

Philatelic Bulletin

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British Polar Explorers First Day Cover Services

Application forms for first day cover services for the first of this year's special issues on 16 February are enclosed with this *Bulletin*. The four stamps depicting famous Polar explorers have denominations 3p, 5p, 7½p and 9p. A choice of the Philatelic Bureau or London EC is offered.

The charges are:

Service A The official Post Office cover with typed address, the full set of stamps and Philatelic Bureau or London EC cancellation:

Deposit account customers 33p

Non deposit account customers 35½p

Service B The full set of stamps affixed to customers' own pre-addressed covers and Philatelic Bureau or London EC cancellation: 29½p.

Service C As Service A. A minimum of 50 covers to the same address.

Envelopes addressed by machine plate, 33p.

Deposit account customers will receive their covers with the Philatelic Bureau cancellation.

The many collectors who prefer to prepare and post their own covers may do so at over 170 offices where philatelic posting boxes will be provided.

Introduction

Many of our readers who are competing at this year's Stampex will be preparing their entries in the hope of a cherished award. The exhibitor displaying the best presentation of British stamps issued since 1924 will receive the Post Office Trophy and we hope that there will be keen competition among GB collectors. We will invite the winner to exhibit his (or her) entry in the Philatelic Bureau's own gallery.

The first of the 1972 stamps will be issued in February and we will give full details in the next *Bulletin*.

Special Handstamps

15 April 1972

23rd NEPA Convention Teesside 15 April 1972 will be used at the North East Philatelic Association Convention special posting box at Stockton/Billingham Technical College, The Causeway, Billingham, Teesside.

The Projected Coronation Issue of King Edward VIII

My article in the last issue of the *Bulletin* traced the preparation of the 'Accession' stamps of King Edward VIII; almost concurrently the Post Office were working on an issue to celebrate the Coronation of the King which was planned for 12 May 1937.

As early as 10 March 1936, when the Postmaster General had gone to Buckingham Palace to discuss the accession issue with King Edward, the latter had indicated that he was 'favourably disposed' towards a Coronation issue using pictures of palaces or castles. This theme, and the Coronation issue itself, had in fact been suggested to the PMG (in a letter dated 30 January) by Major W. Ormsby Gore, the Minister of Works.

At the end of March 1936, the Director General of the Post Office (Sir Donald Banks), in a letter to the King's Private Secretary about new issues, wrote "when it comes to the Coronation Stamps, we shall, I hope have a good deal more scope in size and treatment of stamp, and the larger stamps in this selection [of recent foreign issues including some from Liechtenstein and the Vatican City] give a good idea of the possibilities that are offered in this way." He drew particular attention to the Queen Astrid Mourning stamps of Belgium and the Liechtenstein issues [probably the issue of 1934-1935 S.G. 129-136] which, he remarked, "show what can be done if we are not necessarily confined to the King's portrait for this special issue".

The Portrait Designs

In a further letter to the King's Private Secretary on 9 July 1936, Sir Donald Banks said that the GPO were considering a Coronation issue comprising, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. values in various designs including some using the Bertram Park photographs of the King in uniforms of the three armed services. On 10 September a small meeting at the Post Office examined full colour essays prepared by Harrison and Sons for the Coronation issue. The meeting decided to recommend that further essays of these designs (with modifica-

tion) should be prepared, together with a modification of the design using the King's portrait in Seaforth uniform which had been prepared as an accession issue. (see fig. 5) The most noticeable modification was the incorporation of "1937" (the Coronation year) in the design.

In fact none of these essays were considered sufficiently satisfactory to be recommended for final consideration by the King. The main objections seem to have been directed against the existing photographs of the King's head and no new acceptable ones were to be produced. At the beginning of November, King Edward therefore approved the alternative idea of using a plaster cast of the King's head prepared by the Royal Mint for the Coronation Medal. Harrisons had already (on 14 October) prepared essays based on this medal head inside one of the oval frames used in previous essays (September) of the portrait photographs. These Harrison essays were then sent to the designer Eric Gill who in turn produced two new designs. One of these was his modification of a Harrison design, the other, using a square frame to enclose the medal head was Gill's. Gill also subsequently produced a third design showing the medal head crowned. By the end of November essays had been prepared by Harrison of all three designs (see fig. 6).

