

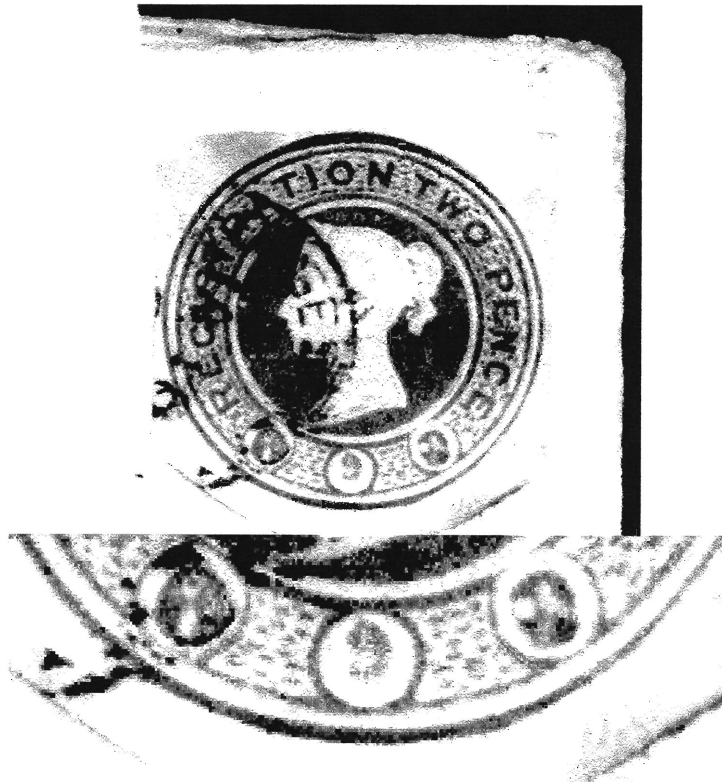


# THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

---

**Journal Vol. 11, No. 4 November 2003**  
(Serial number 28)

---



**Great Britain Queen Victoria Registration Die with Florets and a Numeral.**  
**See page 22**

---

## CONTENTS

Page		Page	
2	The Management Committee	13 - 14	The Bath Postal Museum is Fighting for its Very Existence
	Society Calendar		Colin Baker
3	Chairman's Chat	15 - 16	Classics at the BPM:
3 - 8	Secretary's Notes:		The Columbian Exposition
	The Minutes of the AGM	16 - 21	Great Britain Postage Rates Paid by Postal Stationery 1840 -.2003
	The Tony Chilton Competition		Colin Baker
9 - 13	The House of Commons Stationery:	22	Notes from the Editor's Desk
	Part 1	23	Classified Adverts
	George King		

---

**The Management Committee.**

The affairs of the Society are managed by four officers:- Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, and a number of ordinary committee members from whom Post Holders are appointed.

**OFFICERS:-**

**CHAIRMAN**            **Keith Hanman**  
55 Jubilee Avenue  
Whitton  
Middlesex TW2 6JA

**VICE-CHAIRMAN**    **Peter O'Keeffe**

**SECRETARY**        **Colin Baker,**  
4 Greenhill Gardens,  
Sutton Veny,  
Warminster,  
Wilts. BA12 7AY  
phone - 01985 840033  
e-mail - bakercsandcr@lineone.net

**TREASURER**        **Sam Barkley,**  
77 Rathmore Heights,  
Ballymena,  
Co. Antrim.  
Northern Ireland  
BT43 6NQ

**POST HOLDERS AND COMMITTEE:-**

**AUCTION ORGANISER & PUBLICITY  
OFFICER -**    **Michael Smith,**  
9 Rainham Close,  
Kempshott, Basingstoke,  
Hampshire. RG22 5HA  
e-mail:mike@philately.freemove.co.uk

**EDITOR**            **John Barker,**  
35 Portia Avenue,  
Shirley, Solihull,  
West Midlands. B90 2NW  
phone - 0121 744 2580  
e-mail: johnhbarker@btinternet.com

**LIBRARIAN**        **Peter van Gelder,**  
"Somerhay", 16 Frant Avenue,  
Little Common,  
Bexhill-on-Sea,  
Sussex. England

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**    **Alan Huggins**  
**Iain Stevenson**

---

**The Postal Stationery Society Web site: [www.postalstationery.org.uk](http://www.postalstationery.org.uk)**

---

**SOCIETY CALENDAR 2004****Saturday 20th March 2004**

At the British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1.

11.00 am. Invited display of Rhodesia by the Vice-Chairman, Peter O'Keeffe.

Following on from the success of the AGM lunch, there will be a £5 buffet lunch in the centre to which all members are invited. However, members may also take their own sandwiches if they prefer. More details in the February Journal with a booking slip.

1.30 pm approx. Members displays. Members are invited to bring along a maximum of 30 sheets each on any postal stationery subject and to give a display of not more than 10 minutes with a further 10 minutes for viewing. The meeting should finish by approximately 4.30 pm.

**Saturday 12th June 2004.**

Swinpex, St Joseph's Lower School, Queens Drive, Swindon

2.00 pm. to 4.00 pm. Members are invited to display up to 30 sheets from their collection and to give a short explanation of 10 minutes maximum.

**Saturday 30th October 2004.**

At the British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC 1.

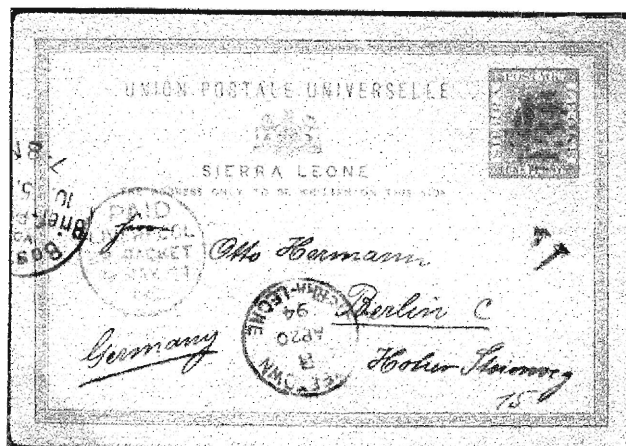
11.00 am. Society's AGM followed by the Tony Chilton Competition and presentation of the Tony Chilton Salver, Chairman's sandwich and wine lunch, viewing of auction lots and the Society's annual 'live' auction. The meeting is expected to close by about 4.30 pm.

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - NOVEMBER 2003

Our AGM was held on 25th October at which about 14 members or so attended with half entering the inaugural Tony Chilton Salver competition. Judged by our ex-Chairman Dr Alan Huggins, the marking system was based at Federation level, one down from National. Alan quite rightly stated that the entries were high quality and it was good to see that the second prize went to a member who had submitted an entry from Tasmania. For overseas members colour photocopies were quite acceptable and such is the advance of science these days that it took a hard look to see that they were photocopies.

Thank you to all who entered this year and it would be encouraging to see even more at the next AGM. The Chairman's Lunch seemed to be well appreciated and will be organised again for the next AGM. Should there be sufficient demand at the March meeting then a similar arrangement will be provided. Details later.

Now for my next cover. These are not too difficult to find in good condition and dealers at Philatex will have some good examples. It is a standard De La Rue 5"x3½" and double the thickness of the English International postcards. Carmine-rose imprint on buff card.



The African Steam Ship Company started in 1856 with sailings from Liverpool via Plymouth. Later The British & African Steam Navigation Company was founded in 1868 operating sea mails between Glasgow - Liverpool - Freetown. About 1900 the company became Elder Dempster. Mail sent by vessels under Government contract is Packet Mail and that by private ship becomes Ship Mail. This cover is cancelled at Freetown with the allocated B31 barred oval cancel, circular date stamp AP20 94. Red Paid Liverpool Br. Packet 9 May 94. Arrival cancel Berlin 10.5.94 just one day later.

Keith Hanman

## SECRETARY'S NOTES - NOVEMBER 2003

**Minutes of the Society's AGM held at the British Philatelic Centre, London, on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2002.**

The meeting was attended by a total of 14 members. Apologies for absence were received from Peter van Gelder, Ed Deschi, Steve Boorn and Brian Harwood. Minutes of the AGM 2002 were published in the November 2002 newsletter and were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

### Chairman's Report

Keith Hanman said that it had been a rewarding first year of office. The Society would be displaying in the "Village Green" at the March 2005 Stampex, together with the Great Britain Philatelic Society. He expected many members would be asked to provide 3 frames of material. More details would be given soon in the Journal.

He was pleased to see that our membership was gradually increasing and that the Tony Chilton Competition had been started. He concluded by thanking all the committee for their support.

### Secretary's Report

Colin Baker said the Society continues to grow in strength and stature. A number of queries have been received and answered through the post or via the Society's web site, resulting in one or two new members.

This year we have only had 5 members not renewing their subscriptions, (as against 20 last year) but we have gained 26 new members since January, including several via the Society's web site, and now have 226 members, 20 more than at the AGM 2002.

We already have one new member for 2004.

The Society held five meetings this year, two in London, one in Dorset, one in Swindon and one in Tunbridge Wells. Reports on all meetings have been published in the Society's journal. The Society also had a stand at Midpex, which gained us five new members and one very late renewal.

Once again the Society was able to publish another monograph in its series, this time on Canadian Election Stationery, thanks to the work of one of our previous chairmen, Iain Stevenson.

### Treasurer's Report

Sam Barkley was not able to be present at the AGM and the secretary read his report to the meeting. In it he said subscriptions for the year were substantially down, reflecting the advantage taken by members to buy their subs 3 or 5 years in advance. Also down was income from the auctions, probably due to the lower number of lots offered. However, this had been offset to a large extent by advertising revenue and monograph sales. Overall the Society's income for the year had fallen by £340.

