I HAVE IN SINCERITY PLEDGED MYSELF TO YOUR SERVICE, AS SO MANY OF YOU ARE PLEDGED TO MINE. THROUGHOUT ALL MY LIFE AND WITH ALL MY HEART I SHALL STRIVE TO BE WORTHY OF YOUR TRUST

BRITISH PHILATELIC
Bulletin
The magazine for collectors of UK stamps
VOLUME 53 NUMBER 1 | SEPTEMBER 2015 | £1.95

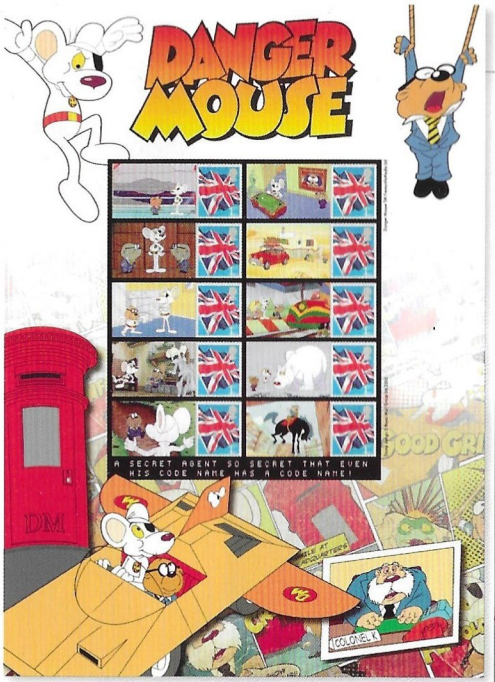
Queen Elizabeth II Specials: Her Majesty's reign in stamps

HISTORIC NEW ISSUE

Long to Reign Over Us







Issues and withdrawals

Handy dates and details of new Royal Mail stamp issues and sets about to leave the shelves **32**

● **Royal Mail Editor** William Doherty, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB ● **Publishing Editor** Kate Shaw, HMS President (1918), Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HJ ● Price £1.95 from Post Office Ltd philatelic outlets or by order from Post Office branches ● **Annual subscription including p&p** £18.95 UK; £24.95 for rest of world. Send subscriptions to Royal Mail Tallents House (address above) ● **Binders** to hold 24 issues, £8.50, storage boxes (about 30 copies) £9.95, available by post from Royal Mail Tallents House ● Royal Mail publishes the fortnightly *British Postmark Bulletin*, giving details of forthcoming special handstamps – available on annual subscription from Royal Mail Tallents House: £12.25 UK and Europe; £24.95 rest of world ● Stamp images © Royal Mail. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or parts is prohibited without prior permission of the Editors ● **Printed** in Great Britain by Zenith Print & Packaging Ltd ● **ISSN** 0953 8119 ● Royal Mail is a trading name of Royal Mail Group Ltd. Registered in England and Wales, number 4138203. Registered office: 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HQ.

Royal Mail

FSC www.fsc.org MIX Board from responsible sources FSC® C019570

The use of the FSC logo identifies the product which contains wood from well-managed forests certified in accordance with the Forest Stewardship Council.

Contents



Salute to a special sovereign The story of Queen Elizabeth II's extraordinary reign, told in stamps **3**

New Royal issue Philatelic specifications of the Long to Reign Over Us collection – new Amethyst Machin and Miniature Sheet **13**

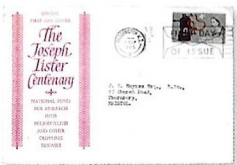
Stamp Scene John Holman keeps you abreast of the best in the realm of UK philately **15**



Leading lights in Leeds Report on the ABPS annual Congress **19**



Royal Mail Update New stamp souvenirs, a cute Danger Mouse sheet and more **20**



This Month In History Discover the 1965 stamp created in tribute to the work of Joseph Lister **22**

Baker's A-Z Explore early examples of illustrated envelopes in Colin Baker's guide to postal stationery **24**

