

Philatelic Bulletin

Volume 19 Number 6 February 1982



- 76 Editorial
- National Postal Museum
- Charles Darwin, Naturalist
- 77 Gems from the R M Phillips Collection
- LXXXXVI: Jeffrey's Scheme
- 79 New Regional Postcards
- Book Reviews
- Withdrawal from Sale of Postal Items
- 80 British Special Stamps:
- 85. Tree-Planting Year, 1973
- 81 ABC of Postcard Themes: 14. N for Nursing
- 82 Youth Organisations Stamps Issue
- 24 March 1982
- 84 The Royal Mail Postbus Service – part 6
- 85 Forthcoming Events
- New Varieties of 4p and 20p Definitive Stamps
- 86 Queen Elizabeth II Definitive Stamps
- Technical Details (contd.)
- 87 New Philatelic Sales Counters
- 88 Letter to the Editor Commemorative Covers
- Posting Boxes
- 90 Forces Covers

National Postal Museum

After the Museum's closure during October 1981 and the subsequent accommodation work, we would like to remind schools and philatelic societies that bookings for group visits can again be accepted (in advance by telephone please). Parties will be given an introductory talk and conducted tour as well as the showing of a film on a philatelic or Post Office subject. Admission to the Museum is free and the visits by parties can be arranged for approximately 10.00am and 2.00pm on weekdays. The current exhibition features picture postcards and this will be replaced in April by one on the theme of the Post Office at War.

The Museum is open daily from Monday to Friday (10.00am to 4.30pm, 4.00pm closing on Friday), and is closed on Bank Holidays and at weekends. It is conveniently situated alongside the London Chief Post Office in King Edward Building, King Edward Street, LONDON EC1A 1LP (telephone 01-432 3851). The nearest underground station is St. Pauls.

After the fun and excitement of Christmas and the New Year celebrations, it is back to the realities of everyday life. May I remind readers that the increase in handstamping charges came into effect on 1 February 1982. Whether your covers are being sent under the reposting facilities, or posted directly into a special posting box, they must bear stamps to the value of 2½p in addition to the correct postage. This fee applies for all special handstamps, including those which are in permanent use.

Following the production, during the summer of last year, of a stamp roll consisting of a strip of four definitive stamps (3 x 3p and 1 x 2½p, value 11½p) for a special mailing by a large user of the post — the first time a stamp roll has been produced for this purpose — a second roll has now been produced. Consisting of a strip of 3 x 4p and 1 x ½p definitive stamps, value 12½p, printed on phosphor coated paper by Harrison and Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd, it became available from 30 December 1981. The roll, price £87.50, and single strips (12½p) are available by post from the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh; additionally both the roll and the single strips are available at all philatelic counters. There were no first day of issue facilities.

Featured on the front cover are the stamp strips from the rolls of stamps produced originally for special mailings by a large user of the post.

Abnormal Perforations

On page 65 of the January Bulletin we expressed the hope that our good friend Aubrey Walker would be able to supply us with a definitive article on abnormal perforations, prompted by a letter we received from Mr L N Williams. Aubrey has completed his article, but is awaiting a number of photographs, necessary to illustrate his findings. All will appear in the March edition.

Charles Darwin – Naturalist

Charles Darwin was born at Shrewsbury on 12 February 1809, the son of Robert Darwin, a physician, and a grandson of Erasmus Darwin, the botanist. He was educated at Shrewsbury, Edinburgh and Christ's College, Cambridge.

In 1831 Darwin was appointed naturalist to the 'Beagle', a vessel fitted out for a voyage of scientific research in the South Seas. This incredible voyage of discovery lasted from December 1831 until October 1836, five hard but rewarding years from which Darwin was able in 1839 to publish his journal of the geology and natural history of the various countries he visited. This was followed by the official record of the zoological observations made on the voyage.

During the course of his work on the voyage Darwin had been impressed by three discoveries, the similarities between fossil and recent animals in South America, the geographical distribution of animals in that continent and the 'productions' of the Galapagos Islands 'more especially by the manner in which they differ on each island of the group'.

The Galapagos Islands are a group of volcanic islands in the Pacific Ocean on the equator, 600 miles west of Ecuador. The land animals and plants which were able to colonize the islands, had developed in isolation into new species, not only different from the nearby continent, but showing differences between the various islands.

The results of his work led Darwin to suspect that the many species of living creatures had been evolved or developed from slight differences in individuals often resulting from differences in environment, which had been perpetuated and augmented in their descendants through the general struggle for existence, bringing about the survival of the fittest and a natural selection in breeding.