Expenditure had remained static overall, but as stocks of prepaid stationery were used up the treasurer expected postage charges to rise.

He said we still had a healthy but reducing cash balance, which had to be addressed. He believed the only way to do this was to increase subscriptions and he was strongly in favour of the proposed £10 subscription level.

Sam finally said he had undertaken the role of treasurer for 12 years and had reluctantly decided he would not continue after October 2004.

### Auctioneer's Report

Mike Smith told the meeting that he had not received a great deal of new material for the last two auctions and that these had been run using up mainly a backlog of items. He commented that the financial success of previous auctions had been partly due to the sale of UPU archive material that had now been disposed of. However, despite a smaller number of lots, he had received plenty of strong postal bidding.

One of our members, Ben Ferguson, has

donated a large collection of world postal stationery and has asked that this be auctioned for the benefit of the Society. Mike said he plans to sort this and lot it for next October, as it needs to be viewed to be appreciated.

Mike said that where possible he would return members unsold lots at the next March meeting. He concluded by thanking all those who had helped him run the auctions.

### Journal Editor's Report

John Barker said three issues of the Journal have been distributed so far with a fourth issue due to be sent out to members towards the end of November. Previously members received three issues of the Journal and, following the AGM, a Newsletter reporting on the meeting together with any other news items. From now on, he will continue to produce four issues of the Journal per year. These will be 24 pages, A4 size, as are the current issues, which seems to be the most economical as regards production and postal costs.

In order to spread these out evenly over the year, he proposes to distribute the issues towards the end of the months February, May, August and November. This is determined by the need to report back to members soon after the AGM (November Issue) and the other issues spaced at three monthly intervals.

For the first time we have had advertising space booked for all of the issues in the year by three advertisers. He is very grateful for their support that helps to offset some of the costs of production and postage on the Journal. He would welcome advertising from other Dealers and Auction Houses.

Although he has continued to publish a mix of articles on GB and Foreign postal stationery, both old and new, he would welcome more contributions, not just articles but also news items, queries and replies, interesting finds and anything else which may appeal to members. This is the members Journal and he would like it to contain something of interest for every member *no matter what their area of interest*.

He concluded by saying he would like to thank all those members who have made contributions for the Journal, however small. The greater the number of members making contributions, the greater the variety of topics he can include.

### Librarian's Report

In Peter van Gelder's absence, his report was read out. Peter said that 8 new items had been added to the library in the year, 4 having been purchased and 4 bought. 14 members had borrowed 81 items, which was well up on last year. This included one overseas member who lives in France. He concluded by saying that it had been a bumper year with expanding stocks and more members borrowing. He was delighted that the library was thriving so well.

### Vote of Thanks

The chairman thanked all the committee for their hard work and support throughout the year, especially those officers who have given their reports above. He particularly thanked the Journal editor for the high standards achieved. Without the hard work of all these officers the Society would not be able to exist.

The chairman also recorded his thanks to Lars Engelbrecht for taking on the role of web site manager. He was pleased to see the site had been revamped and brought up to date. He thought that this had probably helped the Society to expand as much as it has done.

### Election of Members

The following members were elected unopposed to serve the Society for the next twelve months.

Election of Officers  
 Chairman – Keith Hanman  
 Deputy Chairman - Peter O'Keeffe  
 Secretary – Colin Baker  
 Treasurer – Sam Barkley  
 Election of Committee Members  
 John Barker  
 Alan Huggins  
 Mike Smith  
 Iain Stevenson

The positions of Journal Editor (John Barker), Auctioneer (Mike Smith), Web Site Manager (Lars Engelbrecht) and Librarian (Peter van Gelder) were set by the committee following the AGM. The positions of Publicity Officer, Advertising Manager and ABPS Representative remain vacant.

The Honorary Auditor is to be Mr I Hunter  
 ACMA

### Increase in Subscription Rate

The meeting discussed the proposed subs increase. Members were told that the

PSS was about the cheapest national society. Members were now receiving 4 large Journals a year, plus a colour-illustrated monograph, two auctions and plenty of meetings. In addition there was no difference in subscription rates for overseas members. Even with the proposed increase to £10 a year, the Society would still be one of the cheapest available. The Society needs a reserve on which to work and this is currently being used up each year to fund all the benefits to members.

Following a question from the floor, members were told that there was no intention of asking those who had already paid in advance to make further payments, but if members felt they should make a donation to make up for the difference in the subs rate, this would be accepted.

The proposal was voted upon and passed unanimously.

### Next Year's Programme

Details have already been published in PS and any changes will be notified to members. (*Editor's Note: see 'Society Calendar' on page 2 of this issue for details*)

### Any Other Business

Following a question by a member, the auctioneer confirmed that only members were allowed to bid in the Society's auctions. This was one of the advantages of membership.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting ended at 11.30 am.

### Report on the Remainder of the Meeting:-

### The Tony Chilton Competition

There were 8 entries for the competition held in honour of the late Tony Chilton, the Society's auctioneer for many years, but before the competition results were announced, Keith Hanman read out the following message from Tony's sister, Gill Dear.

*"Mr Chairman, Members of the Postal Stationery Society, Ladies and Gentlemen.*

*"Thank you so much for inviting me to present the first Tony Chilton award and I am very sorry to be unavailable to do so. I am sure the winner will treasure the salver and enjoy spending the voucher!*

*"Tony would have been very thrilled to know that his enthusiasm and expertise was recognised by his fellow devotees, and that his name was honoured in such a way.*

*"As small children, we were encouraged to collect stamps by our father, as a means of increasing our geographical knowledge, still useful today in pub quizzes and Trivial Pursuit! I soon found other interests, but my brother continued a lifelong obsession with Philately, and at the age of eight or nine became very interested in South Africa. A shy, quiet child developed a deep knowledge of both stamps and country, which continued until his untimely death at the age of 51. He grew into a quiet man who kept all his activities very much to himself. However, he visited South Africa several times both as a visitor and also to attend stamp exhibitions held there. He also indulged his love of fast and somewhat dangerous driving by venturing into the Namibian Desert and enjoyed describing opening a can of Coke which promptly evaporated in the great heat! My brother was a man of few words, but many parts.*

*"Tony was meticulous in every way except his handwriting. How any of you read what he wrote in the days before he had a computer is beyond me! But his scholarship and interest was unparalleled and he gave freely of his time to further his and others interests in the many societies to which he belonged. Although I am not involved in "stamps" I belong to various societies and act as Chairman and committee member in several clubs, and I know how important it is to have active members who are prepared to help run the society and to take responsible positions if at all possible. My brother took that role willingly and spent many hours on paperwork and auctions for the many societies to which he belonged. Perhaps his greatest legacy is the way others have come forward to take his place and continue the smooth running of the society. I should like to thank personally the members who helped me at the time of Tony's death when I was confronted with a house full of stamps, stationery, literature and correspondence and not a clue as to how to deal with it.*

*"I can think of no better fitting tribute to my brother than this competition and I am sure*

*there will be many worthy winners in the years to come.*

*"Thank you for remembering him with such affection and for valuing him for his interest, knowledge, enthusiasm and wit. I miss him a great deal and I know you all do too. He has left a great gap in all our lives, but your competition will enable his name to live on and to be shared in the world he loved, that of Philately."*

The competition was judged by Alan Huggins who said standards were high. As the competition was for one frame only (ie 16 sheets), he had judged it as if it was at Federation level and not National level. The overall winner was Keith Hanman with his entry "Sierra Leone Postcards 1880 – 1893". Second was Erica Genge with "The Elizabethan Coronation Air Letters". Other entries in alphabetical order were:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Entry Title</b>
John Norton	25 Years of King George V Postal Stationery
Geoffrey Richardson	Austria First Postal Stationery Cards
Peter O'Keeffe	British "Foreign" Rate Postcards
Colin Baker	Great Britain: The Private Postcard 1872 - 1901
Peter White	Postal Stationery Cards of Queen Victoria
George King	Size Matters

The new silver salver that the Society has specially purchased for this event was presented to Keith by Alan Huggins.

Alan gave a few comments on the entries to encourage members to try again next year and to improve the standard of their work. He said the marks had been split as follows:

15%	Presentation
15%	Condition
10%	Rarity
20%	Treatment
5%	Philatelic importance
35%	Philatelic knowledge, personal study and research

He said that it was very important that entries had an introduction (either a whole

page, or at least part of one) and encouraged members to read the rules. He also said it was important to choose a theme that could be dealt with in only 16 pages. Subjects such as Queen Victoria GB postcards were far too large for a short entry like this and members should avoid these.

### Auction October 2003

The afternoon session of the meeting was taken up with the Society's second auction of 2003 run by Mike Smith. Once again there was much interest in some items, particularly in the Great Britain section, with some strong postal bidding, although other countries also sold well. A list of prices realised has been included in this Journal.

### Auction 2004

It is intended we will once again hold two auctions during the coming year, one postal only and one for both postal and room bidders.

Any member who wishes to sell material through the Society's auction should send their material to Mike Smith at:-

9, Rainham Close,  
Kempshott,  
Basingstoke,  
Hampshire, RG22 5HA, United Kingdom.

However, for the time being Mike already has sufficient Indian postal stationery material and cannot accept any more. Please note that each lot must be contained in a separate see-through holder, with an identification number or letter clearly marked on the outside. Lots must be accompanied by a list of vendor's identification numbers, one-line descriptions that will be used as the catalogue entry, and the vendor's reserve prices. The reserve is to be the lowest price at which vendors wish to sell their material, and will be the starting price at the auction.

