

This month The Editor previews this issue

THIS MONTH we preview the Speed Records prestige stamp book to be issued on 13 October. As always the book contains some interesting new stamp varieties for specialist collectors.

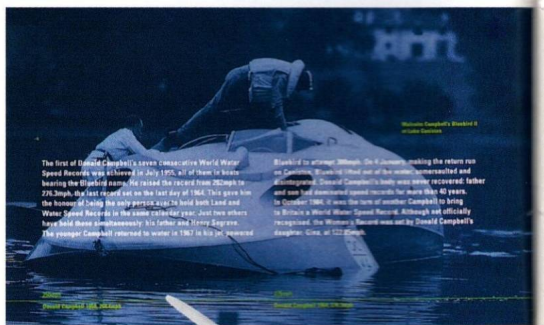
Our main feature this month comprises the third and final part of James Mackay's survey of GB stamps overprinted for use overseas. The Autumn Stampex exhibition opens at the Business Design Centre, London N1 on 30 September. Stamp exhibition souvenir sheets, covers and postmarks have a following and articles on them have appeared from time to time in the philatelic press. This month Jim Negus looks at a rather neglected subject – the labels produced for over 40 years to publicise Stampex.

Two anniversaries falls this month – it is now 30 years since the introduction of our two-tier inland postal service, and 35 years since the first issue of this *Bulletin* was published. We still have many readers from the early days. A complete run of the *Bulletin* contains much useful and enjoyable reading matter and I hope this anniversary issue is no exception.

JOHN HOLMAN ●

The book yields the following stamps – some new, others exist elsewhere

Stamp	New/other source
20p Speed side band left	New
20p Speed side band right	New
10p definitive	Sheets by De La Rue
43p definitive	DLR sheets and coils
2nd NVI side band at left	New
2nd NVI side band at right	New
Country stamps 20p side band right	New
Country stamps 26p two bands	Sheets & BBC book



Royal Mail news New prestige stamp book

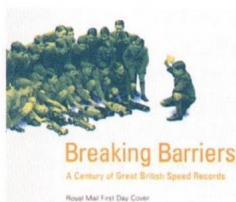
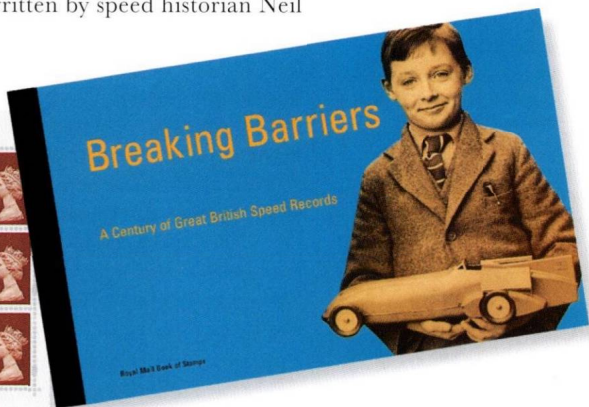
• New presentation packs and stamp books

Speed prestige stamp book The latest prestige stamp book, entitled 'Breaking Barriers: A Century of Great British Speed Records', will be issued on 13 October, price £6.16. The front cover shows Donald Campbell as a schoolboy with a model of his father's *Bluebird*, 1931. The book is of special interest to collectors in that it contains a pane of Speed stamps as well as mixed panes of definitive, nvi and country stamps. The pages tell the story of British speed records on land, sea, and air, with some excellent illustrations of the men and their machines, including John Cobb, Henry Segrave, Donald and Malcolm Campbell, Andy Green and Richard Noble. The Air section recalls the early flights of Moore-Brabazon, Harry Hawker, the Schneider Trophy, R J Mitchell, and Frank Whittle's jet engine.

The book has been designed by the Roundel group and printed by Walsall Security Printers Ltd. The text was written by speed historian Neil Carr-Jones.



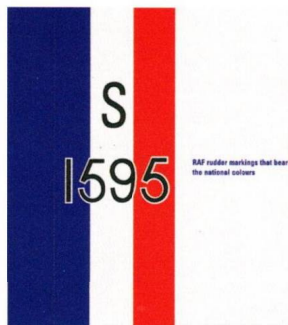
The infinity symbol on other used on speed record breaking crafts



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Breaking Barriers The new prestige stamp book, above, and first day cover.

R J Mitchell, and the racers he designed for Supermarine to win the Schneider Trophy, opposite, are among the men and machines remembered in the Air section of *Breaking Barriers*. Photograph: Hulton Getty.



Pane 4 Mixed pane of definitives: top and bottom rows 43p, 10p and 2nd class NVI; middle row 43p, label (RAF roundel) and 2nd class NVI. The 10p and 43p stamps have two phosphor bands, the NVI stamps one band at left.

The pane margin shows RAF rudder markings that bear the national colours.



(top row 2nd NVI + 26p Scotland, middle row 2nd NVI + 26(p) Wales, bottom row 2nd NVI + 26p Northern Ireland. 2nd NVI stamps have phosphor band right, 26p country stamps two bands. Pane margin shows the infinity symbol often used on speed record breaking crafts • Pane 4 is shown left.

The 26p country stamps are essentially the same as the existing sheet stamps produced by Walsall although specialist collectors may detect minor differences. All stamps are printed in gravure, the definitive and country stamps are perforated with one elliptical hole on each vertical side. The 20p Speed stamp, printed by De La Rue and issued in sheets of 100 on 29 September has one centre band.

Each pane is divided into three sections by two vertical rows of rouletting, approx 12mm from the left-hand edge of the pane and 5mm from the left-hand stamps in the pane – this makes for easy separation by collectors who want to remove the stamps or the stamps plus printed matter. The panes measure 162mm across by 96mm deep.



FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail first day cover envelopes will be available from main post offices, the Bureau, and Post Office Counters philatelic outlets about a week before 13 October, price 25p. Orders for covers bearing the pictorial label pane cancelled with a pictorial 'first day of issue' postmark of the Bureau or Chislehurst (birthplace of Sir Malcolm Campbell), price £2.87 UK (inc VAT), £2.45 overseas (no VAT), must reach the Bureau by 13 October. Collectors may send their own stamped covers, on the day of issue, for these postmarks to: British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT, or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, Mount Pleasant, London EC1A 1BB (Chislehurst postmark). Outer envelopes should be marked 'FD98 PSB03' (Bureau), or 'FD98 PSB04' (Chislehurst).

First Day boxes will be provided at main post offices for posting covers for local (mostly non-pictorial) 'first day of issue' handstamps. Sponsored special handstamps will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from the Bureau (£10 UK/Europe; £21.75 rest of world). Any of the stamps in the prestige book can be used, singly or in combination (subject to minimum 20p postage) for all first day, philatelic and sponsored handstamps in use on 13 October •