The Landscape Designs

As I noted above, consideration was also given, from March 1936 onwards, to the possibility of using views – of Royal castles or other suitable buildings – for oversize Coronation stamps, particularly for the top values (at one time a 2s. 6d. stamp was a possibility).

As no suitable photographs were available, the PO Film Unit was commissioned in August 1936 to take special photographic views of Buckingham Palace, St James's Palace, Windsor Castle and Holyrood House.

Essays of designs, probably all by staff designers, were made by Harrisons in October 1936, using photographs of four subjects:



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

Windsor Castle and St James's Palace, the Tower of London (fig. 9) and Tower Bridge (fig. 10). All the essays with one exception (Windsor No 1) were in the "Silver Jubilee" stamp format and for a 1s. value. Each essay was also printed in three rather dull shades of brown, grey-green and maroon/claret. The Windsor No 1 design was for a horizontal $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp measuring about 30×25 mm., a most unusual size. The design used had been submitted by Harrisons as early as July 1936 (see fig. 7). The Windsor No 2 (see fig. 8) and No 3 designs featured different views of the Castle.

Only the Windsor Castle designs were still in the running – since the others had already been rejected by the Post Office – when King Edward VIII abdicated on 10 December 1936. Less than a fortnight earlier all the landscape designs had been damned with faint praise by the Fine Arts Commission.

The use of any pictorial designs for the Coronation of King George VI was abandoned in favour of a dual portrait on 26 February 1937 when the Postmaster General had an audience with the King to approve designs for the definitive issue.

A. G. RIGO DE RIGHI

Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

Exploring the R M Phillips Collection

I wonder how many visitors, other than specialists, appreciate what a remarkable wealth and diversity of material is to be found on the more than 2000 album sheets of the Reginald M Phillips of Brighton collection of Great Britain which is housed in the main gallery of the National Postal Museum? It is acknowledged to be the finest collection of British stamps of the nineteenth century ever to have been assembled (with the possible exception of the Queen's collection), and is probably one of the finest-ever collections of a single country.

For a collection to merit such praise (and to win an International Grand Prix) it must – as does the Phillips' collection – contain not only the great rarities and exceptional pieces, but also show every issue of stamps in great depth.

While it is true that every sheet of Mr R M Phillips' collection is on permanent view, only some 150 or so sheets can be shown at any one time in the "open" display frames; the remainder can be viewed in the pull-out slides. While this arrangement should be perfectly satisfactory for the collector who knows which particular stamp or issue he wants to see and study, it can only do full justice to all parts of the collection if the "open" display is changed from time to time.

The most remarkable section of the collection, and that to which Mr Reginald M Phillips attached the greatest importance, comprises the sheets showing the story of the introduction of Uniform Postage and the invention and production of the Penny Black of May 1840. Because of its importance and special interest for all visitors to the

Museum, the key items from this section of the collection are on permanent display in part of the "open" frames.

Future New Displays

The material selected for display in the remainder of the "open" frames was last changed in March 1971. It has now been decided to make changes in the displays more frequently as part of a long term plan which will aim at bringing to the notice of visitors as many facets of the Reginald M Phillips collection as possible.

The programme of new displays, up to December 1972, each being on view for about 4 months, is as follows:—

December 1971

The early surface-printed issues, 1855-1864
and

Stamps for special purposes (*e.g.* Circular Delivery Companies, Railways, Telegrams, etc.)

April 1972

One Hundred Years Ago – Postage Stamps in use in 1872.

August 1972

The Embossed Adhesive Postage Stamps of 1847-1856
and

The 'Jubilee' Issue of Queen Victoria 1887-1900.