The only charge made to vendors is 10% of the price realised, plus any postage costs for returning unsold lots.

### Subscriptions 2004.

Subscriptions for 2004 are now due. All members will have received with this Journal a notification of whether they have paid their subscriptions in advance, and if so until when, or whether their subscriptions must be paid if

they are to remain as members for the coming year. Subscription rates are quoted on the reminder notice.

Please note that your subscription payments must be sent to the treasurer:-

Sam Barkley,  
77 Rathmore Heights,  
BALLYMENA,  
Co. Antrim BT43 6NQ,  
NORTHERN IRELAND

by 31 December if you wish to pay at the lower rate of £10.00. Any payments made after this date will have to be at the higher rate of £12.00. Please make the treasurer's life easy by using the tear-off slip and paying promptly.

**PLEASE BE PROMPT WITH  
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION  
PAYMENTS**

### Publicity Officer and Advertising Manager

We are still looking for two members to look after publicity for the Society and to act as an advertising manager for the Journal. Publicity involves informing the philatelic press of our activities, usually once or twice a year. The advertising manager would work alongside the editor to sell advertising space to philatelic retailers. If any member is interested in looking after either of these important tasks, or requires more information, please contact the secretary.

### Library Donation

Professor Ilyushin, one of our Russian members, has once again very generously donated a small book to the Society's library. This one is titled "Postal Stationery in Philately" and covers postal stationery from around the world, with a heavy emphasis on items issued by the former Iron Curtain countries. As with all other library books, this can be borrowed by applying to the librarian (details inside front cover).

### Official Aerogrammes

In the September issue of the Journal I passed on comments made by Tony Goldstone

on Monograph No 4 Great Britain: The Development of the Aerogramme. One of these related to OHMS aerogrammes in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II periods. Tony has since written to me saying these were unstamped aerogrammes with the heading ON HIS (HER) MAJESTY'S SERVICE or ON HIS (HER) BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SERVICE. So as he adds, these are strictly not postal stationery, but are still very interesting and must be quite uncommon as I have never seen one for sale.

**JUBILEE OF THE UNIFORM PENNY POST.**

Since researching all the information for my article on the Jubilee Celebrations for the Uniform Penny Post in 1890, I have come across a few more snippets which I will include in the proposed reprint to be issued next year.

The following paragraph should have been added before the details of Elliot's life and family:

*"I have spent a considerable amount of time trying to establish the facts about the first 30 years of Elliot's life, with only moderate success. The records concerning the Elliot family from 1850 onwards are clear and unequivocal, but prior to this date they are sparse, if available at all. The account that I have put together of Elliot's early years is based on the limited information available, but I believe it to be true"*

**Elliot's Envelope**

It is reported that Elliot printed 3,000 copies of his cheap envelope and insert card. He issued 1500 of these initially to various street traders in the London area, but had to retrieve some following the strong protest by the Post Office. The remaining 1500 copies were also destroyed.

**The Jubilee Christmas Card**

The Jubilee Christmas card issued by the Post Office in 1890 was reproduce as a Christmas card by the Dr Barnardos charity a few years ago, but in a smaller size. This later version was printed by the Valentine Press at Basildon.

**A Commemorative Medal**

In 1890 a privately produced commemorative medal celebrating the Jubilee

of the Uniform Penny Post was issued by Spink & Son, Medallists, of 2 Gracechurch Street, London EC. It was available in five different metals, could be supplied with a variety of cases, and was offered at prices that can only make us weep today.

Medal	Price
White metal	2s 6d
Bronze	5s 0d
Silvered bronze	5s 0d
Aluminium	7s 6d
Solid Silver	£1 15s

Case to hold medal only, (lined velvet, lettered outside in gold)	Price
Skiver	3s 6d
Dark leather	5s 6d
Morocco	10s 6d

Case to hold envelope and medal, (lined velvet, lettered outside in gold)	Price
Skiver	4s 6d
Red leather	7s 6d

At first sight aluminium seems to be rather a strange metal to use in the production of a commemorative medal. However, in 1890 aluminium was still in its infancy. Its very existence had only been established by Sir Humphry Davy in 1808. In 1850 it was valued more highly than gold and by 1885 the amount of aluminium being produced worldwide was a mere 15 tons per annum. It was only a year later in 1886 that a new electrolytic process was invented which could unlock aluminium from its ore (bauxite), with aluminium companies being set up two or three years later capable of producing rather small, but still commercially viable quantities of this metal.

Today we take aluminium for granted, but it was so highly prized in the 19<sup>th</sup> century that a bar of this "precious metal" was exhibited at the Paris Exhibition in 1855, and in 1893 aluminium was used to cast the statue of Eros that stands in Piccadilly Circus, London.



## HOUSE OF COMMONS STATIONERY. Part I

George King

At the March 2003 meeting, I showed a selection of House of Commons Postal stationery, starting with what I thought was the well documented STO embossed stationery, and going on to the current stationery printed in black on cream paper. I showed several different colours and sizes of phosphor lines for the 3 basic styles of modern pre-printed marks. I hoped to find out more, and while some present knew of a few more items, and several pointed out the marks hidden in the seams of the later envelopes, it seemed no one had a list of what was now known. So here goes, **version one.**

Please treat more as a draft for addition and comment, as I'm still finding new items. Even when I wrote to my MP to see what he knew, the reply came in yet another different envelope.

*"Prepaid stationery is available to M.P.s to use for constituency work, irrespective of where the envelopes are posted. It may not be used for sending out Press Releases or mailings to constituents which seek to put across a Party political issue. Prepaid postage stops once a General Election is called. The Serjeant at Arms agrees the format of the envelopes with the Post Office. The House arranges printing and prepays the Post Office."*

I have not attempted to number the lists, or include Huggins or H&G numbers for the earlier items. Not all items are mentioned in either publication. I believe there are many more to be discovered. **Please forward details of any others.** (Address at the end of article)

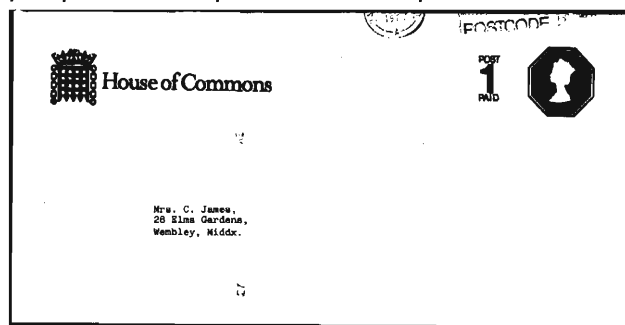
I started collecting both House of Lords (HoL) and House of Commons (HoC), so have included both in the coloured part of the STO lists (to be published in a later issue). However, from the proportions of items I have seen, there will be many greater omissions in the list for House of Lords.

Just in case anyone is confused, I list sizes in mm, horizontal x vertical, as with map co-ordinates, like grid references, and also the mathematical convention for XY co-ordinate geometry. For those I have seen recently, I have included sizes, others are from Huggins or from Higgins and Gage, neither of whom list all the early issues.

The first part of the article will focus on the **ENVELOPES** issued from the 1980s onwards with the N.V.I. 'octagonal head' imprint. The other types of imprint used for the House of Commons stationery are briefly described at the end of this part and will be listed in future parts of the article.

### "OCTAGONAL HEAD"

In the eighties, special stationery was produced, printed in black, mainly on cream paper, using the Queens' Head silhouetted in a black octagon, with a line round the octagon, and a large 1 vertically between Post and Paid. This style was later used for the Post Office pre-paid envelopes sold to the public.



The first version has traditional English 1 with horizontal line to top bar of the one, a vertical edge, and a curved diagonal top. The Portcullis crest and **HOUSE OF COMMONS** is also printed in black on the front at the top left.

POST  
1  
PAID



English 1

Portcullis Crest

The printing varies in quality, and layout. The total width of printing on the front varying from 132mm to 137mm on the small sizes. Some of the later issues have a printers date in the seams, visible against strong light, somewhere in the left hand in the seams unless otherwise stated (seen from the front). Those with alpha characters are printed inside the envelope.

For the purpose of the listing, I have generally ignored differences of 1-2 mm in envelope sizes. Self seal envelopes have a horizontal flap.



**Phosphor Lines Either Side of the Imprint**

The dimensions of the phosphor bands are given in mm. Dates indicated - '(Jul 84)' are earliest recorded date of use determined from postmarks. Dates indicated as '1 - 85' or '1/85' are the dates printed in the seams of the envelopes.