In 1858 he had formulated his theory, but did not intend to present it to the scientific world until he had made further investigations. Then, learning that Alfred Wallace had arrived at similar conclusions, he presented, later in that year, both his and Wallace's papers to the Linnean Society. Wallace informed of the coincidence of their theories unselfishly stood aside and in 1859 Darwin published his 'Origin of Species'.

After several more years of investigation and a huge accumulation of additional facts, he published in 1868, 'The variation of Plants and Animals under Domestication'.

It was in 1871 however that Darwin published his best known work, 'The Descent of Man'. The book aroused immediate and long standing controversy in that many non-scientific readers, in an age of strong religious belief, interpreted the Darwin theory as saying that men were descended from apes, whereas he merely held that, at some very remote period, men and apes had been evolved from a common ancestor of the anthropoid family.

Despite regular periods of ill health, he completed an amazing amount of work. Among his other books are, 'The Expression of the Emotions in Men and Animals', 1872; 'Insectivorous Plants,' 1975; 'The Power of Movement in Plants', 1880; and 'The Formation of Vegetable Mould through the Action of Worms', 1881.

Darwin married his cousin Emma Wedgwood in 1839 and after a short period in London, spent the rest of his life at Downe in Kent. He died on 19 April 1882 and is buried in Westminster Abbey.



Down House, Luxted Road, Downe, Orpington, Kent BR6 7JT is open March 1 to January 31 from 1pm to 6pm every day excepting Mondays and Fridays (open on Bank Holiday Mondays, closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day). Admission: adults 70p, children 5-15 years 20p. Telephone Farnborough (Kent) 59119.

Jeffrey's Scheme

The years 1881-1884 saw the eventual production and introduction of the Unified Series of Postage Stamps. This month's 'Gem' from the Reginald M Phillips Collection looks at one of the groups of essays produced during this period.

The five essays illustrated were suggested by T Jeffrey, the Controller of the London Postal Service, on 19 March 1881. Jeffrey's Scheme, as it was known, was submitted to the Inland Revenue and suggested the use of stamp designs in different shapes to identify the different values of the stamps and their appropriate postage rates. The essays were printed by De La Rue & Co on a piece of gummed paper and were all green in colour.

The intention was that the octagonal shape (left) would be used for the 2d in plum, the 4d in blue, and the 6d in red. The vertical shape (right) was to be used for the 1½d value in plum, the 3d in blue,

and the 6d in red. The 'regular' shape (top left) was to be used for the ½d in green, the 2½d in blue and the 5d in red. The final two essay shapes, the 'triangular' and the 'diamond' were thought to be too difficult to perforate at the time – although many Postal Administrations subsequently overcame this problem! All the essays were inscribed 'Postage' – it was only in June 1881 that many of the special revenue stamps were withdrawn from use and normal penny postage stamps made available for both purposes. (Just over one month later the 1d lilac stamp, inscribed 'Postage and Revenue' was actually issued).

Visitors to the National Postal Museum can see these unusual essays in volume XXXVIII/3 of the Reginald M Phillips Collection. (Volume XXXVIII chronicles the making of the Unified Series).



New Regional Postcards

New South Eastern Postal Region Postcards

SEPR will issue a series of postcards featuring an artist's illustrations of Post Office Historical Transport. They will be issued at intervals throughout the year in 4 sets each containing 3 cards.

The first set will go on sale on Monday 22 February 1982. Orders for serviced cards (which includes the cost of the card, first class postage and handling charge, bearing a special first day of sale handstamp) should be sent to The Philatelic Counter, 51 Ship Street, BRIGHTON BN1 1AA, where normal reposting facilities will apply.

The cost is £1.24p per set or 41½p for single cards.

Mint cards either in sets, price 39p, or singly, price 13p can be obtained by personal application from The Philatelic Counter, Brighton, and all other philatelic counters. Remittances should be sent, if possible by postal order or Giro Transfer (Account No 3140210).

Bulk orders for mint cards only are obtainable from: The Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH, EH3 5TT where normal discount facilities and handling charges will apply.

Midlands Postal Board Postcard

First Day of Sale 1 March 1982

A new picture postcard (MPB 13), illustrating one of two stamp vending machines, designed in Victorian style by the Drawing Office, and built by the Postal Engineering Section to compliment the handsome nineteenth century architecture of the Victoria Square Post Office, will be available from 1 March 1982.

