

Yorkshire Philatelic Association

YPA 2010

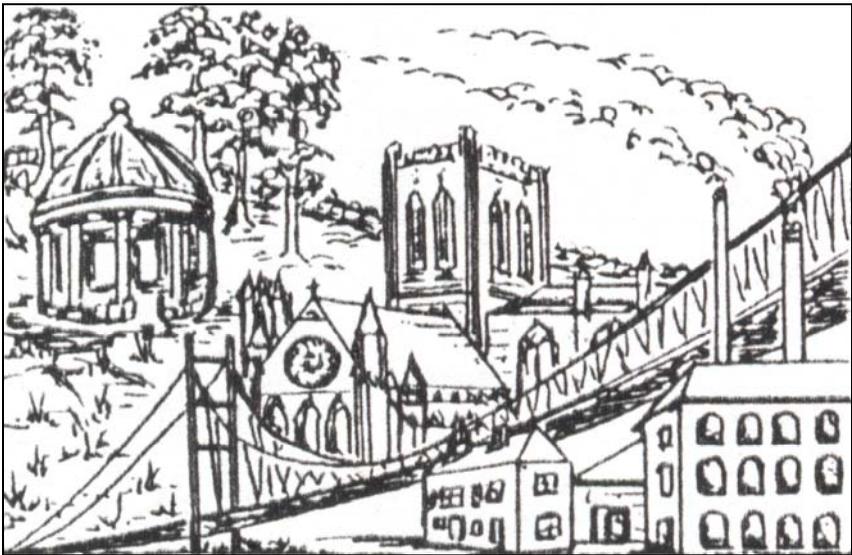
12 June 2010
Hosted by Leeds PS

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Affiliated to the Association of British Philatelic Societies



YPA NEWS

November 2009

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Front cover – Local views, by Rachel McHugh.

The YPA Handbook

Secretaries are reminded that it is expected that the YPA Handbook will be available for reference at all meetings. **Please notify the Secretary and / or the Editor of any changes.**

York PS have some new frames for displays, each having 3 rows which will take 4 sheets i.e. 12 sheets to a frame.

Hull PS Meetings are now at the Carnegie Heritage Centre, 342 Anlaby Road, Hull, HU3 6JA, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

Bridlington PS have a new Secretary - Mrs Marie Bell, Stoneville, South Grove, Kilham, Driffield, YO25 4SL

Tel: 0777 2315 304

email: marie_e_bell@hotmail.co.uk

Speakers List:

Scarborough PS - Please remove Norman Layton. Chris Phillips can now display King Edward VIII, GB Overprints, and also Bolivia.

Morley PS - President and Leeds member Alan Price is available to give talks on Leipzig Fair, and Building & Construction. He can be contacted at: 6 Cavalier Approach, Cross Green, Leeds, LS9 0AQ

Tel: 0113 240 9539

email: alprice@talktalk.net

Competition Judging

No changes at this time.

What's on 2010

Local stamp fairs can be found in the advertisement on page 5.

Jan 15 to 16 York Racecourse Stamp and Coin Fair.

Visit **www.stampshows.net** for more information.

Feb 24 - 27 Stampex, Business Design Centre, Upper St., Islington, London N1. Display by South African Collectors Society.

Visit **www.stampex.ltd.uk** for more information.

Feb 25 - 27 Philatex, Royal Horticultural Society Lawrence Hall, Greycoat Street, Westminster, London SW1

May 8 - 15 London 2010 International Stamp Exhibition (**inside back**).

June 12 YPA Stamp Fair and Convention (**page 2 & back cover**).

2010 Festival of Stamps Update from Yorkshire Philatelic Association

The Yorkshire Philatelic Association's contribution to the Regional events being held to compliment the 2010 Festival of Stamps and International Stamp Exhibition will be a special exhibition in conjunction with their Annual Convention for 2010. This will be held on Saturday 12 June 2010, and will be hosted by Leeds Philatelic Society on the occasion of their 120th Anniversary.

YPA 2010 will be held at the Pudsey Civic Hall, Dawson's Corner, Pudsey, Leeds LS28 5TA. This is a well known location for northern collectors, being the venue for the popular two-day stamp fair organised by the Leeds Philatelic Society each November, and having been the YPA Convention venue occasionally in the past.

