

Capital Philately

Incorporating PASTCARDS and Machinations.
Published by The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

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Wenden Revisited
Stamps of a Latvian District

Phone Cards
Collecting More Than Stamps

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Snail Mail Strikes Back



London's River
- Part 1



The Philatelic Society of Canberra Inc.

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CAPITAL PHILATELY

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EDITORIAL

Our fourth, and final issue for this volume contains an interesting mix of subjects, and really tempts us to take Capital Philately to the next evolution - colour. With the advances in digital printing technologies and the subsequent reduction in costs associated, combined with the ease of acquiring coloured images at good resolution this seems to me to be where we should advance next.

However as is your magazine... as Editor, I see huge advantages in opportunities to illustrate things as they really are, rather than rely on interpretation of greyscale images, and this will also allow us to approach issues that have not been possible before. Both Machinations (although colour matching may involve a little trial and error) and Pastcards really lend themselves to a colour focus and the vividness of their subject is often lost when dulled down to a mono display. I would be interested to hear any feedback you may have on the matter, perhaps we should try it for a volume and then assess the outcome. With this in mind, are there any subjects out there that you feel should be covered in this experiment - stories you have been sitting on waiting for just this opportunity? We always need new contributions, and I know that the different views and perspectives provided by our authors are what get our brains ticking over and thinking in new directions.

Now on to other matters... Snail Mail Strikes Back!

Recently I succumbed to the eBay bug, and purchased some books from Overseas. Most of these arrived promptly, but there was one package that caused a few headaches. Three paper-back books were purchased from the UK, and posted surface mail. Now the caveat was that posting surface could take 6 to 8 weeks, but was by far the most economical solution (as there was no urgent need for the books - timewise), but I didn't really expect it to take over 2 months. Emails flew back and forth at speeds I wished my purchases could have made, and the parcel was even overtaken on the way by a subsequent purchase travelling the same way?!

Eventually I received the package, but then things got curiouser and curiouser (Alice may have understood, but I couldn't). The parcel was correctly addressed (well almost, the postcode was a bit off), the postage label showed the right rate, and Surface designation as expected, but then there was the Airmail Sticker...? The Sender assures me that that was not on the parcel when she posted it, and as you can see, it is a Royal Mail adhesive. The only thing on the back of the package was the senders name and address, in fact the whole thing seems devoid of any

postoffice marks anywhere, but these days that is not unusual. I'm sure that if there had been stamps rather than a label for the postage there would be the terrible biro cachet, but the packet was unmarked by even a postoffice pen.

So the question remains, what happened to the books?

I have a few theories, after all, it is human nature to invent an explanation for something if there is not one forthcoming - for example The Loch Ness Monster, Bermuda Triangle, Dragons, Yowies, Crop Circles and so on.

- The Royal Mail really does use snails to deliver overseas mail, and the surface route from the UK to Australia has all these salty puddles in the way. Snails don't like salt, but all in all, this one did pretty well for a mollusc. Could it have had help from a Giant Pink Sea Snail like the one befriended by the Great Doctor Dolittle? *SU stands for Snail Underwater??*
- There was a flash of charity, and the parcel was upgraded (probably on someone else's frequent flyer points) to Air Mail, unfortunately the swallows working the shift were the European variety, rather than the larger African Swallow, and were not briefed on the strategy of carrying objects between two on a strand of creeper. They need to show more educational films of the python style to the avian population.
- Alternatively the aforementioned avian facilitator was of the African variety, but of course, we aren't in Africa are we? *SU stands for Swallows Unlimited??*



Seriously, it's all a bit of a mystery, but at least everything comes to be (or she) who waits, eventually, well they haven't a choice really but to wait have they?

I think you've waited long enough now, so on to the issue, an eclectic mix, with Wenden postage, Phonocards, Machins and some beautiful Thames postcards (watch out for snails and swallows). Enjoy, and try to visualise the issue in living colour.

THE STAMPS OF THE WENDEN DISTRICT IN LATVIA. 1863 –1903

Christel Larko

Capital Philately has published in Vol 23, No 3, an account of the postal history of the district administered from Wenden, the town now called Cēsis in modern Latvia. The circumstances in which Wenden remained a place listed in major stamp catalogues when all the other numerous Imperial Russian local district posts, called zemstvos, were misleadingly dropped, has also been reviewed by various writers; for example The Royal Philatelic Society, London reported in the fourth meeting of the session 1942-43, in "Royal Philatelic Society, London.," Pages 39 and 40:

My afternoon's display was by Sir John Wilson [Sir John was keeper of the Royal Collection, Ed.] and "The Introduction to Russian Zemstvo Posts".

Sir John Wilson, in his final words, mentioned that "what he has stated was more or less a resume of existing literature on the subject and referred the members to Koprovskis work of 1875 and to Vols. 11 and 12 of the "Stamp Collector's Magazine" in which appeared a splendid story of the development of the Zemstvo system. The stamps were not "locals" at all, they were really Government post, and although removed from the catalogue were just as much Government issues as half of the stamps listed in Stanley Gibbons catalogue."

The stamps and postal history material of Wenden Kreis are today elusive, it is over a century since they were in use, and the areas in which they were issued, and in many cases in which philatelists who were interested in them lived, have been swept over by the destructions of two European Wars. Turning to the more familiar catalogues such as Gibbons Simplified World Catalogue is hardly helpful, listings have not been revised for years and contain omissions, error and confusions. In the early days of philately the stamps were mostly studied in detail in German, so a translation of information on designs, printings, and the circumstances of their use is helpful; we work from the undated monograph by Carl Schmidt published around 1910, as an offprint from an article in a journal, who reviewed various articles published in the late 19th and early 20th century in various languages by collectors who had actually seen stamps, part sheets, and covers; some of this material has not survived today.

The issue of stamps for local use within the Wenden administrative area was authorised on December 15th 1862, and on January 1st 1863 the first stamps came into use. An official postal service had already been created in 1857 by, in effect, taking over a service that distributed notices to parishes for posting in churches. The postal rates were set at 2 kopecks for letters up to one lot (a weight unit equal to about 12.8 grams) and 4 kopecks for heavier letters, or for parcels up to five funt (a funt is about a half-kilo or a pound). Over that weight the postman, a horse rider, could decline heavy parcels or postpone carrying them.

The first stamp in 1863 was a circular design, light blue, and imperforate, inscribed WENDENSche KREIS BRIEF POST. It is worth noting that Wenden was the only post in Imperial Russia that for a while had its stamps inscribed in German and not in Cyrillic, this was a consequence of the fact that rural Livonia was in effect ruled then by a German-speaking aristocracy of land-holders. Some authorities consider this stamp was prepared for use but not issued, others assert that it did not last in use long as it reportedly fell off parcels. It was printed in sheets of 8 x 10 and mostly ungummed.



The next two stamps, issued in 1863, imperforate and gummed, were of a similar large format, about 28.5 x 18.5 mm, one for letters (BRIEFMARKE) of 2 kop. in black on pink and one for parcels (PACKENMARKE) of 4 kop. in black on blue-green. Svenson, in his 1904 article, considered that these stamps were printed in Germany. The letter stamp lasted in use for about a year, the parcels stamp until 1871, and was reprinted.

They appear to be typographed lettering on a background of wavy lines such as engine-turning used on bank

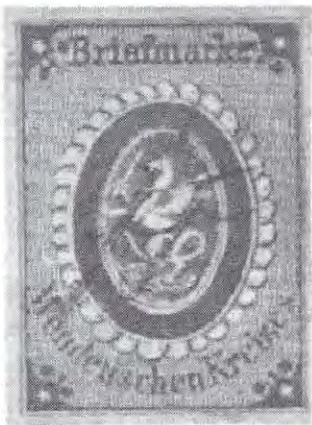
note designs. Some examples with an inverted background have been recorded. The parcel stamp has been found used on letters bisected to make up a 2 kop. rate.

The official forgeries, which differ in colour and in some slight details of the lettering, were authorised in July 1880 in a print run of 10,000, in sheets of 3 x 6. Most of these were burnt by a Livonia court order in April 1906. The instigator of these and later forgeries was a Baron von Campenhausen, the post director, who was in collusion with the printers Burchardt-Stahl in Riga.