Book Reviews

Stanley Gibbons 'Elizabethan' Postage Stamp Catalogue 1972

The Elizabethan catalogue covers the stamps of Great Britain, the British Commonwealth, Ireland and South Africa in a compact 5" x 6½" pocket size reference work. It is more detailed than the standard Gibbons British Commonwealth Catalogue, steering a middle course for the fairly advanced collector. Additional information is provided on currencies, location, political status, plate-numbers and printings, sheet sizes, imprints and quantities sold. The

1971 edition with extra pages and new illustrations of stamps is ideal for quick and easy reference.

The catalogue is published by Stanley Gibbons at £1.75.

Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Specialised Stamp Catalogue Volume 3 Queen Elizabeth II – Second Edition

This catalogue is designed for the established GB collector who wants to concentrate upon some particular field of Elizabethan philately. It is divided into five main sections – the Wildings, Machins (sterling £sd and decimals), Special issues (pictorial or commemorative), Regionals and Postage Dues, with Stamp Booklets included in an Appendix. Listed varieties are fully illustrated and prices have been completely reviewed.

The Specialised GB stamp catalogue is published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd, 391 Strand, LONDON WC2R 0LX at a price of £2.

Newspaper Branch Cancellations

This publication is a collection of articles on Newspaper Branch cancellations by the late W. G. Stitt Dibden. The articles have previously appeared in other Philatelic journals.

The cancellations specialist will find this publication informative. "Newspaper Branch Cancellations" is published by the Postal History Society (50 Reigate Road, REIGATE, Surrey) at a price of £1.10 (includes postage).

Stamp Year Book 1972

The 1972 edition of the Stamp Year Book contains a variety of articles which will interest collectors of all kinds. There are articles on the National Postal Museum, BEA covers, Japanese miniature sheets, French military franchise issues and Russian Arms stamps. Themes on stamps gain some prominence in this issue – the Olympics, Windmills and Measuring Instruments. Readers will also be interested in the spotlight on Brighton and Bournemouth as philatelic centres.

This book is well illustrated and suitable for collectors of all ages. It is published by Link House Publications at a cost of 50p.

Presentation Packs in Foreign Languages

We have had many requests for a list of presentation packs in foreign languages or with foreign language insert cards. We are sure the list below will help our readers who wish to complete their collections of these items.

Packs completely in foreign language

German

British Paintings 1968
Gift Pack 1968
Christmas 1968
British Ships
Concorde
High Value Definitives 1969
Low Value Definitives 1969
Notable Anniversaries
British Cathedrals
Prince of Wales Investiture

Packs containing foreign insert cards

German

Collector's Pack 1969
Post Office Technology
Christmas 1969
British Rural Architecture
General Anniversaries
Literary Anniversaries
High Value Decimal Definitives
IXth British Commonwealth Games
Philympia
Collector's Pack 1970
Christmas 1970
Low Value Decimal Definitives
"Ulster '71" Paintings
Regional Decimal Definitives
Literary Anniversaries 1971
General Anniversaries 1971
Modern University Buildings
Collector's Pack 1971
Christmas 1971

Dutch

British Ships
British Cathedrals
Prince of Wales Investiture
Post Office Technology
Christmas 1969

British Rural Architecture
General Anniversaries
Literary Anniversaries
Japanese
British Ships
Concorde
High Value Definitives 1969
Low Value Definitives 1969
Notable Anniversaries
British Cathedrals
Prince of Wales Investiture
Collector's Pack 1969
Christmas 1969
British Rural Architecture
General Anniversaries
Literary Anniversaries
High Value Decimal Definitives
IXth British Commonwealth Games
Philympia
Collector's Pack 1970
Christmas 1970
Low Value Decimal Definitives
Literary Anniversaries 1971
General Anniversaries 1971
Modern University Buildings
Christmas 1971

Hertford and District Philatelic Society

The Hertford and District Philatelic Society will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 1972. To mark the occasion the Society is holding an Open Day on Saturday 29 April 1972 at the Shire Hall, Hertford. It will be opened at 10.30 am by His Worship the Mayor of Hertford, Councillor Mrs O. I. Sandford. At 11.30 am, Mr K. R. Lake, the well known speaker and writer on philatelic matters, will talk on "The Future of Philately" and in the afternoon an auction will be held commencing at 2 pm.