**Head in Octagon. English Type 1  
2 phosphor bands unless otherwise indicated.**

**Small 161x114 with portcullis seal on 71mm flap.**

Phosphor bands

4x32 yellow	(Jul 84) print length 136.5
4x32 yellow	(Aug 84) print length 133
4x32 yellow	(Aug 84) print length 133, mauve tinge to the print
4x33 yellow	(Dec 84)
5x33.5 yellow	(Dec 85)
5x34 yellow	(Jul 86)
5x34 yellow	(Nov 84) RH line 5.5x34
6x35 yellow	(Sep 86)
6.5x35 yellow	(May 89)
7x35.5 yellow	1-85
6x35 yellow	4-85
5	6/85
6x35 transparent	12-85
3x32 yellow	3-86
5x34.5 yellow	7-86

**Small 161x114 but with no seal on 71mm flap:**

5x32 yellow	10-87
5.5x34.5 yellow	2-88
5.5 x 34.5 yellow	3-88
5.5x34.5 yellow	4-88
5x34.5 clear	9-88
5.5x34.5 yellow	5-89

5x34.5	clear	8-89
5.5x35	yellow	8-89 but with HO-28 on front LHS
5		1-90
5.5x35	clear	2-90
5x34	yellow	(Sep 89)
5.5x35	yellow	(Dec 92)

**Small Size 161x114 self seal envelope, no crest on 32mm flap with rounded corners.**

5	(Nov 86)
5.5x35 yellow	9-86
5.5x34 yellow	10-86
5	10-87

**Small Size 161x114 self seal envelope, no crest on 32mm flap with rounded corners and 2 slits.**

5.5x34 yellow	8-88 very difficult to read
---------------	-----------------------------

**DL 221x111 with embossed crest on 43 or 44 mm triangular flap, gap between phosphor lines varies, and so does total print length:-**

4x32 yellow	(Dec 83) print length 187
4x32 yellow	(Jan 84) phos 29 mm apart print 190
4x32 yellow	(May 85) phos 30 mm apart print 189
4x32 yellow purplish	(Jul 86) phos 31 mm apart print 188
4x32 yellow black	(Jun 86) phos 31 mm apart print 188.5
4x32 yellow	(Feb 85) phos 32.5mm apart print 188. 5
4x32 yellow	(Jun 85) phos 33 mm apart print 189
4x32.5 yellow	(May 84) print length 189
5x33 yellow	(Jul 84)
5x35 yellow	(Mar 84) phos 31 mm apart print 189
5x35 yellow	(Aug 84) phos 31 mm apart print 190
5x35 yellow purplish	(Mar 84) phos 30 mm apart print 188.
6x35 yellow	(Oct 84) phos gap 32.5
6x34 yellow	(Oct 84) phos gap 30mm
6x34 yellow	(Oct 84) phos 30 mm apart print 188
7x35 yellow	(Apr 85) phos 30 mm apart print 190
5x36 yellow	85
7x35 yellow	1-85
5x34 yellow	3-85

5x34	yellow	3-85 inverted
5.5x34	yellow	6-85
6x35	yellow	11-85
6x36	yellow	12-85 right hand side
4x32.5	clear	1-86
5.5x34.5	yellow	3-86
4x32	yellow	5-86
5.5x34.5	yellow	6-86
5.5x34.5	yellow	7-86
6x35	yellow	9-86 in corner
5.5x34.5	yellow	9-86 30mm from corner
6x34	yellow	11-86
6x35	yellow	12-86
5x33	pale yellow	3-87

**DL size 221x110 no crest shallow 42-44mm triangular curved flap.**

6x35	yellow	1-88 right hand side
5.5x35	yellow	4-88 bottom left
5.5x35	yellow	4-88 bottom right
5.5x34.5	pale yellow	9-88
5.5x34.5	yellow	10-88
5x35	yellow	1-89
5.5x34.5	yellow	1-89
5.5x34.5	pale yellow	5-89
5x35	yellow	8-89 RH line 6mm, LH line 5.5mm
6x35	yellow	8-89

**DL Size 219 x 110 no crest on deep 61mm triangular curved flap.**

5x35	clear	1-90
6x35	pale yellow	9-91

**DL size 220x110 self seal envelope, 32mm flap with rounded corners.**

5x33	yellow	1/86 at LH
5		4/86
5.5x34	yellow	6-86
6x35.5	yellow	9-86 mint
6x35	yellow	10-86 inside
6x35	pale yellow	3/92 B

**DL size 221x111 self seal envelope, 31mm flap with rounded corners and 2 slits on flap.**

5.5x34.5	pale yellow	12-87
5.5x35	pale yellow	2-88
5x4.5	pale yellow	4-88 left hand side

**DL size 220x110 self seal envelope, 50mm flap pointed corners.**

5.5x34.5	pale yellow	6-89 printed inside
----------	-------------	---------------------

**DL size 220x110 self seal envelopes, 47mm flap with pointed corners and 4 vertical slits to flap.**

5		10-88
5x34	pale yellow	1-89
5.5x34	pale yellow	3-89 right hand side
5.5x35	pale yellow	5-89
6x35	yellow	6/89 right hand side
5.5x35	pale yellow	10-89 right hand side
5	transparent	6-90
6x35	pale yellow	8-91 right hand side
6x35	pale yellow	3/92 B right hand side
6x35	pale yellow	B 3/92 right hand side
4.5x34	pale yellow	5/92 B (B is sideways)

**DL (W) size 220 x 110 window Envelopes, 44mm shallow curved flap with embossed portcullis seal.**

4x33	yellow	(Mar 85)
6x34	yellow	(Jul 86)
5.5x33.5	yellow	9/86
6x35.5	yellow	12/86
5x34	pale yellow	4/87 left hand side
5.5x34	clear	1-88(bits of print missing)

**DL (W) 220x110 self seal window envelopes, 44 to 48 mm flaps, horizontal flap, 4 vertical cuts and pointed corners to flap.**

5.5x35	pale yellow	1-88 inside
5.5x35	pale yellow	10-88 RHS
5.5x35	pale yellow	5-89
5x34.5	pale yellow	6-89 RHS
5.5x36		2-91 RHS
6x36	pale yellow	3/92 B RHS
4x33	yellow	5/92 B (B is sideways) RHS
6x36	pale yellow	(Jun 92)

**DL (W) size 220x110 self seal window envelope, with Recycled Paper and logo on watermarked paper. ( The watermark consists of the word "REPEAT", approximately 43 mm long, and the recycled logo), 44 mm flap with rounded corners, with 4 vertical cuts.**

No Phosphor		11-95 left hand side mint
-------------	--	---------------------------

**C5 oversize, 270x216 boxed "River Series + Dee Cartridge" under flap or side flap.**

No phosphor	01/85 under top fold, box top
No phosphor	(Jul 86) box top
No phosphor	(Jan 94) box side

**Head in Octagon. Continental Style 1**

with 2 phosphor bands, as above, but now with continental style 1 between Post and Paid, i. e. with a purely diagonal short stroke. No crest on flap

**POST**  
**1**  
**PAID**

**Continental Style 1****Small size 162x114 Self seal envelopes, 42mm flap with rounded corners, and 4 slits.**

5	clear	(Mar 90) thick 1
5		(Mar 90) thin 1
5		(Jun 93) shorter flap end
5x34	clear	3/92 hidden under sealing point
5x35	transparent	6/93
5x34	pale red	03/94 RHS
5x33.5	pale red	03/95

**Small size 162x114 Self seal envelopes, 44mm flap with rounded corners, and 2 slits.**

5x31 or 34 greyish (Aug 90)

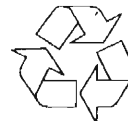
**DL size 220x110 self seal envelopes, 44 mm flap with rounded corners.**

5x34	transparent	6/90
5x34	grey-pink	11/92 right hand in seams

**DL size 220x110 self seal envelopes, 43 or 44 mm flap with 4 vertical slits and rounded corners.**

4x34	pale pink	(Mar 91) print length 196
5x34	pale pink	(Jan 92) print length 189
5x34	pale pink	(Jun 93) print length 191
5x34	grey	(Sep ??)
5x33	pale pink	(Jun 92)
6x32	transparent	(Jan 90)
5x34	transparent	6/90
5x34	clear	12/90 under 3 seams
5x33	pale red	11/92 under 3 seams RHS
5x33.5	pale pink	9/93
5x33.5	pink phosphor	1/94
5x33.5	pale red	03/95

DL size 220x110 envelope with recycled logo front, 44 mm flap with rounded corners and 4 slits.



Recycled Paper

**Recycled Logo**

5x33.5 pale pink (Jun 91)

**DL size 220x110 plain self seal envelopes, with recycled paper and logo, 44 mm flap with 4 vertical slits, and rounded corners.**

5x34	pink	(Nov 93)
5x33.5	transparent	(Apr 96)
5x33	pale pink	11/92
5x33.5	pale pink	3/93 hidden under 3 seams, LHS
5x33.5	pale pink	9/93 hidden under 3 seams, LHS
5x34	pink	1/94
5x35	transparent	07/94

**DL (W) size 220x110 window envelopes, self seal, 44 mm flap with rounded corners and 4 vertical slits.**

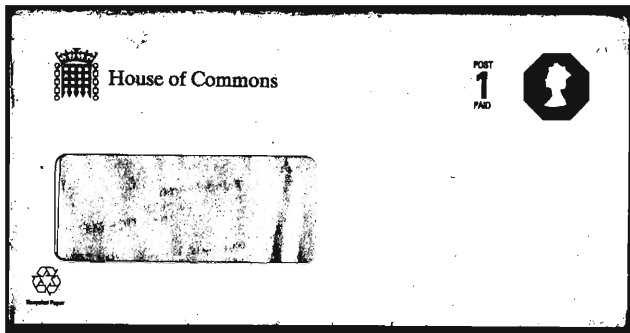
4x34	pale red	(Jun 90)
5x33.5	pale pink	(Jun 92)
5x33.5	clear	(Feb 92)
5x33.5	clear	6/90
5x33	pale pink	6/93
5.34	pink	1/94
5x33.5	pale pink	07/94 left hand side 55 mm up
5x33.5	pale pink	07/94 left hand side 28 mm up
5x33	transparent	02/95 RHS

**DL (W) size 220x110 self seal window envelopes, 44mm flap with pointed corners and 4 vertical slits.**

5x33 pale pink (Jul 93)