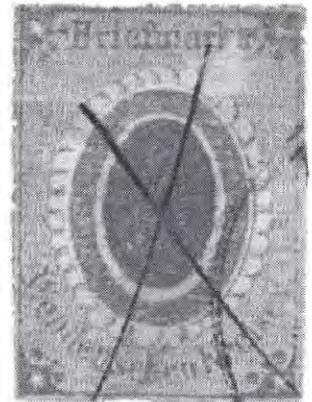


From 1864 onwards the succeeding five stamp designs resembled in size and format the Imperial Russian stamps then in use outside the Wenden district but with design variations in the center oval. The 1864 issue was produced by G. Plates in Riga, imperforate and gummed, in carmine and green and 16 x 22.5 mm. It was reprinted in 1866/70.

It is inscribed Briefmarke. horizontally at the top, and Wendenschen Kreises in a curve below the empty central green oval. It appears to be lithographed from engraved transfers.



The next issue, of 1865, appears to have used the same stones as the previous stamp, for the frame, but the central oval now has put in it a coat of arms, the griffin of the province of Livonia. This poorly drawn image is sometimes misdescribed as a horse. Stamp magazines noted its existence by 1865, and already a forgery from Nürnberg in Germany had appeared. The stamp was unpopular because Wenden had its own arms and did not wish to be represented by Livonia, even though Wenden is within Livonia, so after a short time reversion to the empty green center oval prevailed.



The 7th to the 11th printings of the frame now had the center altered to show the arms of Wenden, an arm coming out of a cloud and holding a sword, and in 1872 perforations 12.5 x 13 were introduced for the first time. Now the text Briefmarke Wendenschen Kreises is on a band around the centre oval, with a rosette in the gap between the start and end of the inscription; the stamp is not denominated though it sold for 2 kopecks.



The second design with the arms of Wenden, from 1875, got its denomination shown, so it is easily distinguished by the small figure 2 in each corner, inside a little shield. The main field of the design is now green and not red. It is perf 11.5.



The third design with the arms of Wenden is perhaps one of the easiest to find today. This 1878-1894 issue exists in five printings. According to the records of

the Burchardt-Stahl printing company, the first stamps of this kind were delivered at the end of May 1878, It is easy to distinguish from the previous small format stamps, for much of the design is in greyish-black and the values 2 are in relatively large circles in each corner of the design.

The stamps are lithographed, the size about 16.2 x 22.2 mm, perf 12.5-13, or later 11.5, and about 375,000 copies were produced of the first printing. This is still a relatively easy stamp to find, partly because of a host of reprints made in 1893, in various colours; they can also be identified because their perforation is 11.5, or imperforate. Distinctions between the various printings may be made as follows:

1st printing, June 1878. Greyish, green and carmine-red. In sheets of 132, 11 rows of 12 stamps, on white paper.

2nd printing, May 1880. Grey, red and green, perf 12.5 x 13. A total of 217,800 printed, on yellowish paper.

3rd printing, July 1884-1892. Black, red and green, perf 11.5. A total of 276,660 printed. The green part varies, earlier as yellow green to olive green and later from 1890 as blueish green. This is the first issue on which a postmark rather than ink cancellations can be found.

4th printing, December 1893. Blackish, Bright red and green, from a new stone with a new layout, 8 rows of 14 stamps. Imperforate printer's waste examples with defects exist.

5th printing, 1894. Black, red and green. The colours are unstable and affected by exposure to light, reprints with perforation faults exist.



With increasing Russification directed from St. Petersburg the last stamp issue, of 1901-1903, was inscribed with the Russian words meaning Wenden district post, in modern Russian Cyrillic this would be ВЕНДЕНСКАЯ УЕЗДНАЯ ПОЧТА. The design shows the ruins of the castle of Wenden, which dates from 1207.

The stamp occurs in two types, two transfers on the lithographic stone, which are found together in the same sheet. On the first type a small part of the point of the right middle arrow just reaches into the picture of the ruin, on the second type the point is much longer. Also, the second type has a coloured dot in the right pearl above the left lower shield which gives the pearl the appearance of the

letter "A". The sheets are made up of 150 stamps, 15 rows of 10 each, or in 6 groups of 25 each. The sheet layout and the colours enable us to distinguish the four printings.

The layout of major design varieties in the sheet panes of the printings is in some cases given in Schmidt's monograph. A photocopy of these can be provided by the author on request.

This last design was issued in four printings, all printings were perf 11.5. One catalogue lists merely brown and green, red and green, and purple and green, as the colours used, but other sources that can be used to distinguish the printings give in order dark green and brown, dark grey-green and brown, dark grey-green and red, and dark grey-green and violet-red. The last printings could not have had much postal use since the post was wound up within weeks of the 1903 printings.

Like many early and obscure European stamps, reprints, private forgeries and remainders exist and were created a long time ago, as noted in some cases 10,000 'official forgeries' were deliberately created by the Wenden authorities.

Most of the stamps are pencancelled with a cross, only two postmarks are recorded, one that was left over from

TELEPHONE CARD RAMBLINGS

Tony Luckhurst

HISTORY

In late 1975 the company SIDA (who were actually a manufacturer and supplier of vending machines) produced the first phone card. These prepaid phone cards were produced in 1976 and put on the market to combat vandalism and payphone theft. The cards had a magnetic stripe and were thin and often jammed. In 1977 magnetic strip cards were also produced in other European countries (like Austria, United Kingdom). They become reasonably popular.

Inductive technology was invented in Brazil in 1978. They contain a series of coils embedded into the card. When the card is used up the coil blows. It means a used card looks like a mint card (until you put it into the phone!). They were not used for some time later.

Japanese cards (Anritsu, Tamura) cards were produced in 1982. These cards punched holes into the cards to indicate use. Telstra used this type of card before converting their phones to chip cards. These cards were also used in the Japanese transit system.

In 1984 France began to experiment with chip-based smart cards.

Another form of magnetic card produced in the USA by GPT in 1987. These became the most widely used type of magnetic card.

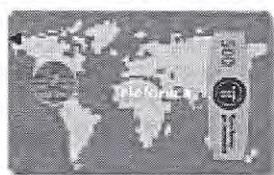
In 1989 a remote phone card made an appearance in Hawaii. These cards were not inserted into the telephone. You scratched a panel on the back of the card to reveal a PIN. You dialed a number and revealed the PIN. This gave you credit to use the phone. The advantage of these cards is you can use them on any phone. As the USA had many different telephone companies these became more useful. When Australia deregulated their phone systems these cards became much more popular. They can be used anywhere on any phone. Examples of these are the "Phone Away" cards and the mobile phone recharge cards.

Chip cards are also widely used. There are many different types of chip cards. These are produced by different manufacturers. They can also be used as a replacement for cash. The idea was trialed in Australia but did not catch on.

Due to the prevalence of mobile phones there are not as many new phone cards being issued. A look at the phone card sites on the Internet revealed many broken links!

TYPES OF TELEPHONE CARDS

Many different technologies have been used to manufacture telephone cards. Some telephone companies have used more than one technology in their pay phones.



MAGNETIC CARDS

SIDA and URMET Cards

These cards had a magnetic stripe on the back of the card. They were inserted into the phone in a vertical direction. Before they could be used the corner of the card was detached. Thus it was easy to see whether a card had been used. Once the card was fully used it was kept by the phone machine. So to collect these cards you must not use them up. The cards not produced for Italy also had a use indication system on the back.



AUTELICA

These cards are also magnetic. Autelica is a Swiss company. The cards use a “watermark” technology which was developed by Thorn-EMI to prevent skimming, buffering and forgery. The cards have a magnetic stripe on the face of the card. The stripe is about 11mm wide. The pictorial design is on the back of the card. The cards are inserted stripe side up into the phones.



ALCATEL-BELL

These magnetic cards were manufactured in Belgium. They are similar to the Autelica cards. These cards have a magnetic stripe on the back and a barcode. The barcode is also covered by a black stripe which could seem to appear like a thicker magnetic stripe. The cards are swallowed by the phone when they are fully used. Turkey was the only country to use these type of cards in their phones. The cards can also be recharged and used again. This means that some Turkish cards may not be in good condition.



GPT

These are the most widely used magnetic cards. Most countries at one stage have used this technology in their cards. New Zealand, Malaysia and Singapore have used this technology. The cards are much thicker than the other cards. All these cards have a notch in the side of the card. There are a series of magnetic stripes on the back of the card. Between 5 and 7 stripes appear (3 at the centre and one in each corner for the 7 stripe or 2 at the bottom corners for the 5 stripe cards). There is also a notch in the side of the card. The back of each card is black with silver lettering. Malaysia and Singapore also use a use-indication system which shows the number of units used by making a small dent at the end of each call. They also have a silver panel on the back which has a control code has been typed. This is a series of numbers and letters which help indicate where the card comes from.