Mint cards, price 13p each can be obtained by personal application from all philatelic counters, or by mail order from the Head Postmaster, Head Post Office, Letter Branch, Royal Mail Street, BIRMINGHAM B1 1AA. Advance orders for the first day of sale handstamp should be sent to the same address. The cost of fully serviced cards including first day of sale handstamp is 41½p each. Orders must be received by Tuesday 23 February 1982. For orders by post for mint cards, add 17p for

remittances up to £10 and £1.17 above £10.

Remittances should be sent, if possible, by postal order or Giro transfer to Birmingham Head Post Office, Letter Branch, Royal Mail Street, BIRMINGHAM B1 1AA. Giro account number 4021002.

Bulk orders for mint cards only are available from The Manager (Postcards), Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT, where normal handling charges will apply.

Withdrawal from Sale of Postal Items

The 2½p and 1½p definitive stamps together with the 1½p 'Country' definitive stamp will be withdrawn from general sale at the close of business on 26 February 1982.

These items will still be available from the Philatelic Bureau, and all philatelic counters until 25 February 1983.

Book Reviews

Stanley Gibbons 'Collect British Stamps'

This invaluable book is the second edition designed for the North American markets. All prices are quoted in US dollars which undoubtedly will be of considerable assistance to American collectors of British stamps.

It includes all issues up to and including the 'Fishing' stamps of September 1981, and for the first time a useful listing of stamp books is included, commencing with the first issue of 1904. As usual all illustrations are in colour.

The price of 'Collect British Stamps' is \$4.95 postpaid, but in case of difficulty, copies are available from Gibbons's North American agent: Harry Edelman, 111-37 Leffers Blvd., SO. Ozone Park, NY 11420, USA.

Collect British Stamps 29th Edition

Published by Stanley Gibbons, this latest printing is currently available price £1.65 and records all postages stamp issued in Britain from the 'Penny Black' of 1840 to the Fishing stamps of 1981. Illustrated in full colour the stamps are numbered to correspond with the main Gibbons catalogues. For the first time stamp booklets are listed from the 2/0½ booklet issued 1904 to the 50p booklet issued 26 August 1981; a recognition of the increase in popularity of booklet collecting in recent years.

85. Tree-Planting Year, 1973

Unusually for the Post Office, a single 9p commemorative stamp was issued on 28 February 1973 as a contribution to Tree-Planting Year. It was intended also as the first of an occasional series of British Trees, and it depicted a fine oak tree, *Quercus robur*, designed by David Gentleman.

The oak has some 300 species, generally natives of the more temperate parts of the Northern hemisphere. Generally deciduous (leaf-shedding), though some are evergreen, the male has pendulous catkins, and the fruit is an acorn. The British oak (*Q. robur*) has two varieties – *sessiliflora* and *pedunculata* – and was for centuries the chief timber used in Great Britain in ship-building. Easily stained and polished, it is also used for furniture, barrel-staves, veneers and the like, and ranges in colour from pale brown to pale red.

Probably the most famous of oak trees is the Boscobel oak ('Royal Oak') in which Charles II

concealed himself following his grievous defeat by Cromwell's troopers at the Battle of Worcester in 1651. Oak-Apple Day – 29 May – was the anniversary of his restoration to the throne in 1660, when country boys used to wear oak-apples and leaves as a gesture of loyalty to the King. The intentions of the Post Office were not altogether fulfilled – although a stamp depicting a horse chestnut appeared a year later, the theme was subsequently apparently discontinued as no other tree stamps have been issued in the series.

The stamps were photogravure-printed by Harrison and Sons in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) on unwatermarked paper with two phosphor bands. A listed variety was a broken left leg of the 'k' in 'Oak', constant on stamp 2 in the ninth row. Quantities sold were 5,875,100; presentation packs, 96,722.

JAMES WATSON



14. N for Nursing

In former times, nursing – defined as the care of the sick, injured and infirm under medical supervision – was undertaken under the direction of religious orders and the clergy, but later, especially in Protestant countries, it was regarded as a menial office, and not until the advent of general hospitals did it become a profession. In England, Mrs. Elizabeth Fry started a society for nursing the poor in 1840. Then, in 1854, Florence Nightingale (who was to become the most famous and remarkable nurse and hospital reformer of all time) volunteered to organise a staff of nurses to tend the wounded soldiers in the Crimea. She arrived at Scutari with her 38 nurses on the eve of the battle of Inkerman during the bitter winter of 1854-55 and, despite appalling difficulties, tended some 10,000 sick and wounded soldiers with loving care and devotion.