A small group of Leeds PS members is already at work organising the event and can report that YPA 2010 is planned to include:

- A special exhibition of stamps and postal history of Great Britain,
- An exhibition of the YPA Annual Competition entries,
- About 25 dealers,
- The YPA Convention AGM followed by awards to competition winners, and
- If there are any suitable candidates, the signing of the Roll of Distinguished Yorkshire Philatelists.

There will be free admission and parking for the event and hot and cold refreshments. Opening hours to the public will be 9.30am to 4.30pm.

Preliminary details are available on the YPA web site at
www.y-p-a.org.uk/page_5.html

There is also a link to a map and directions to the venue. Further details will be added to the site as they become available.

General enquiries to: John A Edwards FRPSL, Hon. Secretary, Leeds Philatelic Society, 38 Carleton Green Close, Pontefract, West Yorkshire WF8 3NN **Tel:** 01977 793566 **email:** ponte38@msn.com



Bailiwick of Jersey to a Modern War Zone

by Robert Sanford and Jeffrey Wallace

Since 2005 Jeffrey and I exchanged covers and postal stationery during my tenure in Iraq. My job as Senior Quality Inspector offered me travel to many different Forward Operations (FOBs) Bases within the theatre.

When I arrived in the Baghdad area in early 2004 almost all FOBs were designated by name, such as, Camp Victory South, Camp Slayer, Camp Warhorse and so forth. In 2005 the U.S. military was closing and consolidating many sites throughout Iraq. Site location and identification were being changed to Alphabetical-Numerical IDs which also changed some Army Post Office (APO) AE numbers as well (AE is the official USPS state abbreviation for "Armed Forces Middle East"). While some FOBs disappeared some large installations were broken up into smaller sites. A large site or camp like D5 was broken up into D5a, D5b, D5c and so on. These changes kept APO personnel on their toes but occasionally something would fall through the crack. An incorrect number or missing letter in the address could delay or send that package or letter from home to who knows where.

Jeffrey has depicted two very nice examples of this occurrence. The first example (Figure 1) was sent to me at KBR (Kellogg, Brown, and Root). F3 (Camp Slayer), D5 (Camp Dublin), APO AE 09342 (Baghdad International Airport). After this Christmas card was posted (29-11-06), Bob returned to the U.S. for good. On arrival in Iraq both the address and U.S. POSTNET bar code were struck through in black marker and instructional **RTS** (Return To Sender) added in black pen. Striking out the bar code prevents sorting equipment from inadvertently routing the letter back to the same address. A Jersey 74p issue from the 2006 *Jersey Postal History II* series is tied by **JERSEY CHANNEL ISLANDS** circular date stamp paying the international airmail letter rate to a zone 1 destination not weighing over 20 grams (roughly $\frac{3}{4}$ oz). Arrived back in Jersey on January 6, 2007.

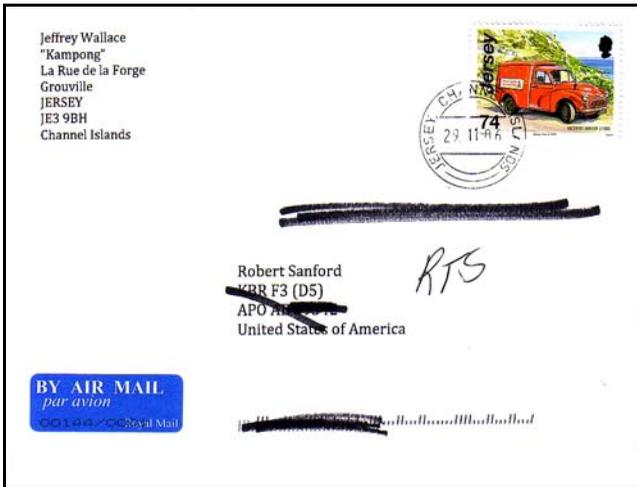


Figure 1. Christmas card to KBR F3 (D5) APO 09342, specifically Forward Operations Base 'Camp Dublin', Baghdad International Airport, pictured at 50%.