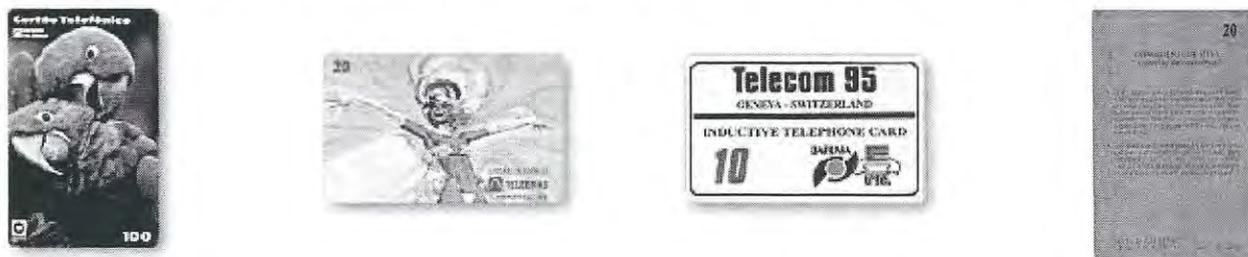
“JAPANESE” CARDS

Cards manufactured by Tamura, Anritsu and Hakuto are often grouped together due to their similar appearance. They are also magnetic cards. They are much thinner than the GPT cards. The back of the card does not contain a visible magnetic stripe (like all the above cards). The back of the card is usually silver or bronze. The back of the card is encoded while the front of the card has a multicolored design on it. Usage is indicated by punching a hole onto the usage scale which is visible from the front of the card. Australia used this system first before adopting chip cards. Telecom Australia (Telstra) cards all have a green arrow printed on the front of the card. This indicated the direction of entering the card into the phone.



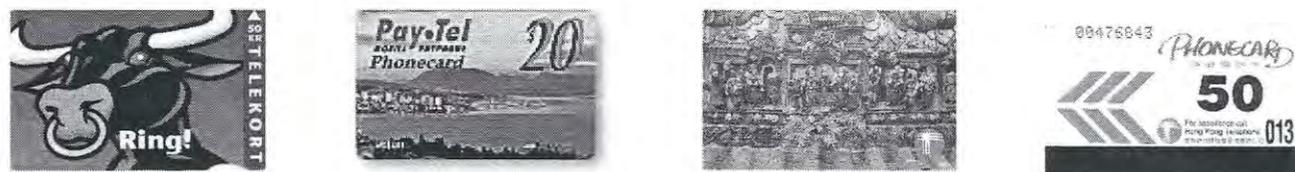
INDUCTIVE CARDS

Each card contains 104 electrical induction coils. The telephone contains another coil which searches for an unused coil and blows it when it is used up. There is no indication to show that a card has been used up. New cards are sold in a wrapper. Brazil is the only country to use these types of cards.



OTHER MAGNETIC CARDS

Cards manufactured by other companies like Pay-Tel (Australia) and telephone companies in Hong Kong and Denmark all have a magnetic stripe on them. They can be of varying thicknesses. They operate the same way as the above magnetic stripe cards.



OPTICAL CARDS

LANDIS & GYR

These cards are also known as optical cards. They work by reflecting a laser beam off diffraction patterns embossed into an aluminum strip on the card. Units are cancelled by a hot probe which physically destroys the pattern. A white thermographic band was printed onto the strip. The optical strip then could show a black mark to indicate the usage of the card. These cards are used in Great Britain, Austria and Switzerland.



CHIP CARDS

This has been a very popular technology since its inception in 1984. There are many different chip companies (Schlumberger, Gemplus, GPT and Orga). Many countries (including Australia) have converted their payphones to accept chip cards. The cards all have a silicon chip embedded into the card. The number of units information is stored on the chip. When a call is made the card is updated to show the remaining units left. The chip is connected to a gold, silver or nickel contact. These can be of various shapes depending on the manufacturer. Some chip cards can also be used in other machines. Some cards can also be used to obtain material from vending machines.



REMOTE-MEMORY CARDS

These cards are not inserted into a phone. The predetermined value on the card is stored on a central computer. The card owner calls a toll-free number and reveals their PIN. This is stored under a scratch-off panel on the back of the card. This activates the card so it can be used on any phone (Some cards can also be used in other countries to "call home"). Each time the card is used you dial up the number and enter your PIN. This works until the credits are run out. Some cards allow you to add more credits. These are good for countries which have a deregulated phone system like Australia and the USA. It means you can use an Optus card in a Telstra payphone. These cards can offer cheaper calling rates than conventional phone cards. Mobile phone recharge cards also use this system. Lately most mobile phone recharge centers give you a docket with a PIN on it. Similar to the white postage labels you find on parcels nowadays-not very collectable.



COLLECTING PHONE CARDS

When Telecom Australia introduced phone cards in 1989 they used values of \$1.50, \$3.00 and \$6.00. These were for the initial trail at Geelong. When the cards were introduced to other states and territories they had values of \$2.00, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00 and \$50.00. To acquire mint set of all cards would have been quite expensive. They produced collector packs for each set of commemorative cards they produced. There were many ways of collecting cards-buy them and keep a mint card, use them yourself, buy them from dealers or get them from the phone boxes. Many an hour was spent hounding the payphone boxes and picking up used phone cards. Telecom used to have a box underneath the payphone where you could put your used cards. Some dealers often got visits from children who had acquired bundles of cards. This may earn them \$20. The dealer would sell them for much more! Cards can be mint, fine used (one hole) or used (multiple holes).



Like any new craze it was overdone. They started producing cards for Generic use (definitives!), Advertising and Promotional. There were also Custom Cards issued. These cards can have a very small print run. Some cards were made by Telecom / Telstra for private companies and are still very hard to get. Eventually phone cards became unpopular and cards that were hoarded began to flood the market.

They are still collectable. It is possible to collect many themes on the cards. Examples are scenery, flora and fauna. It is also possible to collect stamps and coins on phone cards.



Acknowledgements: There was a very good web site run by Andrea Lughy (<http://www.all-cards.net/all.cards/>). I was able to obtain valuable information and some pictures in order to complete this article. Thanks, Andrea!

PASTCARDS

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WHO WERE THE FIRST EUROPEANS
TO SET FOOT ON AUSTRALIAN SOIL?

Four Hundred years ago, in 1606, Captain Willem Janszoon and his crew onboard the Dutch Vessel Duyfken were the first Europeans to set foot on Australian soil - over 150 years before Captain Cook arrived in 1770.

In 2006, a replica of the Duyfken is undertaking a 10-month voyage to commemorate the 400th anniversary. The 12,000km voyage will see the ship stop at 25 ports around the country, sharing the story of a significant but often forgotten period in our maritime heritage.

The Duyfken is now in Queensland, and will be travelling to NSW waters in late October/November; for more information visit www.duyfken.com and share in this living history.

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EDITORIAL

Short and sweet - that's what we all like in an editorial - so this time, you can get what you want. Take a trip up the Thames, without getting your feet wet in this first installment of postcards showing London's mighty river and its surrounds.

LONDON'S RIVER - PART 1

Elspeth Bodley

The River Thames rises in the Cotswolds, near Cirencester, and runs for 215 miles through the heart of southern England. The official mouth of the river is between Sheerness on the south bank and Shoeburyness on the north. For centuries the river has been close to the centre of English history and was the major transport route until roads improved and railways were developed.

These postcards illustrate a journey upstream and touch upon some of the river's story.

