

Christmas Stamps Issue

18 November 1981

As mentioned in the November edition of the Bulletin, the Christmas stamps for this year have been designed by children who participated in the BBC 'Blue Peter' television programme competition. The winners and subjects are as follows:

Father Christmas by Samantha Brown, age 5 (11½p); a mosaic collage of Christ by Tracy Jenkins, age 14 (14p); a Christmas angel by Lucinda Blackmore, age 6 (18p); the journey of Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem by Stephen Moore, age 16 (22p) and the Three Kings outside Bethlehem by Sophie Sharp, age 8 (25p).

The stamps, printed photogravure by Harrison and Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd are in sheets of 100. Horizontal in format, they measure 41 mm x 30 mm with 15 x 14 perforations. The paper is unwatermarked, phosphor coated, except for the 11½p stamp which has a single printed phosphor bar. The adhesive is PVA Dextrin.

The first day cover (13p) was designed by Sarah Kutkaitis aged 8 and the presentation pack No 130, price £1.07½, was designed by John Gibbs with illustrations by Andrew Dunbar aged 6.

Values and Colours:

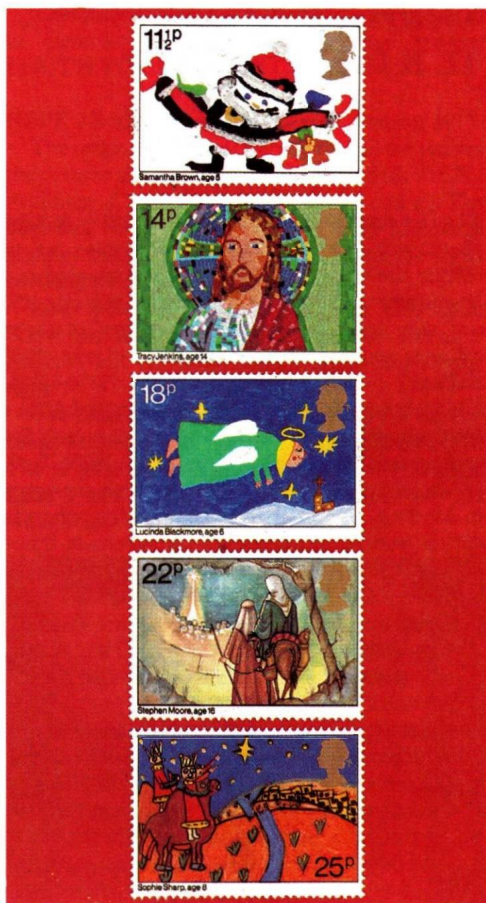
- 11½p - Olive bistre, orange vermillion, ultra marine, bright green, black, gold.
- 14p - Bistre yellow, bright carmine, emerald, pale blue, black, gold, blue.
- 18p - Lemon, bright crimson, ultra marine, blue green, black, gold.
- 22p - Greenish yellow, bright crimson, blue, black, gold.
- 25p - Lemon, bright magenta, ultra marine, black, gold.

Cylinders used:

- 11½p - 1A, 1B, 2C, 1D, 1E, 1F
- 14p - 2A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E, 1F, 1G
- 18p - 1A, 2B, 1C, 3D, 1E, 1F
- 22p - 2A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 1E
- 25p - 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E

Postcards

Postcard reproductions of each of the five stamps



will be available approximately two weeks before the issue date, price 11p each.

Christmas Pictorial Air Letter

The 1981 Christmas air letter, illustrated on the front cover of this month's Bulletin, has been designed by Carol Walklin ARCA MSIAD. It will be issued on 18 November, price 23p of which 20p is postage. Printed by McCorquodale Printers Ltd, it has two phosphor bars.

Christmas Stamp Book

The Christmas 1981 stamp book will be issued on 11 November, and contains 10 each of the 11½p and 14p definitive stamps. Price £2.55. Printed photogravure by Harrison and Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd the 14p stamps are all over phosphor coated, while the 11½p stamps have a single phosphor bar.

The cover depicting a rural winter skating scene was designed by Bill Sanderson.

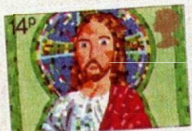
CHRISTMAS 1981
THROUGH THE EYES
OF A CHILD

British Post Office Mint Stamps



year old Sophie
Lancashire who spent
and drawing.

SUZANNE WOLSTENHOLME



CHRISTMAS 1981
POST OFFICE FIRST DAY COVER

£2.55
Royal
Mail Stamps
Ten at 11½p
Ten at 14p
Christmas
Greetings 1981