The next example (Figure 2) was sent to me at F3 (Camp Slayer), DSC (should have been D5c (Camp Cropper) at BIAP. After a few months it was returned from APO AE 09376 a camp or site located south of Baghdad in the Triangle of Death where it was returned to Jeffrey.

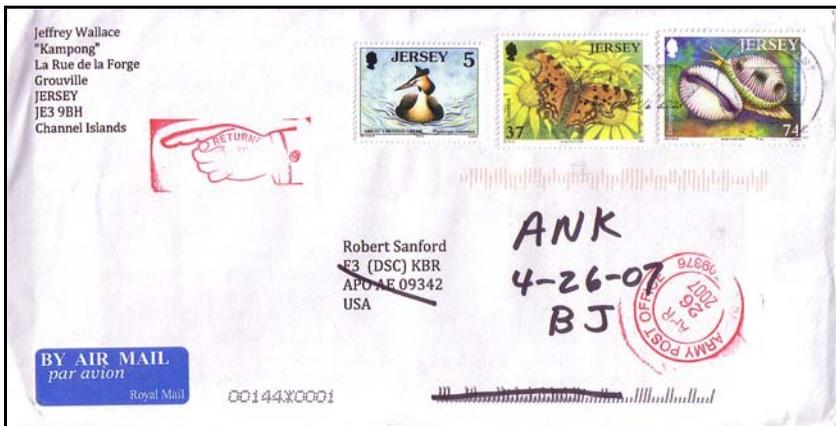


Figure 2. Intended for APO 09342 'Camp Cropper', this letter was detained for several months before it was returned by APO 09376 in late April (pictured at 50%).

The Airmail letter to Bob contained two aerogrammes, however, when it failed to arrive at Bob's new address stateside, we thought it

was lost. Mixed franked cover with 5p, 37p and 74p paying £1.16 for the international airmail letter rate not weighing over 40 grams (roughly 1½ oz) to USA. Tied by faint **JERSEY POST** (15-12-06) machine cancel. 'DSC' was a typo and should have been 'D5c' which probably accounted for the long delay. Marked **ANK / 4-26-07 / BJ** in black marker. ANK (Attempted Not Known) also means the letter was returned to sender, resulting in the red pointing finger instructional postmark and dated with a red double circled **ARMY POST OFFICE / APR 26 2007 / 09376** date stamp. 09376 serves the 10th Mountain Division posted to Baghdad. Arrived back in Jersey on May 11, 2007, nearly 5 months later.

Even though these covers originated in the Channel Islands I can assure you that the military postal service did not show favouritism and in the future I will share different little faux pas that were created in the war zone.

Rotherham Stamps

30 Laughton Road
Thurcroft
Rotherham
S66 9LP

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Other Days By Appointment

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or
01909 562927

Mobile: 07808 665472

Stamp Fairs

Dronfield at:

Coal Aston Village Hall
Coal Aston
Sheffield

3rd Sunday Every Month

Hull at:

St. Stephen's Church Hall
Freehold Street
Off Spring Bank

3rd Saturday Every Month

Morley at:

St. Mary's in the Wood
United Reform Church
Commercial Street

Last Saturday Every Month

My Bulgaria

by Steve Cook

I started collecting Bulgaria whilst on holiday there in 2002. I had bought the compulsory post cards and needed stamps. As I walked into the Golden Sands Post Office I was astonished by the wall display. There were four huge boards showing the previous four years issues. At the counter I was told the stamps on show were only available at Varna Post Office. I had to be content with the current definitives. A few days later of we went to Varna. Could we find the post office?

The following year we were back in Golden Sands. Walking round the shops one evening I found an Antiques stall, where I spotted a tired looking stock book. It was crammed with what looked like early 1900s through to the 1970s. After negotiating a price I thought I had the world. I couldn't wait to get home and sort what I had. I got home and was compelled to buy Stanley Gibbons World part 1. I only got so far with the sorting. I needed a more detailed catalogue.

