. The usual reposting facilities will apply.

The next National Postal Museum Card SS14 will be released on 18 April and further details will appear in the April Bulletin.

Guildford Stamp, Coin and Postcard Fair

This is a 'South of England Fair' and will be held at the Civic Hall, London Road, Guildford from 10am-5pm on Saturday, 12 March. Admission 25p adult, 15p child. This is a large fair with many postcard and coin dealers attending in addition to dealers specialising in stamps and philatelic items.

Sevenoaks Stamp, Coin and Postcard Fair

The second fair at this venue will be held at Bligh's Hotel, High Street, SEVENOAKS, Kent from 10am-5pm on Saturday, 19 March. Admission 10p adults (children free). As at the first fair (last year) there will be about a dozen dealers, probably equally split between stamps and postcards.

Weekend Course in Cheshire

'Philately - Enjoying Stamps' joins a wide selection of personal interest courses run at Burton Manor College for adults. It is intended that the course will cover the general philatelic field and also deal with special interests.

This weekend course, open to residential and non-residential students will run from Friday evening on 18 March to Sunday lunch-time, 20 March 1983. Full details are available from the College, Burton, SOUTH WIRRAL, Cheshire L64 5SJ.

Australian International Philatelic Exhibition Melbourne 21-30 September 1984

AUSIPEX 1984 which will be held in Melbourne, Australia from 21-30 September 1984, is the first International Exhibition to be held in Australia. It will be held under the Patronage of FIP and will consist of 3000 frames in the usual classes, including thematic, youth and literature.

As this will be the first exhibition held under the modified FIP Rules, prospective entrants should hold a silver medal at International level or a vermeil at national level to qualify. Anyone interested in exhibiting at this important exhibition, and who hold the necessary qualifications should contact the British Commissioner: Mrs Hilary Wellsted, 513 Ben Jonson House, Barbican, LONDON EC2Y 8DL. The first prospectus is now available.

Telford and District Philatelic Society

The Society is holding a Stamp Fair on Saturday, 9 April 1983, at Belmont Hall (situated in the Wellington Centre at the top of New Street), Wellington, Telford, from 10am to 4pm. Admission is 20p, half price for children and OAPs.

Approximately 14 dealers will attend, catering for GB, Commonwealth and foreign stamp collectors, covers, postcards, and accessories. The Post Office will provide a philatelic sales counter. A free competition and draw will also be held.

Forces Covers

South Atlantic Task Force

To mark the first anniversary of the sailing of the Task Force to the South Atlantic - 5 April 1983 - a commemorative cover will be available. The cover illustrating HMS 'Hermes' and HMS 'Invincible' will bear a 15½p 'Commonwealth Day' stamp cancelled with a pictorial handstamp BFPS 1796. The cost is 80p.

Alternatively the cover with a 26p 'Commonwealth Day' stamp affixed, cancelled as above, but signed by Captain J J Black DSO RN, Commanding Officer HMS 'Invincible', and Captain L E Middleton DSO RN, Commanding Officer, HMS 'Hermes', will cost £2.

In addition the cover bearing a 19½p 'Commonwealth Day' stamp, cancelled and signed by Captain Middleton only is priced at £1.30.

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

Sinking of the Submarine Santa Fe

The first anniversary of the sinking of the submarine Santa Fe in South Georgia on 25 April 1983, will be commemorated with the issue of a cover depicting HMS 'Antrim', her helicopter,

several badges of squadrons and the Santa Fe. A 15½p 'Commonwealth Day' stamp will be affixed cancelled with a pictorial handstamp BFPS 1795. The cost is 80p.

Alternatively with a 26p 'Commonwealth Day' stamp affixed, cancelled as above, but signed by Captain B M Young DSO RN, commanding Officer, HMS 'Antrim', and Lt Cdr I Stanley DSO RN, Wessex 3 helicopter pilot, HMS 'Antrim', the cost is £2.

In addition the cover bearing a 19½p 'Commonwealth Day' stamp, cancelled and signed by Lt Cdr Young only is priced at £130.

Orders with remittances made payable to 'Fleet Air Arm Museum', should be sent to, The Philatelic Officer, RNAS, Yeovilton, YE0VIL, Somerset, BA22 8HL, accompanied by a 7" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

Re-dedication of HMS 'Illustrious'

HMS 'Illustrious' is the fifth ship of the Royal Navy to bear the famous name. She is an ASW aircraft carrier and sister ship to HMS 'Invincible' whom she relieved off the Falklands during August 1982. The re-dedication will take place on 30 March 1983.

To honour the occasion a philatelic cover will be available illustrating HMS 'Illustrious' 1940, and the new 'Illustrious' of 1982 together with the ship's and aircraft squadron badges. Bearing a 15½p 'Commonwealth Day' commemorative stamp cancelled with a pictorial handstamp BFPS 1797. The cost is 80p.