Island news Fresh issues from Alderney, Jersey and the Isle of Man **27**

Book review European stamps of the Second World War **28**

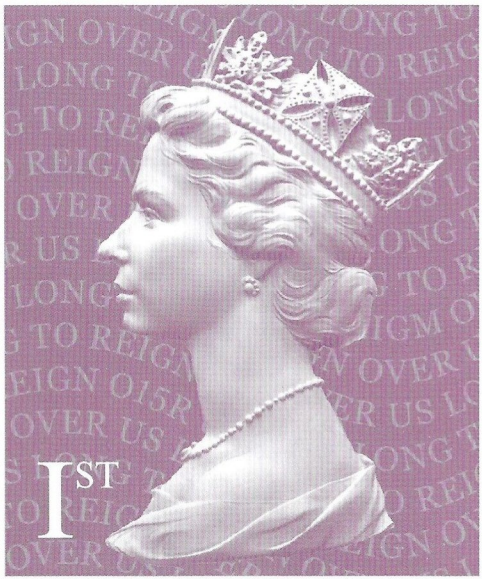
Correspondence Readers share their notes and queries **29**

Brain reign Right royal prizes for puzzlers! **28**

Stamp images © Royal Mail Group Ltd

SALUTE TO A SPECIAL SOVEREIGN

As a new stamp issue celebrates Britain's longest-serving monarch we pay our own philatelic tribute to The Queen with an exhibition of Special Stamps from her reign



IT IS A MAGNIFICENT REIGN celebrated in stunning miniature. For over six decades Her Majesty's mail service has recorded in pictorial postage stamps her stately progress from the 1953 Coronation at the tender age of 27 to becoming our longest-serving monarch in September 2015. Hundreds of stamps have borne witness to Her Majesty's splendid tenure. They have also told Britain's story, its history, its heritage. And at the heart of this national story is Queen Elizabeth. She remains centre stage after 63 years and some few hundred days on the British throne.



As a nation salutes Her Majesty's historic achievement, and Royal Mail presents its Long to Reign Over Us issue, we celebrate The Queen's life and reign with this philatelic tribute. On the following pages we host a parade of Royal stamp issues – the Accession, Coronation, Jubilees and more; sets that feature Royal heritage, from the Crown Jewels to Windsor Castle; stamps that record historic national events of her reign, including breakthroughs in technology and medicine, Britain's entry into Europe, and British sporting triumphs.

Turn over to begin the Special Stamp story of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her extraordinary times… ▸

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS 1950s

1952 Elizabeth succeeds to the Throne on 6 February when her father King George VI dies. She is visiting Kenya and is the first monarch in over 200 years to accede while abroad.

1953 The Coronation takes place at Westminster Abbey on 2 June.

1955 Sir Winston Churchill steps down as PM.

1958 Race riots break out in Notting Hill, west London.

1959 The M1, Britain's first full-length motorway, opens on 2 November.





The first two of 18 values of Wilding definitives – 1½d and 2½d – were issued on 5 December 1952. The Dorothy Wilding portrait shows The Queen wearing the George I State Diadem, as worn by Victoria on the Penny Black.

CELEBRATIONS

It is a reign of personal milestones and Royal Mail has been there every majestic step of the way to record them with stunning issues

SILVER, GOLD AND DIAMOND JUBILEES marking anniversaries of the Coronation in 1953, and celebrations of Elizabeth's Accession in 1952, there has been pomp and circumstance a-plenty in commemorative stamps. And over time we see design emphasis shifting from traditional royal emblems to the personhood of The Queen as Head of Nation. The 1953 Wilding portrait on Coronation stamps was surrounded by symbols of sovereignty. By 2002, for Golden Jubilee commemoratives, close-up portraits fill the stamps to portray The Queen confident in the solemn duties of her office, yet with a warm familiarity unthinkable in the 1950s ●



2



3



4



5



1

1 The Coronation 1953. **2** 50th Anniversary of the Coronation 2003. **3** 40th Anniversary of the Accession 1992. **4** Silver Jubilee 1977. **5** House of Windsor 2012.

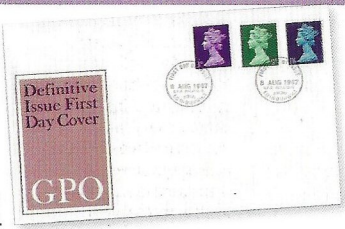
1960s

1960 Princess Margaret marries Antony Armstrong-Jones at Westminster Abbey on 6 May. The couple set up home in an apartment at Kensington Palace.

1963 Beatlemania grips Britain; the Fab Four perform on *Sunday Night at the London Palladium* on 13 October.

1965 Sir Winston Churchill dies on January 24. During a magnificent state funeral, even the cranes of the London docks are dipped in his honour.

1966 England win the World Cup against West Germany at Wembley. The Queen presents the cup to captain Bobby Moore.



Wilding definitives were deemed old-fashioned in the 1960s. The Queen approved Machin's design for stamps issued in 1967. The Machin series had begun.