Everyone interested in philately is welcome to come and take part and view the exhibition by members of the Society.

Christmas Stamps at the Bureau



Following the success of the magnificent display of £sd Machin stamps (*Bulletin* October 1971) the Bureau put on an exhibition of the 1971 Christmas stamps in their Gallery.

Great Britain and Gabriel

The Angel Gabriel has been claimed as the patron saint of postal services and philately. Reference to this has been made on many stamps issued to commemorate postal anniversaries. The 1969 Christmas 4d is the only British stamp on which he has appeared though there is also the 1968 air-letter. The Guild of St. Gabriel is a society of philatelists specialising in religious thematic material and sometimes it is suggested that there is not much scope for their theme on British Stamps, but a complete display of all of the G-B "Gabriel" material would be much larger than most people imagine.

A collector can select his material to tell a story or to illustrate anything he likes and it is very interesting to investigate how extensively the theme is represented in a one-country collection. We may differentiate between stamps issued for a specifically

religious purpose such as the centenary of the Salvation Army in 1965, and those where a religious symbol or illustration is an incidental part of the design. Perhaps the St Andrew's cross on Scottish regional issues is an example of this. There are also those where it would have been impossible to exclude a church from a view, such as the Church of St Mary on the top of the white cliffs of Dover on the 1951 10s.

It might be possible to find a religious symbol on every stamp! The first postmark was a Maltese cross and there is a cross on the monarch's crown. A thematic collection would not include pages of such stamps but a single example suitably written up and explained would be relevant to the subject. However, there are many more obvious items for our display.

The most obvious group is the series of Christmas issues since 1966 and the associated first day covers. There are also Christmas



The dominant theme of stained glass was highlighted in the colourful display which has impressed the many visitors.

air letters for these years and for 1965 as well, not to mention the large assortment of slogan postmarks, the "Bethlehem" cancellations and, in 1969, a "Jerusalem" handstamp too.

Perhaps churches and cathedrals would be the largest part of such a display. The cathedrals issue of 1969 gave six excellent pictures to add to the superb Westminster Abbey set of 1966 and Piper's painting of St Mary le Port in the 1968 art series. We must also add the 1965 Battle of Britain 1s 3d with St Paul's Cathedral. There are also innumerable handstamps and slogan cancellations commemorating many events other than new churches and religious anniversaries which include the outline of a church or a reference to its history. The Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, probably has the largest number of appearances on handstamps as it was the venue of Stampex for 15 years.

Royal weddings and coronations are

religious services conducted in Westminster Abbey, so we can add these to our collection. The investiture of the Prince of Wales was commemorated with a spectacular design of a Celtic cross on the 9d stamp and another Celtic cross can be seen on the 5d of the British Rural Architecture set. The declaration of Arbroath commemorated in 1970 illustrates the Abbey and some clergy.

There is not space to tell of all the small details that could be picked out but we must not end without reference to the star item of any such collection: the brilliant illustration of St George and the Dragon on the £1 of the 1929 PUC issue. For those who cannot afford this there is the 1951 10s featuring the same saint.

No single collection could cover all the facts which can be discovered about stamps. We need all types of collection if our philatelic knowledge is to be complete.

BRIAN THOMPSON

Young Collector's Corner

A large number of young stamp collectors, accompanied in many cases by their parents, converged on Mellow Lane School in Hewens Road, Hayes End for the occasion of the annual Junior Day of the Middlesex Philatelic Federation.

The visitors were greeted by an exhibition staged by the host society, which caters for the area of Hayes and Harlington. Also on display were the 32 entries submitted for competition by young collectors throughout Middlesex. These were judged by Mr. J. W. Thompson, George Chubb and Richard West, who quickly discovered they had been given a far from easy task.

