

Project Goal:

Web site example of History timeline format

Populations

(right click & "edit comment" to view enlargable text boxes)

British & French events

Early events in England & France

British Events

Falmouth's events

Dates

Pre-1500

"At Falmouth, where there is still a considerable interest in the ancient service of the Post-Office, no one has collected the facts or given any labour to preserve them from perishing. A few stories are known, half-a-dozen officers are named, but of precise information there is little indeed to be found where it might have been found most confidently."

Norway, Arthur Hamilton (1859-1938)

Author of:

The Post-Office Packet Service between the years 1793-1815, from Records Chiefly Official. Macmillan & Co. (1895)

"I know there are readers in the world, as well as many other good people in it, who are no readers at all, who find themselves ill at ease unless they are let into the whole secret from first to last...."

It is in pure compliance with this humour of theirs, and from a backwardness in my nature to disappoint any one soul living, that I have been so very particular already for which cause, right glad I am, that I have begun the history of ...{Falmouth packets} in the way I have chosen and that I am able to go on, tracing every thing in it."

With apologies to Laurence Sterne (1713-1768), author of "The Life of Tristram Shandy."
Andrew Campbell (Falmouth,1999)

1538:Dissolution / Suppression of the Monasteries 1537-1539 Britain builds coastal defence batteries

1509

1512

1515

1518

1520

1521

1538

1543

1544

Early references to Mylor

1547

1553

Pendennis Castle built

c.1545

1547

1550

1553

1555

1557

1558: French capture Calais

1558

1559

1562

1564: French Calendar (April to January)

1564

1566

1567

1569

1572

1573

1578

1579

1580

1581

[Lazar Houses in Cornwall](#)

1582

1585: Pendennis Castle in poor condition

1585

1587

1588: The Spanish Armada

1588

1589

		1590
		1591
		1592
	1595: Spanish land at Mount's Bay	1595
	1597-99 John Norden surveys Cornwall	1597
	1598: Raleigh anchors off Smethwick	1598
1600: British East India Company founded		1600
		1601
	1602: " <i>Survey of Cornwall</i> " published by Richard Carew	1602
		1603
		1604
1605 Guy Fawkes' gunpowder plot		1605
		1606
		1607
		1608
		1609
		1610
		1611
		1612
	1613: John Killigrew promotes developing Smithick	1613
		1614
		1615
1616: Raleigh released from prison		1616
		1617
1618: Raleigh accused of Treason & beheaded		1618
		1619
		1620
		1621
		1622
		1623
		1624
		1625
		1626
		1627
		1628
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		1630
		1631
		1632
		1633
		1634
		1635
		1636
		1637

			1638
			1639
			1640
			1641
1642: Isaac Newton Born. 1642: Galileo died.		Petition for St Mawes & Pendennis castles	1642
		1643:King Charles I writes to Sir William Killigrew:	1643
1644: Society of Friends founded		1644: Queen & infant at Pendennis -sails to Brest	1644
		1645:Frigate at Falmouth, awaits Prince of Wales	1645
		1646: Prince of Wales , Truro, Pendennis-Scilly	1646
			1647
			1648
			1649
			1649
			1650
1651: Cromwell's military success, Worcester			1651
		1652: Sir Peter Killigrew: Custom House & Market	1652
1653: Parliament dissolved. Cromwell takes Scotland			1653
1654: Union of England, Scotland & Ireland			1654
			1655
		1655/56: George Fox at Pendennis castle	1656
			1657
			1658
			1659
1660: Pepys, Lord Montague & Prince of Orange	1660-62 The Royal Society (see <i>Longitude</i>)	1660:"henceforth <i>Smithicke</i> should be <i>Falmouth</i> "	1660
1661: Charles II crowned		1661: Falmouth's Incorporation formalised	1661
1662 Act of Uniformity	1662: Charles II charter establishes the Royal Soci	1662-64:King Charles the Martyr Church in Falmouth	1662
			1663
		1664:Formation of the parish of Falmouth	1664
1665:The Plague Gazette. & Daniel Defoe's account			1665
1666:The Great Fire of London		1666:John Wildman to be imprisoned at Pendennis	1666
		1667:Quakers build a house 'purposely to meet in'	1667
			1667
			1668
			1669
			1670
			1671
			1672
1673: The Test Act			1673
			1674
			1675
			1676
			1677
			1678