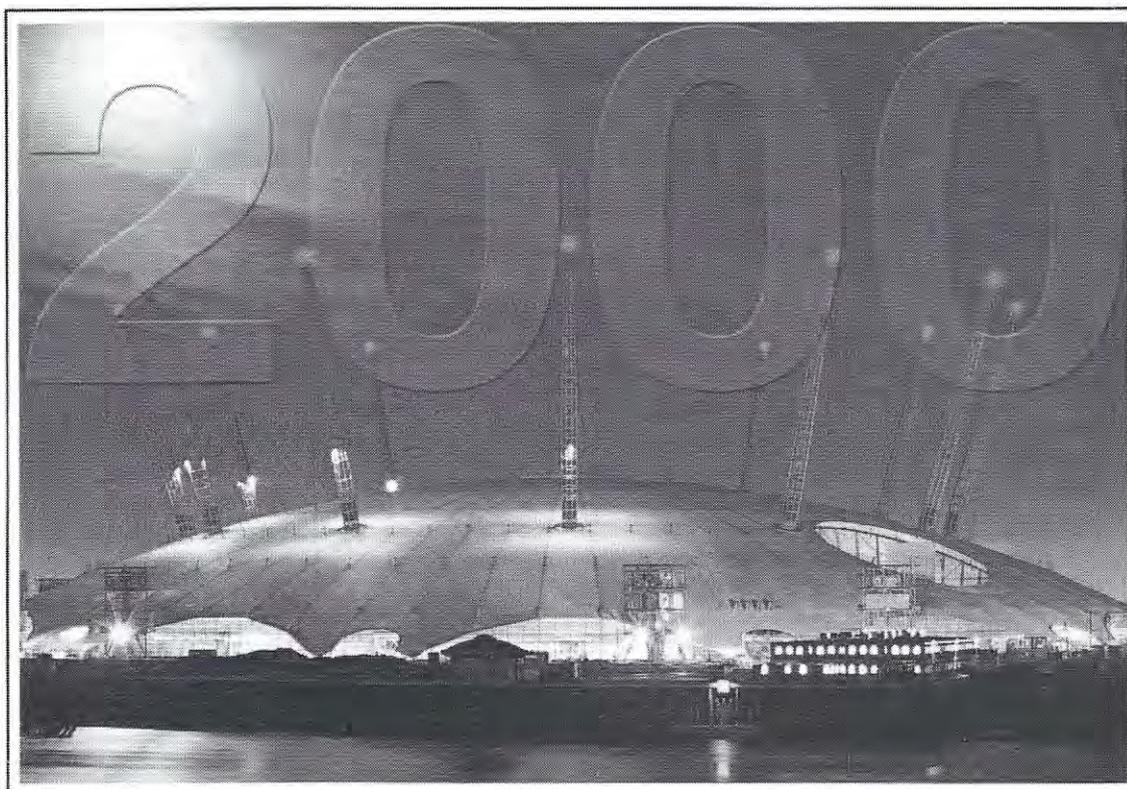
LONDON'S RIVER – THE THAMES

From the Millennium Dome at Greenwich to the Palace of Westminster, this trip along the Thames covers one thousand years of London's history.

1. The Millennium Dome

- built as an exhibition space to celebrate the year 2000, but not as successful as hoped.

(London Postcard Co. unused)



The royal Palace of Placentia at **Greenwich** was Henry VIII's residence from 1512 to 1532 after fire damaged the Palace of Westminster. Henry VIII and his daughters Mary and Elizabeth were all born here.

Christopher Wren built a new palace here for Charles II. It was extended by William and Mary in 1688 and became the Royal Naval Hospital in 1705, later to become the Royal Naval College in 1873.

2. Royal Naval College, card posted in 1905

(Publisher P S & V, London, postally used 1904)



PASTCARDS

Greenwich is also home to the Old Royal Observatory (founded by Charles II, 1675) and the 0 degrees Meridian Line runs through the site.

3.

Greenwich Observatory

(Publisher: Manning & Sons, Greenwich, postally used 1906 to South Africa)



Tower Bridge was built between 1886 and 1894.

4.

This is the scene at the Official Opening in 1894, a scene also used in the 2004 British set of stamps of bridges of London.

(Publisher: Hildesheimer & Co Ltd, undivided back, unused)

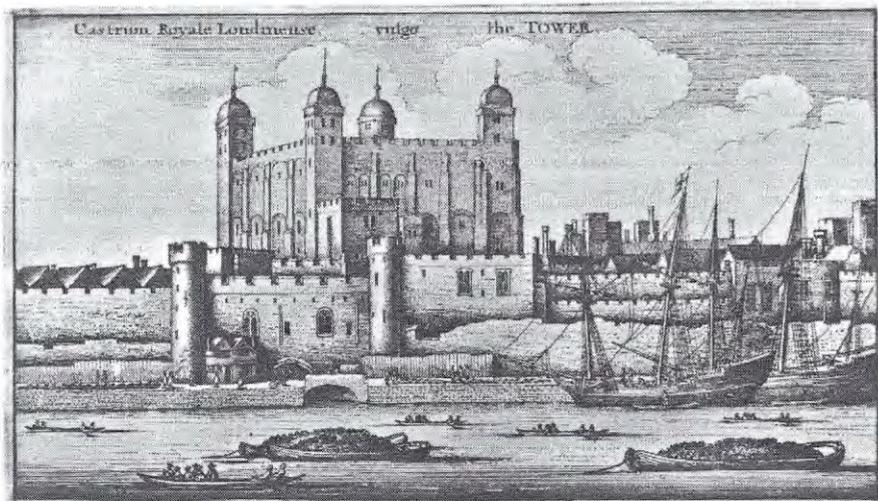
The central White Tower of the Tower of London was begun by William the Conqueror in 1078 to

protect and control the City of London. The Tower of London has been a fortress, a palace and prison and has housed the Royal Mint, Public Records, the Royal Observatory (in the round tower), Ordnance Survey, Royal Menagerie and the Crown Jewels.

5.

Copy of etching by Wenceslaus Hollar (1607-77)

(Publisher: British Museum, unused)





6.

The Tower from the River

(Publisher: not indicated; unused)

The Port of London. The Pool of London is that area of the Thames upstream and downstream of Tower Bridge and was one of the busiest ports in the world. Since the 1970s the docks have moved to Tilbury and Gravesend, closer to the mouth of the Thames.



7.

Pool of London

– London Stereoscope sepia

(Publisher: London Stereoscopic; unused)



8.

Embarking at London Bridge

(Publisher: Valentines; unused)

9.

Pool of London – cranes on south bank

(Publisher: not indicated; unused)



S.20298.

POOL OF LONDON.



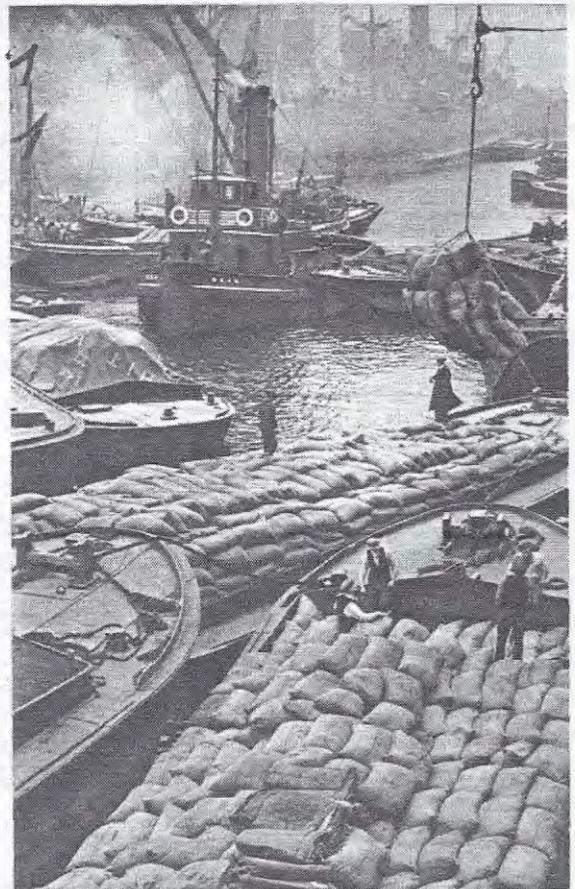
20089

Cross Channel Steamers loading at the Custom House Quay.

10.

Cross Channel steamers loading

(Publisher: Philip G. Hunt; unused)



3. LONDON LIFE: The Busy Docks in the Port of London. Photo. Fox.

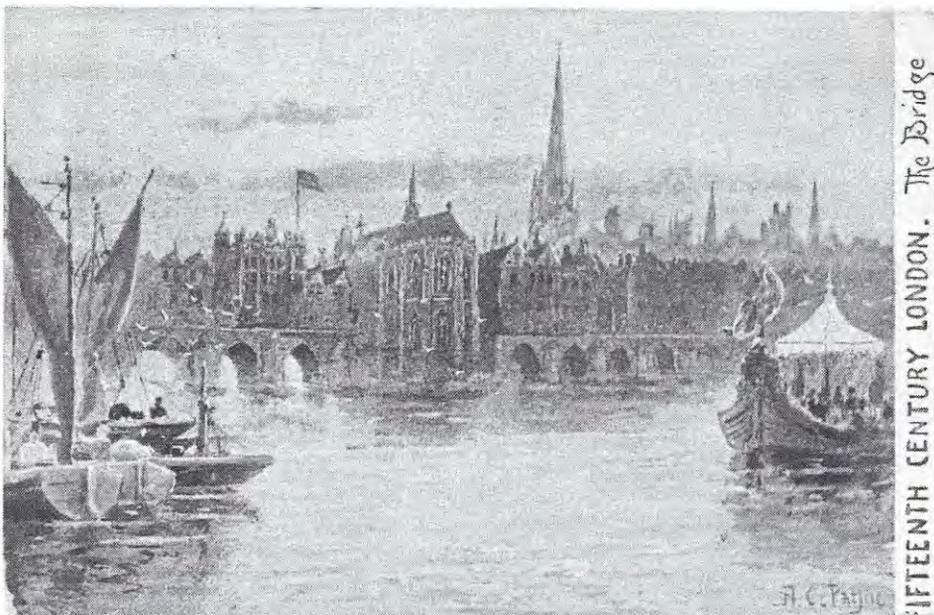
11.