A large number of entries came from those under 12 years of age; the winner was Ann Emberson with a thematic entry featuring transport through the ages. Another thematic display came first in the 12 to 15 age group: this came from Pride Green and was titled 'Built in Britain'. This entry clearly showed how the special issues from Great Britain can contribute to make a fine thematic display. The stamps featured included the Castle high values and the recent University architecture series. This entry was also awarded the Curtis Elkan Cup, being considered by the judges to be the best entry from all competitors up to the age of 17.

Lawrence Reed won the 15 to 17 section with a display of Israel.

The Middlesex Trophy for the best entry in the 17 to 21 age group was won by Mark Dufton with a display which examined the Machin definitives of Great Britain. This entry paid particular attention to the methods of perforation of these stamps. Second in this group came Colin Wagstaff with an exhibit of Great Britain underpaid and overpaid mail, demonstrating various ways of denoting that postage is due! This exhibit was awarded a certificate presented by the Postal History Society.

The afternoon's entertainment had been

opened by Mr Watson, a former headmaster of Mellow Lane School. The dealers present, and the easy competitions held during the afternoon ensured that a pleasant time was enjoyed by all.

Royal Air Force — Flown Covers

1 February 1972 marks the 55th Anniversary of the Formation of the RAF's First Night Bomber Squadron and a souvenir cover, No. 26 in the RAF Museum series, will be issued to commemorate the event. The covers will be cancelled with a special British Forces Postal Service handstamp in use at RAF Topcliffe on the day and then flown on an overseas flight in a Varsity aircraft, the lineal descendant of the Wellington B III which forms the subject of the cover.

Fully serviced covers will be available at 28p each (including postage) from:

The Philatelic Officer
RAF Topcliffe
Thirsk
Yorks
YO7 3EY

Cover No. 20 in the series, which depicts a Hanley Page Heyford of 7 Sqn, will be issued on 21 February 1972 to mark the 21st anniversary of the first direct crossing of the Atlantic by a jet aircraft made by 7 Sqn RAF.

A special British Forces Postal Service handstamp will cancel the covers at RAF Finningley on the day and they will then be flown on a direct transatlantic flight. Fully serviced covers are available at 28p each (including postage) from:

The Philatelic Officer
RAF Finningley
Doncaster
Yorkshire

All proceeds from the sale of these covers will be devoted to RAF Museum Appeal Fund.

Philatelic Music Circle

Members from as far afield as Liverpool, Leeds, Hull and Exeter attended the *Annual Meeting of the Philatelic Music Circle* held recently at the Y.W.C.A. Central Club in London. Over fifty members were present; total membership, which is world-wide, was reported as being more than 220 and the secretary emphasised that she is receiving a steady flow of enquiries.

A special resolution was passed which authorised the secretary to draw the attention of the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications to the birth centenary of Ralph Vaughan Williams in October 1972. The President also announced a special competition in connection with British born musicians and British musical events worthy of philatelic commemoration.

Two interesting competitions were held. The Malin Cup Competition was judged by Messrs. L. N. and M. Williams, who chose as the winner a display of Mozart by Mrs. M. Wise of Hull. In the Music Trophy Competition, which was chosen by the votes of all members present, Leon Godby of Weston-Super-Mare came first, S. W. Salmon of Ipswich second and Mrs. S. A. Craddock of Whakatane, New Zealand, third.

A dealer's bourse and several much appreciated displays completed the afternoon's proceedings.

(Readers will have seen in December Bulletin that a Vaughan Williams stamp is to be issued in April.—Editor)

Postmark Slogans

29 October 1971 – 19 January 1972

Alice in Wonderland Ashcroft Croydon
27 December to 22 January 01-688 9291.
 To be used at Croydon, Surrey.

28 December 1971 – 26 March 1972

For Happy Holidays Isle of Man. To be used at Douglas and Ramsey Isle of Man.

17 January 1972 until further notice

Remember to Use the Postcode. To be used at Falkirk, Grangemouth, Stirling, Callander.