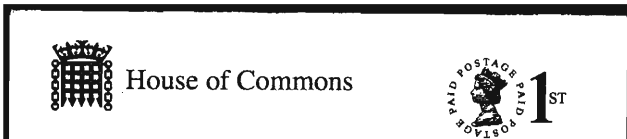
**DL (W) size 220x110 self seal, window envelopes, with Recycled Paper and logo on front, 44mm flap with rounded corners and 4 vertical slits.**

5x33.5 pale pink (Nov 95)



- 5x34 clear (Nov 92)
- 5x33 pale pink 11/92
- 5x34 pale pink 8/93 buried under seal join
- 5x33.5 pale pink 1/94 at LH bottom corner
- 5x34 pale pink 1/94 at RH bottom corner
- 5 clear 03/94
- 5x34 transparent 11/94
- 5x34 pink 5/95
- 5 clear 11/95

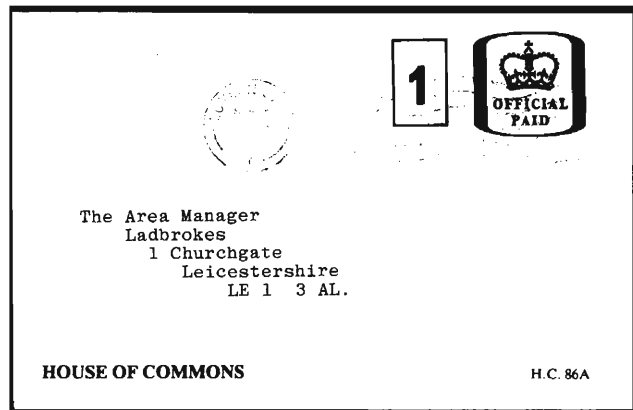
In 1995, Post Office stationery changed to varieties with the Queen's Head in a circle formed of Postage Paid repeated, printed in green (second class) or blue (first class). HoC stationery changed to the same style but continued in black.



The following parts of this article will list these later N.V.I. issues (Queen's Head in

Circle) and also the earlier issues of House of Commons Stationery:-

- Envelopes with the standard embossed stamp impressions of the reign, distinguished by the presence of a House of Commons seal on the flap. (Similar items exist for the House of Lords with the relevant seal on the flap.)
- Envelopes with a crown over "OFFICIAL PAID" in a T.V. screen shaped outline with a 1 in a rectangular box alongside. See the illustration below:
- Postcards.



I would be particularly interested to hear from members who have examples of House of Commons items with the crown over "OFFICIAL PAID" in a T.V. screen shaped outline as illustrated above.

Please contact:

George King,  
45, Rectory Lane,  
Long Ditton,  
Surrey KT6 5HP U.K.

## THE BATH POSTAL MUSEUM IS FIGHTING FOR ITS VERY EXISTENCE

Colin Baker

There has been much discussion in both the national and technical press recently whether the Bath Postal Museum will soon have to close its doors to the public. This would be a tremendous shame as Bath was one of the most important cities in England during the development of the postal system in the United Kingdom. It is the place where Ralph Allen lived and became Postmaster in 1712. Ralph Allen later developed the "cross posts" which permitted mail to travel across the country instead of having to pass through London, speeding up their delivery and reducing postal charges. Bath was also the starting point for John Palmer's first mail coach run in 1784, which soon led to the development of the mail coach network.

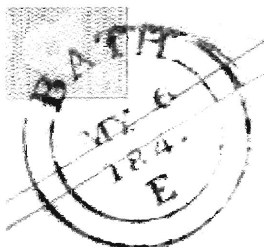
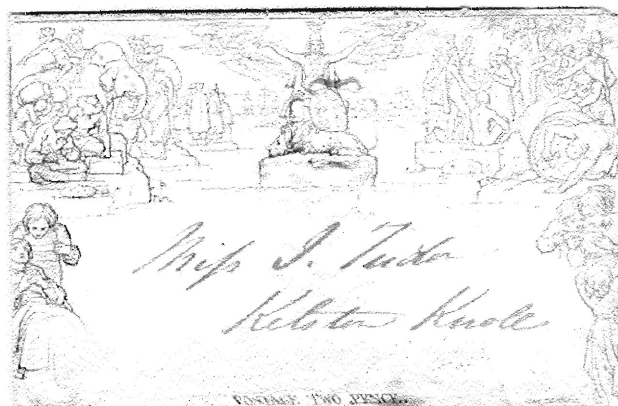
Bath Postal Museum is situated at 8 Broad Street, Bath, which was the town's main post office in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and is the building where the first penny black was used on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1840, four days before its official release date. For us postal stationery collectors it is also the building from which a 2d Mulready envelope was sent on its first day of use, 6<sup>th</sup> May 1840. There are believed to be only three such envelopes in existence today, and the one sent from Bath is now owned by the museum.



The museum takes up three floors of the building on Broad Street, with displays on postal history and postal memorabilia, film shows, computer games (for children, whatever age they happen to be) and much more. It organises educational visits for children and distributes information for teachers. Just recently it has issued hundreds of CD-ROMs to schools which tell the story of writing and communication. The museum also houses a number of important collections which have been left to it by eminent collectors, as well as other collections it has managed to purchase over the years.

The museum was established in 1977 and has been located at 8 Broad Street since 1985. It is run by two part time staff, supported by a group of enthusiastic volunteers. Despite its success, both as a museum and an important attraction in the City, the building's owner, the Bath and North East Somerset Council, have decided to reduce the rent subsidy on the property by £20,000 a year. The building is classified as a commercial property with the annual rent set accordingly. This reduction in rent subsidy means that the museum would be expected to find this sum annually, an impossible task. The council are in effect trying to force the museum to close its doors or go elsewhere.

At the moment there is no National Postal Museum in London and it would seem that it is unlikely to re-open its doors for quite a few years. This makes it even more important to keep the Bath Postal Museum open. It is currently the only postal museum in this country and is an establishment that a great many people feel should be retained. It is not just a local museum for the residents of Bath.



**Above:**  
Two penny Mulready envelope used on the first day  
**Left:** The 6th May 1840 date stamp on the back of the envelope

Many visitors come from overseas, as do parties of school children. Foreign visitors often say what a shame it is for them not to have a similar postal museum in their own country. Let's not get into that situation ourselves. Once we lose the Bath Postal Museum there is little likelihood of it re-opening again. So please give it as much support as you possibly can.

The Bath Museum's trustees have been fighting hard to reverse the Council's decision to reduce the rent subsidy, but at the moment have been unable to do so. Your support could help save the museum from closure. If you feel this is an important institution that should not be lost to the philatelic world then please help by writing to one (or both) of the following people:

- Stephen Bird, Head of Heritage Services, Bath & NE Somerset Council, The Pump Room, Stall Street, Bath BA1 1LZ, e-mail [stephen\\_bird@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:stephen_bird@bathnes.gov.uk)
- Councillor Nichole O'Flaherty, Executive Member of Tourism Leisure and Culture, The Guildhall, High Street, Bath, BA1 5AW

*Editor's Note:*  
*Colin Baker has discovered many interesting postal stationery items in the museum and will be writing about these in future issues of the Journal. The following article is the first in a series.*

# CLASSICS AT THE BPM

## 1. THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION

Colin Baker

The title of this article makes it sound as if I am going to report on a recital by Beethoven or Mozart at the local concert hall. But no. Instead I am going to tell you about some of the more interesting and unusual items of postal stationery that are held by the Bath Postal Museum (BPM). I hope that with the Editor's permission, this will become a regular feature and that it will generate responses from members, especially those who are interested in these items and perhaps have similar ones in their own collection.

I begin this series by looking through, postcards in the Frank Staff collection. Frank Staff is best known for his book on the penny post, but he collected a great deal of other philatelic material, with postcards being one area dear to him. During his years of collecting he sought out the unusual and rare items, and fortunately for us, his collection of postcards was given to the Bath Postal Museum so that we can all enjoy them today.

The first pair of postcards that I have unearthed were produced as part of a set for the World's Columbian Exposition.

of photographs. The designs cover three quarters of the back of the card, leaving just enough space for a short message. They are printed on standard US one cent postal stationery cards.

The first card (**figure 1**) is very patriotic, and Stripes. It also includes a view of the with a portrait of George Washington over the American symbol of an eagle holding the Stars waterfront side of the Exposition buildings. This postcard has not been used.

The second card (**figure 2**) is less patriotic and more of a plain souvenir of the Exposition, as it says in the top left hand corner.

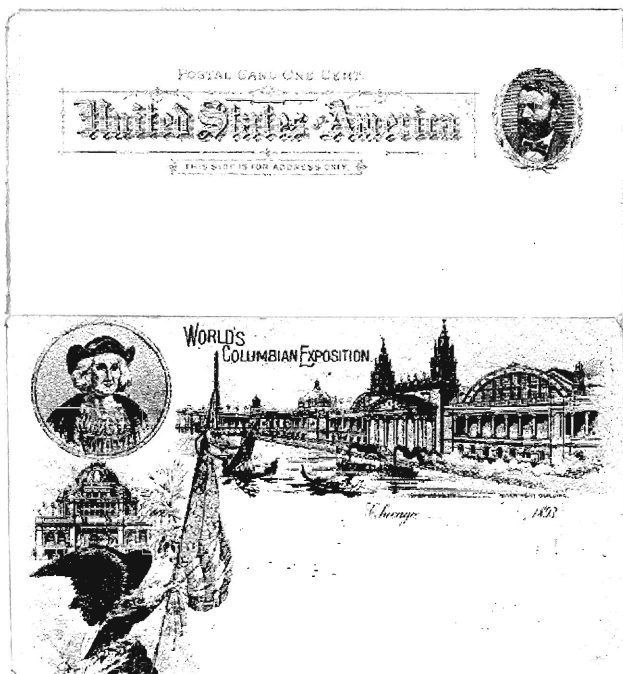


Figure 1. Front and back

They consist of line drawings which have been coloured, almost giving the appearance

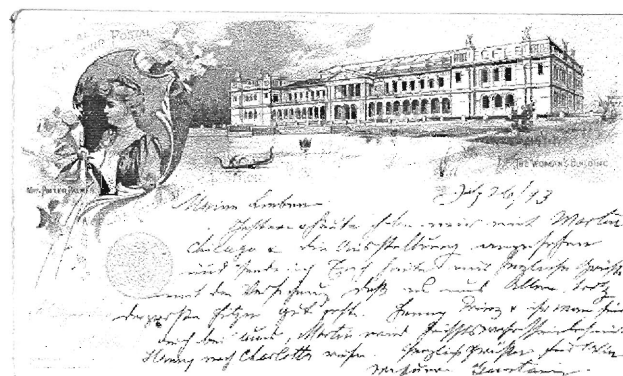


Figure 2.