We returned again the following year, and this time we found the Post Office. How did we miss it before? It was worth the wait. What I saw in the Philatelic Counter was awesome. There were displays everywhere. Year sets, individual sets, thematics. Heaven. On the counter was a 1999 catalogue. It was five years old but it was what I wanted. I also got three-year sets. I was like a big kid. We set off walking in search of the Archaeological Museum. On our way there were plenty of alleys to look down. At the end of one I spotted an Antiques Shop. In the window I spotted sets of stamps. Unfortunately the shop was shut for lunch. At the museum shop they had stamps for sale, but looking at my NEW catalogue they were a bit pricey, even at Bulgarian standards.

After a tour of the museum we walked back to get the bus, but on the way called in at the shop. More delights as the shopkeeper brought out stock books of stamps. I didn't know where to start. One purchases was two stamps, which looked the same except for the colour. They were fixed on card in a stitched sealed plastic pouch,

with the strands of thread fixed to the outer card with a wax seal. There was text in Bulgarian above the wax seal. I tried to decipher the text with the aid of the phrase book. No chance. A friend of ours translated for me:

<p>WRONG PRINTED IN DARK BLACK BROWN COLOUR FROM THE RIGHT</p> <p>FROM SERIES "THE OPENING OF SHIPKA MONUMENT"</p> <p>FROM THE LEFT – REGULAR ONE</p>	 <p>26/8/1934</p>	 <p>21/9/1934</p>
<p>Also available in dark black brown.</p>		

When I started collecting Bulgaria I didn't know what I was letting myself in for. It was only when I got the catalogue I realised, approximately 1800 issues and counting.

I also collect British, which I'm doing concise. Do I dare go concise with Bulgaria? No. The mint collection alone is spread over 25 stock books. With each visit to Bulgaria, I make a pilgrimage to Varna Post Office and the Antiques Shop. What I like about buying in Bulgaria is I get more for my money. Spending £30 over there is like spending £70 here.

I'm on the lookout for a more up to date Bulgarian Post Office catalogue. I have found various web sites, which have been and are a great help.

The catalogue is printed in Bulgarian, which is no good when you can't read it. I can however recognise the months. Two words I have worked out are **ha3** and **heha3**. How they are pronounced, I don't know, but I do know they mean perforate and imperforate. I have also found a translation site. Of the 300+ pages, I have translated five.



Friday 6th and Saturday 7th May 2011

Ponds Forge International
Sports Centre, Sheffield

Sheffield city centre location with on-site parking, easy access to all public transport and the M1 motorway. Close proximity to hotels, city centre shops, restaurants and entertainment.

- Philatelic displays, talks and meetings
- Stamp & Postcard dealers
- Awards dinner

For further information visit
www.sheffield2011.org.uk

YPA Competition Results 2009

Glittering Stars of the Yorkshire Skies

- **J. Pitts**, Bradford, Gold for Aerophilatelic Class for *Experimental Aviation in Italy*.

Sidebottom Trophy for the best overall display

- **J. Pitts**, Bradford, Gold for Cinderella Class for *Early Essays of the Kingdom of Italy*.

- **L. Goodens**, Hull, Silver-Gilt for Commonwealth Class for *Gibraltar - The Spanish Currency Issues 1889-1898*.
- **J. Pitts**, Bradford, Gold for Foreign Class for *Fiscal & Postal Proofs of Italy 1863-1864*.
- **B. Hitchcock**, Wakefield, Silver-Gilt for National Class for *A Study of the Marginal Markings and Perforations of the 1d Lilac*.
- **D. Stirrups**, Middlesbrough, Silver-Gilt for Postal History Class for *Gibraltar Overland Mail to France 1855-1875*.
- **J. Pitts**, Bradford, Gold for Postal Stationery Class for *PS Advertising 1919-1923*.
- **P. Harriman**, Middlesbrough, Silver for Thematic Class for *And They Shall Inherit the Earth*.
- **G. Winters**, Wakefield, Gold for Literature Class for *H.W. Cave & Co., Colombo*.
- **Alan Green** of Harrogate joined the ranks of the Distinguished Yorkshire Philatelists.

Stamp Artwork from the Reign of Edward VIII Online for the First Time

The British Postal Museum & Archive (BPMA) is pleased to announce the digitisation of all stamp artwork and proposed stamps from the reign of Edward VIII. From Friday 28 August 2009, it has been possible to view the whole collection via the BPMA's online catalogue.