1679: Act of Habeas Corpus		1679
		1680
		1681
		1682
	1683: Ashmolean , Oxford - the first public Museum	1683
		1684
1685: Battle of Sedgemoor		1685
		1686
		1687
1687: James II's Declaration of Indulgence		1688
1688: 5 Nov. William of Orange returns - lands Torbay	1688: Falmouth chosen for packet station	1688
1689: James II flees to Ireland. The Toleration Act	1689: Falmouth Packet Service starts - Groyne	1689
		1690
1691: George Fox dies		1691
1692: Massacre at Glen Coe		1692
		1693
1694: Bank of England established		1694
		1695
1696: Education Act. 1696: Junto		1696
1697: St. Paul's Cathedral opens (after 1666 Fire)		1697
		1698
		1699
	1700: 350 houses in Falmouth	1700
1701: Act of Settlement United Kingdom (GB & Ire)		1701
	1702: Robert Lovell born (Norfolk)	1702
	1703: Hurricane in the Bristol Channel 15 warships lost	1703
		1704
		1705
		1706
1707: Act of Union (Scotland & England)		1707
1708: French capture St. Johns, Newfoundland.		1708
		1709
1710: British occupy Acadia & Port Royal, Nova Scotia		1710
		1711
		1712
		1713
1714: Henry Mill patents typewriter		1714
	1715: The Riot Act	1715
1715-1723: Regency of the Duke of Orléans	1715: Total Eclipse of the Sun at Falmouth (May 3rd]	1715
		1716
	1717: Pendennis castle struck by lightning	1717
1718: London Press exaggerates gold shipments		1718
		1719
1720: South Sea Bubble.		1720
		1721
		1722

			1723
			1724
			1725
1726 Cardinal Fleury Prime Minister (died 1743)	1726:First circulating library - established in Edinburgh.		1726
			1727
			1728
			1729
			1730
			1731
			1732
	1733: The Molasses Act - (Ref. French West Indies)		1733
			1734
			1735
			1736
	1737: Sherborne Mercury Newspaper	1737: Killigrew Monument	1737
			1738
			1739
			1740
			1741
1742: Walpole resigns. Carteret Secretary of State			1742
			1743
			1744
1745 Second Jacobite rebellion begins			1745
1746: Battle of Culloden			1746
1747: Lord Lovat beheaded for treason.			1747
1748: Naturalisation Act			1748
		1748: William Lemon buys Carclew	1749
			1750
1751: January 1 established as start of the New Year		1751:1st Freemason's Lodge in Cornwall BYRON& Bell	1751
1752: Britain adopts the Gregorian Calendar		1752: Lodge in Truro constituted by Fal, members	1752
1753: British Museum founded.	1753: Land Tax instituted & the Marriage Act		1753
		1754: Pilchards ex Falmouth, Packets Corunna & Lisbon	1754
1755: France take St. Lucia (a neutral Island)			1755
			1756
1758: British plunder Cherbourg		1757: Franklin at Falmouth on <i>General Wall</i> packet	1757
1758: Act for charging tonnage			1758
1759:British Museum opens / Kew Gardens founded			1759
	1760: London's Gates sold for scrap		1760
1761: Dominica captured by the British	1761: Henry Shrapnel born	1761: G.C. Fox ledger. Catherine sloop - Madeira	1761
1762: St. Lucia captured by the British			1762
1763: St. Lucia restored to France	1763: Mason-Dixon Line survey started	1763: G.C. Fox ledger 16 Packets on Falmouth Station	1763
1764 The Sugar Act. (later repealed)			1764
1765 The Stamp Act (repealed 1776)			1765
1766 The Declaratory Act (British laws in the colonies)		1766:Packet link with Newfoundland (important fishery)	1766