1



1



1



1



1



1



2



1



1

1 Diamond Jubilee 2012. **2** 60th Anniversary of the Coronation: Six Decades of Royal Portraits 2013 – Terence Cuneo portrait. **3** Golden Jubilee: Studio Portraits of Queen Elizabeth II 2002.



3



3



3



3



3

1967 The first Machin definitives are issued for 4d, 1s and 1s 9d values and remain in use until decimalisation in 1971.

The Breathalyser is introduced by Transport Secretary Barbara Castle in a bid to cut drink-related road accidents.

1969 At the Prince of Wales's Investiture, on 1 July at Caernarfon Castle, the 20-year-old Charles receives the 'insignia' of the office – a sword, coronet, mantle, gold ring and gold rod – from his mother The Queen. Special Stamps (right) are issued to mark the occasion.



1969 stamp symbols: Eagle Tower, King's Gate and Queen Eleanor's Gate at Caernarfon, and the Celtic Cross at Margam Abbey.



1



2

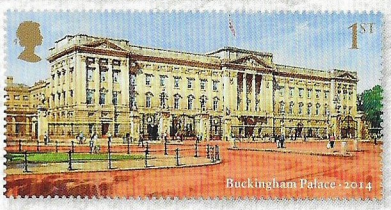
HERITAGE

The noble march of The Queen's reign has for decades resonated proudly with the much-loved traditions of her Royal title

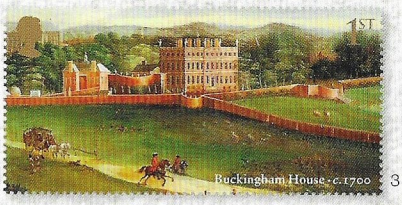
ON STAMPS DOWN THE YEARS there has been a rich procession of history: palaces and castles, the Crown Jewels, heraldry, the ancient Order of the Garter, Trooping the Colour, the handsome ceremonial horses that pull The Queen's carriages and carry the men of the elite Guards and Household Cavalry units who protect her. The Queen has always endeavoured to walk with the times but the enduring backbone of the British monarchy is an appreciation of our culture and heritage ●



3



3



3

1970s

1970 The voting age is lowered from 21 to 18; the Conservatives enter Downing Street with Edward Heath at the helm.

1971 Farewell to shillings and sixpences. Hail decimal currency and decimal value Machins (right).



Decimal value Machins, issued during the 1971 Post Office strike.

1972 In a year of turmoil Britain faces the miners' strike, the energy crisis and the Bloody Sunday massacre.

1973 Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips marry.

1974 Labour wins the General Election; Harold Wilson is PM.

1977 The Queen celebrates her Silver Jubilee and becomes a grandmother when Princess Anne has her first child, Peter, on 15 November.

1979 Margaret Thatcher becomes the country's first female PM, after four years as Leader of the Opposition.



4



4



4



5



6



7

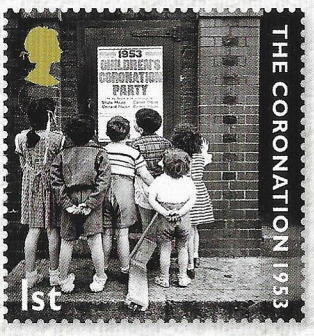


7



8

1 British Architecture 1978. **2** London Landmarks 1980. **3** Buckingham Palace 2014: Buckingham Palace c.1862; Buckingham Palace 2014; Buckingham House c.1700. **4** Crown Jewels 2011: St Edward's Crown; Queen Mary's Crown; Imperial State Crown. **5** Castles 1988. **6** Trooping the Colour 2005. **7** The Queen's Beasts 1998: Greyhound of Richmond/Dragon of Wales; Unicorn of Scotland/Horse of Hanover. **8** Buckingham Palace 2014: The Throne Room (from Miniature Sheet). **9** 50th Anniversary of the Coronation 2003. **10** All The Queen's Horses 1997. **11** Working Horses 2014: Royal Mews Carriage Horses; The King's Troop Ceremonial Horses.



9



11



11



10

1980s

1980 Black-clad SAS troops break the Iranian Embassy siege with a dramatic assault on the building. They kill five terrorists, capture a sixth, and rescue 19 hostages.

1981 The wedding of the decade – Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer are married in a fairytale service at St Paul's Cathedral.

1982 The Falklands War breaks out. Prince Andrew serves as a Royal Navy helicopter pilot.

1984 The IRA bombs the Conservative government at Brighton's Grand Hotel and the bitter miners' strike divides the country.