Busy docks in Port of London.

(Publisher: Charles Skillen Series; unused)

London Bridge. The Romans built a wooden bridge on this site in 43AD. In 1176 the first stone bridge was begun and completed in 1209. It was 320 metres long and had 20 arches. This was the only bridge across the tidal reaches of the river until the first Westminster Bridge was completed in 1750.

A chapel was built in the centre, followed by shops and houses. By the 1300s there were 198 houses on the bridge. The severed heads of traitors were displayed on poles at the southern end of the bridge.



12.

Artist's view (A C Payne)

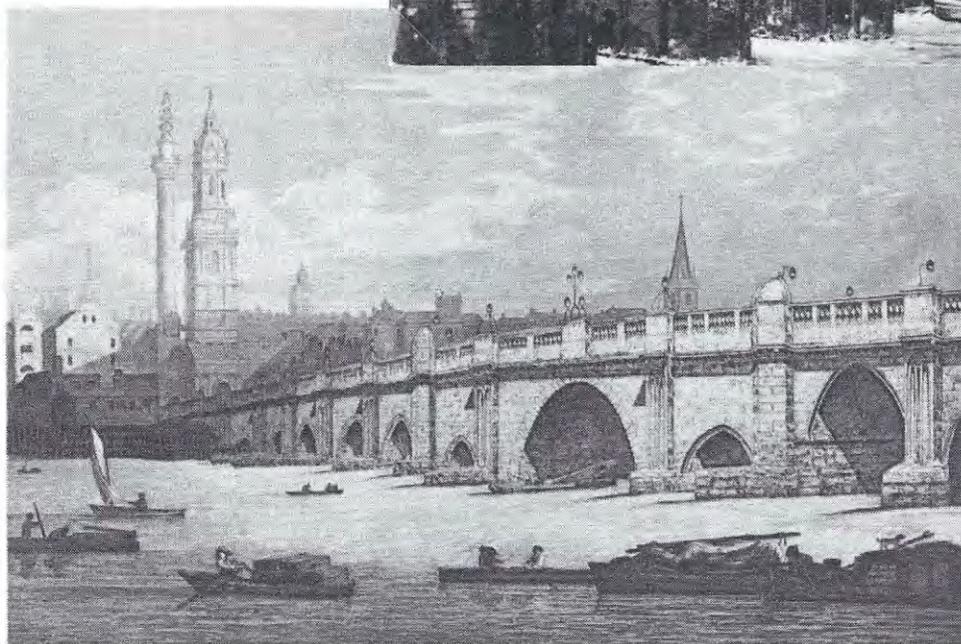
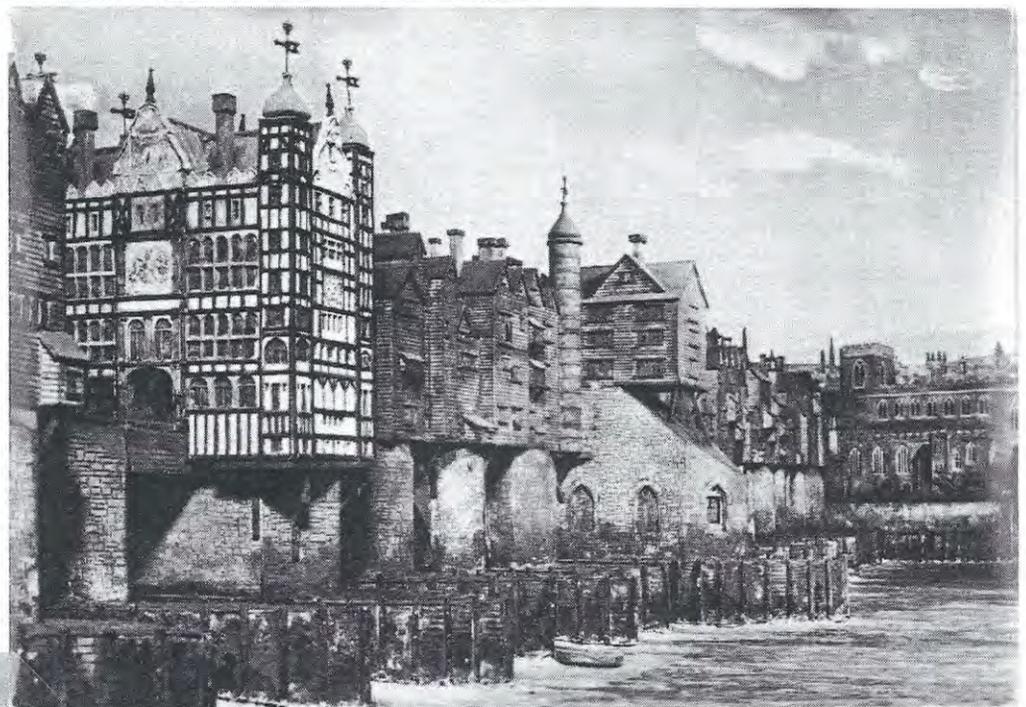
(Publisher: Hildesheimer & Co.: unused)

13.

Model of the bridge as it appeared in the early 1600s

(Publisher: London Museum; unused).

In 1760 all the buildings on the bridge were removed and a new central arch made.



14.

Aquatint after Joseph Farington, 1799.

(Publisher: London Museum; unused)

In 1823-24 the Old London Bridge was demolished and in 1831 the new bridge, designed by John Rennie was opened by King William and Queen Adelaide.



15.

London Bridge

(Publisher: Not indicated; unused)

In 1904 the roadway and footpaths were widened to a total of 65 feet.

15A.

Widened roadway

(Publisher: Not indicated; unused)

The Rennie bridge was sold in 1968 for US\$2.5 million, demolished, taken to the USA and re-erected at Lake Havasu City, Arizona. The current London Bridge was opened in March 1973.



Copyright G. D. & D. L.



The Great Fire of London in 1666 burned for 4 days, destroyed 437 acres and 13,200 homes.

16.

A painting by an unknown Dutch artist who witnessed the Fire which destroyed four-fifths of the City.

(Publisher: London Museum; unused)

The Monument marks the spot where the fire began in a baker's shop in Pudding Lane, close to London Bridge.



17.

The Monument.

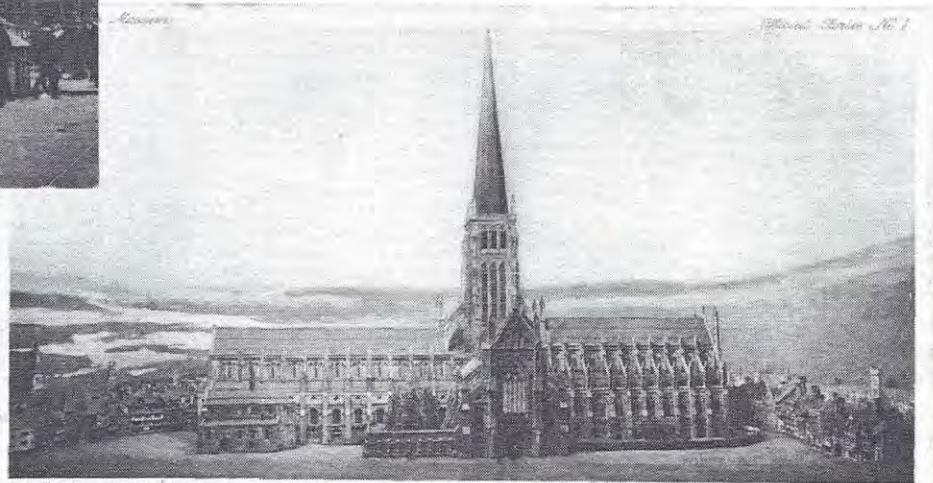
(Publisher: Raphael Tuck & Co. postally used 1905)

St Paul's Cathedral

18.