The death of King George V on 20 January 1936 and the consequent accession of Edward VIII resulted in ambitious plans from the Post Office. It was decided that there would be three possible stamp issues. The first, with values to 1s, would be a temporary "Accession" issue to be produced as soon as possible. This would be replaced by a special "Coronation" issue. On the withdrawal of these commemoratives the first denominations of a "Permanent" issue would be released.



The accession stamps were very simple in format, quite different from any previous stamps, which reflected the new King's desire for simplicity. They were based on a design submitted by a 17-year-old schoolboy Hubert Brown, though the Post Office did not acknowledge this.



The work of progressing designs for the Coronation stamps was entrusted to the stamp printers Harrison & Sons. A lot of the portrait work was by Eric Gill, and essays were also produced featuring royal castles and famous buildings. The essay of Windsor Castle would have been the first truly pictorial stamp.

The King's abdication on 11 December 1936 brought the whole progress to an abrupt end.

Although only four postage stamps were issued during the 10-month reign of King Edward VIII there is still a wealth of material in the BPMA collections, including all the work which went into creating the four Accession definitives – photographs, artwork, essays and issued stamps. The BPMA also holds all artwork and essays for the Coronation stamp, produced right up to the week of the abdication.

Douglas Muir, Curator of Philately at the BPMA commented:

“This is part of an exciting project to make out unique collection of GB philatelic material available to everybody. More stamps, artwork and registration sheets will be added to our catalogue in the coming year. Look out for announcements on our website”.

The BPMA will be releasing further catalogues through the course of 2009 and 2010, taking the cataloguing of stamp artwork into the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

For further information, or to access the material in 2009, visit The British Postal Museum & Archive web site at www.postalheritage.org.uk



**King Edward VIII proposed
Coronation issue – Windsor
Castle, 1936**

Royal Household Postal History: Part 1

By Keith Branigan

About fifteen years ago I had reached the point where to extend my GB collection I either had to spend very large sums of money on a few very scarce items, or else specialize to an extent that I personally would have found too myopic. Casting around for ideas as to what new collecting interest I might take up I glanced through the cover album in which I had accumulated various bits and pieces. I had never been interested in covers and postal history, and I looked through the forty or so covers more in hope than expectation. There was just one cover that caught my attention - a small, slightly grubby, envelope with an Official Paid mark of 1902 and alongside it an oval cachet in purple. At the centre of the cachet was a crown above the letters M.H. and round the border the inscription read:

**Lord Steward
Buckingham Palace**



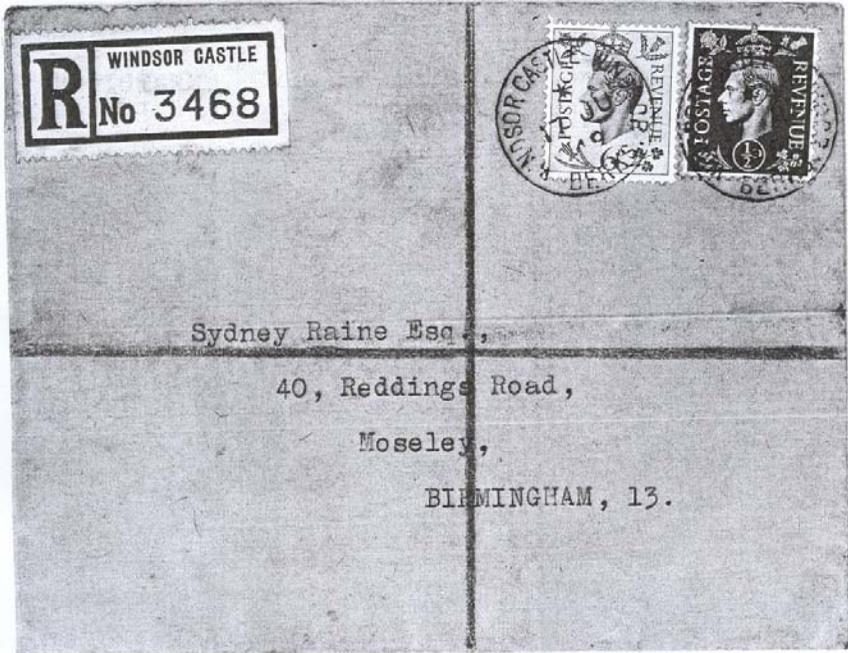
I'd never stopped to think before, about how the Queen posted her letters, but I assumed she didn't just pop out to the post box like the rest of us. The idea of collecting postal history not of the Royal Mail but of the **Royal** Royal Mail struck me as a potentially interesting

