

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 23 May 1983

<u>Approx No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
371	Disarmament	337 Women's Day for Disarmament, 24 May - pre-printed cards as attached for reduction of Nuclear Weapons. 34 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons.
139	Brandt Commission	Pre-printed cards as attached urging action on new proposals.
128	Personal Hardship	39 Housing 21 Employment 20 Miscellaneous 15 Social Security 6 Education 6 Disability 4 Money 4 Health 4 Tax 3 Legal 3 Pensions 3 Planning
116	General Election	92 Comments. 24 Protests that there is no alternative provision for people on holiday or living overseas to cast a vote.
37	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
14	Cruelty to Animals	Protests at experiments on animals.
13	Public Expenditure	8 Anti educations cuts. 5 Anti NHS cuts.

13	HM Government	Anti Government policy.
12	Stuttgart Summit	Call for abolition of all remaining obstacles to free movement of people, goods and services within the limits of the European Community.

Petitions: Approximately 1820 signatures - call for restoration of cuts and increase in official aid to the Third World.

Approximately 1500 signatures - call for restoration of twenty four hour visual watch at the Coastguard Station at Gwennap Head near Lands End.

Total for the week

3 4 5 1

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
Week beginning 16 May 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
246	General Election	181 Comments 65 Protests that there is no alternative provision for people on holiday or living overseas to cast a vote.
185	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
155	Personal Hardship	32 Housing 24 Employment 20 Miscellaneous 16 Tax 14 Money 11 Social Security 10 Disability 9 Planning 7 Pension 6 Education 3 Health 3 Rent
35	Disarmament	Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons.
33	Brandt Commission	Pre-printed cards as attached urging Government action on new proposals.
27	Public Expenditure	13 Anti education cuts and school closures. 9 Anti NHS cuts. 5 Anti waste expenditure.
23	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions.
22	H M Government	Anti Government policy.
21	Industry	Plight of industry and small businesses and calls for aid.
21	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and calls for stiffer sentences.

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
20	Cruelty to Animals	Protests at experiments on animals.
18	Rates	Protests at increases and calls for reform.
17	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing.
15	Pay	Protests at proposed increases for MPs, top Civil Servants and Judges.

Petitions: Approximately 5091 signatures - anti proposed closure of Hargrave House, Stansted Mountfitchett Essex a home for severely mentally handicapped children and their transfer to Hollycroft, Chelmsford.

 Approximately 4300 signatures - protest that Crawley taxi drivers are denied the right to work by the British Airports Authority at Crawley Airport.

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK

3 4 3 3

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 9 May 1983

<u>Approx No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
197	Personal Hardship	48 Housing 26 Tax 23 Employment 22 Miscellaneous 19 Social Security 13 Education 12 Planning 10 Money 7 Disability 6 Pension 5 Rent 5 Health 1 Legal
186	General Election	112 Comments. 74 Protests that there is no alternative provision for people on holiday or living overseas to cast a vote.
179	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
66	Disarmament	56 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons. 10 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons.
65	Rates	Protests at increases and calls for reform.
57	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and calls for stiffer sentences.
44	Public Expenditure	18 Anti education cuts and school closures. 16 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures. 10 Anti waste expenditure.
41	Cruelty to Animals	Protests at experiments on animals.
35	Industry	Plight of industry and small businesses and calls for aid.
33	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing.
32	HM Government	Anti Government policy.

26	' Overseas Aid	Pre-printed cards as attached urging Government aid for the needy overseas.
24	· Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions.
20	Falkland Islands	Concern at relatives of Argentine war dead being refused entry to visit graves.

Petitions: Approximately 300 signatures - protest against new CB law.

Total for the week

3 8 0 5

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 25 April 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
241	Personal Hardship	49 Housing 30 Tax 27 Employment 26 Miscellaneous 22 Social Security 16 Planning 15 Money 13 Health 13 Education 11 Pension 9 Disability 5 Legal 5 Rent
93	Prime Minister	53 Letters of appreciation for stand against pornography on cable TV and plea for action to be taken against introduction of surrogate mothers into UK following Baptist Women's conference 40 Letters of support and good wishes
53	Disarmament	44 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons 9 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons
50	Falkland Islands	43 Concern at relatives of Argentine war dead being refused entry to visit graves 7 Comments on future
46	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and calls for stiffer sentences
44	General Election	Comments
37	Industry	Plight of industry and small businesses
35	HM Government	Anti Government policy
33	Rates	Protests at increases and calls for reform

28	Cruelty to Animals	18 Protests at experiments on animals 10 Calls for ban on import of seal skins
26	Public Expenditure	17 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures 9 Anti education cuts and school closures
18	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing
17	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions

Petitions:

Approximately 2074 signatures - "Ban VAT on Sanitary Wear"

Approximately 1950 signatures - Anti education cuts

Total for the week

2 4 1 4

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
 Week beginning 18 April 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
233	Personal Hardship	43 Housing 37 Social Security 27 Tax 21 Employment 21 Pension 18 Miscellaneous 17 Health 15 Money 12 Planning 9 Rates 7 Disability 4 Legal 2 Rent
120	Prime Minister	65 Letters of appreciation for stand against pornography on cable TV and plea for action to be taken against introduction of surrogate mothers into UK following Baptist Women's conference 55 Letters of support and good wishes
57	Disarmament	50 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons 7 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons
42	Cruelty to Animals	25 Protests at experiments on animals 12 Call for ban on import of seal skins 5 Anti fox hunting
40	Public Expenditure	25 Anti education cuts and school closures 13 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures 2 Anti waste expenditure
37	Industry	26 Plight of industry and small businesses and calls for aid 11 Comments on British goods and call to Buy British
37	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and calls for stiffer sentences

36	Rates	Protests at increases and calls for reform
34	HM Government	Anti Government policy
32	Falkland Islands	21 Concern at relatives of Argentine war dead being refused entry to visit graves 11 Comments on future
32	General Election	Comments
28	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions
12	War Graves	Pleas for visits to war graves by relatives of those killed in previous wars
12	Youth Training Scheme	Applications for post at No 10 under this scheme
12	Brandt Commission	Pre printed cards as attached urging Government action on the new proposals

Petitions:

Approximately 950 signatures - plea for mentally handicapped adults in Consett and Stanley to retain transport provided by Armstrongs of Derwentside.