1989 British software engineer Tim Berners-Lee invents the World Wide Web and develops HTML, the computer language to create and link internet pages.



The first definitives inscribed '1st', known as NVIs (non-value indicators), appeared in 1989.

NATIONAL MOMENTS

Events and personalities that changed or inspired us all are captured in the philatelic legacy of The Queen's long tenure

PROFOUND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION, ECONOMIC CHANGE, technological leaps into the future, the influence of extraordinary individuals on the nation. You will find developments of great import in British society on a succession of postage stamps. Joining the EEC, the opening of the Channel Tunnel, Concorde's debut, the passing of Sir Winston Churchill, commemorating Princess Diana, celebrating the National Health Service: the materials that make up the fabric of British life, inextricably interwoven with the life of our monarch, are proudly recognised in Special Stamp issues ●



1



2



3



4

1990s



A 1990 commemorative definitive to mark the 150th anniversary of the uniform Penny Post.

1990 Public protests against the Poll Tax. Margaret Thatcher is ousted and John Major takes over as PM.

1991 Operation Desert Storm begins as British and American troops are deployed to the Gulf as a response to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

1992 The Queen's annus horribilis: Charles and Diana split, as do the Duke and Duchess of York; Princess Anne gets divorced; fire sweeps through Windsor Castle.

1993 Buckingham Palace opens to the public. First self-adhesive stamps issued.

1994 The Queen attends the opening of the Channel Tunnel.

1997 Tony Blair's revamped Labour Party is elected, ending 18 years of Tory power. Princess Diana dies in a car crash in Paris.

1999 Prince Edward marries Sophie Rhys-Jones.



5

1 First Flight of Concorde 1969. **2** Post Office Tower 1965. **3** European Communities 1973. **4** Health – Celebrating 50 Years of the NHS 1998. **5** Churchill Commemoration 1965. **6** Millennium Series 1999. **7** Inventive Britain 2015. **8** Opening of the Channel Tunnel 1994. **9** House of Windsor 2012: Channel Tunnel 1994 Nations Linked. **10** Diana, Princess of Wales Commemoration 1998.



6



7



8



9



10

2000s

2000 The Queen Mother enjoys her 100th birthday in this millennium year. And Steve Redgrave takes a record-breaking fifth Olympic gold medal in Sydney.

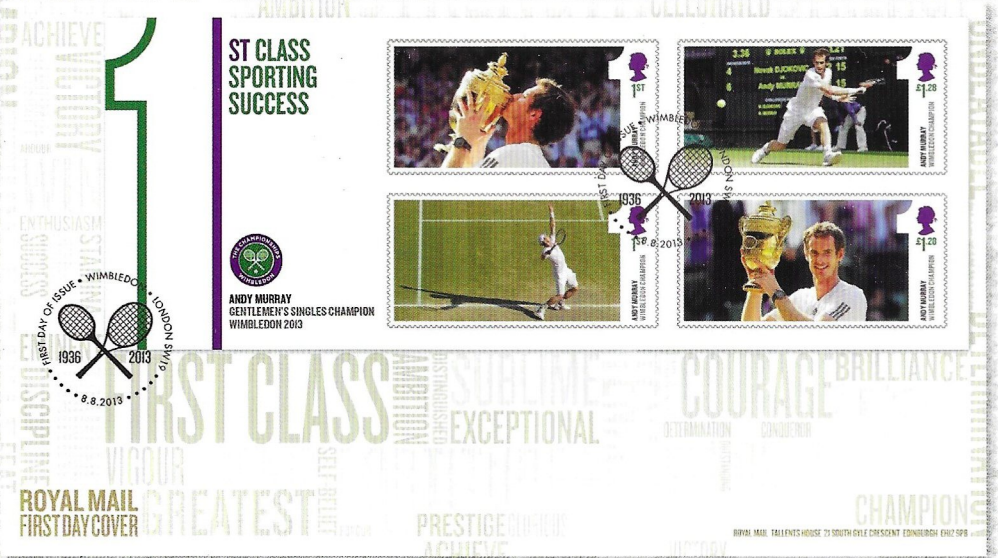
2002 Britain becomes one big street party, celebrating The Queen's Golden Jubilee. But the year also sees the deaths of The Queen Mother and The Queen's sister Princess Margaret.