The cover as above but with a 26p 'Commonwealth Day' stamp affixed, signed by Captain J G K Slater, MVO, RN, Commanding Officer, HMS 'Illustrious' 1982, and Vice Admiral Sir John Cox KCB, Flag Officer Naval Command, will cost £2. Alternatively the cover bearing a 19½p 'Commonwealth' stamp but signed by Captain Slater only, the cost is £130.

Orders with remittances made payable to 'The Fleet Air Arm Museum' should be sent to: The Philatelic Officer, RNAS, Yeovilton, YE0VIL, Somerset BA22 8HL, accompanied by a 7" x 5" stamped addressed envelope.

Both Royal Navy covers will be despatched after 25 April.

350th Anniversary of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)

On 28 March 1983 The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) celebrate their 350th Anniversary of the Regiments formation.

To mark this historic occasion a commemorative cover with a coloured insert has been produced, illustrating both 1633 and present day uniforms. The 'Commonwealth Day' 15½p stamp affixed is cancelled with a special datestamp, Edinburgh Castle in silhouette and BFPS 28383.

This cover is being transported from Edinburgh to Kings Cross on a special high speed train (by kind permission of British Rail) and a cachet depicting the British Rail logo will be endorsed on the cover. The prices are as follows:

Signed by Lt General Sir Robert Richardson KCB CVO CBE	£2.50
Signed by Lt Col M B H Ashmore MBE (IRS)	£2.00
Unsigned	£1.00

Orders with remittances made payable to the Philatelic Bureau PCD RE, should be sent to: The Philatelic Bureau, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill LONDON NW7 1PX together with a 7" x 5" SAE bearing a 15½p stamp.

Commemorative Covers

William Wilberforce

1983 is the 150th anniversary year of the death of William Wilberforce and the abolition of slavery. To commemorate this event a special philatelic cover, incorporating a portrait of Wilberforce will be available from 9 March 1983 bearing all four 'Commonwealth Stamps'. The cover will be cancelled with a pictorial handstamp in Hull, the City in which Wilberforce lived and served the cause of freedom as an MP for 45 years. The cost of the cover is £2.50 plus 25p for return postage and packing. Orders with remittances made payable to, 'The Wilberforce Council' should be sent to, Mr Jack Lennard, Salisbury Hall, Park Road, HULL HU3 1TD.

Sunderland V Manchester City

To commemorate Sunderland's 100th League game against Manchester City at Roker Park, 650 commemorative covers will be issued on 26 February 1983. Five hundred covers will bear 2 x 8p (red) definitive stamps and 2 x ½p (blue) definitive stamps (the colours of the club). One hundred will bear the 19½p 'Christmas' stamp and 50 the 15½p 'British River Fishes' stamps. All the stamps will be cancelled with a special postmark depicting 2 ships, which are used in the emblems of Sunderland and Manchester City.

The covers are available at £120 (including

post and packing) from Sunderland AFC Supporters' Association, 36 Roker Baths Road, SUNDERLAND, SR6 9QF.

Royal Commonwealth Society

The Royal Commonwealth Society has sponsored a commemorative cover to be available on 9 March 1983, the date of issue of the 'Commonwealth Day' stamps. The cover will bear the name of the Society printed in orange and black, and all four stamps will be affixed, cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The cost is £3.25. Alternatively, the cover bearing a single 'Commonwealth Day' stamp, the cost is £2.25. These prices include return postage and packing. Orders with remittances made payable to D G Taylor, should be sent to him at, 202 Somervell Road, HARROW, Middlesex, HA2 8TS. There is a guaranteed donation to the RCS.

The new £1 Coin

On 7 April 1983 The Royal Mint will issue the new £1 coin. A commemorative cover illustrating the reverse and obverse sides of the coin will be available on the first day of issue. The covers will bear a 15p 'Definitive' stamp cancelled with a special pictorial postmark.

The covers will cost 90p each or 3 for £2.40 (inc p+p). A few covers will bear a cancelled £1 stamp at an extra cost of £1.10. Orders and payment should be made to G K Eldridge, 29 Chalk Hill, Westend, SOUTHAMPTON SO3 3BY.

The Liverpool Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Centenary

The centenary of the Society occurs on 19 April 1983, and to commemorate the event a special philatelic cover will be available bearing a 15½p 'Youth Organisations' stamp. The cover, bearing the legend, 'Centenary Birthday 19 April 1983' and, 'Liverpool Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children', will be cancelled with a pictorial handstamp. The cost is £1.

A limited number of covers with a gutter pair of 9p 'Year of the Child' stamps affixed, autographed by well known personalities will be available for £1.50 each. The personalities include Paul Daniels, Noel Edmonds, and members of the Liverpool and Everton Football Teams.

Orders accompanied by remittances made payable to, 'The Liverpool Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children' should be sent to: Mrs Joan Gregory, 108 Warbreck Moor, LIVERPOOL L9 0HY.