Approximately 234 signatures - call for de-escalation of nuclear arms and eradication of poverty and disease in the Third World

Total for the week

2 3 4 2

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 11 April 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
243	Personal Hardship	48 Housing 40 Miscellaneous 34 Employment 27 Social Security 24 Tax 17 Planning 16 Money 10 Pension 8 Disabled 8 Health 4 Rent 4 Legal 3 Education
76	Disarmament	59 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons. 17 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons.
53	Industry	Plight of industry and small businesses and calls for aid.
51	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and calls for stiffer sentences.
48	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
35	Public Expenditure	16 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures. 13 Anti education cuts and school closures. 6 Anti waste expenditure.
34	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions.
34	Rates	Protests at rate increases and calls for reform.
29	Falkland Islands	Comments on future and calls for help for those injured following TV programme on Simon Weston.
25	Cruelty to Animals	15 Protests at experiments on animals. 10 Calls for ban on import of seal skins.
23	General Election	Comments.

23	HM Government	Anti Government policy.
21	War Graves	Pleas for visits to war graves by relatives of those killed in previous wars.
19	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing.
15	Starosta Family	Requests for the family to stay in UK.
14	Subsidy to Farmers	Protests following TV World in Action programme - Harvest Gold.

Petitions: Approximately 12,525 signatures anti vivisection from Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society.

Approximately 1300 signatures requesting the introduction of safety regulations covering the building of private swimming pools.

Approximately 215 signatures calling for a more humane way to be found for the slaughtering of seals.

Total for the week

2 1 8 5

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
Week beginning 4 April 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
261	Personal Hardship	49 Housing 39 Miscellaneous 33 Social Security 26 Employment 24 Money 21 Tax 18 Pensions 14 Planning 9 Legal 9 Disability 8 Health 7 Rent 4 Education
131	Disarmament	69 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons 48 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons 14 Anti Berlin Wall statement
111	Prime Minister	59 Letters of support and good wishes 28 Letters of appreciation for ITV programme "The Woman at No 10" 24 Congratulations and comments on Radio 4 interview "Analysis"
55	Law and Order	44 Concern at crime rate and calls for stiffer sentences 11 Protests at proposed Police and Criminal Evidence Bill
53	Industry	Plight of small businesses and comments on British goods
43	Rates	Calls for rate reform and protests at increases
39	Falkland Islands	Comments on future and proposed visit by Argentines to war graves
29	Cruelty to Animals	15. Protests at experiments on animals 14 Calls for a ban on import of seal skins

28	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions and proposed method of calculation Plight of overseas pensioners
26	Public Expenditure	11 Anti education cuts and school closures 5 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures 8 Anti waste expenditure 2 Protests at defence cuts
25	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing
24	Starosta Family	Requests for the family to stay in the UK
24	HM Government	Anti Government policy
20	General Election	Suggestions
15	Prices	Protests at increased prices, mainly gas and comments on stated rate of inflation
15	War Graves	Pleas for visits to war graves by relatives of those killed in previous wars

Petitions

Approximately 6,700 signatures - call for a reduction or end to standing charges on gas and electricity

Approximately 5,980 signatures - Anti proposed closure by London Borough of Ealing of Faraday and Reynolds High Schools, Acton

Approximately 238 signatures - Anti vivisection

Total for the week

2 0 7 4

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 28 March 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
227	Personal Hardship	47 Housing 36 Employment 29 Miscellaneous 21 Planning 20 Social Security 19 Tax 17 Money 12 Education 9 Pensions 6 Health 5 Disabled 4 Legal 2 Rent
94	Prime Minister	60 Letters of support and good wishes 34 Letters of appreciation for ITV programme "The Woman at No 10"
51	Law and Order	40 Concern at crime rate and calls for stiffer sentences 11 Protests at proposed Police and Criminal Evidence Bill
38	Disarmament	30 Anti Cruise missiles and nuclear weapons 8 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons
33	Industry	Plight of small businesses and comments on British goods
28	Stancu Papusiou	Protests at deportation to Rumania
26	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions and proposed method of calculation
23	Rates	Protests at rate increases and calls for reform
22	HM Government	Anti Government policy
22	Cruelty to Animals	14 Protests at experiments on animals 8 Calls for a ban on import of seal skins

21	Public Expenditure	11	Anti education cuts and school closures
		8	Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures
		2	Anti waste expenditure
19	Employment		Employment situation and suggestions for easing
15	Prices		Protests at increased prices, mainly gas, and standing charges
15	Falkland Islands		Comments on future and proposed visit by Argentines to war graves

Petition:

Approximately 45,000 signatures - call for return of corporal punishment for all crimes of physical violence

Total for the week

1 8 6 1

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 21 March 1983

<u>Approx No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
271	Personal Hardship	45 Housing 36 Employment 36 Miscellaneous 33 Money 28 Tax 22 Planning 22 Social Security 21 Pensions 9 Disability 9 Rates 4 Health 4 Education 2 Rent
112	Disarmament	106 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons. 6 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons.
52	Stancu Papusiou	Protests at deportation to Rumania.
45	Law and Order	32 Concern at crime rate. Calls for stiffer sentences. 13 Protests at proposed Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.
45	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions and proposed method of calculation.
41	Industry	31 Plight of small businesses. 10 Comments on British goods following call to Buy British.
35	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
34	Public Expenditure	18 Anti education cuts and school closures. 11 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures. 5 Anti waste expenditure.
30	Employment	Employment situation and suggestion for easing.
28	HM Government	Anti Government policy.

27	Cruelty to Animals	19	Protests at experiments on animals.
		8	Calls for a ban on import of seal skins.
27	Budget		Protests against Budget.
27	Ethiopia		Calls for more aid.
14	Prices		Protests at increased prices and standing charges.
13	Rates		Protests at rate increases and calls for reform.
12	Chairman of the NCB		Anti appointment of Mr Ian MacGregor.

Petitions: Approximately 4,425 signatures - protests at lenient attitude taken by the court in the case of rape of a six year old girl.

Approximately 670 signatures - ban import of sealskins (from Macclesfield and District RSPCA).