The card provides a view of the Women's Building, which demonstrated the importance of the role of women in society.

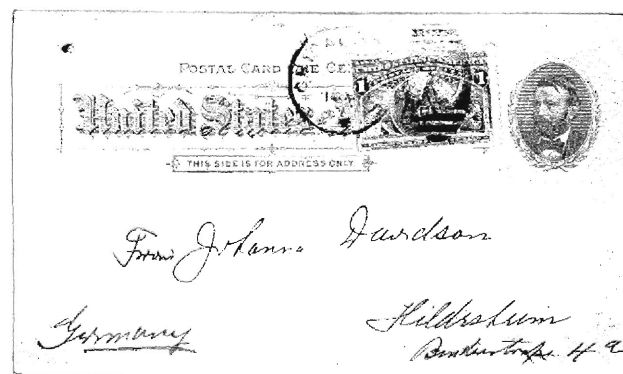


Figure 3.

It was sent to Germany (**figure 3**) and is aptly addressed to Frau Johanna Davidson.

The World's Columbian Exposition was held in Chicago in 1893 to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's

discovery of America in 1492. Wrangling over which city should host the event delayed the signing of the act that authorised the staging of the Exposition, and it was not until 1890 that things finally began to move. It took three years of hectic activity to construct the exposition, which meant that it was not ready for the actual anniversary year. It eventually opened to the public on 1st May 1893, closing its doors for the last time on 30 October the same year. The event was huge by anyone's standards, covering 630 acres of ground in Jackson Park and Midway Plaisance. It was designed by an eminent group of Chicago architects and cost over \$28 million to build (1893 prices).

It attracted more than 25 million people, most of whom paid the 50 cents entrance fee (although children under 12 went in for half price, while those under 6 were admitted free). Those arriving by boat on Lake Michigan were able to travel on the movable pavement or sidewalk up to the entrance. Visitors enjoyed a host of attractions including being able to ride the world's first 250 foot high Ferris wheel (about 80 metres) invented by George W Ferris. They could also view an eleven ton cheese and a statue of Venus de Milo built

from 1500 lbs of chocolate. There was also a 70 feet high tower of light bulbs in the Electricity Building (70 feet is about 20 metres high).

Of the 200 buildings that were erected for the exposition, only one remains today, the Museum of Science and Industry, originally called the Palace of Fine Arts. None of the buildings were expected to remain after the Exposition closed and nearly all of them were constructed from temporary materials. Even the Fine Arts building had to be dismantled down to its steel frame and rebuilt with stone.

You can find out more about the World's Columbian Exposition from the Chicago Historical Society. See their web site [chicagohs.org](http://chicagohs.org).

**The Bath Postal Museum** is open six days a week, 11.00am to 5.00pm (less in winter) and includes displays on many aspects of the postal service in Great Britain over the last few hundred years. For more information or to find out more about material held by the museum, ring 01225460333 or visit their web site [bathpostalmuseum.org](http://bathpostalmuseum.org).

## GREAT BRITAIN POSTAGE RATES PREPAID BY POSTAL STATIONERY 1840 – 2003

Compiled by Colin Baker

This article lists inland and overseas postage rates which were prepaid by the immense variety of postal stationery that was sold to the public by the Post Office. It also gives some of the postage rates for which privately produced postal stationery was impressed at Somerset House.

The first items of postal stationery to be made available by the British Post Office were the Mulready envelopes and lettersheets of 1840 and this is the starting point for the first part of this article.

Postage rates changed considerably during the 19th century, including those for which postal stationery was produced. **I would be grateful to receive comments from collectors about rates not included in this series of articles (or any other details). My intention is to compile this information into a revised version to be issued as a Booklet.**

However, I regret that although I would be pleased to hear from members who may be

able to expand on the information given in this booklet, I cannot attempt to unravel the postage paid on individual items of stationery.

The first part of this article covers:

### Inland Letters and Lettercards

- Important Dates for Postal Stationery Envelopes
- Important Dates for Postal Stationery Lettercards
- Postage Rates for Letters (Including Lettercards)

### Inland Postcards

- Important Dates for Inland Postcards
- Basic Postage Rates for Postcards

### Inland Printed Papers

- Book Post or Printed Paper Rate
- Newspaper Rate



The postage paid on some items may not seem to equal any postage rate given in this booklet. Additional fees on top of normal postage may have been paid for registration, express delivery or late posting and some indication of these is given in the end section.

**Editor's note:** *For those who are unfamiliar with the units of weight and currency, the following may serve as a guide.*

**Weight:**

1 ounce (abbreviated oz) = 28.35 grams

16 ounces = 1 pound (abbreviated lb)

**Currency:**

1 Pound (£) = 20 shillings

1 shilling (s) = 12 pence

1 penny (d) = 4 farthings

*In writing a value in shillings and pence, a / is used to separate the shilling unit from the pence unit:*

'One shilling would be 1/-.

'One shilling and two pence would be 1/2 '

'One penny would be 1d

'One penny halfpenny or 'three halfpence' would be 1½d

*the fraction '½' representing one half of a penny (halfpenny) was sometimes written with a horizontal bar '-' between the 1 and the 2:  $\frac{1}{2}$*

## INLAND LETTERS AND LETTERCARDS

### Important Dates for Postal Stationery Envelopes

**6th May 1840** - 1d and 2d Mulready envelopes and lettersheets valid for prepaying postage

**26th January 1841** - 1d pink prestamped envelopes replace the Mulready 1d envelopes

**April 1841** - 2d blue prestamped envelopes replace the Mulready 2d envelopes

**1844** - 1d pink prestamped lettersheets replace the 1d and 2d Mulready lettersheets

**1st October 1855** - The stamping to order of privately produced envelopes and lettersheets was allowed (carried out by the Stamping Department of the Inland Revenue at Somerset House)

**16th May 1890** - First Post Office commemorative postcard issued to celebrate the Jubilee of the Uniform Penny Post. (The postcard was stamped at the letter rate of 1d as it did not conform to the regulations governing postcards).

**2nd July 1890** - First Post Office commemorative envelope issued to

celebrate the Jubilee of the Uniform Penny Post.

**11th February 1892** - 2½d envelope introduced for use to all foreign destinations

**1st January 1893** - ½d unsealed "bag type" envelopes introduced for printed papers to inland and some overseas destinations. These envelopes were ungummed, but were provided with a special tuck-in flap to keep their contents safe.

**23rd April 1924 and 9th May 1925** - 1d envelopes printed with the special Wembley Exhibition stamp (which incorporated in the design the dates 1924 or 1925 as appropriate)

**16th September 1968** - Start of the two tier postal system (first and second class post)

### Important Dates for Postal Stationery Lettercards

**11th February 1892** - Post Office introduce their lettercard (although private lettercards had been available for some years)

**1st July 1911** - Colour of card changed from blue to white

**23rd April 1924 and 9th May 1925** - 1d lettercards printed with the special Wembley Exhibition stamp (which incorporated in the design the dates 1924 or 1925 as appropriate)

**16th September 1968** - Start of the two tier postal system (first and second class post)

### Postage Rates For Inland Letters (Including Lettercards)

In 1840 the postage on letters was 1d for an item weighing not more than ½ oz. By 1897 this has been reduced to 1d for letters weighing up to 4 oz. Wars and inflation in the 20th century gradually increased these rates so that by 1971 a letter weighing up to 4 oz cost 5d. (Today a 60 gram letter – 2oz – costs the equivalent of 5/3d.) For full details of the postage rates from 10th January 1840 to 2003 see the tables on pages 20 and 21.