As it was about 1560 – a century before the Great Fire

(Publisher: Medici Society for the London Museum; unused)



19.

Rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren after The Fire.

(Publisher: Rotary Photographic Series; unused)



PASTCARDS



Southwark is the area on the south bank close to London Bridge.

20.

Southwark Bridge, designed by John Rennie (but replaced with the current bridge in 1921)

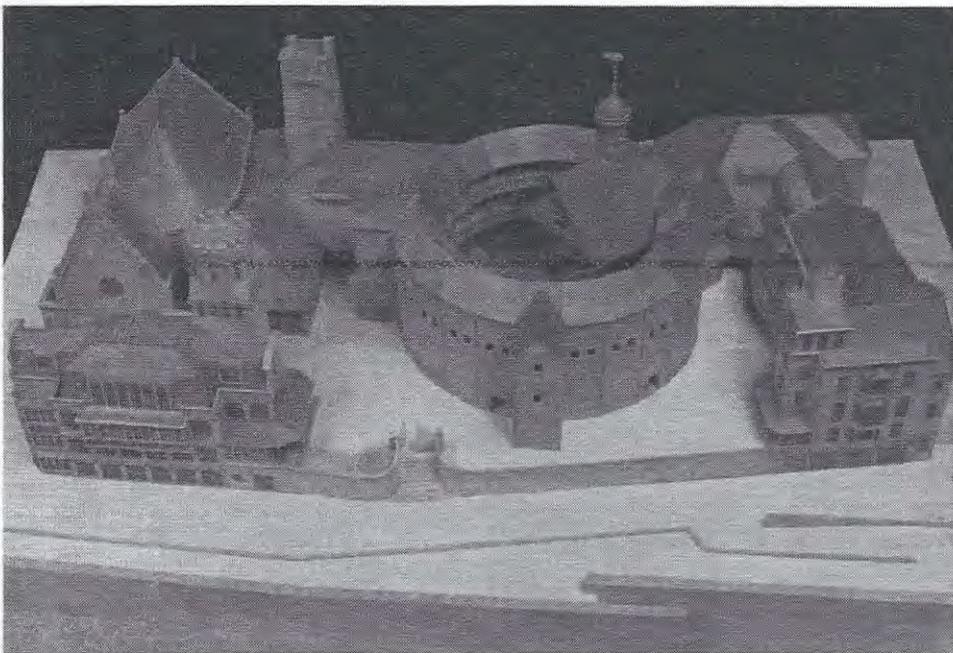
(Publisher: The Star Series – G D & D; unused)

Bankside, also on the south bank of the Thames. A replica of The Globe Theatre of Shakespeare's day has been erected here.

21.

The Globe stage.

(Publisher: International Shakespeare Globe Centre; postally used 1999)



22.

Model of The Globe

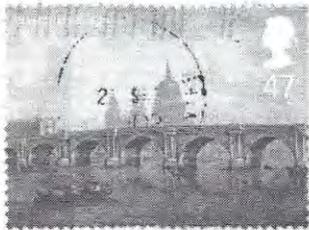
(Publisher: Not indicated; unused)

Blackfriars Bridge – an iron bridge built in 1860 with the Blackfriars Rail Bridge alongside (1862), both designed by Joseph Cubitt.

23.

Blackfriars Bridge

(Publisher: Tuck Real Photograph Series; postally used in N Z 1905)



The Thames Embankment runs along the north bank between Blackfriars and Westminster Bridges. Its construction followed the “Great Stink” of 1858 when the sewer-filled Thames became too obvious during a hot, dry summer. Part of the riverside was reclaimed to provide space for a new sewer system, a stretch of Underground railway and a new road above.

24.

Victoria Embankment

(Publisher: not indicated, undivided back; postally used 1904)

Waterloo Bridge. The first bridge on this site opened in 1817 and was demolished in the 1930s.

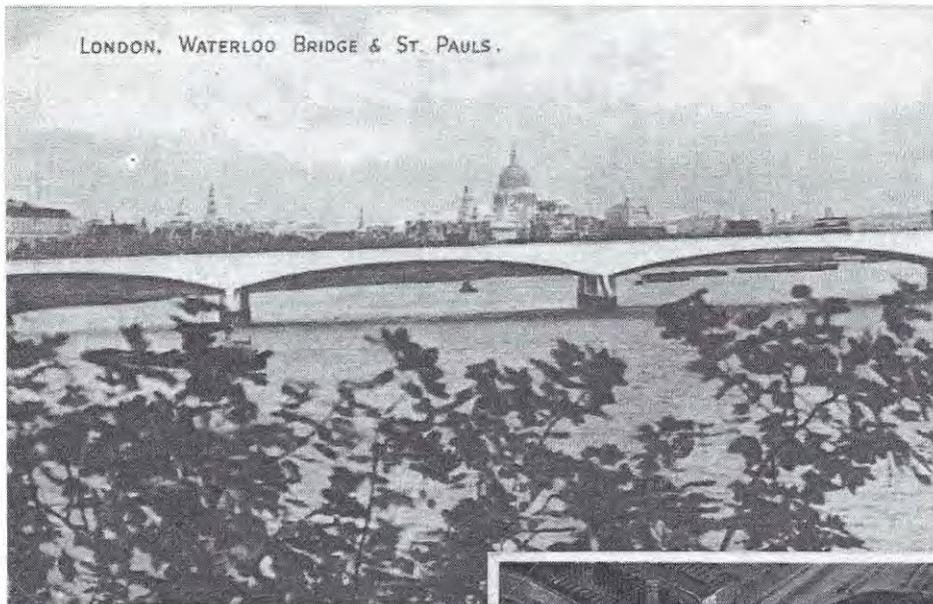
25.

The first Waterloo Bridge

(Publisher: The Star Series – G D & D; unused)

The new bridge was built 1942-45 during World War II, using mainly female labour and was sometimes known as The Ladies Bridge.





26.

The new bridge

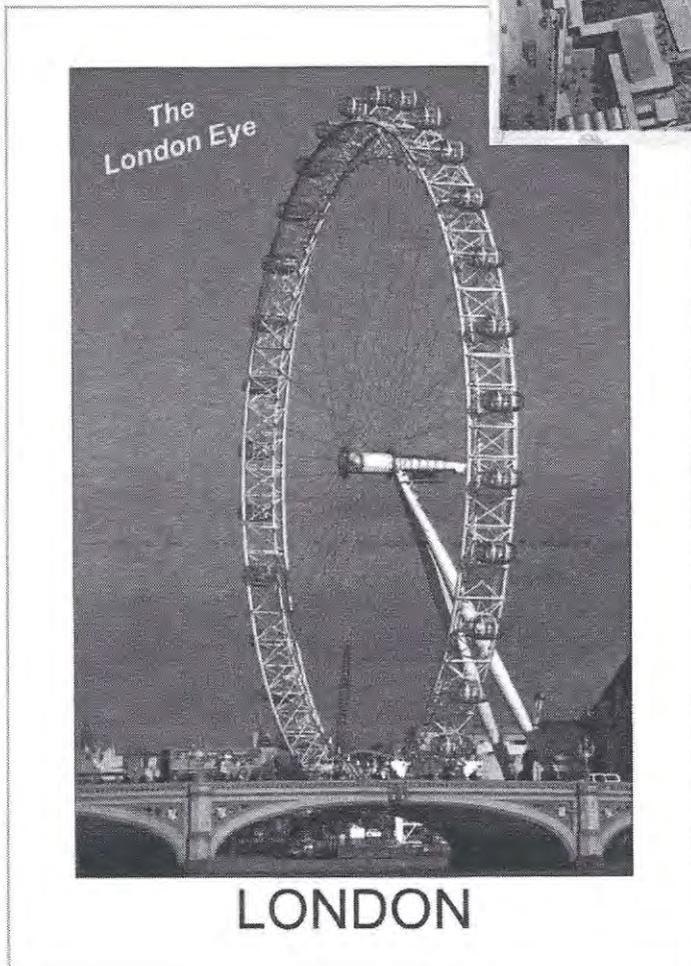
(Publisher: Photochrom; unused)

The **South Bank** on this stretch of the Thames was the site of the Festival of Britain in 1951 and the Festival Hall is still used for concerts.