1 May 1972 – 23 July 1972

Festivals of London 1972 Greater London Arts Association. To be used at the ten London District Offices, *i.e.* EDO, ECDO, NDO, NWDO, Paddington DO, SEDO, SWDO, WCDO, WDO, Battersea DO.

27 March 1972 – 14 May 1972

International TT Races June Isle of Man. To be used at Douglas and Ramsey.

15 May 1972 – 4 June 1972

International Cycle Races June Isle of Man. To be used at Douglas and Ramsey.

5 June 1972–10 June 1972

Manx Grand Prix Races September Isle of Man. To be used at Douglas and Ramsey.

Repeat Campaigns

Hull the City on Humberside Humber Bridge Building Starts 1972 will continue in use at Hull until 29 April 1972.

Hull The Gateway To Europe will continue in use at Hull, Yorkshire, until 29 April 1972.

1 December 1971 – 30 November 1972

The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells, to be used at Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

5 December 1971 – 29 January 1972

York Coin and Stamp Fair Jan 28/29 1972, to be used at York.

15 December 1971 – 14 June 1972

Relax at Sunny Weymouth, to be used at Weymouth, Dorset.

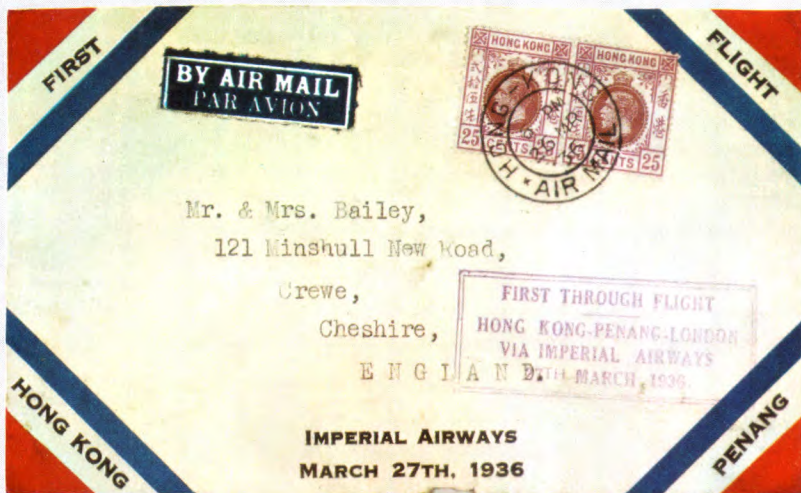
1 January 1972–31 January 1972, 1 March 1972–31 March 1972

Londonderry Welcomes Industries, to be used at Londonderry.

1 February 1972 – 29 February 1972

Londonderry Court Welcomes Trade, to be used at Londonderry.

First Air Mail Flight Cover



Illustrated is a cover carried on the First Air Mail flight, Hong Kong-Penang-London via Imperial Airways dated 27 March 1936.

We are grateful to Mr W. H. E. Bailey of Ansdell, Lytham St Annes, for the loan of the cover.

National Army Museum Series – Military Covers

No issues have been made in December, 1971.

Details of covers for issue in January 1972 are given below:-

Group 1 No. 11

The Gurkha Brigade 1 Jan. 72.

Group 2 No. 11

A Gurkha Uniform 16 Jan. 72.

Group 5 No. 9

The "Army of India" Medal 17 Jan. 72.

A one day exhibition of Medals will be held at the National Army Museum, Chelsea on the 17 January, 1972. All 3 covers will be

despatched on this date. Special pictorial British Forces Postal Service handstamps 1252, 1253 and 1254 respectively will be used.

Orders should be sent with remittance of 25p for each cover to:-

The Philatelic Officer,
National Army Museum Appeal,
Duke of Yorks Headquarters,
Kings Road, London SW3 4RX

Overseas customers please add 5p for postage by surface mail or the 20p rate for air mail.

