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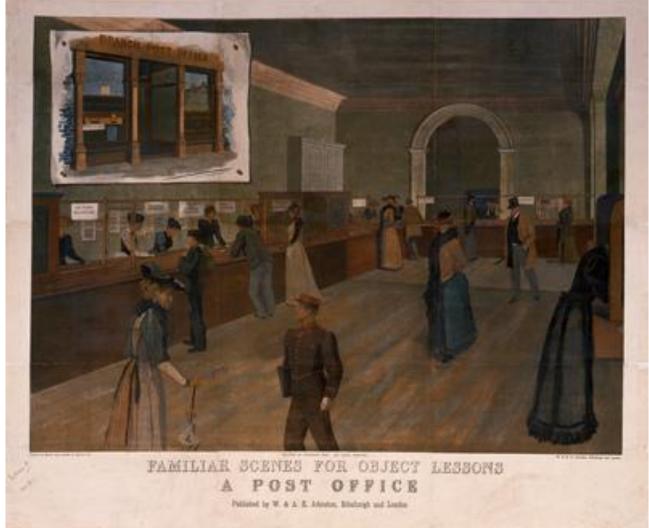
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©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum, POST 118/5646 A colour painting of St Martin's le Grand, the headquarters of the General Post Office in London and the first purpose built Post Office in Britain.





©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum,

A colour print of the inside of a Post Office showing several different services such as Postal Orders, Postage Stamps and Letters registered to customers.





©The Postal Museum, OB1997.8

This picture called 'The Country Letter Carrier' was painted by J. P. Hall in 1859. The expressions on the young ladies' faces show how important the post was in people's lives.

Christmas. My dear Christopher. Jam not going to send you this year but J wi wrike, mstead and J you a Lake



©The Postal Museum, 2006-0285/4

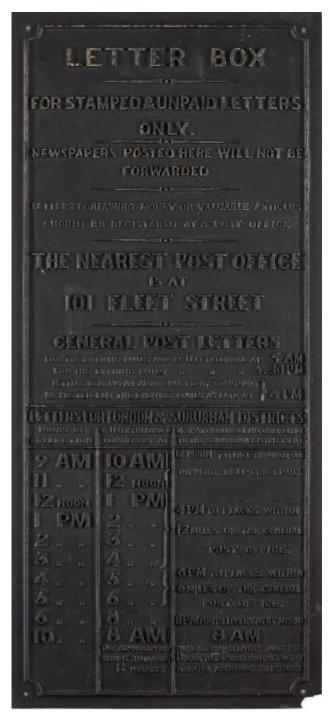
This Christmas card was sent from a father to his son in 1896. It is called a 'Rebus' card and uses pictures and words to spell out a Christmas message.





©The Postal Museum, 2003-0476

Henry Cole, a great supporter of postal reform, sent the world's first commercially printed Christmas card in 1843.





©The Postal Museum, E10432

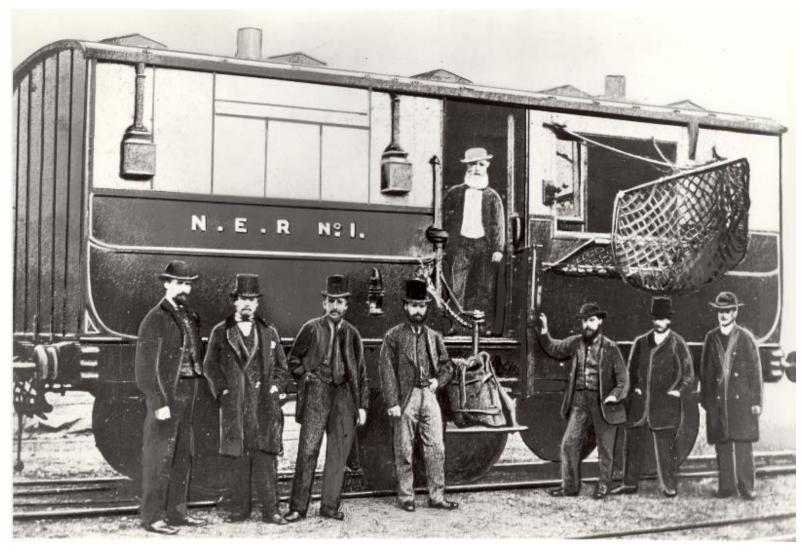
1855 Collection plate from one of the first London postboxes. It shows the multiple collection times.