1767:Tea Act (later modified) & Townshend Duties			1767
1768: <i>Endeavour</i> , Capt James Cook , sails to Pacific			1768
			1769
1770: Towshend Acts repealed			1770
			1771
			1772
1773: Colonists throw British Tea into Boston Harbour			1773
1774: "Intolerable Acts" & Chesterton Tea Party			1774
1775: Britain declares Mass "in a state of Rebellion 1775: George III declares America in open Rebellion			1775
			1776
states			1777
1778: England declares War on France			1778
			1779
			1780
			1781
			1782
	1783:The last public hanging in Britain (Tyburn)		1783
	1784:British government control East India Company		1784
			1785
			1786
			1787
1788: Bread Riots in France			1788
1789: French Revolution begins (mob storms Bastille)		1789: Bread riots by starving tanners, at Truro.	1789
1790: Jews granted Civil Liberty in France	1790: Hydraulic press invented (England)		1790
	1791: John Wesley dies (Methodist founder)		1791
1792: Slave Law		1792: Cornwall County Library	1792
1793: Marie Antionette guillotined (Paris 16 Oct.)			1793
1793: Pitt suspends <i>Habeas Corpus</i> (War with France)		1794: Packet wages	1794
1795: Spain Holland Prussia made peace with France		1795: Pendennis lands purchased by the Crown	1795
1796: France adopts the Metric System		1796: Flushing (qf. Buckinham autobiography)	1796
		1797:Capt.Philip Melville. Lt-Governor of Pendennis	1797
		1798:Captains ordered to build, Admiralty declines help	1798
		1799:James Buckinham(12) captured Corunna-Lisbon	1799
1800:Lafayette denounced as a traitor		1800: Packet Captains drawn from RN & merchant	1800
1801: Act of Union of Great Britain (Union Jack) First census - Britain c.11 million (London 864,000)		1801: <i>Cornwall Gazette & Falmouth Packet</i>	1801
			1802
		1803: Cornwall Gazette (now printed in Truro)	1803
1804: Code Napoleon		1804: Abolition of smuggling!	1804
	1805: News of Nelson's death (see Battle of Trafalga	1805:Start of Navy dockyard at Mylor (completed 1806)	1805
1806: Torture & Paris execution of Capt. Wright	1806: Construction of Dartmoor Prison begins	1806: Falmouth's Dispensary established	1806
			1807
		1808:00:00	1808
		1809: Lord Byron's entourage (in Falmouth)	1809

	1810: <i>The West Britain</i>	1810
		1811
	1812: William Pears <i>Refined Soap</i> 1812: Packet Fares	1812
		1813
1814: The Times, steam-powered rotary press	1814: Queen transport ashore at Trefusis. (213 die)	1814
The Battle of Waterloo, defeat of Napoleon		1815
[French Prime Ministers 1815-1830]	1816: Tregothnan Manor built	1816
1817: <i>Habeas Corpus</i> suspended (Gagging Acts)	1817: Mylor Dockyard (decline in use)	1817
1818: 49th parallel becomes US border		1818
		1819
		1820
		1821
		1822
1823: First public railway (Stocton & Darlington)		1823
		1824
		1825
	1826: Map of Falmouth ("A Panorama of Falmouth")	1826
	1827: Grove Hill, seat of George Crocker Fox (jpg)	1827
		1828
		1829
1829: London Police Force created		1830
Revolution of 1830 (ends House of Bourbon)		1831
[French Prime Ministers 1830-1848]		1832
	1833: Cornwall Polytechnic Soc. Founde by Maria Fox.jpg	1833
1834: First shipment of Staffordshire china to Calais	1834: Great Fire (ref to: Palace of Westminster)	1834
	1834: St. Anthony's Lighthouse	1835
	1835: Minicipal Act - Mayor, 4 Aldermen & 12 Councillors	1835
	1835: RCPS Royal Patronage Capt. Andrew King dies	1836
1837: Pitman publishes a book on shorthand	1837: St. Just (brandy bonanza!)	1837
	1838: Selly's boatman killed RANGER on Trefusis	1838
		1839
	1840: Vietch sends Wm. Lobb to Brazil on Seagull	1840
	1841: Steamer lands at Penzance - Joke at Helston	1841
1842: <i>Illustrated London News</i> & Paris-Rouen railway		1842
1843: 14 French steam packets to compete (June '44)	1843: Queen Victoria & Prince Consort visit Falmouth	1843
		1844
1845: English Channel cable		1845
	1846: Queen Victoria (River Fal trip)	1846
Bakewell constructs a "copying telegraph."	1847: Falmouth salutes French - Corn demonstrations	1847
1848: French Revolution	1848: Athenaeum Club founded in Falmouth	1848
1849: Birth of Randolph Churchill	1849: Exhibition of British Manufacturers, Birmingham	1849
	1850: Falmouth Harbour (published 1851)	1850
1851: Cable is laid across English Channel	1850-1865: Mining prosperity in Cornwall	1851
		1852
		1853