Approximately 330 signatures - protests at 10% rate increase for 1983 in the Borough of Hackney.

Total for the week

2 2 3 5

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 14 March 1983

<u>Approx No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
232	Personal Hardship	54 Housing
		33 Miscellaneous
		31 Employment
		19 Tax
		17 Money
		17 Social Security
		13 Planning
		9 Pensions
		8 Disability
		8 Education
		7 Legal
		6 Health
		6 Rates
4 Rent		
91	Disarmament	84 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons.
		7 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons.
49	Cruelty to Animals	33 Protests at experiments on animals.
		16 Calls for a ban on import of seal skins.
43	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
42	Video Cassettes	Calls for support of Bill preventing sale of objectionable videos.
42	Industry	24 Plight of small businesses.
		18 Comments on British goods following call to Buy British.
38	Stancu Papusiou	Protests at deportation to Rumania.
30	Public Expenditure	23 Anti education cuts and school closures.
		4 Anti waste expenditure.
		3 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures.
39	Pensions	Inadequacy of pensions.
23	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate. Calls for stiffer sentences.

22	HM Government	Anti Government policy.
21	Chairman of the NCB	Anti appointment of Mr Ian MacGregor.
19	Prices	Protests at increased prices and standing charges.
17	Budget	Comments on Budget.

Petitions: Approximately 11,730 signatures - objection to Merton Council's proposal to reduce the School Meals Service and other cuts in services to the ratepayers.

Approximately 3,751 signatures - ban the import of sealskins (from Lancashire Animal Welfare).

Approximately 1,750 signatures - referendum to bring back capital punishment.

Approximately 626 signatures - affect of price increases and standing charges for gas and electricity on the elderly.

Approximately 300 signatures - call for rate reform from Manchester ratepayers.

Approximately 172 signatures - 'Save Elthorne High School'.

Total for the Week

2 4 2 0

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 7 March 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
259	Personal Hardship	42 Miscellaneous 38 Unemployment 35 Housing 25 Tax 22 Social Security 18 Planning 16 Money 13 Education 13 Pensions 8 Disabled 8 Health 7 Rent 7 Rates 7 Legal
117	Disarmament	103 Anti Cruise missiles and nuclear weapons 14 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons
71	Mines	42 Comments on outcome of miners' strike ballot 29 Anti appointment of Mr Ian MacGregor as Chairman of the NCB
48	Public Expenditure	32 Anti education cuts and school closures 10 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures 6 Anti waste expenditure
48	Cruelty to Animals	30 Protests at experiments on animals 18 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products
48	Industry	29 Plight of small businesses 19 Comments on British goods following call to Buy British
39	Pensions	27 Inadequacy of pensions 12 Anti increase in heating costs and standing charges
39	Female Circumcision	Calls to eradicate practice following TV programme
37	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes

34	HM Government	Anti Government policy
34	Video Cassettes	Calls for support of Bill preventing sale of objectionable videos
28	Law & Order	Concern at crime rate Calls for stiffer sentences
19	Rates	Calls for rate reform
19	Budget	Suggestions for changes in Budget Increase tax allowance for pensioners and widows
14	Falkland Islands	Comments on future
13	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing Lower retirement age
13	General Election	Suggestions
12	Northern Ireland	Comments on situation
12	Wages Council	Protests at wage increases notified by Wages Council
12	Prices	Protests at increased prices and standing charges

Petitions:

Approximately 132,000 signatures - 'Educational Opportunities' call for an end to cuts and to expand investment in education

Approximately 29,952 signatures - Save Thames Board Ltd, Warrington

Approximately 12,300 signatures - Save Linotype Paul, Cheltenham

Approximately 1,500 signatures - Demand for pensions to be increased by the full amount of real inflation

Approximately 430 signatures - Anti nuclear weapons and more aid for the Third World

Approximately 240 signatures - Call for a clinic for research and treatment of Multiple Sclerosis

Total for the week

2 7 4 3

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 28 February 1983

<u>Approx No.</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
263	Personal Hardship	49 Employment 47 Housing 27 Social Security 26 Tax 24 Miscellaneous 19 Money 17 Rates 14 Pensions 13 Planning 8 Disabled 8 Education 4 Health 4 Legal 3 Rent
87	Disarmament	Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons mainly following TV programme "The Truth Game".
86	Cruelty to Animals	69 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products. 17 Protests at experiments on animals.
69	Pensions	45 Inadequacy of pensions. 24 Anti increase in heating costs and standing charges.
63	Industry	39 Plight of small businesses and industry. 24 Comments on British goods following call to Buy British goods.
55	Public Expenditure	39 Anti closure of Hopwood College and education cuts. 9 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures. 7 Anti waste expenditure.
53	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
44	Wages	Anti increase in pay awarded to water workers and to retail staff by Wages Council.
39	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate. Calls for stiffer sentences.

38	Budget	Suggestions for changes in Budget. Increase tax allowances for pensioners and widows.
36	Trade Unions	Legislation to curb strikes in essential services.
35	Miners Strike	Comments on proposed strike and appointment of chairman of NCB.
31	HM Government	Anti Government policy.
26	Video Cassettes	Calls for support of bill preventing sale of objectionable videos.
18	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing. Lower retirement age.
17	General Election	Suggestions.
13	Northern Ireland	Comments on situation.
12	Female Circumcision	Calls to eradicate practice following TV programme.

Petitions: Approximately 6650 signatures from Polish Refugees Rights Group on the plight of Polish refugees.

Approximately 4260 further signatures forwarded by Alfred Morris MP - Affect of price increases and standing charges for gas and electricity on the elderly.

Approximately 1000 signatures in support of elimination of lead from petrol.

Approximately 700 signatures - Save Linotype Paul, Cheltenham.

Total for the Week

2 6 6 7

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 21 February 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
210	Personal Hardship	37 Employment 36 Housing 27 Tax 22 Miscellaneous 19 Money 15 Social Security 15 Planning 10 Rates 9 Pensions 6 Health 5 Education 4 Disability 4 Legal 1 Rent
65	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
58	Disarmament	45 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons 13 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons.
50	Public Expenditure	22 Anti education cuts and school closures 21 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures 7 Anti waste expenditure.
48	Budget	Suggestions for changes in the Budget. Increase tax allowance for pensioners and widows, tax relief on subscriptions to BUPA.
46	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses.
37	Water Workers Strike	Disgust at handling and outcome of the strike.
35	H M Government	Anti Government policy
33	Cruelty to Animals	23 Protests at experiments on animals 10 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products.

