
Great Britain's Winston Churchill Centenary Stamps and First Day Covers

Exhibit Plan

Design Sources

Publicity

- Philatelic Bulletin
- Press Photograph
- Lobby Posters
- U.S. Agency

Stamps

- Selvage Markings
- Gutter Pairs

Philatelic Products

- Presentation Pack
- Souvenir Pack
- Printer Pack
- Annual Pack
- PHQ Card

First Day Postmarks

First Day Covers

- Post Office Official
- Military
- British
- American
- Unique or Unusual
- Promotional
- Cards
- Rule Violations

Anniversary Covers

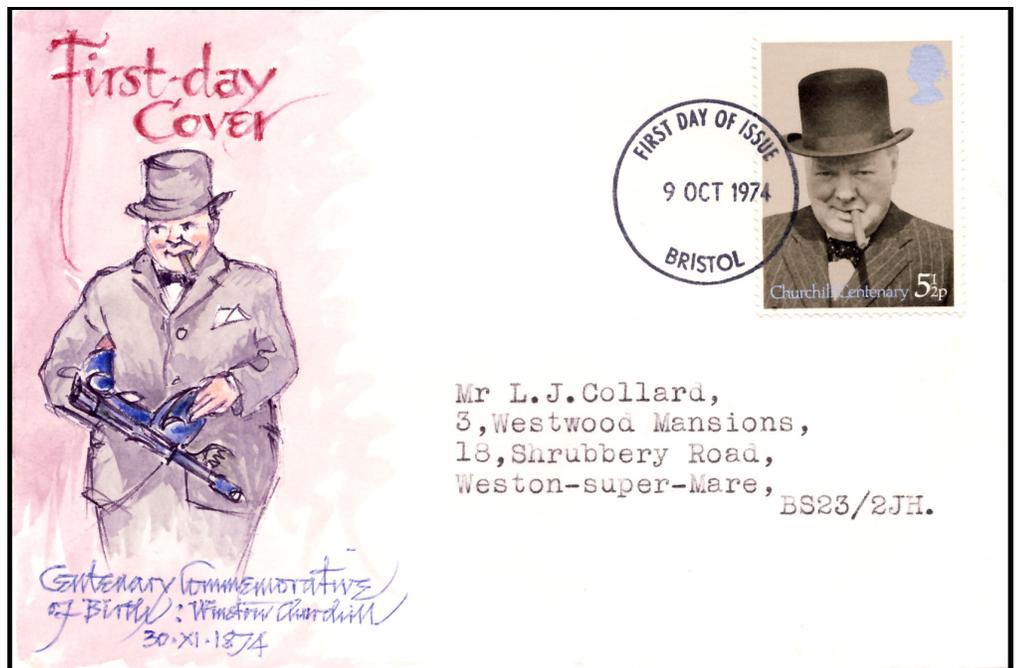
Postal Uses

Conclusion

**Key items
denoted by pale
blue matte**

Nineteen Seventy-Four saw Great Britain celebrate the birth centenary of its greatest statesman, Sir Winston S. Churchill (1874-1965). Tributes included an exhibition in London, re-publication of his collected works, and a set of four commemorative postage stamps issued by the British Post Office. The stamps reproduce photographs of Churchill at different points in his long public life. They were printed by Harrison & Sons Ltd. in a quantity of 105 million. The stamps were available from all British post offices on the issue date of 9 October 1974, approximately seven weeks before Churchill's actual birth anniversary of 30 November.

The goal of the exhibit is to tell the story of the stamps with an emphasis on first day covers. With wide appeal of the subject in Britain and around the world, first day covers were produced by a large number of British and American makers, some of which had never before produced a cacheted cover. Beyond cachets, British FDCs are collected by postmark types and locations relevant to the stamp subject, a wide variety of which are presented here. With four different stamps intended for different rates, postal uses add another interesting dimension to collecting the set. Printing errors and early release use on cover are not included in the exhibit, as they are not recorded. Gum, paper and phosphor varieties are also left out, as they do not have visual characteristics that lend themselves to display.



Unique hand painted FDC by L.J. Collard