		1854
		1855
		1856
		1857
		1858
		1859
	1859: Brunel's "Albert Bridge" links the railway to Cornwall	1859
	1860: Foundation Stone of Falmouth Docks laid	1860
		1861
	1862: Fire destroys 30 houses in Falmouth's High Street	1862
	1863: Truro-Falmouth Railway & Falmouth Hotel	1863
	1864: Falmouth Town Hall (built)	1864
	1865: Castle Drive approved, Falmouth Hotel opens	1865
	1866-1899: HM Training Ship Ganges, St. Just pool	1866
	1867: Exodus of Cornish Copper miners	1867
		1868
		1869
		1870
	1871: Excavation of Market Strand pier exposes forest	1871
		1872
1873: Lord Kelvin calculates tides with machine		1873
		1874
		1875
		1876
		1877
1878: Cathode ray tube invented by Crookes		1878
		1879
		1880
		1881
1882: In England, the first Wirephotos		1882
	1883: Telephones come to Falmouth	1883
		1884
		1885
		1886
	1887: H.M. Prince of Wales visits Falmouth	1887
		1888
		1889
		1890
		1891
		1892
		1893
1894: Marconi invents wireless telegraphy	1894: Passmore Library & Municipal Offices (built)	1894
	Local History (St. Just sawmill founded?)	1895
1896: X-ray photography.	1896 RCPS lecture History of Falmouth Packets	1896
	1897: Packet Memorial	1897

1898: s.s. MOHEGAN lost on the Manacles

Post-1900 (interesting items)

1898: Mrs Gay dies

1899: Cornish Bushel of Wheat (180lb to 186lb rejected)

1900: New Art School at Falmouth

1898

1899

1900

(right click & "edit comment" to view enlargable text boxes)

Postal History

Help on Word / Text search in EXCEL

Mercantile, Maritime & Packets

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References to Packet Ships & Commanders

Navigation & Naval History

Early Explorers & Settlements

Developments in Navigation and Cartography

"I know there are readers in the world, as well as many other good people in it, who are no readers at all, who find themselves ill at ease, unless they are let into the whole secret from first to last....

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With apologies to Laurence Sterne (1713-1768), author of "The Life of Tristram Shandy."
Andrew Campbell (Falmouth,1999)

[Piracy c.1670](#)

1492-1493 Magellan circumnavigating the globe

Eliz.I / William Cecil - **merchant marine & the navy**

1562:John Hawkins first voyage to W. Indies

1569 Mercator's Map of the world

1573 Drake sees the pacific

1580: Drake returns from his voyage around the world

1581: Hakluyt's 'Voyages'

Columbus - Dead Reckoning of **Longitude**

1567: Philip II of Spain offers prize for calc. Longitude

1585: Walter Raleigh knighted (Virginia colonised)

1588: Spanish Armada

1591: Carrying of International Mail restricted to **Messengers**

1589-1600 Hakluyt's publications

1595: Raleigh discovers Trinidad's pitch protects ships

1598: Philip III - offers reward to discoverer of Longitude

1609: James I - **inland mail** by authorised messengers

1609: **Bermuda** discovered By Sir George Somers

1610: Henry Hudson discovers Hudson Bay

1627: **France** introduces **registered mail**

1624: First **Submarine** tested in the Thames.