32	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate. Calls for stiffer sentences.
25	House of Commons	Protests at noisy behaviour of MPs particularly towards Roy Jenkins during Prime Minister's Question Time.
25	General Election	Suggestions.
24	Pensions	Plight of pensioners. Standing charges for fuel.
21	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing. Lower retirement age.
19	Trade Unions	Legislation to curb strikes in essential services.
18	Immigration	Curb immigration.
14	Falkland Islands	Comments on future.
12	Prices	Protests at increased prices and standing charges.
12	Wages Council	Protests at wage increases notified by Wages Council.

Petitions: Approximately 1716 signatures - 'The Run for Education'
anti cuts in education and student loan schemes.

Approximately 900 signatures - 'Stop the Mildmay Hospital
Closing'.

Total for the week

2 3 9 9

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
 Week beginning 14 February 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
233	Personal Hardship	43 Housing 41 Miscellaneous 35 Employment 25 Money 23 Tax 22 Social Security 12 Pension 10 Education 8 Planning 6 Health 5 Legal 2 Disability 1 Rent
198	Disarmament	177 Anti cruise missiles and nuclear weapons including 95 cards as attached 21 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons
57	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes
50	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses
48	Budget	Suggestions for changes in the Budget. Increase tax allowance for pensioners and widows, tax relief on subscriptions to BUPA
43	Public Expenditure	23 Anti education cuts and school closures 15 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures 5 Anti waste expenditure
39	Water Workers Strike	Calls for action to end dispute
36	Cruelty to Animals	23 Protests at experiments on animals 13 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products
31	HM Government	Anti Government policy
30	Pensions	Plight of pensioners

29	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and attacks on the elderly. Calls for stiffer sentences
26	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing. Lower retirement age
24	Overseas Aid	17 Calls for more overseas aid 7 Protests at grants given to overseas students
21	Trade Unions	Curb Unions
19	Prices	Protests at increased prices and standing charges
16	Northern Ireland	Protests at searching of women in Armagh prison mainly from USA
15	Rates	Calls for rate reform
14	Chairmanship of Coal Board	Protests at proposed appointment of Mr McGregor
12	Immigrants	Curb immigration
12	General Election	Suggestions

Petitions:

Approximately 1725 signatures - "Ban VAT on Sanitary Wear"

Approximately 667 signatures - Against lenient sentence given to Jasbir Singh Rai in case of rape of a six year old girl

Approximately 550 signatures - Protest against proposals to cut pensions, Social Security and unemployment benefits

Total for the week

2 5 3 4

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 7 February 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
253	Personal Hardship	49 Housing 40 Employment 39 Miscellaneous 19 Money 17 Social Security 14 Tax 14 Planning 14 Pension 13 Disability 10 Education 10 Rates 7 Health 4 Rent 3 Legal
147	Disarmament	115 Anti siting of cruise missiles and nuclear weapons in UK 21 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons 11 Protests at expenditure by Government on campaign to counteract CND
117	Water Workers Strike	Calls for action to end dispute
52	Public Expenditure	25 Anti education cuts and school closures 19 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures 8 Anti waste expenditure
50	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes
48	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses
44	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing Lower retirement age
40	HM Government	Anti Government policy
37	Pensions	Plight of pensioners
31	Cruelty to Animals	17 Protests at experiments on animals 14 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products

30	Budget	Suggestions for changes in the Budget, increase tax allowance for pensioners and widows
30	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and attacks on the elderly Calls for stiffer sentences
23	Falkland Islands	Comment on future
18	Overseas Aid	Protests at grants given to overseas students
17	General Election	Suggestions
14	Trade Unions	Curb unions
13	Seat Belts	Anti new law

Petitions: Approximately 760 signatures - plea for action on the delayed A30 Sticklepath By-pass report
 Approximately 400 signatures - anti nuclear weapons

Total for the week

2 5 3 9

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
week beginning 31 January 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
239	Personal Hardship	48 Employment 40 Housing 26 Miscellaneous 24 Money 23 Tax 20 Social Security 19 Rates 14 Pension 8 Planning 6 Health 6 Legal 2 Rents 2 Education 1 Disability
232	Disarmament	105 Anti siting of cruise missiles and nuclear weapons in UK. 98 Protests at expenditure by Government on campaign to counteract CND. 29 Pro UK keeping nuclear weapons.
111	Water Workers Strike	Calls for action to end dispute.
105	Sunday Trading	Anti proposed Bill
67	Public Expenditure	32 Anti education cuts and school closures. 31 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures. 4 Anti waste expenditure.
61	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
48	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses.
43	Budget	Suggestions for changes in the Budget increase tax allowance for pensioners and widows.
42	H M Government	Anti Government policy.
41	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and attacks on the elderly. Calls for stiffer sentences.
37	Cruelty to Animals	29 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products. 8 Protests at experiments on animals.

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
35	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing. Lower retirement age.
32	Falkland Islands	Comment on future.
25	Pensions	Plight of pensioners.
24	Seat Belts	Anti new law.
21	General Election	Suggestions.
21	Divorce Laws	Support for proposed Bill.
20	Immigration	Curb immigration.
13	Trade Unions	Curb unions.
13	Transport	Comments on the Serpell Report on British Rail.

Petitions: Approximately 2,000 signatures - "Ban VAT on Sanitary Wear".

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK

2 8 6 6

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 24 January 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
206	Personal Hardship	47 Housing 32 Employment 26 Miscellaneous 20 Money 16 Social Security 13 Pension 12 Tax 10 Planning 8 Rates 8 Health 5 Education 5 Disability 4 Legal
137	Sunday Trading	Mainly pre-printed letters as attached pro proposed Bill.
109	Disarmament	Anti siting of cruise missiles and nuclear weapons in UK.
97	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes.
68	Water Workers Strike	Concern about consequences of strike.
53	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses.
47	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate and attacks on the elderly. Calls for stiffer sentences.
46	Falkland Islands	Comment on future.
44	Public Expenditure	19 Anti NHS cuts and hospital closures. 17 Anti education cuts and school closures. 8 Anti waste expenditure.
40	Cruelty to Animals	27 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products. 13 Protests at experiments on animals.
34	H M Government	Anti Government policy.
24	Anatoly Scharansky	Letters in support.
24	Budget	Suggestions for changes in the Budget, increase tax allowances for pensioners and widows.

