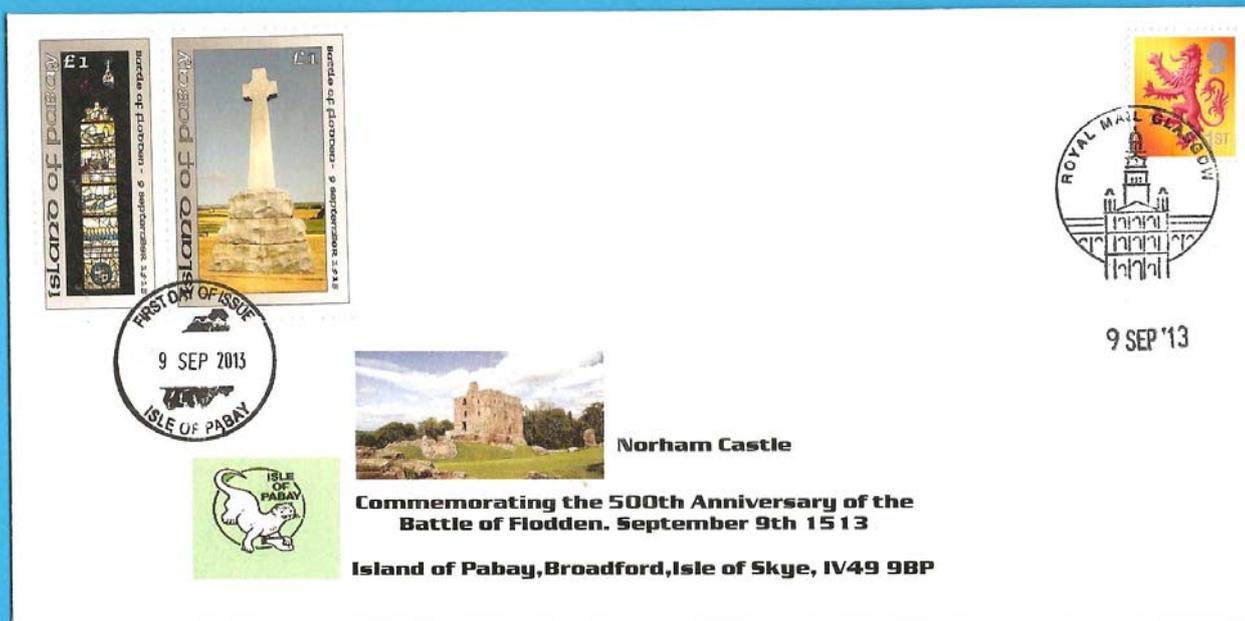


Issue 32 September 2013

## Pabay Philatelic News Issue 32



PS263 and PS264



## PC118

This new stamp and FDC issue records the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Flodden. Although not fought on Scottish soil it was a decisive battle that affected the future history of England and Scotland over many years. Some interesting facts about the Battle of Flodden are included below. The stamp PS263 shows the stained glass window in the Parish Church of St. Leonard located in Middleton (Manchester) , the significance of this is explained below. PS264 shows the memorial located on the site of the battlefield.

### PRICES

PS263 and 264 Stamps	£2.00 (the set 2 stamps)
PC118 First Day Covers	£5.00 each

### Post and Packing

UK and Europe Stamps £1.50 FDC's £2.00  
Overseas (all areas) Stamps £3.00 FDC's £5.00

### Payment

Paypal to ID [jeff@pabay.org](mailto:jeff@pabay.org) or if using a Credit Card on Paypal  
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The Battle of Flodden, although not on Scottish soil, played a great part in the future history of Scotland and that nations' relationship with England.

On 9 September 1513 the Scots army, under King James IV, faced the English forces of King Henry VIII under the command of Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey. The battle was ferocious and bloody - men were felled by artillery, arrows, pikes, bills and swords. Around 14,000 men died, including James IV, the last British king to die in battle.

James IV was married to one of Henry VIII's sisters - Margaret Tudor - but the Scots king, honouring the Auld Alliance with France, had invaded Northumberland to divert Henry's troops from their campaign against the French. The Scots were joined by some French troops, and carried some French weapons.

James IV had superior numbers - around 35,000 to 40,000 men to the English force's 26,000 - but the Scots force lacked experience and discipline.

The Bishop of Durham later told Thomas Wolsey, '...though the Scots fought sore and valiantly with their swords, yet they could not resist the bills that lighted so thick and sore upon them.'

The Scots were outmanoeuvred; part of the English force circled around their position. James IV charged into the midst of the battle - leading his men from the front - and was cut down within 'a spear's length' of the Earl of Surrey.

About 4,000 of Henry VIII's English force were killed while Scotland lost up to 10,000 men. Among the dead were King James IV and his son Alexander, three bishops, 12 earls, and 13 barons. The bodies of thousands of dead and dying men littered the battlefield as night fell.

The Battle of Flodden Field was immortalised by Jean Elliott in her song 'The Floo'ers o' the Forest':

...I've heard the lilting, at the yowe-milking,  
Lassies a-lilting before dawn o' day;  
But now they are moaning on ilka green loaning;  
"The Flowers of the Forest are a' wede away."

Norham Castle (shown on the First Day Cover) was established as a motte and bailey by the Bishops of Durham in the early 12<sup>th</sup> Century and within 100 years developed the stone form we see today. It was captured by James IV during the last week of August 1513 after a five day siege, and protected both the eastern end of his supply lines and the northern end of his eastern flank. The castle was also fought over during the War of the Roses (1455-1487) and the English Civil War and was made famous in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century through the paintings of JMW Turner.



Turner first saw Norham, bordering Scotland on the river Tweed in Northumberland, in 1797. He was at the limits of his trip to northern England, when he also visited Buttermere, seen in the painting of nearly fifty years earlier shown nearby. After that first visit he made watercolours showing the ruin at sunrise, and visits in 1801 and 1831 resulted in further views. Here, finally, is one of a series of unfinished, unexhibited paintings reworking his monochrome *Liber Studiorum* landscape prints. Pure colours rather than contrasting tones express the blazing light as the historic building and landscape merge.

The stained glass window shown on the Pabay stamp is located in the Parish Church of Saint Leonards in modern Middleton (Manchester). The archers of Middleton were famed for their skill and accuracy and were recruited by King Henry VIII to assist him in the battle, where they were very effective. The window dates from the early 1500s and can still be seen in the Parish Church.