©**The Postal Museum, OB1994.225.1** Painting of a Mail coach in a snowstorm. Painted between 1810 – 1894.

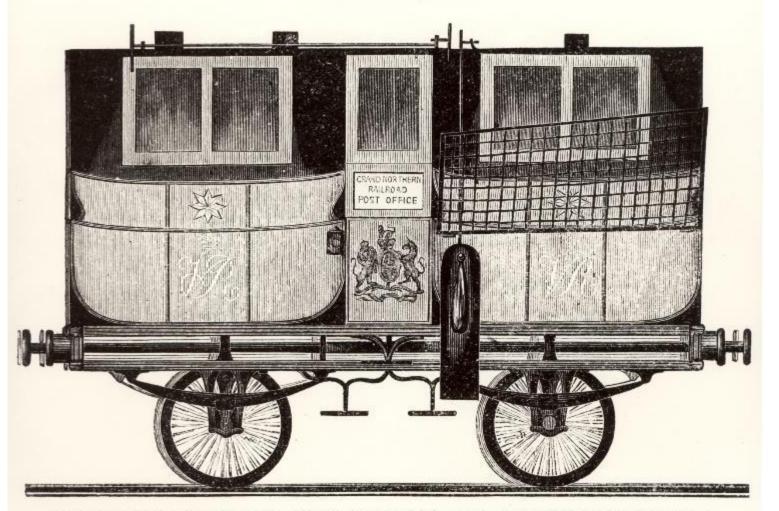




©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum, POST 118_0792

Postal workers stand in from of the first train coach used to sort mail on the North Eastern Railway. 1881. The net on the side is to scoop up bags from the side of the railway track.





TRAVELLING POST-OFFICE, ON THE LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM RAILWAY.

©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum, POST 118/489

Illustration of an exterior view of a Travelling Post Office carriage used on the London and Birmingham railway. 1839.



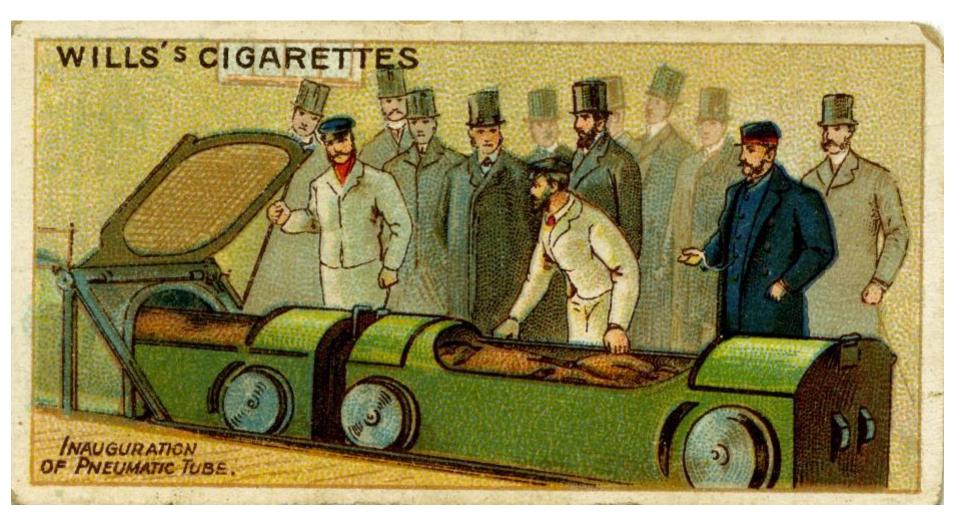
SUPPLEMENT, NOV. 18, 1868 THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS 492 1 ALLAY

DORMGE LEDE 201

©The London Illustrated News, November 1865

This illustration shows the grand opening of the pneumatic tunnel at Holborn, London.