On her return to England in 1856, 'the lady with the lamp' (as she was known in the Scutari hospital wards) established, with public subscription and support, an institution for the training of nurses at St. Thomas's and at King's College Hospitals, and at last the nursing profession was recognised as suitable 'for women of intelligence and education'. So the first picture postcard in our 'Nursing' collection should feature a likeness or sketch of Florence Nightingale. In fact the 'postcard nurses' are usually linked with other related subjects such as hospitals in times of peace and war, as members of the International Red Cross or at their most glamorous in artist-drawn studies of 'Women in Uniform' etc. And of course among the most interesting aspects of postcard pictures are the changes in fashion and style of nurses' uniforms from late-Victorian and Edwardian times through World War I to more recent times – the 1930s and World War II – at home and abroad.

As with most other postcard subjects, there are two broad divisions of the nursing theme – the 'real photograph' type, showing hospitals and wards with nurses tending patients or posing with groups of war-wounded and disabled patients; or the artist-drawn studies mentioned above which usually portray nurses in their popular image as 'angels of mercy', with no hint of the drudgery and menial tasks they have to perform. My illustration,



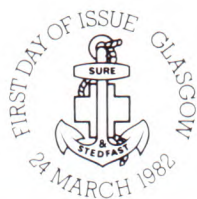
which might well have served as a recruiting poster, shows an attractive Red Cross nurse, artist-drawn (but unsigned), published by Vivian Mansell, the fine-arts dealer.

The Red Cross movement, comprising an International Committee based in Geneva, the League of Red Cross Societies and National Societies all over the world, established by international conventions for treating sick and wounded, especially in time of war, was originated by Henri Dunant, a Swiss banker, who had by chance witnessed the battle of Solferino in Northern Italy in 1859 and had enlisted the help of local women to succour the wounded and bury the dead. The movement takes its name from its emblem, a red cross on a white ground – the Swiss flag with colours reversed. The British Red Cross Society, which follows the international rules but is an independent body, was founded in 1870 when it was first active in the Franco-Prussian War.

Nurses are a popular subject on children's cards – the young ladies in nurse's uniform fussing around their patients – dolls. A series of Tuck 'Oilette' cards entitled 'Doing Her Bit' shows a little Red Cross nurse with her bandaged dolls with appropriate verses and was evidently published during the period of World War I. 'Spotting the nurse' gives an added zest to your hunt for postcards at the fairs or dealers' shops!

MALCOLM JAMES

Youth Organisations Stamps Issue 24 March 1982



This issue of four postage stamps commemorates the contribution made by Youth Organisations to British society and culture, but it should be remembered that there are many more organisations other than those illustrated on the stamps. The subjects and values are: The Boys' Brigade, 15½p; The Girls' Brigade, 19½p; The Scouts, 26p, The Girl Guides, 29p.

First Day Cover Services

The following services for first day covers will be provided by The Post Office. Three special pictorial handstamps will be available, 'London SW', 'Glasgow', and 'Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh'.

SERVICE A

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

SERVICE B

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

	Inland	Overseas
Service 'A'	£1.30½	£1.13½
Deposit account customers	£1.25½	£1.09
Service 'B'	£1.16½	£1.01½

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 15 March 1982.

Printing Details

Designed by Brian Sanders, the stamps are printed by Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd, by the photogravure process in sheets of 100. Vertical in format they measure 30 x 41mm with 14 x 15 perforations. The paper is un-watermarked and phosphor coated.



Values and Colours:

- 15½p: greenish yellow, cinnamon, brown-lilac, steel blue, black, gold.
- 19½p: greenish yellow, cinnamon, bright rose, royal blue, stone, black, gold.
- 26p: greenish yellow, bistre-brown, rosine, blue-black, bottle green, black, gold.
- 29p: yellow, cinnamon, bright crimson, royal blue, orange-brown, black, gold.

Postcards

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

Presentation Pack

A presentation pack, No 133, containing all four stamps, is designed by John Gibbs, and will be available from 24 March 1982.

The Royal Mail Postbus Service – part 6

Len Newbery

South Western Postal Region

(2) SWPR 1 Honiton – Luppitt 23 October 1967.

This was the first English Postbus service and like its Welsh counterpart went through a long transitional period with tickets.