Christian Police Association

The Centenary of the Christian Police Association was marked with a commemorative cover illustrated with the centenary logo over the CPA badge. The covers bear one of the 1979 issue of 'Police' stamps cancelled with the 'London NW9 4 January 1983' handstamp, (which represents the postal district of Peel Centre, Hendon, the Training School for the Metropolitan Police, and the first postal day of the commemorative year).

The covers cost £1 each (£1.50 for covers signed by a Senior Police Officer or officer of the Association) and are available from Cyril W Ley, 33 East Avenue, EXETER, EX1 2DX. Remittances should be made payable to 'C W Ley (CC)' and a SAE (size 9" x 4½") enclosed.

Nuffield College Oxford

Nuffield College is celebrating its 45th Anniversary with a commemorative cover bearing the 'British Motor Cars' stamps. The cover will illustrate a line drawing of the College, and the stamps will be cancelled with a special handstamp depicting the College Tower.

The following charges will apply: The cover with a single 'Car' stamp affixed is available, price £1. Alternatively, for the cover bearing all four 'Car' stamps the price is £2.75. The prices include return postage and packing.

Orders with remittances made payable to, 'University Covers' should be sent to: Mr A Ling, 54 Fishers Lane, Cherryinton, CAMBRIDGE CB1 4HR.

For overseas orders, additional postage is required –
25p for Europe
50p elsewhere.

1983 Gillette London Marathon

The London Postal Region in association with the Marathon Organising Committee has produced a souvenir cover to commemorate the third Gillette London Marathon on 17 April 1983.

Mint covers (price 50p) will be available from LPR philatelic counters, Trafalgar Square, King Edward Building, King Edward Street, Romford and Croydon, tourist offices, and at the Gillette London Marathon Exhibition to be held from 13-16 April in Jubilee Gardens SE1. A pictorial handstamp will be available for items posted on 17th April. Normal reposting facilities will also be available from the Philatelic Duty, SE10, 239 Borough High Street, LONDON SE1 1AA.

Bulk orders for mint covers can be obtained by post at a discount price of 35p each for orders

of 250 or more and 30p each for orders of 1000 or more. A 17p handling charge will be added to all orders up to £18 and £1.17p on orders of £18 and over. Orders and remittances should be sent to Gillette London Marathon Covers, ADMAIL 30, LONDON SE1 9XA. Cheques/Postal Orders to be made payable to The Post Office (Marathon Covers), Giro Account No 110 0009.

Serviced covers bearing a 26p definitive stamp and cancelled with the pictorial handstamp will also be available, from the ADMAIL address only, price 95p.

The Golden Jubilee of the London Passenger Transport Board

London's first unified passenger transport authority was formed on the 1 July 1933, when the London Passenger Transport Board (LPTB) took over 170 railway, bus, tram, trolleybus and coach companies.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the LPTB, London Transport have arranged a Golden Jubilee Festival for 1983.

On 17 March 1983 a special LPTB official cover is being produced marking the beginning of Golden Jubilee Year. The envelope features the RT bus, and the new D 78 train with passenger operated doors.

It is printed in full colour, in conjunction with the London Transport Philatelic Society. The cover is supplied together with a historical filler card. The special handstamp depicts the London Transport Golden Jubilee logo and will cancel the 15½p 'Information Technology' stamp affixed.

A special one day post box will be situated in the foyer of 55 Broadway, London SW1 where covers will be available at the shop.

A total of 2000 are being produced, approximately half of which will also be cancelled on 1 July 1983. They can be obtained from LPTBs philatelic agents, J & M Arlington Ltd, 45 Lakenheath, LONDON N14 4RL. The cost per cover is £1.30 including postage and packing.

Association of Cricket Umpires

The ACU will commemorate 30 years of service to cricket on 9 March 1983 with the issue of a special cover.

This will be the first ever cover produced to commemorate the Association, and all four 'Commonwealth' stamps will be affixed cancelled with a special pictorial handstamp. There will be a limited edition of 1000 only with 100 signed by prominent umpires, and Ron Smith who founded

the Association. Unsigned covers are offered at £2 each, while signed covers are £4.50 each. Orders with remittances made payable to 'ACU Marketing A/C' should be sent to: Mr. F. Brocklehurst, Park Avenue, MARKFIELD Leics LE6 0WA. These prices include return postage and packing.

The National Anglers Council

To mark the tercentenary of the death of Izaak Walton, a commemorative cover illustrating the crest of the National Anglers Council, and bearing all four 'British River Fishes' stamps, is now available price £2.25 including return postage and packing. There are a limited number of covers, all of which are cancelled with a pictorial handstamp specially commissioned by the Council. Orders with remittances made payable to, 'The Anglers Council' should be sent to: NAC (FDC), Fishmongers Hall, London Bridge, LONDON EC4R 9EL.

Philatelic Bulletin

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