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
23	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing. Lower retirement age.
22	Transport	Comments on the Serpell Report on British Rail.
20	General Election	Suggestions.
18	Divorce Laws	Support for proposed Bill.
15	Overseas Aid	UK contribution to overseas aid insufficient.
14	Pensions	Plight of pensioners.
14	Seat Belts	Anti new law.
12	Prices	Protests at standing charges.

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK

2 7 8 9

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
Week beginning 17 January 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
270	Personal Hardship	53 Housing 48 Employment 40 Miscellaneous 35 Tax 17 Social Security 17 Planning 15 Pensions 12 Money 9 Rates 6 Health 6 Disability 6 Legal 5 Education 1 Rent
190	Prime Minister	91 Letters of support and good wishes. 63 Congratulations on visit to Falkland Islands. 36 Congratulations on Brian Walden TV interview.
114	Law and Order	93 Concern at crime rate and attacks on the elderly. Calls for stiffer sentences. 21 Comments on shooting in error of Stephen Waldorf.
106	Disarmament	Anti siting of cruise missiles and nuclear weapons in UK.
99	Falkland Islands	47 Comments on future. 30 Suggestions that Argentine soldiers should be buried at sea. 22 Suggestions for clearing mines.
50	Cruelty to Animals	40 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products. 10 Protests at experiments on animals.
50	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses.
47	H M Government	Anti Government policy.
45	Public Expenditure	29 Anti education cuts and school closures. 16 Anti NHS cuts and closure of hosp-
40	Pensions	Plight of pensioners. Inadequacy of finance for heating the elderly sh in 'World in Action' TV programme.

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
36	Housing	Letters as attached, demand for an investigation into the activities of the Berger Property empire.
35	Sunday Trading	Comments on proposed Bill.
24	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing. Lower retirement age.
20	General Election	Suggestions.
19	Budget	Suggestions for changes in the Budget. increase tax allowances for pensioners.
19	Water Workers Strike	Concern about consequences of strike.
12	Rates	Calls for rate reform.

Petitions: Approximately 2000 signatures - "Ban VAT on Sanitary Wear".

Approximately 1340 signatures - call for stiffer sentences for violent crimes.

Approximately 1084 signatures - "Save our Sunday".

Approximately 750 signatures - calls for stiffer sentences and right of appeal by the prosecutor against the sentence in a criminal case.

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK

2 9 8 2

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
 Week beginning 10 January 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
212	Disarmament	Anti siting of cruise missiles and nuclear weapons in UK. Calls for referendum and negotiations
203	Personal Hardship	36 Housing 33 Employment 33 Miscellaneous 27 Money 13 Tax 11 Rates 11 Social Security 9 Planning 8 Health 8 Pensions 5 Education 5 Legal 4 Disability
181	Prime Minister	113 Congratulations on visit to Falkland Islands 68 Letters of support and good wishes
91	Sunday Trading	Mainly pre-printed letters as attached pro proposed Bill
64	Cruelty to Animals	39 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products 25 Protests at experiments on animals
39	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses
37	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate, calls for stiffer sentences and return of capital punishment
33	Public Expenditure	19 Anti NHS cuts and closure of hospitals 14 Anti education cuts and school closures
30	HM Government	Anti Government policy
27	Falkland Islands	Comments on future and suggestions for clearing mines

26	Arab Visit	Comments for and against meeting with delegation including PLO representatives
21	Employment	Comments on unemployment situation
18	Pensions	Plight of pensioners
16	Divorce Laws	Support for proposed Bill
14	Prices	Protests at standing charges
13	General Election	Suggestions
12	Seat Belts	Anti new law

Petitions

Approximately 4,900 signatures - affect of price increases and standing charges for gas and electricity on the elderly

Approximately 485 signatures - support for the 'Women of Greenham Common' in their action against the deployment of United States' cruise missiles in the UK

Approximately 357 signatures - opposition to siting of cruise missiles in Great Britain and support the Women's Peace Camp at Greenham Common

Approximately 300 signatures - anti vivisection

Total for the week

2 6 5 3

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
Week beginning 3 January 1983

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
195	Disarmament	168 Anti siting of cruise missiles and nuclear weapons in UK. Calls for referendum and negotiations 27 Support for nuclear weapons and anti disarmament
181	Personal Hardship	42 Housing 29 Employment 21 Miscellaneous 20 Money 17 Tax 11 Pensions 11 Planning 8 Rates 8 Social Security 7 Health 2 Disabled 2 Rent 2 Education 1 Legal
67	Law and Order	Concern at crime rate, calls for stiffer sentences and return of capital punishment
59	Sunday Trading	Mainly pre-printed letters (copy attached) <u>pro</u> proposed Bill <u> </u>
56	Cruelty to Animals	40 Calls for support of EEC ban on import of seal products 16 Protests at experiments on animals
48	Prime Minister	Letters of support and good wishes
40	Industry	Comments on British goods following call to Buy British and plight of small businesses
32	Public Expenditure	18 Anti education cuts 10 Anti NHS cuts 4 Anti waste expenditure

27	General Election	Suggestions
26	Arab visit	Comments for and against meeting with delegation including PLO representative
20	Falklands	Comments on future
18	Employment	Comments on unemployment situation
16	Prices	Anti increased heating costs and standing charges

Petition

Approximately 800 signatures - "Save the Seals"

Total for the Week

2 5 9 8

WEEKS BEGINNING

1981

4 May	2 7 6 0
11	3 5 5 5
18	4 4 6 5
25	3 0 4 0
1 June	2 1 9 0
8	2 8 1 1
15	2 5 0 3
22	2 1 5 1
29	2 3 0 9
6 July	3 5 2 9
13	3 6 8 1
20	2 5 3 5
27	1 6 6 8
3 Aug	1 7 1 8
10	1 9 4 0
17	1 6 3 8
24	1 7 3 4
31	2 0 9 7
7 Sept	2 3 5 2
14	2 6 1 7
21	2 0 6 3
28	1 6 6 8
5 Oct	2 0 1 1
12	3 3 4 0
19	3 3 5 4
26	2 1 0 0
2 Nov	2 2 2 0
9	2 1 6 2
16	2 2 8 4
23	2 2 9 8
30	2 5 3 1
7 Dec	2 0 3 7
14	2 3 3 9
21	1 6 7 1
28	1 1 0 1