Initially the service operated with a second-hand Setright 8 ticket issuing machine. The ticket approx 2½" x 1" was preprinted on the reverse side twice –

THIS TICKET IS
ISSUED SUBJECT
TO THE RULES &
REGULATIONS OF
THE COMPANY &
MUST BE SHOWN
ON DEMAND

AND IS
NOT TRANSFERABLE

whilst at the time of issue the face of the reel fed ticket was printed in violet with details of fare, stage, date and with POST OFFICE reading upwards on the left edge.

Later the machine was replaced with a Mycalex machine also second-hand from the local Bus Company. It remained in use until the introduction of decimalisation. The machine was numbered B247.

This in turn was replaced with a second-hand Almex ticket issuing machine 005. This machine operated from 17 February 1971 until 19 September 1978. For details of the Almex and Mycalex tickets see above under WM 1 Llanidloes – Llangurig.

The ticket bearing postage stamps and special cancellation was introduced on 20 September 1978.

The white card horizontal ticket approx 70mm x 57mm was printed by Moore and Mathes, in red. A single vertical line (50mm) short at both ends divides the face into two panels, the left approx 47mm wide takes up to four definitives whilst the right in Post Office two line text reads –

Royal
Mail
Post
Bus

TICKET

with a silhouette design of the Commer Postbus facing right is placed at the foot.

The single cancellation approx 32mm in diameter with the text following the curve of the circle HONITON POST BUS/THE FIRST IN ENGLAND. Across the centre is the date. It is struck in black.

At the same time as the ticket was introduced a collectors packet also went on sale.

This contained a coloured postcard featuring the postbus at Dunkswell post office, a card dated 20 September 1978 giving details of the service, a timetable/fare structure, a last day Almex ticket and a first day ticket bearing a 9p and a 10p stamp (the fare from Honiton to Dunkswell).

Midland Postal Board

Whilst the two Postbus Services in this region never used tickets with postage stamps attached and so are outside the scope of these articles they did use a special cancellation worth recording. (28) MPB 1 Billesdon – Tilton 7 September 1973 – (29) MPB 2 Billesdon – Goadby 28 September 1979.

During the six years the two services were in operation preprinted card tickets with a fixed fare of 5p for the round trip or part thereof up to 3 December 1977 were in use. Between 5 December 1977 and the 12 June 1978 the tickets were altered with a felt pen to read 7p the new rate. On 12 June 1978 a new ticket was issued with the fare reading 7p. There are four types of tickets at 5p and one at 7p with two at 5p amended to 7p.

The cancellation struck in black was almost identical for both services. It consisted of a single



line circular date stamp with text following the curve and reading above BILLEDON POSTBUS and below LEICESTER with the date in a single line across the centre. The diameter of the circle was approx 26mm.

The inaugural cancellation intended for the cancellation of mail on the 6 September 1973 was also used on tickets issued at the inaugural ceremony. This was also a single line circle approx 26mm in diameter with text following the curve of the circle reading above DAY OF ISSUE and below POSTBUS, LEICESTER with 6 SEP 1973 in the centre.

BILLEDON

The cancellation then had the DAY OF ISSUE almost erased and was used for a short period. It was also resurrected and brought into use for the cancellation of last day tickets.

Forthcoming Events

The Caledonian Philatelic Society

Jubilee Cup Competition

The Caledonian Philatelic Society holds annually the Jubilee Cup competition for junior collectors in Scotland (18 years and under). Entries for the 1982 competition should be in the hands of the Convener, Dr I T Boyle, 7 Lochbrae Drive, High Burnside, Rutherglen, GLASGOW G73 5QL by Saturday 13 March 1982, from whom further details and a copy of the rules may be obtained.

The awards will be presented and the winning entries displayed at a meeting of the Caledonian Philatelic Society to be held at the Institute of

Engineers and Shipbuilders, 183 Bath Street, GLASGOW G2 4HT, at 7.30 pm on Thursday 25 March 1982.

All competitors, their parents and teachers, are welcome to attend this meeting.

Welsh Philatelic Society

The Welsh Philatelic Society will hold its first meeting of 1982 on Saturday 27 February 1982 at The Methodist Church Hall, St. Owen Street, Hereford, commencing at 2 pm.

A display and talk on Welsh Postal History will be given by Michael Scott Archer, and a number of dealers will be in attendance.

Further information can be obtained from Mr D Daunt, 21 Torkington Road, WILMSLOW, Cheshire SK9 2AE.