27.

Festival of Britain.

(Publisher: EFROC Ltd; postally used 1951)



The London Eye is also on this site. Owned by British Airways it is their biggest earner. It is the world's highest observation wheel, 450 ft. above the Thames and rides last for 30 minutes.

28.

The Eye

(Publisher: Kardorama; unused)



LDN.255.

The Cloisters. Westminster Abbey. London.

Westminster. This high ground was first settled in the 700s by Benedictine monks. King Canute held court here, Edward the Confessor made it his home and began Westminster Abbey.

28.

Westminster Abbey cloisters

William Rufus, son of The Conqueror, rebuilt the Palace of Westminster which is now, after several fires and rebuildings the home of the British Houses of Parliament

29.

Houses of Parliament

(Publisher: Not indicated; postally used 1905 to Tasmania at Printed Matter rate 1/2d)



Westminster bridge and Houses of Parliament, London.

Wm. Beckett. 26 Piccadilly, Upper Holloway.



London.

Clock Tower and Westminster Bridge.

Westminster Bridge was the second bridge built to cross the London Thames and was finished in 1750. The present bridge replaced it in 1862.

30.

Westminster Bridge

(Publisher: Not indicated, undivided back; unused)

MACHINATIONS

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Index To The <i>Machin Watch</i> Articles in <i>Gibbons Stamp Monthly</i>	Tony Luckhurst	22

EDITORIAL "Machinations" and a few ramblings...

Another year is half over and another price hike in the postage has come and went. For us "Machin" nuts this means more values for us to collect. It'll mean recycling the colours This may not be the only change this year. Pricing in Proportion, which will be implemented in August may bring new values or new NVI's.

As mentioned in the last "Machinations" there will be newly designed Machins being issued for Pricing in Proportion. These will come in gummed and self-adhesive formats (The values will be 1st (32p), 1st Large (44p), 2nd (23p) and 2nd Large (37p)). There will also be new make-up rates to convert between standard mail and large letters. They will be 12p and 14p "conventional" Machins to cover these. There will be a new series of booklets and business sheets to add to the "list" as well. Later in the year there will be a "3 Kings" Miniature Sheet. This will include a £3.00 Machin. Next year Royal Mail will commemorate 40 years of the Machin design. We look forward to what they have planned for this event!!

Also if VAT is added to the cost of postage there may be more changes. The regulators will make sure the rises are phased in regularly (like 2p per year), Using NVI's will also mean there are no need for first and second class stamps. If you had purchased first class stamps in 1990 (for 20p) you can use them now for a 32p franking value. You have made 60% on your stamps!! If we sell them to a dealer you will lose 50%.

There is a new update to the Deegam catalogue. If you want to keep this valuable reference up to date this brings you up to the 2005 issues. Alternately it is possible to get this work (and other material-like the profiles for each stamp) on a CD-ROM..

There are new Prestige booklets scheduled for 2006. One has just been released. The other one scheduled later this year will be on the Victoria Cross.

This may impress the collectors of militaria as well as the Machin collectors wondering what combination of stamps they will use on the Machin pane in the booklet.

The article I have included for this issue is an index of the Machin Matters articles from the Gibbons Stamp Monthly. Due to the “stabilization” of the issuance the articles also include other modern issues.

We would like to run our meetings on each even month. Newcomers are welcome to attend. Also anyone who would like to contribute an article for “Machinations” is welcome to send them to Danny Howard or myself (Tony Luckhurst)

Enjoy the article....

Tony



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INDEX TO THE *MACHIN WATCH* ARTICLES IN *GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY*

January 2001-May 2006

Compiled by Tony Luckhurst

Many of us have been reading Gibbons for many years. John M Deering has been writing articles about Machins and modern Great Britain issues. Any readers who would like to read more are quite welcome to inspect the library in the Clubroom. If all else fails I'll bring in my copy of Gibbons for you to examine.

January 2001

- Queen Victoria self-adhesive label booklet
- New self-adhesive retail and vended booklets
- 19p sheet stamp with extra phosphor band (error)
- Northern Ireland found with "R" ellipse

February 2001

- 10 x 2nd class Questa gravure booklets: shade variety
- 19p De La Rue shade varieties
- Greetings book quantities
- Self-adhesive booklet launch



March 2001

- Self-adhesive NVI booklets
- Sheet self-adhesive with die-cutting shift

April 2001

- Cats & Dogs issue with NVI definitives
- Three varieties of Walsall 1st class NVI self-adhesive (width between phosphor bands)
- Announcement of pictorial definitives for Northern Ireland

May 2001

- New Northern Ireland pictorial definitives
- England pictorial definitives to be issued
- Questa self-adhesive booklets with different fluors

June 2001

- 63p Northern Ireland Machin with "R" ellipse
- £1.00 NVI vending booklet miscut
- Walsall Millennium booklet with missing phosphor



July 2001

- Walsall retail booklet with new "locking" tab
- Submarines-1st class definitive and commemorative booklet
- Label change in £1.00 vended booklets
- Self-adhesive singles-a recognition guide
- Millennium booklet with changed cover material

August 2001

- New £1.00 vending booklets yield shade/fluor varieties
- 2nd Class England regional found imperforate
- Questa self-adhesive retail booklet with massive perforation shift

September 2001

- 2p "To Pay" stamp on phosphorised paper
- New gummed 1st and 2nd class coils
- Self-adhesive retail booklets appear with amendments to text

October 2001 No Machin Watch this month**November 2001**

- Punch & Judy self-adhesive booklet
- Flags & Ensigns self-adhesive booklet
- Unseen & Unheard prestige booklet

December 2001

- Unseen & Unheard prestige booklet update
- 1st class England regional with new cylinder number
- Scottish emblem stamps
- Prestige booklets-27 so far!

January 2002

- Christmas 2001 self-adhesive issues (Commemoratives)

February 2002

- Kipling Just So stories self-adhesive booklet (Commemorative)
- A Gracious Accession prestige booklet

March 2002

- Blue-fluor £1.00 vending booklet
- Boots sheetlet with further combination of gum and ellipse
- Walsall 2nd class NVI sheet self-adhesive: new paper?

Golden Jubilee supplement has an article about replacing the Machin definitives (in 1983). Fortunately this never happened!

April 2002

- A Gracious Accession prestige booklet (in more detail)
- £2.00 vending booklet found with dull fluor
- De La Rue high value plate blocks: an update

May 2002

- New cylinder numbers in the English emblem stamps
- "Smilers" cartoons sheetlet

June 2002

- 6 x 1st NVI Aircraft booklet



Machinations

- Warrant and date blocks: Harrison & De La Rue low value sheet stamps list

July 2002

- Airliners stamps and the NVI aircraft booklet
- World Cup 6 x 1st NVI booklet
- Gold stamps reappear

August 2002

- Jubilee gold definitives update
- New series of self-adhesive booklets with notched covers
- Enschede self-adhesive sheets warrants and printing dates
- New booklets for overseas tariff rise

September 2002

- Overseas rate booklets-the disappearing notch!
- New business sheets issued with matrix intact
- New sheet stamps result from overseas tariff rise

October 2002

- Questa booklet with matrix intact
- Emblem regional definitive printings
- Tariff rise: new sheet printings
- Bridges self-adhesive retail booklet
- Walsall 12 x 1st NVI with snowy printing

November 2002

- Bridges self-adhesive retail booklet update
- Across the Universe prestige booklet

December 2002

- Christmas booklets for 2002 (Commemoratives)
- Walsall and De La Rue printings for Northern Ireland "E" emblem definitive
- Golden Jubilee celebrated by Wilding mini-sheet

January 2003

- Christmas booklets for 2002 (Commemoratives)
- Lord of the Rings competition (12 x 1st NVI definitive booklet)
- Previous Tolkien issues

Resources for Machin Collectors from B. Alan :

- Regular Price lists of Machin and related material – all offers numbered according to the Connoisseur Catalogue issued by the same company . A wealth of material for all levels of Machin collectors. The Specialised List for 1997/98 covers issues from the inception of elliptical perforations, and includes useful annotations describing features such as phosphors, coil leaders etc. Not just a price list – more like a mini-catalogue.
- The *Variety Club News* containing a wealth of articles on many aspects of modern GB philately, including Machins. Questa gravure machine books
- The Speed Prestige booklet

Machinations thoroughly recommends these publications – get your material from an expert in the field

B. Alan Ltd:

2 Pinewood Avenue, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN14 5 AF, UK

Tel : 44 1732 743387; Fax : 44 1732 454442;

e-mail : pinewoods@compuserve.com

(mainly Commemoratives)