1982

4 Jan	2 1 2 8
11	2 4 5 4
18	3 7 7 1
25	2 7 2 0
1 Feb	2 7 6 0
8	3 5 0 8
15	5 4 3 6
22	3 6 9 1
1 Mar	3 1 7 7
8	2 7 1 3
15	3 4 1 3
22	2 7 9 8
29	2 5 8 3
5 April	5 3 2 8

12 April	4 6 4 6
19	3 9 4 4
26	5 2 7 2
3 May	6 7 2 4
10	6 6 7 7
17	4 8 9 8
24	4 9 1 0
1 June	3 0 0 3
7	3 4 0 9
14	5 6 0 5
21	4 2 0 2
28	2 8 5 1
5 July	2 2 7 5
12	2 3 3 2
19	3 6 7 1
26	3 2 5 6
2 Aug	1 9 9 0
9	1 9 1 4
16	1 7 0 8
23	2 1 0 5
30	1 7 0 8
6 Sept	2 0 8 4
13	1 8 1 6
20	1 7 3 0
27	1 9 0 0
4 Oct	2 5 2 4
11	3 4 0 0
18	2 5 7 6
25	2 5 1 0
1 Nov	3 4 0 3
8	1 2 5 3 7
15	1 6 7 9 4
22	1 2 6 3 0
29	6 9 6 8
6 Dec	3 3 5 5
13	6 5 7 2

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 21 June 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1909	Falkland Islands	Letters of congratulations on achievement in the Falkland Islands, requests for a National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving, a Victory Parade and award of medals Concern that contract for replacement of ships lost will go to Japan
365	Iran	Pre-printed cards for support of the "Resistance" in Iran
174	Personal Hardship	32 Housing 27 Employment 22 Miscellaneous 20 Social Security 19 Money 11 Pension 10 Tax 6 Disability 6 Health 6 Legal 5 Planning 4 Education 4 Rates 2 Rent
66	Disarmament	38 Calls for disarmament and anti nuclear weapons 28 Calls for action on World disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament
64	Pay	Support for nurses and NHS workers pay claim
56	Public Expenditure	27 Anti education cuts and school closures 15 Anti defence cuts 9 Anti NHS cuts 5 Waste in Government Department
37	Lebanon	Comments on the situation in the Lebanon
27	Transport	Comments on British Rail
26	Cruelty to animals	16 Anti experiments on animals 10 Anti seal cull

25	Law and Order	Calls for harsher sentences
17	Industry	Aid for small businesses
15	Diego Garcia	Deportation of Diego Garcia islanders - shown on Granada TV programme
15	Pensions	Plight of pensioners
14	Prices	Protests at increase in petrol prices

Petitions: Approximately 132,442 Signatures calling on the Government to reverse the decision to reduce the surface fleet - The News Campaign Portsmouth

Approximately 100,000 signatures - protest at the Khomeini regime in Iran

Approximately 27,370 Signatures calling for the return of capital punishment and stiffer sentences

Approximately 8,801 signatures in support of NHS workers' pay claim

Approximately 7,213 signatures deploring the Government's intention to limit NHS workers pay settlement to 4%

Approximately 1,024 signatures in support of NHS workers' pay claim from Victoria Hospital, Accrington

Approximately 650 signatures from Christians for Disarmament and Peace calling for Britain to renounce all nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction

Approximately 639 signatures in support of NHS workers' pay claim

Total for the week

4 2 0 2

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
 Week beginning 14 June 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
3319	Falkland Islands	Letters of congratulations on achievement in the Falkland Islands, requests for return of the bodies of those killed, National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving, a Victory Parade and award of medals
324	Iran	Pre-printed cards as attached for support of the "Resistance" in Iran
155	Pay	Support for nurses and NHS workers pay claim including 99 pre-printed letters as attached
151	Personal Hardship	30 Housing 20 Employment 19 Miscellaneous 17 Money 13 Social Security 11 Tax 10 Disability 10 Education 9 Planning 4 Pension 3 Legal 3 Health 1 Rent 1 Rates
76	Disarmament	49 Calls for disarmament and anti nuclear weapons 27 Calls for action on World disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament
49	Lebanon	Comments on the situation in the Lebanon
37	Summerlands Village for disabled merchant seamen	Plight of ex-merchant seamen who are to be evicted from their homes

36	Lead in petrol	Calls for removal of lead in petrol
24	Cruelty to animals	15 Anti seal cull 9 Anti experiments on animals
20	Law and Order	Calls for harsher sentences
19	Employment	Comments on unemployment situation
19	Public Expenditure	8 Anti NHS cuts 7 Anti education cuts 4 Anti defence cuts
14	Prices	Protests at gas standing charge

Petitions:-

Approximately 5,000 signatures for the return of bodies of the soldiers who died in the Falkland Islands. (Forwarded by Mr Tom McNally MP from the mother of Mark Fletcher one of the paratroopers who died at Goose Green.)