2003 The second Gulf War begins – this time with the West intending to topple Iraqi president Saddam Hussein.

2005 Bomb attacks on the Tube and a London bus kill 52; Prince Charles marries Camilla Parker Bowles at a civil ceremony in Windsor.



New security features introduced on stamps in 2009 include: background iridescent printing, two ellipsoidal shear panels and the removal of a water-soluble adhesive layer. Many collectors mourn the passing of the tradition of 'soaking off'.



1

PROWESS AND PRIDE

Brilliant British sporting triumphs during Her Majesty's rule are celebrated in a parade of powerful stamp sets

From the England World Cup victory to London 2012, The Queen has been at the centre of events that showed our sporting prowess and made us proud. She presented captain Bobby Moore with the trophy in 1966 and spectacularly took part in the Olympics opening ceremony with Daniel Craig. Both competitions feature in stamp sets, as do other great sporting moments, such as England winning the Ashes, and sporting traditions, including the Braemar games enjoyed by The Queen and Cowes Week attended by Prince Philip ●



2

2010s

2010 Gordon Brown is beaten in the General Election by David Cameron's Conservatives.

2011 Prince William marries Kate Middleton at Westminster Abbey on 29 April. They delight the crowds by driving up the Mall in Charles's Aston Martin with a 'JU5T WED' number plate.

2012 London hosts the extraordinarily successful 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

2013 On 22 July the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge have their first child, George – third in line to the throne after Prince Charles and William.

2014 In the independence referendum Scots decide to remain part of the UK with 55 per cent voting to stay.

2015 In the May General Election the Conservatives win a surprise majority while the SNP becomes the third largest party in Parliament.



2012 Diamond Jubilee Definitive, Diamond Blue; 2015 Long to Reign Over Us Defintive, Amethyst.



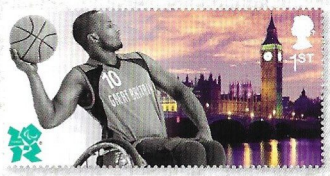
3



4



4



4



4



5



5

1 Andy Murray Wimbledon Champion 2013. **2** The Ashes: England Winners 2005. **3** World Cup 1966: England Winners 1966. **4** Welcome to the London 2012 Paralympic Games 2012. **5** Welcome to the London 2012 Olympic Games 2012. **6** Summertime 1994: Braemar; Cowes. **7** British Empire & Commonwealth Games 1958.



5



5



6



6



7



7

HER MAJESTY'S MAILINGS

3.5 million
The number of items of correspondence The Queen has answered in her reign.

175,000
The amount of 100th birthday telegrams The Queen has sent to centenarians.

540,000
Telegrams Her Majesty has sent to couples celebrating their diamond wedding anniversaries.

45,000
Since she came to the throne The Queen has posted out around 45,000 Christmas cards.

To see all the Royal Mail Special Stamp sets cited on these pages, visit www.rmspecialstamps.com

A FINE ROYAL RECORD

On 9 September 2015 four Special Stamps are issued to mark the day Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II becomes the UK's longest-reigning monarch. William Doherty explains the significance of their intaglio-printed illustrations



1



2



3



4

1 The Wyon medal The iconic image of Queen Victoria on the Penny Black stamp was based on Royal Mint engraver William Wyon's 'City Medal', issued in 1838 to celebrate Victoria's visit to the City of London in November of the previous year. The medal image itself was developed from a sketch made in 1834 when Victoria was 15.

2 The Wilding portrait The classic three-quarter shot of the young Queen by society photographer Dorothy Wilding featured on the early stamps of Her Majesty's reign, from 1952 until 1967. Queen Elizabeth wears the sash and star of the Order of the Garter and the diamond diadem that is also seen on the Penny Black.

3 Badge of the House of Windsor The Badge, approved by King George VI in 1938, reflects the name change that the Royal Family underwent in 1917 from Saxe-Coburg and Gotha to Windsor. The badge shows the Round Tower of Windsor Castle with the Royal Standard fluttering aloft. The oak leaves framing the badge represent Windsor Forest.

4 The Queen's Personal Flag On 14 September 1960 this emblem was approved by Queen Elizabeth to be used in Commonwealth countries when she is present in person. The Queen's initial E is circled by a chaplet of gold or yellow roses underneath the Royal Crown, on a blue background also fringed with gold ●



Left: the Gold Proof Coin Cover of the Long to Reign Over Us stamp issue. Also available are Silver Proof and Brilliant Uncirculated Coin Covers

Royal Mail pays tribute to The Queen as Britain's longest-reigning monarch with an elegant special issue celebrating her 63-year rule



THE FIVE-STAMP Long to Reign Over Us Miniature Sheet features an Amethyst Purple First Class Definitive. Both the individual definitive and the Sheet are released on 9 September – the date that Queen Victoria's tenure on the throne of 63 years and 216 days is surpassed by Queen Elizabeth's reign.