## INLAND POSTCARDS

### Important Dates for Inland Postcards

**1st October 1870** - introduction of the ½d thin card. Postal stationery cut-outs no longer valid for postage

- 1870 to 1910** - all cards printed by Thomas De La Rue & Co. (Their contract finally terminated on 31st December 1910)
- 17th June 1872** - private postcards could be stamped at the Inland Revenue Stamping Department at Somerset house.
- 1st February 1875** - introduction of the ½d stout card.
- 1st October 1882** - introduction of the reply card.
- 1st September 1894** - adhesive stamps allowed to prepay the whole cost of postage for a card.
- 21st January 1895** - introduction of the court size card.
- 1st February 1897** - additional printing was allowed on the address side of cards, but no communication was to be written on that side.
- 1st January 1901** - colour of stamp changed to green to accord with UPU policy.
- 1st January 1905** - the use of stamps cut from items of postal stationery was once again allowed to prepay postage.
- 1st October 1907** - written communication allowed on one half of the address side of cards.
- 1st April 1911** - from this date all postcards were printed by McCorquodale & Co. (Their contract for printing postcards ran from 1st January 1911)
- 15th August 1914** - 1d Field postcards issued free for use by soldiers on active service.
- 23rd April 1924 and 9th May 1925** - 1d postcards printed with the special Wembley Exhibition stamp (which incorporated in the design the dates 1924 or 1925 as appropriate)
- 3rd May 1951** - Colour of 2d stamp changed to brown to accord with UPU policy

**Basic Postage Rates for Inland Postcards**

- 1st October 1870** - ½d
- 3rd June 1918** - 1d written cards,  
½d printed cards
- 13th June 1921** - 1½d written cards,  
1d printed cards
- 29th May 1922** - 1d written cards,  
½d printed cards
- 1st May 1940** - 2d written cards,  
1d printed cards
- 1st June 1951** - 1½d printed cards

- 1st October 1957** - 2½d written cards
- 17th May 1965** - 3d written cards



**1½d postcard – inland postcard rate between June 1921 and May 1922**

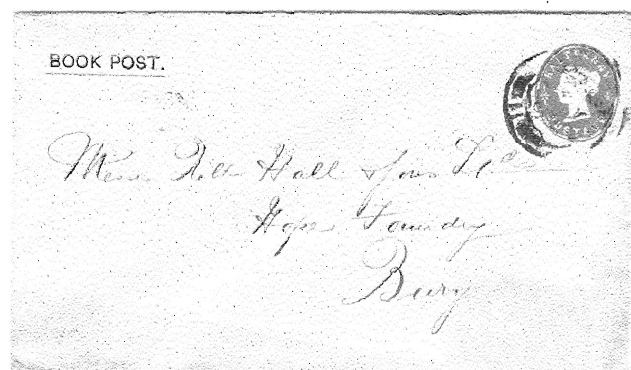
The postcard rate was abolished with the introduction of the two tier postal service on 16th September 1968.

**INLAND PRINTED PAPERS**

**Book Post or Printed Paper Rate**

Originally introduced as a "Book Post", regulations were relaxed in 1855 to allow virtually any printed matter to be sent by this method. These rates are summarised in the table on page 19.

The printed paper rate was abolished with the introduction of the two tier postal service on 16th September 1968.



**½d envelope - ½d book post envelope for a maximum weight of 2 oz**

**NEWSPAPER RATE**

(Only applicable for newspapers which were registered as such with the Post Office)

**10th January 1840** - Free unless addressed within the town of posting in which case they were charged 1d per copy.  
 - Within the UK by private ship 1d per copy  
 - No redirection charges were made for newspapers

**1st October 1870**  
 ½d per copy regardless of weight.

**1st November 1915** - Not exceeding 6 oz - ½d  
 Each additional 6 oz - ½d to a maximum of 2lb.

**1st September 1920** - Not exceeding 6 oz - 1d  
 Each additional 6 oz - ½d to a maximum of 2lb.

**1st July 1940** - Not exceeding 4 oz - 1½d  
 Each additional 4 oz - ½d to a maximum of 2lb.

**1st June 1956** - Not exceeding 4 oz - 1½d  
 Each additional 4 oz - ½d to a maximum of 2lb.

**1st October 1957** - Not exceeding 4 oz - 1½d  
 Each additional 4 oz - ½d to a maximum of 2lb.

**1st October 1961** - Not exceeding 4 oz - 1½d  
 Each additional 4 oz - ½d to a maximum of 2lb.

**17th May 1965** - Not exceeding 4 oz - 1½d  
 Each additional 4 oz - ½d to a maximum of 2lb.

INLAND BOOK POST OR PRINTED PAPER RATE									
Date	Weight Limit/Cost Ounces (oz)								
	1oz	2oz	4oz	6oz	8oz	10oz	12oz	14oz	16oz
21 <sup>st</sup> February 1848									6d
1855			1d		2d				4d
1866			1d		2d		3d		4d
1 <sup>st</sup> October 1870		½d	1d	1½d	2d	2½d	3d	3½d	4d
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 1897		½d	The rates for higher weight limits were the same as the letter rate and therefore the printed paper rate did not apply						
1 <sup>st</sup> November 1915		½d	1d	1½d	2d	2½d	3d	3½d	4d
3 <sup>rd</sup> June 1918	½d	1d	The rates for higher weight limits were the same as the letter rate and therefore the printed paper rate did not apply						
1 <sup>st</sup> June 1920	½d	1d	1½d	2d	2½d	3d	3½d	4d	4½d
13 <sup>th</sup> June 1921		1d	1½d	2d	2½d	3d	3½d	4d	4½d
29 <sup>th</sup> May 1922	½d	1d	1½d	2d	2½d	3d	3½d	4d	4½d
14 <sup>th</sup> May 1923		½d	1d	1½d	2d	2½d	3d	3½d	4d
1 <sup>st</sup> May 1940		1d	1½d	2d	3d	3½d	4d	4½d	5d
1 <sup>st</sup> June 1951			1½d	2d	3d	3½d	4d	4½d	5d
1 <sup>st</sup> January 1956		1½d	2½d	3½d	4½d	5½d	6½d	7½d	8½d
1 <sup>st</sup> June 1956			2d	3d	4d	5d	6d	7d	8d
1 <sup>st</sup> October 1957		2d	4d	5d	6d	7d	8d	9d	10d
1 <sup>st</sup> October 1961		2½d	4d	5d	6d	7d	8d	9d	10d
17 <sup>th</sup> May 1965		3d	5d	6d	7d	8d	9d	10d	11d
16 <sup>th</sup> September 1968	two tier postal service began and the special printed paper rate service was abolished.								

**Foreign mail, airmail, registered letters and other services will be covered in future issues of the Journal.**

## INLAND LETTER POST RATES FROM 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 1840 TO 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 1971

Date	Weight Limit in Ounces														Higher Weights
	½	1	1½	2	2½	3	3½	4	4½	5	5½	6	7	8	
10 <sup>th</sup> May 1840	1d	2d		4d		6d		8d		10d		1/-d	1/2d	1/4d	2d for each additional ½oz
1 <sup>st</sup> April 1865	1d	2d	3d	4d	5d	6d	7d	8d	9d	10d	11d	1/-d	1/2d	1/4d	1d for each additional ½oz
5 <sup>th</sup> October 1871		1d		1½d				2d				2½d		3d	½d for each additional 2oz up to 12oz, then 1d per oz
1 <sup>st</sup> July 1885		1d		1½d				2d				2½d		3d	½d for each additional 2oz
22 <sup>nd</sup> June 1897								1d				1½d		2d	½d for each additional 2oz
1 <sup>st</sup> November 1915		1d		2d				2½d				3d		3½d	½d for each additional 2oz
3 <sup>rd</sup> June 1918								1½d				2d		2½d	½d for each additional 2oz
1 <sup>st</sup> June 1920						2d		2½d		3d		3½d	4d	4½d	½d for each additional 1oz
29 <sup>th</sup> May 1922		1½d				2d		2½d		3d		3½d	4d	4½d	½d for each additional 2oz
14 <sup>th</sup> May 1923				1½d				2d				2½d		3d	½d for each additional 2oz
1 <sup>st</sup> May 1940				2½d				3d				3½d		4d	½d for each additional 2oz
1 <sup>st</sup> May 1952				2½d				3d				4d		5d	1d for each additional 2oz
1 <sup>st</sup> January 1956				2½d				4d				5½d		7d	1½d for each additional 2oz
1 <sup>st</sup> October 1957		3d		4½d				6d				7½d		9d	1½d for each additional 2oz
17 <sup>th</sup> May 1965				4d				6d				8d		10d	2d for each additional 2oz up to 1lb, then 3d for each additional 2oz
3 <sup>rd</sup> October 1966				4d				6d				8d		10d	2d for each additional 2oz up to 1lb, then 3d for each additional 2oz up to 1lb 8oz. 3/6d for 2lb and 2/-d for each additional lb
16 <sup>th</sup> September 1968	First Class Mail							5d				9d			3d for each additional 2oz
16 <sup>th</sup> September 1968	Second Class Mail							4d				6d			2d for each additional 2oz up to 1lb 2oz, then 1d for each additional 2oz up to 1½lb (max)