1635: The POST OFFICE is established under Royal monopoly

1628-39: Charles I - Weak Navy, merchants angry

1639: First postal service in British American Colonies

1642: Post-horse system - a weekly letter-post to all principal towns

1645: Teverton, Dec. 10th. (letter from Oliver Cromwell)

[1646 - Fairfax blockades Pendennis castle](#)

1651: First **Navigation Act** - England gains monopoly of foreign trade

1653: Parisians put postage-paid letters in mail boxes

1656: **Postal Rates (Act)**

1657: Oliver Cromwell's **Post Office Act of 1657**

1659: William Dockwra founds the London "**Penny Post**"

1660: Navigation Act Pepys sees **Sale by Candlelight**

1661: Post service starts from **Harwich** & within the colony of **Virginia**

1666: **Post Office destroyed**, Fire of London. Overland mail service/speed

1667: Reference to packets (dispatches) landed at Falmouth from Barbado

1668: (Jan) Regular packet service starts. Falmouth to the Groyne (Spain)

1689-1699: Daniel Gwyn, (appointed 29 Jan) first Packet Agent, Falmouth

1673: Regular carriage of (colonial) mail between New York & Boston

1667: Early reference to Holyhead (& Cyphers) - Dover Agent (smuggling)

1641: End of **Ship Money** (for support of the Navy)

1653: Cromwell destroys the Spanish fleet at **Teneriffe**

1655: Cromwell seizes **Jamaica** (from Spain)

1656: Huygens invents **pendulum clock** controller

1657: Teneriffe, Blake sinks Spanish silver fleet

1660-1673 James II RN Commander. Samuel Pepys

1661: "Yachting" begins [on the Thames]

1665-1667: Harwich packer service suspended

1666: Scilly 'packet' taken. Deal & Dover packet refs.

1667: Dover-Joseph Carlisle customs and packet agent ?

1668: Harwich packets resume twice-a-week service

1671: Harwich packet contract (details)

1676: Harwich route changed to Briel. 'poor' Mr Carr

1666: Bristol Merchant - **clear definition of "Packet"**

1667: Fighting ships revert to merchant convoy escort

1673: Pepys Secretary of the Navy ends.

1675: **Royal Observatory** established at Greenwich

1680: William Dockwra founds the Penny Post (London)			1679: Jonas Moore dies (Ref. Pepys & Navigation)
1683: William Penn founds Pennsylvania's first Post-Office			1682: Louis XIV inaugurates the Paris Observatory
1686: Dummer Plymouth DY	1684:"BUCANIERS of AMERICA" (re: Pirates)	1686: Harwich packet contract, 3 boats ('Hoys')	1686: Plymouth
1688: Post Office chooses Falmouth as Packet station for service to Spain 29/1/1689 Daniel Gwyn appointed PO Agent at Falmouth		1689: Harwich packets armed. 3 sail Falmouth-Groyne	1690: Plymouth Dockyard 1691: Thomas Axe dies (Re. Longitude)
1691: Neale appoints Andrew Hamilton Deputy PMG (British N. America)		1694: Delays in mails to Spain (Corunna)	1694: Plymouth Dockyard
		1697: Harwich 4 Hoys. Dover resumes service-Calais 1698: Dover. John Mackay 5-boat contract (3+5yrs)	
1699-1705: Francis Jones (appointed 17 May) Falmouth Packet Agent			1699: Capt. Kidd captured & extradited from Boston 1700-1720: Navy war on pirates
1701: 5th packet on NY route 1702: 1st. trans-atlantic mail service sponsored by the Post Office	1702: Dummer starts service to Caribbean colonies	1702: Edmund Dummer - postage rates to W. Indies	1702: British land at Vigo
1703: Packets to Spain diverted to Lisbon (due War of Spanish Succession)	1702: Smuggling on Dummer's sloop from W. Indies	1703: Dummer's ships to the West Indies	
1704: Lisbon packet service established (due to the war with Spain)			
1705-1713: Zachary Rogers (appointed 9 Aug) Packet Agent, Flushing	1705: Monthly 5-vessel 3-yr contract (W. Indies)+ Freight	1705: 200 tons, 2-decks, 20guns + 24 Oars (W. Indies)	
1707: British Government buys rights to North American Postal Service	1707: Five packets sailing on Falmouth-Lisbon station	1707: <i>Prince George</i> captured	1707: Cloudsley Shovel wrecked on Scilly (Longitude)
	1709: Edmund Dummer's Banker bankrupt		
1713-1715: Joseph Durden, Packet Agent, Falmouth. (Harwich 5 packets)	1713: Edmund Dummer dies		
1715-1723: Joseph Penhallow , (app. 29 Sept) Packet Agent, Falmouth			1714: British Government offer Longitude prize £20K 1715: First Lighthouse in N. America ? (Brewster Island) 1716: First Lighthouse built (?) Boston harbour, Mass.
	1719: Lord Cobham, Vigo-Pontevedra (munitions & loot)		1718: English pirate 'Blackbeard' killed of Va coast
1721: Deputy PMG N. America - John Hamilton (1707-21) John Lloyd, 1721	1721: Regular postal service starts London-New Englan	1721: American Insurance on vessels & cargo	1720: John Harrison: Lignum Vitae Clocks run 30yrs