The Long to Reign Over Us Miniature Sheet comprises three First Class stamps and two £1.52 values (see facing page). All are printed intaglio except the gravure-printed Amethyst Definitive.

Also in the issue is the Presentation Pack that features details about the life of The Queen, complemented by black and white and colour photographs from throughout her reign. The Pack also focuses on long-reigning British monarchs in history, as well as background information ▸

Long to Reign Over Us Miniature Sheet – Prices	
Miniature Sheet	£4.93
Presentation Pack	£5.45
First Day Cover Stamps/overseas	£6.40/£5.33
Stamp Cards (set of 6)	£2.70
Press Sheet	£21.70
Retail Stamp Book	£3.78
Stamp Sheet Souvenir	£6.40

Long to Reign Over Us Miniature Sheet – Specifications	
Date of issue	9 September
Number of stamps	Five
Design	Sedley Place
Stamp format (Large)	Landscape
Stamps size (Large)	34mm x 24mm
Definitive stamp format	Portrait
Definitive stamp size	20mm x 24mm
Sheet size	183mm x 74mm
Printer	International Security
Print process	Intaglio and iridescent ink; definitive, gravure
Perforations	15 x 14
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA



FD1521-PL



FD1521-TH



FD1521-NP

Above right: Stamp Book and Filler Card for First Day Cover and Stamp Souvenirs. Above: alternative pictorial and non-pictorial postmarks



about the images that appear on the stamps, namely Wyon's City Medal, Wilding's three-quarter profile of The Queen, the Badge of the House of Windsor and the device from The Queen's Personal Flag.

Expert writers of the Presentation Pack material include leading historian Andrew Roberts, British Postal Museum & Archive Philately Curator Douglas Muir, and Thomas Woodcock, Garter King of Arms at the College of Arms.

The Coin Cover comes with a choice of £5 cupro-nickel, silver and gold coins, despatched from 22 September. It includes a royal timeline that begins with the reigns of the Houses of Lancaster and York. The handstamp has a London SW1 postcode for Buckingham Palace and features the words 'God save The Queen'.

Long to Reign Over Us Stamp Book – Specifications

Issue date	9 September
Book format	6 x Royal Mail Amethyst Purple 1st Class Machin definitives
Definitive Stamp format	Portrait 20mm x 24mm
Printer	ISP
Print process	Gravure
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	Self-adhesive

Orders for Serviced First Day Covers must reach Royal Mail at Tallents House (address on page 2) by 7 October; as this issue is a late addition to the Special Stamp Programme, the period in which you can buy a First Day Cover or have it postmarked is extended to 28 days from the date of issue. The Stamp Souvenir is available for 90 days (see page 20).

The Tallents House postmark bears the words 'Happy and glorious' – the fifth line of the National Anthem. Two alternative postmarks carry the Windsor postcode, one with the first line of the National Anthem, 'God save our gracious Queen' •



Stamp Scene John Holman keeps you posted on events and activities in the philatelic world

UK diary dates

16-19 September Autumn Stampex, Business Design Centre, London N1 0QH, Wednesday 11.30am to 7pm, Thursday and Friday 10am to 6pm, Saturday 10am to 5pm. Admission free. Over 100 dealers and postal administrations will have stands, including Royal Mail, which will release Rugby World Cup Special Stamps and Sea Travel Post & Go stamps during the exhibition. The ABPS will mount National Competition exhibits covering all FIP classes (Traditional, Postal History, Aerophilately, Postal Stationery, Revenue, Thematic, Open) and non-FIP classes of Picture Postcards and Cinderella.



A Stampex customised sheet will be on sale at the information stand, linked to the exhibition's theme of sea travel. As a reference to the anniversary of the Penny Black, most of the postmarks bear the date 6 May 1840. Information: Philatelic Traders Society, PO Box 290, Lingfield RH7 9AX, 01342 830225, info@thepts.net.

19 September GB Philatelic Society meeting, 2.15pm at Stampex, address as above. Jean Alexander talks about 'supermarket philately'.