INLAND LETTER POST RATES FROM 15th FEBRUARY 1971 to 8th MAY 2003							
Date	Class	2 oz	4 oz	6 oz	8 oz	10 oz	12 oz
15 <sup>th</sup> February 1971	First		3p	5p	7p	9p	11p
	Second		2½p	4½p	5½p	6½p	7½p
6 <sup>th</sup> March 1972	First	3p	4p	6p	8p	10p	13p
	Second	2½p	3½p	5½p	6½p	7½p	8½p
10 <sup>th</sup> September 1973	First	3½p	5p	8p	10p	12p	14p
	Second	3p	4p	5½p	7p	8½p	10p
24 <sup>th</sup> June 1974	First	4½p	6½p	10p	12½p	15p	17½p
	Second	3½p	5p	7p	9p	11p	13p
17 <sup>th</sup> March 1975	First	7p	10p	12½p	15p	17½p	19½p
	Second	5½p	8p	9½p	11p	13p	14½p
<b>Post Office changes to metric weights</b>		<b>60 gm</b>	<b>100 gm</b>	<b>150 gm</b>	<b>200 gm</b>	<b>250 gm</b>	<b>300 gm</b>
29 <sup>th</sup> September 1975	First	8½p	11½p	15p	18p	21p	24p
	Second	6½p	9p	11p	13½p	16p	18½p
6 <sup>th</sup> June 1976	First	8½p	11½p	15p	18½p	22p	25½p
13 <sup>th</sup> June 1977	First	9p	12½p	16p	20p	24p	28p
	Second	7p	9½p	12p	15p	18½p	22p
20 <sup>th</sup> August 1979	First	10p	14p	18p	22½p	27p	31½p
	Second	8p	11p	13½p	17p	21p	25p
4 <sup>th</sup> February 1980	First	12p	17p	22p	27p	32p	38p
	Second	10p	13½p	16½p	21p	26p	31p
26 <sup>th</sup> January 1981	First	14p	20p	26p	32p	38p	44p
	Second	11½p	15½p	19p	24p	30p	36p
1 <sup>st</sup> February 1982	First	15½p	22p	28½p	35p	42p	49p
	Second	12½p	16½p	20½p	26p	32p	38p
5 <sup>th</sup> April 1983	First	16p	23p	29p	36p	43p	50p
	Second	12½p	17p	21p	27p	33p	39p
3 <sup>rd</sup> September 1984	First	17p	24p	31p	38p	45p	53p
	Second	13p	18p	22p	28p	34p	40p
<b>Reduction in second class rate</b>							
4 <sup>th</sup> November 1985	Second	12p	18p	22p	28p	34p	40p
20 <sup>th</sup> October 1986	First	18p	26p	32p	40p	48p	56p
	Second	13p	20p	24p	30p	37p	43p
5 <sup>th</sup> September 1988	First	19p	28p	34p	42p	51p	59p
	Second	14p	22p	26p	32p	39p	46p
2 <sup>nd</sup> October 1989	First	20p	20p	37p	45p	54p	62p
	Second	15p	24p	28p	34p	42p	49p
17 <sup>th</sup> September 1990	First	22p	33p	41p	49p	59p	68p
	Second	17p	27p	32p	38p	46p	55p
19 <sup>th</sup> September 1991	First	24p	36p	45p	54p	64p	74p
	Second	18p	28p	34p	41p	49p	58p
1 <sup>st</sup> November 1993	First	25p	38p	47p	57p	67p	77p
	Second	19p	29p	36p	43p	52p	61p
8 <sup>th</sup> July 1996	First	26p	39p	49p	60p	70p	80p
	Second	20p	31p	38p	45p	55p	64p
26 <sup>th</sup> April 1999	First	26p	39p	52p	66p	77p	88p
	Second	19p	31p	40p	50p	61p	70p
27 <sup>th</sup> April 2000	First	27p	41p	57p	72p	84p	96p
	Second	19p	33p	44p	54p	66p	76p
8 <sup>th</sup> May 2003	First	28p	62p	60p	75p	88p	£1.01
	Second	20p	34p	46p	56p	69p	80p

## NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

### NOTE TO ALL U.K. MEMBERS.

The Society is affiliated to the Association of British Philatelic Societies and we pay a fee to them based on the number of members who live in the United Kingdom. One of the benefits to those who live in the UK is that members can obtain discounts on production of their membership card. Full details are available from the secretary (Colin Baker), or direct from ABPS, but in summary the benefits are:

- ABPS publications** – 10% to 50% discount
- John Auld/Alliance Auctions** – 10% discount over £50
- Chrysalis Stamps** – 10% discount
- Collector's Forum** – 10% discount over £50
- Dauwalders' of Salisbury** – 10% discount on their own albums
- Interstamps** – free postage on auction purchases
- David Loffstadt** – 10% discount
- David Milton** – 10% to 12.5% discount on accessories and stamps
- Prinz Publications (UK) Ltd** – 10% discount
- The Royal Philatelic Society** – 10% discount on expertisation fees
- Stamp and Coin News** – 3 months subscription for £5
- Stamp Insurance Services** – £2 discount on insurance premiums
- Stamp magazine** – 30% discount on annual subscription
- Stanley Gibbons** – 10% discount on certain goods
- Warwick and Warwick** – 25% discount off catalogue subscriptions and reduced subscription rate
- Western Auctions Ltd** – 2.5% off vendor's commission over £5000
- Travel Offers** – £6.50 discount on Privilege Hotel Pass

Sorry, but the discounts listed above are not available to those members living overseas. However, because the Society does not have to pay fees to ABPS for overseas members this helps to keep our annual subscription the same for all Society members.

### DISPLAYS BY MEMBERS

Worthing (West Sussex)  
20th November 2003. George V & VI Postal Stationery. - John Norton

### BOOK REVIEW

#### PARAGUAY POSTAL STATIONERY CATALOGUE. A Mainsheet Special Edition.

Edited and published by Brian Moorhouse. A5. 40pp (2003) Price £8. ISSN 0268-3237

This catalogue has been compiled by the efforts of a number of contributors building upon the work done by earlier cataloguers such as Dr Ascher and the Editors of the Higgins and Gage catalogue. Each of the first four sections looks at a particular item of stationery, namely: Postal cards, Lettercards, Envelopes and Wrappers. Research of Philatelic Journals contemporary to the stationery

issue has provided more information on printings and counterfeits/ forgeries, whilst items from collections have contributed to information on earliest recorded dates, essays, original artwork and proof material.

'OFICIAL' overprints and printed to private order items are also recorded and illustrated. The fifth section looks at 'modern' material including postal cards with photographic illustrations from the 1980s and 90s and illustrated aerogrammes from the mid 1990s.

This is a handbook, rather than just a catalogue. It is well illustrated in black and white with valuations given as 'expected retail price' (in US \$).

A rewarding book for collectors of Paraguay postal stationery.

Available from the Publisher at P.O. Box 105, Peterborough PE3 9TQ, England, Vera Trinder, Leonard Hartmann (U.S.A.) or Burkhardt Schneider (Germany)

John Barker

### Great Britain Queen Victoria Registration Die with Florets and a Numeral.

Alan Huggins

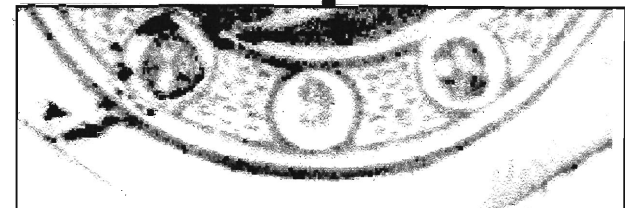
The impression of the 2d Queen Victoria 'Registration' die illustrated below (and on the front cover) shows a previously unrecorded variety, having the figure '9' placed in between two five dot floret plugs.

Michael Peach of Bedford, Nova Scotia



described this item to me and has kindly provided the enlarged illustration.

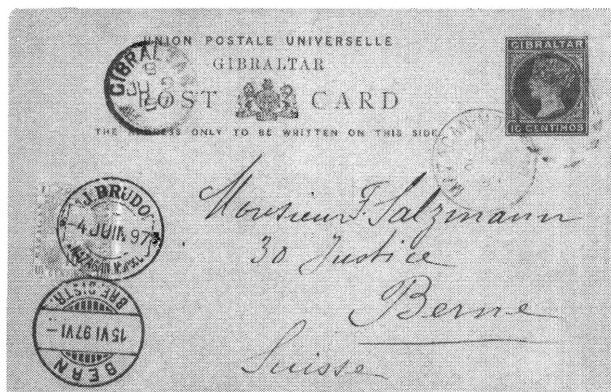
Unfortunately the item has been cut down but judging from the colour, the worn state of the 5 dot floret plugs and that the chignon curl is type 2, it is almost certainly from



the 1883-85 period ie. RP13 (British Postal Stationery 1970). It is amazing that this variety should come to light after over a century but other examples maybe lurking undetected in collections. If anyone finds one please let us know.

## Spring Auction

The Grosvenor Spring 2004 Auction of All World Postage Stamps and Postal History is currently in preparation. It will be held in the saleroom at our offices in the Strand.



We are actively seeking collections and lots for inclusion in the sale. *Why not take advantage of the current buoyant market and contact us today?*

Grosvenor offers sellers a friendly and flexible approach; a fully inclusive commission rate with no hidden extras; prompt payment; extensive international mailing and internet coverage; superb quality catalogues

To register your specialist collecting interests with us please either write to us at the address below or telephone, fax or email us.

Postal Stationery from around the World features regularly in our specialised auctions.

*Complimentary catalogues are available on request.*

James Grist, Andrew Claridge, Nick Mansell or Chris Lawrence await your call

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7379 8789

Fax: +44 (0)20 7379 9737

Email: [info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk](mailto:info@grosvenor-auctions.co.uk)

Website: [www.grosvenorauctions.com](http://www.grosvenorauctions.com)

### Classified Advertisements

In response to enquiries I am accepting 'For Sale' adverts at 10p per word, subject to available space, with a minimum of £2-00 per insertion. Please let me have your advert with remittance by the copy date.

Packet 10 mint reply paid postcards 4d + 4d black including wrapper penultimate post office issue. Ditto 4d + 4d red final post office issue. £8 packet including P/P inland. 01255 428292

The Journal is published four times per year:

February	Copy date - 1st January
May	Copy date - 1st April
August	Copy date - 1st July
November	Copy date - 1st October

Display Advertisements are welcome at the following rates:

A4	full page	£40
	half page	£20
	quarter page	£10

Please contact the Editor (Details on p2)

### G.B. POSTAL STATIONERY

I hold the most comprehensive stock. My lists are FREE for a 9" x 6½" SAE stamped for 250 gms

I want to BUY any clean mint G.B. Postal Stationery overprinted for use overseas and clean mint scarcer items of G.B. itself, send well packed, for my offer.

ANDREW A. WHITWORTH  
1 Prizet House, KENDAL, LA8 8AB  
015395 - 60848  
e-mail: [pothies@ukf.net](mailto:pothies@ukf.net)