1723-1747: **Stephen Banfield** (app 1 April), Packet Agent, Falmouth

1730: Alexander Spotswood, Deputy PMG N.America, (see: Franklin 1737)

1733: Society of **Freemasons'** first N. American Lodge opens in Boston

1734: Franklin prints the first Masonic 'Bible' in America

1736/37: Franklin appointed Postmaster of Philadelphia (by Spotswood)

[1737: Benjamin Franklin appointed Postmaster of Philadelphia](#)

1739: Head Lynch - Deputy PMG N.America

1743: Elliot Benger - Deputy PMG British N. America colonies

[1745: Post-Office re-introduces packet service to the West Indies \(sugar\)](#)

[1747-1776: George Bell](#) (appointed 11 June), Packet Agent, Falmouth

1749: W.I service lapses due "*insufficient revenue from letters*"

1753: Franklin & William Hunter, Joint PMG's for N. American Colonies

1754: Colonel Cornwallis, Governor of New York

1755: Postal Packet services (reintroduced) to American & W.Indian Colonies

1759: PMG only authority to dismiss Postmasters (see Jamaica)

1760: Franklin reports profit to British Post Office

1761: Franklin & John Foxcroft - Joint PMG's N. America

1762: Franklin's LL.D.(Oxford and Edinburgh) returns to America

1763: Franklin's 5-month tour of N. America "inspecting Post-offices"

1764: Franklin sent to England, representing Pennsylvania

1765: Franklin endeavors to prevent the passage of the Stamp Act.

1766: Franklin recalled to England [\(right click & "edit comment" to view b](#)

1744: PO list of packets employed Fal-Lisbon (in war)

1753: (First steam engine to be shipped to N. America 1753: Cadiz: 1,142 merchant ships entered

1755: Two packets sailing Falmouth-New York station

1757:: Two packets sailing to Corunna, and 2 to Gibraltar

1757: **Edward Pellew** born, Dover, son of Packet Captain

1763: Packet service to W. Indies lapses (end of war) 1763: Additional two packets on New York route

1764: Two packets sailing Falmouth - Pensacola (Flori 1764: James Bull

1765: Request monthly Fal-W.Indies-Florida-S.Carolina

1766: New York Route agreed (170 ton vessels)

[1724: British 12-gun Sloop off Boston Light](#)

1731-1734: John Hadley's **Reflecting Quadrant**

1747: Admiral Boscawen at Finisterre

1749: British Navy reorganized by Act of Consolidation

1753: Act of George II (*Longitude*)

1754: Sweden building men of War for France 7 Spain?

1757: John Bird makes the first sextant (re. Longitude)

1761: Maskelyne & **Longitude**

1762: Malleable **steel from Cast-iron**

1764: Harrison's 2nd trial for his (H4) **Chronometer**

1765: **The Longitude Act** (awards to Euler & Mayer)