Approximately 3,400 signatures in protest against tax on widows pensions

Approximately 600 signatures calling for Israel's withdrawal from the Lebanon

Total for the week

5 6 0 5

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST
Week beginning 1 June 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
1788	Falkland Islands	Comments on the situation in the Falkland Islands including suggestions, support and requests for return of the bodies of those killed 36 Letters from Argentina
122	Disarmament	94 Pre-printed letters as attached calling for action on World disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament 28 Calls for disarmament, anti nuclear weapons and cancellation of British Army Equipment Exhibition
68	Personal Hardship	17 Housing 13 Miscellaneous 9 Employment 7 Money 6 Education 5 Disabled 4 Planning 3 Social Security 2 Tax 2 Rent
26	Cruelty to Animals	Anti seal cull
25	Pay	Anti 4% wages policy adopted for NHS workers and support for nurses pay claim
15	National Day of Prayer	Calls for a National Day of Prayer
12	Pope	Comments on Pope's visit

Petitions:

Approximately 2,500,000 signatures from 'Sunday' Save the Seals Campaign

Approximately 700 signatures calling on the Government to stop the war in the Falklands and settle the dispute by negotiation only

Approximately 500 signatures - Women's Day for Disarmament, 24 May - appealing for steps to be taken towards nuclear and non nuclear disarmament from Birmingham Women Opposed to the Nuclear Threat

Total for the week

3 0 0 3

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 7 June 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>		<u>Comment</u>
1367	Falkland Islands		Comments on the situation in the Falkland Islands including suggestions, letters of support and requests for return of the bodies of those killed.
		32	Letters from Argentina.
376	Pay		Support for nurses and NHS workers pay claim including 321 pre-printed letters as attached.
150	Personal Hardship	30	Employment
		24	Housing
		19	Miscellaneous
		19	Money
		14	Social Security
		10	Disability
		7	Tax
		6	Health
		6	Planning
		6	Education
		4	Pension
		3	Legal
		1	Rents
		1	Rates
104	Disarmament	55	Pre-printed letters calling for action on World disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament.
		49	Calls for disarmament, anti nuclear weapons and cancellation of British Army Equipment Exhibition.
97	Iran		Pre-printed cards as attached for support of the "Resistance" in Iran.
49	Summerlands Village for disabled merchant seamen		Plight of disabled ex-merchant seamen who are to be evicted from their homes - shown on BBC TV Nationwide Watchdog programme.
43	Cruelty to Animals	39	Anti seal cull Anti experiments on animals
24	Lead in Petrol		Calls for removal of lead in petrol
14	Lebanon		Comments on the situation in the Lebanon.

Approx NoSubjectComment

12

Law and Order

Calls for harsher sentences.

12

Industry

Aid for small businesses.

Petitions:

Approximately 12,000 signatures in support of NHS workers fight to win a basic rate of pay commensurate with responsibility of work skill and contributions to well being of community from NUPE, Peterborough Hospitals Branch.

Approximately 1,800 signatures protesting at BR proposals for the closure of British Rail Engineering Ltd Horwich Works from Horwich Works and local Departmental Committees.

Approximately 4,000 signatures calling on the Government to end the war with Argentina by bringing home the Task Force from Sheffield and District Trades Council.

Approximately 1,000 signatures for the return of the body of Pte Thomas Mechan 2nd Parachute Regt. killed in action in the Falkland Islands, for burial at Aldershot.

Approximately 629 signatures opposing the deployment of Cruise Missiles in Britain from Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme Against the Missiles Group.

Approximately 763 signatures from Bangor and District Ad Hoc Campaign for Peace in the Falklands.

118 paper doves with messages anti nuclear weapons: from Women of Leicester taking part in Women's Day for Disarmament.

TOTAL FOR THE WEEK

3 4 0 9

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 24 May 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
2983	Falkland Islands	Comments on the situation in the Falkland Islands including letters of support mainly from the UK 36 Letters from Argentina
177	Disarmament	84 Pre-printed letters as attached calling for action on World disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament 70 Women's Day for Disarmament, 24 May - letters calling for unilateral disarmament 23 Calls for disarmament, anti nuclear weapons and cancel British Army Equipment Exhibition
82	Personal Hardship	20 Employment 14 Housing 12 Miscellaneous 10 Tax 7 Health 5 Pensions 5 Money 5 Social Security 2 Education 2 Disability
66	Cruelty to Animals	62 Anti seal cull 4 Anti experiments on animals
47	Pay	32 Anti 4% wages policy adopted for NHS workers 15 Support for nurses pay claim
38	Media	19 Complaints about coverage of Falklands crisis 19 Satisfied with coverage
35	National Day of Prayer	Calls for a National Day of Prayer

30	Pope	Comments on Pope's visit
15	EEC	Comments on UK contributions and membership of the Common Market

Petitions:

Approximately 1416 signatures from B'nai B'rith Young Adults -
Violation of Human Rights against the Jews in Syria

Approximately 416 signatures - Bangor and District Ad Hoc
Campaign for Peace in the Falklands

Total for the week

4 9 1 0

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 17 May 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
2702	Falkland Islands	Comments on the situation in the Falkland Islands including letters of support mainly from the UK 82 Letters from Argentina
300	Disarmament	294 Preprinted letters as attached calling for action on World disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament 6 Anti nuclear weapons
117	Media	76 Complaints about coverage of Falklands crisis 41 Satisfied with coverage
102	Cruelty to Animals	97 Anti seal cull 5 Anti experiments on animals
95	Personal Hardship	20 Miscellaneous 14 Employment 11 Housing 11 Money 8 Education 7 Tax 6 Pensions 6 Social Security 5 Planning 4 Health 3 Rates
40	Pay	31 Support for nurses pay claim 19 Anti 4% wages policy for adopted for NHS workers
27	EEC	Comments on UK contributions and membership of Common Market
17	Law and Order	Comments for and against capital punishment

15	National Day of Prayer	Calls for a National Day of Prayer
15	Immigration	Preprinted letters as attached calling for amend- ment to Immigration Rules in respect of foreign husbands joining wives in the UK
12	Pope	Comments on Pope's visit

Petitions:

Approximately 800 signatures calling for an enquiry into the case of Cass Pennant, jailed for stabbing a soccer fan at Sheffield

Approximately 300 signatures objecting to low wage rise of 4%-6% offered to NHS workers

Total for the week

4 8 9 8

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 10 May 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
4090	Falkland Islands	Comments on the situation in the Falkland Islands including letters of support mainly from the UK 162 Letters from Argentina
283	Media	192 Complaints about coverage of Falklands crisis 91 Satisfied with coverage
247	Disarmament	136 Pre-printed letters as attached calling for action on World disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament 11 Calls for disarmament and anti nuclear weapons
175	Cruelty to Animals	168 Anti seal cull 7 Anti experiments on animals
109	Personal Hardship	24 Housing 18 Miscellaneous 16 Employment 13 Money 8 Rates 6 Disabled 6 Education 5 Social Security 4 Tax 4 Pensions 3 Planning 2 Health
46	Law and Order	Comments for and against restoration of capital punishment
32	Pay	16 Anti 4% wages policy adopted for NHS workers 16 Support for nurses pay claim
24	National Day of Prayer	Calls for a National Day of Prayer
14	Pope	Comments on Pope's visit