26 September Mid Anglia Philatelic Federation (MAPF) Display Day, Warmington Village Hall, near Peterborough PE8 6TE, 10am to 4pm. Jane Moubray speaks on the Two Pence Blue, and David Stirrups on cartophilately. Free entry to MAPF members and their guest. Information: www.mapf.co.uk.

3 October Shropshire Philatelic Society Annual Stamp and Postcard Fair, Barnabas Church Centre, Longden, Coleham, Shrewsbury SY3 7DN, 10am to 4pm. Society table, 17-plus dealers. Information: Tony Marsland, 01743 860910.

9 October Strand Stamp Fair at the Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0DG, 9am to 4pm. Information: 020 8946 4480, www.stampshows.net.

10 October Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies South of England Stamp Fair and Convention, The Norfolk Pavilion, South of England Showground, Ardingly RH17 6TL. Enquiries: Jim Etherington, 01273 471897.

10 October Kent Federation Day at the Maidstone Great Danes Hotel, Hollingbourne, Maidstone ME17 1RE, 9.30am to 4pm.

10 October Telford Stamp, Card and Coin Fair, Belmont Hall, Wellington Centre, Telford TF1 1LU, 10am to 3pm. Free entry, good range of stalls, free valuations, buy and sell. Enquiries: Bob Hemmings, 01694 720192.

16-17 October Scotex – the annual Scottish stamp and postcard fair – will be held at Dewars Centre, Glover Street, Perth. Friday 11am to 5.30pm, Saturday 10am to 3.30pm. About 30 dealers attend. Enquiries: 01368 860365.

17 October Redditch Stamp Fair – see page 16.

17 October Hampex (Hampshire Federation Stamp and Postal History Fair), Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham PO17 5AL, 10am to 4pm. See www.hantsfederation.org.uk or contact Julian Jones on 01794 514902.

31 October GB Philatelic Society meeting at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1 (right). Pre-adhesive Mail by Colin Narbeth, 11am; The Franking Privilege by Chrissie Baker, 2.15pm ● ▶



Local focus: Redditch



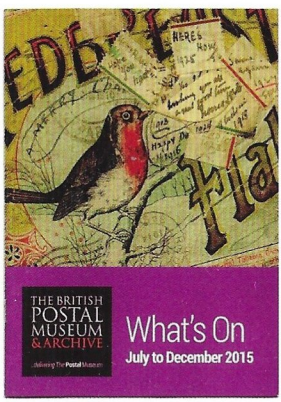
On 17 October Redditch Philatelic Society is following up previous successful stamp events with a Stamp Fair, from 10am to 4pm, at St Benedict's High School, Kinwarton Road, Alcester, Warwickshire B49 6PX. The historic market town of Alcester (pictured left) is close to both Stratford-upon-Avon and Redditch. This fair is being held in conjunction with the Midland Philatelic Federation's Autumn Convention and will include entries in the Federation's individual 16-sheet competitions. The competition winners will be announced at the fair and certificates and trophies presented.

Redditch Philatelic Society Chairman Alan Godfrey says: 'We aim to attract collectors to the fair from across the Midlands. The Society is celebrating its 45th anniversary in 2016 and we intend to make this fair our most successful ever.' Around 20 stamp dealers, including some 'big names', will offer a wide range of philatelic material: stamps, postal history, thematic stamps, aero covers and accessories. In addition a number of specialist societies plan to hold meetings, including the Great Britain Philatelic Society, Scandinavia Philatelic Society and Midland (GB) Postal History Society.

Hot and cold refreshments will be available, with free parking at the venue. Doors open at 10am. The Alcester and Arden Food Festival takes place the same day – over 100 stalls offer seasonal and local produce, including artisan cheeses, breads, beers and wines.

For more information about the Redditch Philatelic Society and the stamp fair, go to www.redditch-philatelic.org.uk or call 01789 765385 ●

British Postal Museum & Archive



The British Postal Museum & Archive (BPMA), located at Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1, is open Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm (Thursdays until 7pm) and on Saturday 12 September and 10 October (10am to 5pm), but closed the following Mondays. For details of the Post Office in the Community exhibition at Blists Hill Victorian Town, Madeley, Telford, Shropshire, visit www.postalheritage.org.uk. Some 25 exhibitions can be seen online, including Aerial Post, regional stamps, Machins, David Gentleman, postal vehicles and letter boxes.

A temporary exhibition, Pop it in the Post: Your World at the End of the Street, is on at Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, London N17 6RT until 27 September, then at Mansfield Museum, Leeming Street, Mansfield NG18 1NG from 3 October to 21 November and at Havering Museum, 19-21 High Street, Romford RM1 1JU from 6 January to 26 March 2016.