1767: Franklin presented to the French court
1768: Crew victualling rate increased by Post-Office (7 1/2d -9d. Per day)
1770: N Y mails - 5th packet
1772: Franklin elected foreign associate of the French Academy
1773: Franklin wrote "*There never was a good war, or a bad peace*"
1774: Franklin dismissed by the British Post-office
1775: Franklin appointed PMG (by Continental Congress) at Philadelphia
1776-1785: Stephen Bell (appointed 5 Jan), Packet Agent, Falmouth
1778: New **20-gun** ships to be built to replace losses
1779: Franklin appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to France
1784: **Mail Coaches first introduced** in Britain (Bristol - London)
1785-1810: Benjamin Pender (app. 21Aug) Packet Agent, Falmouth
1787: **Francis Dashwood** listed as Postmaster at Jamaica
1789: "United States had about **75 Post Offices**" (IBM World Book)
1790: Benjamin Franklin dies (buried Philadelphia)
1791: French Revolution
1792: Postal money orders in Britain _ Postal Act in America
1793: War with France, **Dover** packets move to **Harwich**
1794: **Harwich** packets to Hamburg, Husum & Gothenburg. 1st-**Guenrsey**
1795: Harwich closed. Packets move to **Yarmouth**, sailing to Cuxhaven
1798: COUNTESS of LEICESTER, Dodd, carried into L'Orient
[1800 Plan of typical Post-Office packet \[201 tons bm. 79ft LOA\]](#)
1801: Number of Packets reduced as a result of peace in 1801. [PO relief!]
1802: Harwich reopens - most sailings to Cuxhaven
1803: Discontinue service to Surinam? [Dutch troops occupy]
[1805: Packets in building \(Dartmouth, Falmouth, Flushing St. Mawes\)](#)
1806: New monthly service established **Falmouth-Gib-Malta**
1807: Lisbon packet reports earthquake
1808: Service to the Brazils, and, Corunna service again?
[1809: Lord Byron VI takes Princess Elizabeth packet to Lisbon](#)

1768: Four packets sailing Falmouth - Charlestown, S.C.
1770: Margaret Bell marries **Edward Lawrance** [see Notes]
1771-1782: Samuel Bull & GRAFTON (East Indiaman)
1775: Hurricane of Independence (NC-Maine)
1778: Five packets on the Charlestown S.C. Route
1782: Capt. Samuel Bull joins the packet service
1787: **Smuggling** - Packet Captain's trial in Jamaica
1794: Jay Treaty (US vessels into W. Indies)
[1796: Autobiography of James Silk Buckingham](#)
[1799: US-West Indies trade competition \(molasses.jpg\)](#)
1801: Packet *Harlequin* (Robarts?) for sale, Penryn
1802: Peacetime reduction of the British Navy
1803: *Little Catherine* (1801) carries Trevithick's engine
1805: 21 Oct.. British win Battle of Trafalgar
1806: Napoleon closes Continental ports to the British
1809: Napoleon's Blockade

1775: Hurricane of Independence (NC-Maine)

1806: Cornwallis - Straights of Gib action

1807: **Windsor Castle, Marlborough, Cornwallis**

1808: **Prince Ernest** chased

1809: **Princess Elizabeth / Townshend** /Byron

1767: Nautical Almanac & Greenwich Meridian
1768: Jesse Ramsden's *Dividing Engine* (**Longitude**)
1769: James Cook's first circumnavigation
1770: James Cook (**Endeavour**) lands at Australia
1772: James Cook South Sea voyage on **Resolution**
1773: James Cook, first to cross Arctic Circle (66.33 S.)
1774: James Cook, 71.10 S. -1,820 Kms from S.Pole
1775-1778: Merchantmen - 900 captured (N.America)
1776: American privateers active. **Cook's 3rd voyage**
1778: Junior Captain's pay @ 8s. a day (6s. on half-pay)
1779: Men-of-war crew, dress "a disgrace"
1787: Bligh sails in the **Bounty**
1793: Admiralty use Telegraph
1794: US Navy created
1795: Bermuda - Naval Dockyard approved
1796: John Harrison dies (born 1696) Ref: "**Longitude**"
1797: British navy mutiny over pay & conditions (Solent)
1802: West India Docks built
1805: HMS **Pickle** & Collingwood's dispatches
1807: British navy convoys Portuguese Royals to Brazil
1808: British S. American naval Station established
1809: *Diana* & *Brilliant* (50,000 carats of diamonds)

1810-1821: **Christopher Saverland, Agent.** Surgeon's Pay improved

1812: New York closed. Bermuda-Halifax (extra clothing & Rum!)