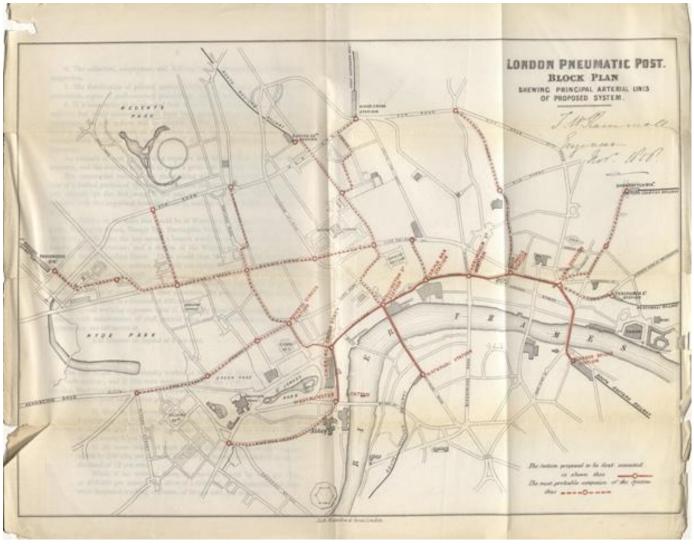




©The Postal Museum, 2010-0383-/3

The pneumatic tunnels were only supposed to be used for mail but people loved to climb aboard the pneumatic railway before being blown through the tunnel at 30mph!





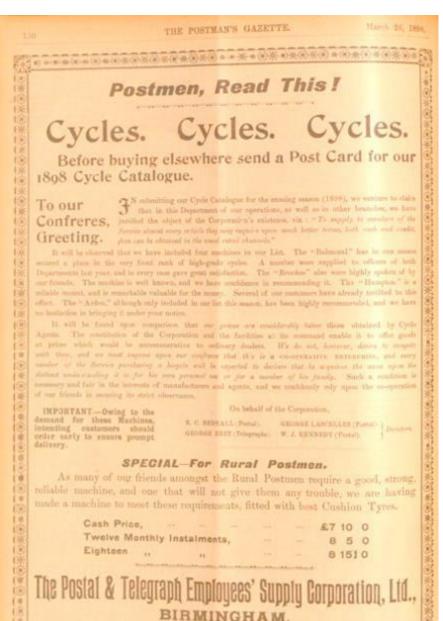
©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum, POST 30/765 A map showing the principal lines of the proposed London Pneumatic Post System. November 1858.





©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum

In 1829 accelerator carriages were introduced in London. The carriages were designed for postmen to jump off without it stopping. They carried letter carriers from the General Post Office to the start of their delivery route in London.



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©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum, The Postman's Gazette , 1898 This advert in The Postman's Gazette encourages postmen to buy good strong bicycles.