Petitions:

Approximately 1700 signatures against further use of military force in the South Atlantic

Approximately 400 signatures in support of a National Day of Prayer

Approximately 400 signatures for peace in the Falkland Islands to be sought through the UN

Approximately 400 signatures protesting at establishment of Diplomatic relations with the Vatican

Total for the week

6 6 7 7



SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 3 May 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
4540	Falkland Islands	Comments on the situation in the Falkland Islands including letters of support mainly from the UK 360 Letters from Argentina
321	Cruelty to Animals	Anti seal cull
117	Personal Hardship	21 Employment 16 Money 16 Miscellaneous 12 Housing 9 Tax 8 Education 7 Planning 7 Rates 5 Disabled 4 Health 4 Pensions 3 Social Security 3 Rents 2 Legal
67	Public Expenditure	57 Anti education cuts and school closures 4 Anti Defence cuts 3 Anti NHS cuts 3 Wasteful spending by local authorities
62	Disarmament	51 Pre-printed letters as attached calling for action on world disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament 11 Calls for disarmament and anti nuclear weapons
47	Pay	28 Anti 4% wages policy adopted for NHS workers 19 Support for nurses pay claim
19	Tax	Revise tax allowance for widows
15	Employment	Employment situation and suggestions for easing

13	Law and Order	Calls for restoration of capital and corporal punishment
12	National Day of Prayer	Calls for a National Day of Prayer

Petition:

Approximately 560 signatures - 'Stop the War Campaign' from Cambridge College of Arts and Technology

Total for the Week

6 7 2 4

SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL POST

Week beginning 26 April 1982

<u>Approx No</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Comment</u>
3642	Falkland Islands	Comments on situation in the Falkland Islands including letters of support mainly from the UK
		453 Letters from Argentina
110	Personal Hardship	18 Miscellaneous 17 Housing 13 Money 10 Tax 10 Pensions 9 Employment 7 Social Security 6 Planning 5 Education 4 Legal 4 Disabled 4 Health 3 Rents
72	Disarmament	52 Pre-printed letters calling for action on world disarmament at UN Special Session on Disarmament 20 Calls for disarmament and anti nuclear weapons
47	Tax	Revise tax allowance for widows
35	Pay	25 Anti 4% wages policy adopted for NHS workers 10 Support for nurses pay claim
28	Cruelty to Animals	Anti seal cull
25	National Day of Prayer	Calls for a National Day of Prayer
17	Transport	Protests at fares increases in London
17	Industry	Aid for small businesses
16	Public Expenditure	8 Anti defence cuts 5 Anti education cuts 3 Anti NHS cuts

16	Law and Order	Calls for restoration of capital and corporal punishment
14	Rates	Calls for rate reform and protests at increases

Petitions: Approximately 1,200 signatures - protest against 4%-6% wage increase offered to NHS employees

Approximately 850 signatures - plea for a non-violent solution to Falkland Islands crisis

Total for the week

5 2 7 2

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PRIME MINISTER

Your Visit to Correspondence Section and the Garden Rooms

You are to see something of the new system in the Correspondence Section at 9.30 on Wednesday morning. This note sets out some of the background and explains what the new system does. You last visited Correspondence Section and the Garden Rooms on the "Day of Action" in May 1980.

Background

You receive far more correspondence than any previous Prime Minister. The annual totals for the last few years are as follows:

1975	:	72,000
1976	:	67,000
1977	:	59,000
1978	:	80,000
1979	:	156,000
1980	:	140,000
1981	:	128,000
1982 up to November	:	186,000

November 1982 was in fact easily a record with some 45,000 letters being received, most of them on seals. The way this correspondence is processed is as follows. It arrives in the Garden Rooms where it is counted and opened. The Garden Rooms then decide whether to pass the letters to the Private Secretary (normally myself) to deal with or to Correspondence Section. The latter deal with the large majority. They also decide whether to pass correspondence to Political Office, Joy Robilliard, Honours, Appointments and Press Office.

In Correspondence Section the letters are read once again and the three "readers" decide what form of response should be given. This will either mean a short reply from No.10 or a reply from a Department. Only letters from persistent correspondents, abusive letters or campaign letters do not receive a reply. Until now the responses have been typed in the Correspondence Section (although

of course the Garden Rooms deal with all Private Secretary correspondence) and records of letters have been kept on paper files.

The New System

The new system was largely arranged by Willie Rickett in conjunction with the Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency. I took over when Willie moved to the Parliamentary desk. The system will cost about £55,000 and has been provided jointly by IMTEC Equipment Limited and CASU Limited both of which are of course British. The system was installed in September and we are now on the point of a formal acceptance. As usual with new systems we have had a considerable number of teething troubles.

The system broadly does two things:

i) It is a filing system. The system enables us to recall within a matter of seconds the names of your correspondents and to produce a copy of their letter. This information is stored on microfilm and the mere act of responding to a letter enters it into the system.

ii) It prints letters. Once the readers have decided what form of response the letter is to get, the typists enter the name and address into the computer, indicate which reply it is to get and it is automatically printed.

The system is normally extremely efficient and enables us to cope with the considerably increased volume of correspondence which you receive. It should produce staff economies but we will rely on a staff inspection sometime early next year to assess the staffing requirement of the system. The chief advantage for the moment however is that the system will enable us to cope with more letters with the same staff.

You will wish to thank the staff of Correspondence Section for their willing and indeed enthusiastic acceptance of the new technology. They really have been marvellous. In particular

/you

you might like to have a special word of praise for Eileen Eves, who has acquired a mastery of the system which has astonished everyone including I think herself. I am hoping that when we finally get rid of the last vestiges of the old system, in particular the paper files on which the old records were kept, we shall be able to redecorate the room in which the typists work. You might like to comment on this.

After the visit to Correspondence Section we shall go to the Garden Rooms whose work is well known to you. You might like however to comment particularly on the massive correspondence exercises of the last year which have included letters about Mark, about the Falklands and of course about seals.

T. FLECKER

30 November 1982