- Wilding miniature sheet

February 2003

- Wilding miniature sheet with missing pin
- Short bands and insets-Wilding sheet
- Shade variety-Wilding sheet
- £2 Edinburgh Castle stamp “set-off” on back

March 2003

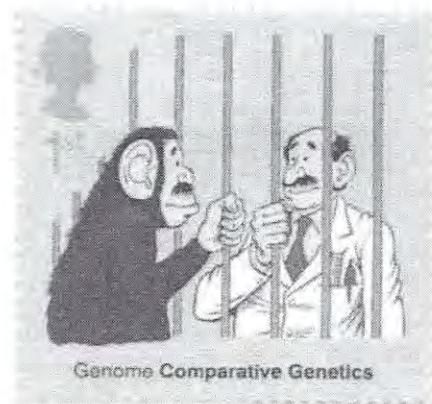
- Enschede coil stamps (1st gold) comparison with De La Rue issue
- Microcosmos prestige booklet announced

April 2003

- Microcosmos prestige booklet
- Universal NVI's
- Changes to wording on “E” stamp booklets

May 2003

- Paper variety on Walsall 6 x 1st NVI self-adhesive booklet
- Hello retail booklet
- Extreme Endeavours retail booklet



June 2003

- Tariff increase
- New printer for Welsh emblem definitive (De La Rue instead of Walsall)
- Business sheets with stripped matrix appear at last!

July 2003

- Cover addition creates new booklets
- The Real Network booklets
- Universal NVI's produced by special method
- Extreme Endeavours booklet update-change of format

August 2003

- Second Wilding mini-sheet completes the set
- Other decimal Wilding issues
- A Perfect Coronation prestige booklet-includes new variety of £1 Coronation stamp
- De La Rue Byfleet printings: short-lived 20p, 33p and 41p definitives and their successors

September 2003

- High values using the Gravure method
- Scotland (A British Journey) retail booklet

October 2003

- New gold 1st NVI sheet stamp
- £2.00 high value with missing £ sign



Machinations

November 2003

- Transports of Delight issue includes retail booklet
- Emblem regionals with white borders
- Christmas 2003 issues (Commemoratives)

December 2003

- Technical details for new emblem regionals
- Christmas 2003 booklet surprises (Commemoratives)

January 2004

- General survey of Byfleet printings to date
- Letters by Night prestige booklet

February 2004

- Byfleet Phenomenon Part 2
- £5 Windsor castle error-missing Queen's head

March 2004 There was no Machin Watch this month

April 2004

- Christmas self-adhesives with matrix still in place
- Letters by Night prestige booklet update

May 2004

- Northern Ireland (A British Journey) retail booklet
- Postal tariff changes 1 April 2004 (return of 20p stamp with 2 bands)

June 2004

- Ocean Liners retail booklet and commemorative stamp issue
- Tariff changes update on new definitives-using 2 papers and gums

July 2004

- The Glory of the Garden prestige booklet

August 2004

- Cymru/Wales (A British Journey) retail booklet
- 6 x 1st NVI retail booklet with Olympic bid message
- 40p regional emblem definitives (replacing the "E" NVI's)

September 2004

- Universal worldwide postcard booklet update
- No "Real Network" slogan on new booklets
- Die-cut singles

October 2004

- Spectacular error on Northern Ireland prestige booklet-6p value shifted
- Demise of popular booklet series (commemorative-definitive retail booklets)

18-SEP-2003



MECCANO
Constructor Biplane c1931

18-SEP-2003



HORNBY
M1 Clockwork Locomotive
and Tender c1948



November 2004

- Scottish Parliament miniature sheet
- Printers legend on sheet markings
- Bizarre error on stripped matrix booklet

**December 2004**

- Christmas 2004 self-adhesive issues (Commemoratives)

January 2005

- Universal stamps and booklets background-interrupted bands error
- Forthcoming prestige booklet-the Bronte Sisters

February 2005

- Universal booklet stamps and their varieties-an overview
- Castles definitive miniature sheet
- New litho press at Walsall

March 2005

- Christmas self-adhesive sheets with matrix still in place-again!
- June 2004 NVI retail booklets: new cylinder numbers
- Retail booklet with “Smilers” advertisement

**April 2005**

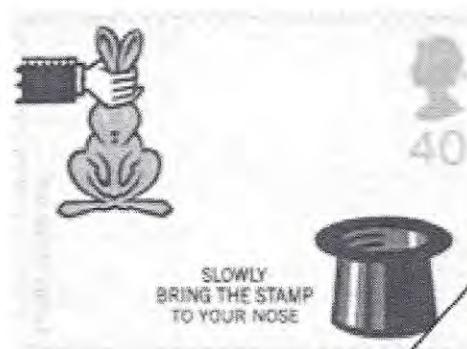
- Rising postal tariffs
- Existing sheet stamps to be re-issued with centre bands
- Retail booklet with “Smilers” advertisement
- De La Rue Byfleet printing dates

May 2005

- Bronte Sisters prestige booklet
- Castles definitives miniature sheet

June 2005

- 9p, 35p, 46p Machin and 42p emblems definitives
- End of World War II miniature sheet
- Byfleets become Dunstables

**July 2005**

- Enschede and Walsall temporary printings replaced with De La Rue versions (new definitives)
- 2nd NVI roll of 10 000 stamps!

August 2005

- Looking back at Harrison High Wycombe printings with dull fluor
- End of War miniature sheet
- New “Smilers” advert retail booklet

September 2005

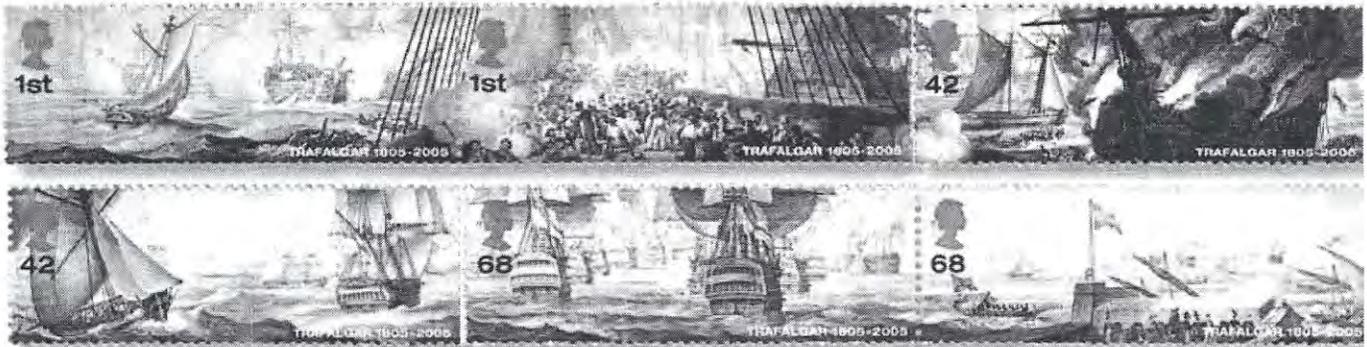
- New “Smilers” advert retail booklet
- De La Rue 42p Northern Ireland emblem definitive finally issued
- Spotty Walsalls (2nd NVI)
- New security printer (Cartor)

October 2005

- Surprise reprint of the £2.00 high value Machin
- Reduced “Smilers” in self-adhesive booklet
- Battle of Trafalgar prestige booklet announced

November 2005

- Reduced “Smilers” in self-adhesive booklet



- New “Smilers” advert retail booklet (with “Hello” and “Love” adverts)
- 2nd NVI Business sheet with missing colour!

December 2005

- Battle of Trafalgar prestige stamp booklet
- Low value definitives appear with cream gum
- 2005 Christmas stamps Part 1 (Commemoratives)

January 2006

- 2005 Christmas stamps and booklets (Commemoratives)

February 2006

- 25 years of stamp booklets-includes definitive Christmas booklets and their Machin varieties

March 2006

- New definitive pack contains new self-adhesive die-cut backing stamps
- Enschede are printing 2nd NVI self-adhesive coils again!
- Reduced size “Smilers” stamps and their customized sheets

April 2006

- De La Rue “ATN” Machins appear with cream-look PVA gum
- Isambard Kingdom Brunel prestige booklet
- Postal tariffs set to rise

May 2006

- Universal Machin with unexpected variety (spacing)
- Interesting flaw affects emblem pane of Bronte prestige booklet



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