1813: Congress authorises steam boats to carry mail

1814-23: R. Joseph Meigs, Postmaster General (US)

1816: US newspaper rate: under 2 cents postage

1818: New York-Liverpool (US) passenger packet services commence

1821-1824: **Thomas Grove Musgrave** (30 May), Packet Agent, Falmouth

1822-29: John McClean, (US) Postmaster General

1824-1850: **William Gay** (appointed 6 Dec.), Packet Agent, Falmouth

1825: William Gay (appointed 6 Dec'24) **Packet Agent** at Falmouth

[1827-1829: French Postal packet to Mexico / American Packets faster](#)

1830: French Postal packets to Brazil **Rail Mail** (Liverpool-Manchester)

[1833: GC Fox & Co Bill of Lading \(Silver on board *Reindeer*\)](#)

1836: Rowland Hill starts to reform the British postal system

[1837: Died. Packet Capt. W. James \(56\) Hitchinbrooke.jpg \(by Pocock 1814\)](#)

1838: *Sirius* - First transatlantic service under steam alone

1840: **Postage (Penny Blacks) stamps** in Britain. Harnden's Express

1842: **Royal Mail Steam Packet Company** (RMSP) starts (poor press!)

1843: French examine Royal Mail Steamers operation in Caribbean

[1845: Samuel Cunard selects Boston as his western terminus](#)

1847: Annular eclipse of the sun at Falmouth (9 October)

1810: **Riot Act** read. Service temporarily to Plymouth 1810: *Marlborough*, John Bull sails inside Manacles

[1818: Nicholas Pocock appointed to command *Blucher*](#)

1823: Admiralty start running of the Packet Service

[1826: HM Steam & sailing packets \(jpg\)](#)

1829: Packet sailings (example of schedule)

1829: **Chichester-Wellington-Osborne** re. BUE

1831-1836: Charles Darwin on "**Beagle**"

1833: s.s. **Royal William** crosses Atlantic

1835: Mediterranean branch contracts (French)

1837: Peninsular Steam Company contract £29,600 p.a

1838: Loss of HMPB **Briseis**, Lt. Downey

1839: Gold Dust Robbery (Fal-London)

1840: **Cunard's** steamers carry N.American Mails

1842: McQueen's Royal West India Mail Steam Packet Co.

1843: Steam packet (advertisements)

1846: Robert Peel announces Free Trade

1850: RMSP Company eliminates its service to Bermuda

[1813: Brig *Pelican*.jpg \(query\) MONTAGUE \(gold\)](#)

1814: George Anson Byron promoted to Captain

1818: *Vulcan* - First all-iron sailing ship (not HM ship)

1819: *Savannah* - 1st steam-vessel to cross Atlantic

1829: Admiralty proposal for Milford Haven to Ireland

[1831: Plan of Navy Brig \(Beagle\) typical of HMPB's](#)

1832: Are the French building up their fleet? (scare)

1833: Death of Admiral Pellew, First Viscount Exmouth

[1834: Plans of a brig 92ft x 26.5ft 274tons bm \(RCPS\)](#)

1835: Sir William Symonds RN Packet command 5 yrs

1837: Contractor's 1st Voyage, **Don Juan** wrecked Gib

1838: New HMPB *Penguin* (W. Symons) **dimensions**

1839: Admiralty invited tenders for N.America route(s)

1840: Admiralty inspectors aground (Bristol)

1842: RMSPC contract service West Indies (see losses)

1843: Navy statistics: 234 inc **46 packets**, 1 iron, 3 screw

1858: Atlantic Telegraph Cable (failed after 26 days)

1861: Telegraph brings Pony Express to abrupt end

1862: Post Office withdraws the Peninsula Mail Packet (Southampton) service

1863: First international postal conference held in Paris

1866: Second Atlantic Telegraph Cable (successful)

1874: Universal Postal Union formed

1880: First parcel post

1897: In England, postmen deliver mail to every home

1854: Reciprocity, British N. America-USA

1859: RMSP Company eliminates its service to Bahamas

1876: Unseaworthy Ships Bill (Samuel Plimsoll, M.P.)

1884: Int'l Meridian Conference (**Longitude & Time**)

1899:HMS 'Ganges'(1861) leaves Falmouth (to Harwich)