new area to get into. My one worry was that, presumably, 'Royal' mail was not easily acquired and would be both difficult to find and expensive to purchase.

I very soon found out that in fact there is a lot of 'Royal' mail around, and a fair part of it is very reasonably priced. Given that anyone who writes a polite letter to a member of the royal family will get a reply - in an envelope with crested flap, and certifying cachet - its easy to see that hundreds of thousands of such items get into circulation each year, and a fair number must end up eventually in the philatelic market. Many people who get letters from Buckingham Palace or other royal residences will put them aside amongst their photographs and souvenirs, and they too eventually find their way into the market-place. So, from the Victorian period onwards, large numbers of 'Royal' postal history items survive. In the space of fifteen years, my own collection has grown to 30 volumes and about 900 items, dating from 1635 to 2002.

What I have found particularly exciting about collecting Royal Household postal history is that it provides so many different avenues to follow. Just think how many royal residences there are to start with, the postal arrangements for which vary from one to another and, of course, change through the years. It's not just obvious places like Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, Sandringham and Balmoral. There are the London 'satellites' (e.g. Kensington Palace and Clarence House) those at Windsor (Windsor Great Park, Cumberland Lodge, Frogmore and the Royal Lodge), and York Cottage and the estate office at Sandringham. Then there are the former royal residences, such as Marlborough House, Hampton Court and Osborne, and a surprising number of 'temporary' royal residences occupied by members of the family for a few days or weeks but still provided with special postal facilities. These include Chatsworth House in 1904, Highcliffe Castle in 1907, and Compton Place in 1935.

Badminton is a particularly interesting example, serving as the home of Queen Mary from 1939 to 1945.



In collecting postal history for all of these residences further variety is added not only by registered and parcel post facilities, pre-paid and Official Paid mail, and both incoming and outgoing mail, but also by occasional special facilities, such as the experimental helicopter mail delivery to Balmoral in 1947.

If royal palaces and houses don't take your fancy, then there are the many departments of the Royal household. Their mail can be distinguished in the Victorian era mainly by the embossed titles on envelope flaps or the signature of the court officials on the front. With the reign of Edward VII however, departments were giving their own certifying cachets (like that of the Master of the Household in the Lord Stewards department which sparked my original interest). There are more than a dozen different 'departments' who have, or have had, their own cachet, and these cachets have again varied considerably in design and style through time. Although many no longer use cachets (even of the pre-printed rather than hand-stamped variety) they can still be distinguished by their embossed

stationery. The scarcest of all the departmental cachets is - paradoxically - that of the Court Postmaster!

The Departmental cachets were used, of course, to certify that the mail was genuine official mail, generated by the various departments. In the same way, the private secretaries and personal offices of the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Charles use cachets to certify outgoing mail. Although the cachet is that of the Queen, the particular source of the mail can often be identified by the different coats of arms on the envelope flaps. These certifying cachets for mail from the individual members of the royal family were introduced in 1901 by Edward VII who reclaimed the privilege of free post which his mother had voluntarily given up in 1839. Before Queen Victoria, members of the royal family (along with an awful lot of other people) had used the franking privilege of the Free Post.