List of Offices with First Day of Issue Postmarking Facilities

Head/District Postmasters provide posting facilities for First Day Covers at certain offices under their control: enquiries about these should be made to the Head/District Postmasters concerned. Such facilities are provided at Trafalgar Square, WC2, 110 Victoria Street, SW1, Remnant Street, WC2, Southampton Street, WC2, and 111 Baker Street, W1 — offices which have previously appeared on this list.

LONDON

Chief Office, King Edward Street, EC1A 1AA
Battersea District Office, 202 Lavender Hill, SW11 1AA
Eastern District Office, 206 Whitechapel Road, E1 1AA
Northern District Office, 116 Upper Street, N1 1AA
North Western District Office, 220 Eversholt Street, NW1 1AA
Paddington District Office, Spring Street, W2 1JE
South Western District Office, 9 Howick Place, SW1P 1AA
South Eastern District Office, Borough High Street, SE1 1AA
Western Central District Office, 181 High Holborn, WC1A 1AA
Western District Office, Wimpole Street, W1M 7AA

Handstamp reads

London EC
Battersea SW11
London E1
London N1
London NW1
Paddington W2
London SW
London, SE1
London WC
London W1

Aberdeen
Aberystwyth, Cardiganshire
Aldershot, Hants
Ayr
Barrow-in-Furness, Lancs
Basildon, Essex
Barnet, Herts
Barnsley, Yorkshire
Barnstaple, Devon
Bath, Somerset
Bedford
Belfast
Birmingham
Blackburn, Lancs
Handstamp reads 'Blackburn and Accrington'
Blackpool, Lancs
Handstamp reads 'Fylde Coast, Lancs'
Bognor Regis, Sussex
Bolton, Lancs
Bournemouth
Handstamp reads 'Bournemouth-Poole'
Bradford, Yorkshire
Bridgwater, Somerset
Brighton, Sussex
Bristol
Bromley, Kent
Burnley, Lancs
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk
Caernarvon
Cambridge
Canterbury, Kent
Cardiff
Carmarthen

Carlisle, Cumberland
Chatham, Kent
Handstamp reads 'Medway, Kent'
Chelmsford, Essex
Chester
Chesterfield, Derbyshire
Chichester, Sussex
Chippenham, Wilts
Colchester, Essex
Colwyn Bay, Denbighshire
Coventry, Warwickshire
Crawley, Sussex
Croydon, Surrey
Darlington
Dartford, Kent
Deal, Kent
Derby
Doncaster, Yorkshire
Dorchester
Douglas, Isle of Man
Dover, Kent
Dumfries
Dundee
Dunfermline, Fife
Durham
Eastbourne, Sussex
Edinburgh
Enfield, Middx
Epsom, Surrey
Exeter, Devon
Handstamp reads 'Exeter District'
Fareham, Hants
Folkestone, Kent