The Scout Stamp Collectors Club

To mark the commencement of 'The Year of the Scout' an International Exhibition of Scout and Guide philately will be held in the Conference Room of Baden-Powell House, Queens Gate, South Kensington, LONDON SW7 5JS on Saturday 20 February 1982 (10.30 am to 6 pm) and Sunday 21 February (10.30 am to 4 pm). Entry is free of charge and approximately 100 frames will be on show from their worldwide membership.

New Varieties of 4p and 20p Definitive Stamps

The new varieties – printed by John Waddington of Kirkstall – of 4p and 20p definitive stamps became available at some post offices and the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh from early December 1981. The new varieties are printed on phosphor coated paper, whereas the previous issues were printed with phosphor bars. Stamps of each variety had been issued to some counters before the scheduled date but are now available in plentiful supply at all Post Offices, philatelic counters and the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh.

Queen Elizabeth II Definitive Stamps

Technical Details (contd.)

Value	Cylinders		Printing Press	Perforator	Adhesive	Coating	Printing Date	Comments
	Colour	Phos						
3p	4	4	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	July '70	Also printed December 1971
	2	4	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	Nov '70	2 – bars
	8	7	Halley 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	Sep '70	Short print run
	1	4	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	March '71	Short print run
	4	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	May '71	2 – bars
	4	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Oct '71	2 – bars
	2	4	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	Nov '70	2 – bars
	2	4	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	July '71	Short print run
	2	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	May '71	2 – bars
	2	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	Sept '71	2 – bars
	2	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Sept '71	Short run
12/	13/		Woods 10	Grover	PV Al	FCP	March '72	2 – bars
12A	13A							
	10	7	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	April '72	2 – bars
	10	7	Halley 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	July '72	2 – bars
	10	7	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	June '72	2 – bars
	10	1	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP	Aug '72	2 – bars
	8	1	Halley 3	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Aug '72	2 – bars
	9	1	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	PV Al	FCP	Oct '72	Short run; perf- problems
	10	7	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP	Oct/Dec '72	2 – bars
	9	7	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP	Dec '72	2 – bars
	9	1	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Nov '72	2 – bars
	9	1	Thrissell 5	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Feb '73	2 – bars
	8	7	Halley 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	May '73	2 – bars
	8	7	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP	June '73	2 – bars
	8	8	Halley 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	July '73	Short run
	24	1	Halley 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP	June '73	2 – bars
	30	18	Jumelle	Kampf rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Aug '73	One Phos-bar
	31	18	Jumelle	Kampf rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Jan '74	One Phos-bar
	38	20	Jumelle	Kampf rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Jan '74	One Phos-bar
	31	20	Jumelle	Kampf rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Nov '73	One Phos-bar
	30	20	Jumelle	Kampf rotary	PV Al/DEX	FCP	Oct '73	One Phos-bar

Value	Cylinders Colour	Phos	Printing Press	Per- forator	Adhe- sive	Coat- ing	Printing Date	Comments
3p	38	—	Jumelle	Kampf rotary	PV Al/ DEX	PCP	Mar '73	Colour changed to red
	22	17	Jumelle	Kampf rotary	PV Al/ DEX	FCP		
	4	2	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP		
	4	4	Timson 2	Grover	PV Al	OCP	July '70	Some sheets with no phos. cy./no Some with small phos "4" Some with large phos "4" Two phosphor bars
	9	7	Halley 2	Grover	PV Al	FCP		
	8	1	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP		
	21	17	Jumelle	Grover	PV Al	FCP	Jan '73	Two phosphor bars
	8	8	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP		
	8	8	Halley 2	Grover	GA	FCP		
	8	9	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP	July '73	One phosphor bar
	8	9	Halley 2	Grover	GA	FCP		
	8	9	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP		
	24	8	Halley 3	Swedish rotary	GA	FCP	July '73	One phosphor bar

New Philatelic Sales Counters

A philatelic counter will be opened at the Head Post Office, Slindon Street, Portsmouth, on 24 February 1982.

A special handstamp bearing the words 'Official Opening of Philatelic Counter, Portsmouth, 24 February 1982' will be applied on that day to mail posted in a philatelic posting box situated in the Head Post Office.

For customers requiring this handstamp who are

unable to call at the office, normal reposting facilities will apply. Covers should be sent to the Head Postmaster, Philatelic Sales Counter, Head Post Office, Slindon Street, PORTSMOUTH, PO1 1AA.

The hours of business will be:

Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 5.30 pm, Saturdays 9.00 am to 1.00 pm.