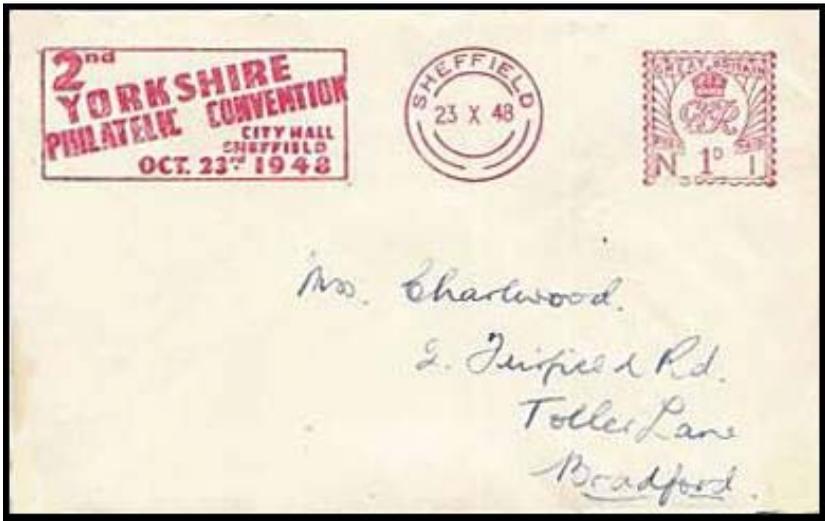
There is plenty of scope for developing a collection which traces the changing history of the royal franking privilege from the days of the Free Post through the time when the royal family stuck stamps on envelopes just like the rest of us, to the first appearance of a special postmark to denote private royal mail in 'official' bags (1882), and thence to Edward's certifying cypher of 1901. For a while, there were also the overprinted **R.H. Official** postage stamps during Edward's reign. His successors have continued to use these certifying cachets up to the present day (though now replaced by a pre-printed version). I have noted that certainly in the reign of QEII there seem to have been slightly different 'dies' of the same certifying cachets in use at different residences at the same time, and this provides another field of research for which the raw materials (envelopes with EIIR cachets) are still very cheap to acquire (50p-£2). It is also interesting to note that letters written by a member of the royal family themselves, rather than a secretary or lady-in-waiting, often still carry on the old 'franking' tradition by having a handwritten initial in the left hand bottom corner (C for Charles, E for the late Queen Mother, etc).

To be continued next issue ...

Is this the Earliest YPA Commemorative Cancel?

by John Edwards

Since its founding in 1947 the YPA has seen many commemorative cancellations used at the annual YPA Conventions. But can anyone produce anything earlier than the one illustrated below? The Second YPA Convention was held in Sheffield on 23 October 1948 in the City Hall, and a special slogan meter mark was used to publicise the event.



Was it a Sheffield PS member who instigated the slogan? Who designed it? I assume the meter was in use in the post room of the Sheffield City Council – is that correct? If any readers can shed further light on this meter mark or know of other meter marks used in conjunction with later Conventions I'd be pleased to hear from them.

Note from Editor: I looked this up in the Sheffield PS minutes from 1948. There was no direct answer to your question, but on 9 April it is recorded that 5 members from Rotherham and 3 from Sheffield, with Mr. Arnold Gabbittas as chairman, had organised this event. Attendance was affected by a thick fog. Refreshments were in the *British Restaurant* with each member of the 2 societies present undertaking to pay for tea for one visitor. A much more civilised age!

London 2010 Festival of Stamps



London 2010

International Stamp Exhibition

Business Design Centre, Islington

8 to 15 May 2010

including a major presence by Royal Mail

Empire Mail: George V and the GPO

Exhibition at Guildhall Art Gallery

7 May to 25 July 2010

*with material from The British Postal Museum & Archive
and the Royal Philatelic Collection*

Special displays and talks presented by the British Library Philatelic Collections

Displays at the Royal Philatelic Society London

Open to all – 6 May 2010 by ticket

Members only – 7 May 2010

Themed displays at many venues

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*including Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum;
Bath Postal Museum; Bletchley Park;
Museum of World Rugby, Twickenham;
and Marylebone Cricket Club Museum at Lords*

One-day events

Organised by the member Federations of the ABPS



More details: www.london2010.org.uk

YORKSHIRE
PHILATELIC
ASSOCIATION

www.y-p-a.org.uk

YPA  2010

12 June 2010
Hosted by Leeds PS



2010 ANNUAL CONVENTION

Saturday 12 June 2010

At Pudsey Civic Hall

9.30am to 4.30pm

EXHIBITION & YPA COMPETITION

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