Glasgow
 Gloucester
Handstamp reads 'Gloucestershire'
 Grimsby
Handstamp reads 'Grimsby and Cleethorpes Lincs'
 Guildford, Surrey
 Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
 Halifax, Yorkshire
 Hamilton, Lanarkshire
 Harrogate, Yorkshire
 Harlow, Essex
 Harrow
Handstamp reads 'Harrow and Wembley'
 Hartlepool, Co Durham
 Hastings, Sussex
 Haverfordwest, Pems
 Hemel Hempstead, Herts
 Hereford
 Hounslow, Middx
 Horsham, Sussex
 Huddersfield, Yorkshire
 Hull, Yorkshire
 Ilford, Essex
 Inverness
 Ipswich, Suffolk
 Kendal
 Kingston upon Thames, Surrey
 Kings Lynn, Norfolk
 Kirkcaldy, Fife
 Lancaster
Handstamp reads 'Lancaster and Morecambe'
 Leamington
Handstamp reads 'Warwick & Leamington Spa'
 Leeds
 Leicester
 Lincoln
 Liverpool
 Llandudno, Caernarvonshire
 Llanelli, Carm
 Londonderry
 Loughborough, Leics
 Louth, Lincs
 Lowestoft, Suffolk
 Luton, Beds
 Maidstone, Kent
 Manchester
 Mansfield, Notts
 Margate, Kent
Handstamp reads 'Thanet, Kent'
 Middlesbrough, Teesside
Handstamp reads 'Teesside'
 Newbury, Berks
 Newcastle-upon-Tyne
 Newport (I.O.W.)
 Newport, Mon
 Northallerton, Yorkshire
 Northampton
 Norwich, Norfolk
 Nottingham
 Oxford
 Paisley, Renfrewshire
 Perth
 Peterborough
 Plymouth, Devon
 Pontypridd, Glam
 Portsmouth
 Preston, Lancs
 Reading, Berks
 Redhill, Surrey
Handstamp reads 'Reigate and Redhill, Surrey'
 Rhondda, Glam
 Rhyl, Flintshire
 Rochdale, Lancs
 Romford
 Rotherham, Yorkshire
 Rugby, Warwickshire
 St Albans, Herts
 Salisbury, Wilts
 Scarborough, Yorkshire
 Scunthorpe, Lincs
 Sheffield
 Shrewsbury, Salop
 Skegness, Lincs
 Southall, Middx
 Southampton
 Southend-on-Sea, Essex
 South Shields, Co Durham
 Stafford
 Stevenage, Herts
 Stirling
 Stockport, Cheshire
 Stockton-on-Tees, Teesside
Handstamp reads 'Teesside'
 Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs
 Sunderland, Co Durham
 Sutton, Surrey
 Swansea, Glam
 Swindon, Wilts
 Taunton, Somerset
 Telford, Salop
 Torquay, Devon
Handstamp reads 'South Devon'
 Truro, Cornwall
 Twickenham

Handstamp reads 'Richmond and Twickenham'

Tunbridge Wells, Kent
Uxbridge, Middx
Walsall, Staffs
Warrington, Lancs
Watford, Herts
Wigan, Lancs
Windsor, Berks
Wolverhampton, Staffs
Worcester
Worthing, Sussex
Yeovil, Somerset
York

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I was strolling around Kennards Ltd, the department store, in Croydon recently and was most impressed with your display of British stamps.

I have only just started collecting stamps, consequently the thematic approach sounds quite exciting. I could not believe that there were such a large number of British commemorative stamps and variety of themes.

I must thank you for the ideas you have given me for collecting stamps in the future.

M. LEECH

Longfield, Kent

Dear Sir,

I was interested to see the subjects for the 1972 Stamp Programme in the December *Bulletin*.

It is pleasing to see that the commemorative issue dates are spread over the year and not cramped together like last year's issues. I am especially looking forward to the Silver Wedding set in hope that it will come up to the standard of the last Silver Wedding issue.

Yours sincerely,

MRS E. NICHOLSON

Birmingham

Dear Sir,

Having been inundated with replies to my letter, kindly published in the November issue of *Philatelic Bulletin*, I beg the added privilege of using your columns to express my thanks to all those to whom I shall be unable to reply personally.

I little anticipated such a response, gratifying as it is, and I am more than grateful for your help, and the kindness of all those who took the trouble to write to me.

As a result of all this correspondence, I hope to be able to put in touch, those whose offers I had not been able to accept, with those who write expressing similar requirements to my own, and in this manner repaying in some measure the benefit I have received.

Yours sincerely

E. W. ADAMS

Ramsey, Isle of Man

Dear Sir,

I was most interested to see in the November Number a picture of a post box situated in Blantyre Malawi – I am sure many a letter was posted therein during the early 1900s by my father Alexander Hamilton who went as a missionary in 1893 and during his early years there tramped a thousand miles through Angoniland making friends with Chiefs and Slaves alike. It was mainly through him that five missionary stations were opened. Honours were accorded him in Blantyre where he became its first mayor. I myself was born in Mitsidi and am a collector of stamps from Nyasaland Malawi as a result.

Yours faithfully

MRS H. BRANSON

Burton-on-Sea, Hampshire

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