In addition a new postcard (SE 21) will go on sale

on 24 February 1982 price 13p. For collectors requiring serviced cards the cost will be 41½p each which includes first class postage and handling charge. Orders should be sent to the Head Postmaster, Head Post Office, Philatelic Sales Counter, Slindon Street, PORTSMOUTH, PO1 1AA to arrive by 24 February 1982. Remittances should be made payable to the Post Office preferably by cheque or Giro Transfer (Giro Account Number 219 8010).

The card will also be available from the Philatelic Bureau, Edinburgh and all Philatelic Counters.

A philatelic sales counter will be opened on 8 March 1982 at the Branch Office, 64 South Street, ROMFORD, Essex, RM1 1RL, bringing the total to 45.

A special handstamp commemorating the opening will be applied to mail posted in a posting box situated in the Branch Office.

For customers requiring this handstamp who are unable to call at the office, normal reposting facilities will apply. Covers should be sent to the Head Postmaster, Head Post Office, 17 Angel Way, ROMFORD, Essex, RM1 1AA.

The hours of business will be:

Monday to Friday 9.00 am to 12.30 pm, and 1.30 pm to 5.30 pm. Saturdays 9.00 am to 12.30 pm.



Posting Boxes

No. 33: The lonely letter box shown here could be seen, until recently, set in the beautiful countryside near Thirlmere in the Lake District.

Letter to the Editor

Sir,

About a year ago you kindly published a letter introducing the British American Postal Cover Society. The aims of the Society are to bring together in correspondence those collectors who have an interest in exchanging and studying contemporary postal history.

During its first year the BAPCS has attracted members from several countries (many of them readers of the Philatelic Bulletin) and we have members from as far afield as Australia.

I would be grateful if you would publish this letter also, for the BAPCS would welcome more members from any country (despite the name British American) who have an interest in Contemporary Postal History.

During 1982 it is planned to run a project to which all members could contribute.

Anyone interested in the BAPCS should write to the Society at the above address. A small annual contribution is requested to cover postage and the regular newsletter. This is £2 for GB members and \$5 US or equivalent for other countries.

Yours,

Robin Mellor
Secretary

'British-American Postal Cover Society,' 38
Pear Tree Avenue, Ditton, MAIDSTONE, Kent
ME20 6EB, Great Britain

Commemorative Covers

First Passenger Run 'APT 125'

British Rail's Advanced Passenger Train, the 'APT 125' went into service on 7 December 1981, travelling between Glasgow and London in 4 hours 13 minutes, reducing the present journey time by almost one hour.

To commemorate the event, two philatelic covers are now available illustrating the steam locomotive 'Pendennis Castle' and the 'Inter-City 125'. Both covers bear the 12p 'Liverpool and Manchester Railway' stamp, cancelled on one - 'Glasgow Philatelic Counter', and the other - 'London SW1'. Both have a cachet applied, 'First Passenger Run 'APT 125' Glasgow-London 4 hours 13 minutes'.

The covers are sold in pairs at £1.75 including return postage and packing. Orders with remittance should be sent to: J & M Arlington Ltd, 45 Lakenheath, LONDON N14 4RL.



Church of England Children's Society

The first day of issue of the Christmas 1981 commemorative stamps – 18 November – is memorable for a journey through the streets of Canterbury by a mail coach drawn by four horses. Aboard the coach was the Dean of Canterbury, the Mayor and Mayoress, Mr John Mackay, Assistant Director of Marketing for The Post Office, the Hon Mark Wyndham, Chairman of the Church of England Children's Society, and thousands of commemorative covers produced by Benham (A Buckingham) Ltd. So far more than £4000 has been raised for the Society through the sales of the covers.

National Youth Bureau

To coincide with the 'Youth Organisation' stamps issue on 24 March, 1982 a special commemorative cover has been commissioned by the National headquarters in Leicester. The cover will be cancelled with a special handstamp on the day of issue.

It features a montage of youth activities and the handstamp incorporates the Bureau's logo.

The cover is available with a single 15½p 'Youth Organisations' stamp at 95p, and with the full set of four stamps at £2.95. Signed by the Chairman, John Lee MP, the cover with a full set of stamps is

£4.75. All prices are inclusive of postage and packing. Orders with remittances should be sent to A G Bradley, 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER LE2 6FJ.

National Association of Youth Clubs

The National Association of Youth Clubs, whose headquarters are in Leicester, have sponsored a commemorative cover to coincide with the issue of the 'Youth Organisation' stamps on 24 March, 1982. The cover, produced by Mr A G Bradbury, features an illustration of a typical Youth Club scene. A special handstamp incorporating the Association logo will be applied to the covers posted on that day.