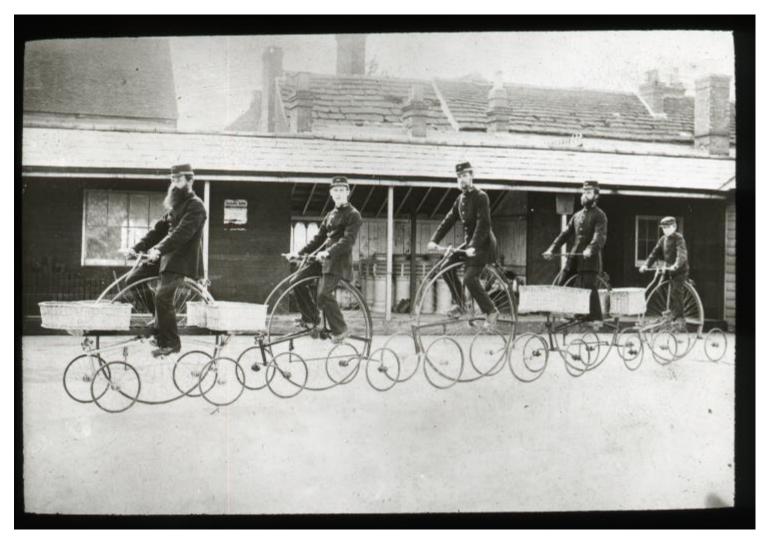






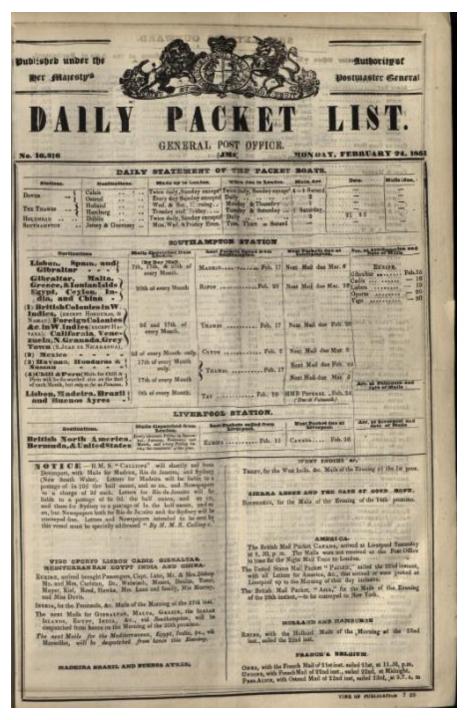
©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum Tricycles were first trialled in Coventry in 1880. They were often used to carry heavier loads.





©The Postal Museum, 2011-0266/17

'Hen and Chicks' were trialled in Horsham in 1882. They had one large wheel (the hen) and four smaller wheels (the chick). They quickly proved too difficult to steer and wore out postman's trousers.





©Royal Mail Group 2015, courtesy of The Postal Museum, POST 41-43

Daily packet lists recorded all the journeys made on a particular day.

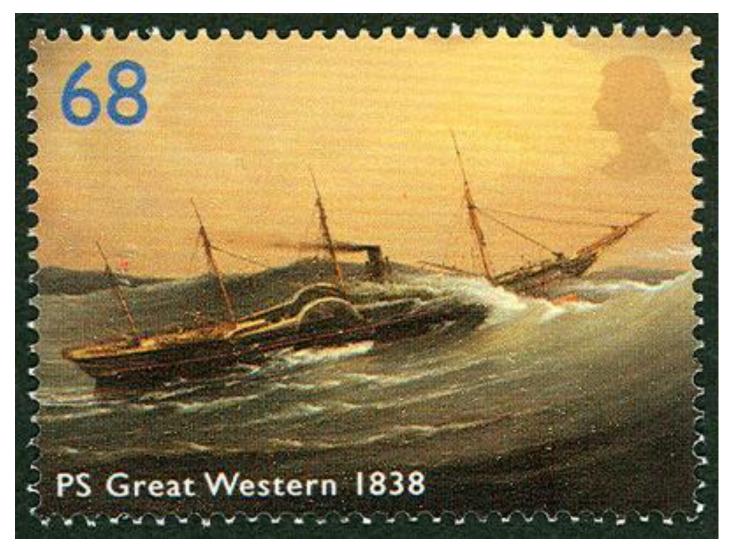




©The Postal Museum, PH6A/20b

This letter was sent from Bristol to Baltimore on the Great Western steam ship on 15 November 1839.





©Royal Mail Group Ltd, 2015 courtesy of The Postal Museum Stamp commemorating the maiden voyage of the Great Western Steam Ship in 1838.





©**The Postal Museum** Photograph of mail from America being unloaded at the Mount Pleasant sorting office in London.







From left to right

©The Postal Museum, OB2006.0885/7 A Christmas Greeting card with a child postman. Manufactured in Bavaria c.1860-1890 ©The Postal Museum, OB1995.162/57 Happy Birthday card with a perfumed sachet in an embossed envelope. C.1870 ©The Postal Museum, 2006-0285/5 Post box shaped Christmas card with rhyme. Manufactured in Germany. c.1860-1890