They are available with a single 15½p stamp at 95p each, full set of four stamps at £2.75 each. Signed covers – bearing the full set – by either pop star – Toyah, or famous DJs Paul Burnett, Kid Jensen, Peter Powell or Ed Stewart – £4.75 each. All prices are inclusive of return postage and packaging. Orders and remittances should be sent to A G Bradbury, 35 Northdene Road, LEICESTER LE2 6FJ.

Bill Tidy Cartoons

Four stamp issues have been selected for Bill Tidy cartoon commemorative covers for 1982. They

are: Charles Darwin, (10 February); Youth Organisations, (24 March); British Theatre, (28 April); and British Motor Cars (13 October). The covers bear a special cartoon by Bill Tidy and a full set of stamps. Each issue has an edition limit of 500 and both the covers and their accompanying certificates are numbered. The covers cost £2.60 each, and orders with remittances should be sent to: Ainwhel Developments, Delph House, Parbold, WIGAN, Lancashire WN8 7AA.

The Boys' Brigade The Girls' Brigade

Two special covers will be available from 24 March, 1982 – one for The Boys' Brigade and one for The Girls' Brigade – each bearing a full set of 'Youth Organization' stamps. The costs are £2.50 each, and both covers will be cancelled with a pictorial handstamp.

A limited number of covers will be signed by the Brigade President, The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, for an additional cost of £5 per cover. Alternatively a limited number will be signed by: Cliff Richard, Brigade Hon Vice-President; Terry Neill, Manager, Arsenal FC; Allan Wells, Olympic Gold Medalist at £2 per signature in addition to the cost of the covers. Proceeds from sales will be donated to the Brigades. Further details and order form may be obtained from Benham (A Buckingham) Ltd, 22-28 High Street, HYTHE, Kent CT21 5AT.

Forces Covers

RAF Shawbury

A limited edition of 1000 covers, to be sold in sets of four, commemorating 100,000 hours of flying for ATC Controller Training, and 20 years at RAF Shawbury by Messrs Marshalls of Cambridge. They depict illustrations of various aircraft used by Marshalls, and are cancelled with a special handstamp BFPS 6181 dated 30 November 1981.

The first cover of the set is signed by senior officers of RAF Shawbury and the chief pilot for Marshalls. The second cover is signed by the crew of the aircraft which flew them. The third cover is signed by ten current pilots of Marshalls, while the fourth cover is unsigned. Four postage stamps are affixed to the covers: 14p Christmas 1981, 14p definitive, 11½p Christmas 1981 and an 11½p definitive.

The cost of the set of four covers is £6.50

including return postage and packing. Orders with remittances made payable to: 'SIF, RAF Shawbury Project Account' should be sent to: 1981 Cover Project Officer, Air Traffic Control, RAF Shawbury, SHREWSBURY SY4 4DZ.

Royal Navy

The 65th anniversary of the re-occupation of Kut-al-Amara on 24 February 1917 by British Forces under the command of General Sir Stanley Maude – with the help of Royal Navy gunboats – is commemorated with special philatelic cover.

Depicting HM Gunboat 'Mantis' with the ship's badge and a map of the route up the Tigris to Kut-al-Amara, the cover will bear a 15½p 'Darwin' stamp cancelled with a pictorial handstamp, number BFPS 1761; price 70p.

In addition the cover with a 26p 'Darwin' stamp affixed and signed by Captain E W Bush DSO DSC RN (rtd), Captain HM Gunboats on the Yangtse between the World Wars, and, Lieut Comdr C J O Malcolm RN (rtd), Captain of HM Gunboat 'Mantis' 1939 is available at £1.95.

Signed by Comdr Malcolm only, the cover bearing a 19½p 'Darwin' stamp costs £1.15.

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

Philatelic Bulletin

Editor John Memmott

Assistant Editor Frank Brench

The Philatelic Bulletin is published monthly by the British Post Office, Postal Headquarters, Philatelic Marketing Section, Room 321, 22/25 Finsbury Square, LONDON EC2A 1PH where correspondence on editorial matters should be sent.

Annual subscription

Inland, Europe and overseas surface mail	£3.00
Airmail	£5.00
Single copies obtainable by personal callers from philatelic counters	25p

Subscriptions should be sent to the British Post Office Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, EDINBURGH EH3 5TT.

Binders are available to hold 24 issues from the Philatelic Bureau price £2.50.

Printed in Great Britain by Cripplegate Printing Company Ltd for the Post Office.