Tours of the Museum Store at Imprimo Park, Lenthall Road, Loughton IG10 3UF will be held on 7 October and 4 November. Tours of the Archives at Phoenix Place take place on 14 October and 9 December. Talks entitled Miniature Posters: the Stamp Designs of Abram Games, by Naomi Games, and Pushing The Envelope, by James Addison, will be held at the Phoenix Centre, alongside the BPMA in Phoenix Place, on 17 September and 12 November respectively. Charges apply to tours and talks.

See the BPMA website or *What's On*, the BPMA events guide, for further details. To order a printed copy of *What's On* or to book for tours and talks, phone 020 7239 2570 or email info@postalheritage.org.uk ●

Memorial lecture

The Stuart Rossiter Memorial Lecture for 2015, entitled Theory v. Practice in Postal History, will be given by Ben Palmer at 5pm on 6 November at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY. For a ticket (non-transferable), apply early to Rex Dixon at rexdixon@btinternet.com ●

Railway stamps

In July 1865 the Talyllyn Railway became the first narrow gauge railway in Britain to be authorised by Parliament to carry passengers using steam haulage. Opened in 1866, it carried slate from the quarries to Tywyn, and still runs from Tywyn to Abergynolwyn. As part of the 150th anniversary celebrations, ten new Talyllyn Railway Letter Service stamps (right) have been issued, featuring the original locomotives. They are available as a sheet, price £2.50.



The stamps were first used on covers on 2 May when Locomotives 1 and 2 were shown in a new livery, the Indian red believed to be the original colour that arrived from the makers in the 1860s. The covers were not put on sale until 4 July. They cost £4.50 each, with blocks of four stamps showing Locomotives 1 and 2. On 4 July covers showing the 1865 Act of Parliament were also serviced with a pair of stamps, price £5.50. Postage is £1.50 on all orders. Contact: Postmaster, Talyllyn Railway, Wharf Station, Tywyn, Gwynedd LL36 9EY. For more on Talyllyn, see the *Bulletin* May 1997 and August 2007 ●

Philatelic auctions

Grosvenor will auction specialised Falkland Islands and Antarctica on 24 September. Enquiries: Grosvenor, 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LT, 020 7379 8789, www.grosvenorauctions.com.

Cavendish's September auction will include British Army in the Crimea, Cross-Channel Mails, Indian Postal History, Straits Settlements, Malaysian States, North Borneo and Sarawak, Burma, and China Cultural Revolution Period, as well as worldwide stamps and postal history. Enquiries: Cavendish Philatelic Auctions, 153 London Road, Derby DE1 2SY, 01332 250970, or stamps@cavendish-auctions.com ●

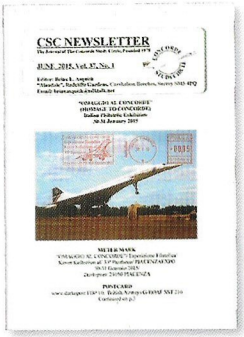
Society journals

The July-August issue of *The GB Journal* (from the GB Philatelic Society) includes erudite articles on various aspects of British stamps and postal history of the reigns of monarchs from Queen Victoria to George V, as well as reviews of new books on Ocean Penny Post, Overprinted British Airletters and Postal Stationery, and the 2015 edition of the *Stanley Gibbons GB Concise Catalogue.*



The GBPS Newsletter, sent out with the *Journal*, covers society activities and displays, but, in this issue, little of interest to collectors of modern material. Both publications are well illustrated. For details of the GB Philatelic Society, which celebrates its diamond jubilee this year, visit www.gbps.org.uk or contact Peter Tanner on 01753 887755.

The Summer 2015 issue of *TPO*, the journal of the TPO & Seapost Society, includes an interesting feature on the movable posting box placed on the Sunday afternoon buses to Castle Douglas from Gatehouse of Fleet ▶



and Carspharin in Scotland from 1948. By 1961 there were some seven 'mobile box routes' serving the area. The date of the ending of the service and the fate of the boxes are not recorded.

Other articles cover the Bristol Sorting Carriage/Tender, War Emergency Postal Communications – TPO Services, Holyhead & Kingstown Packet handstamps and Firth of Clyde cachets as well as articles and notes relating to overseas TPO and seapost services.

For details of the Society see www.tpo-seapost.org.uk or contact Julian Jones, 19 Richmond Lane, Romsey SO51 7LB. The Society will be attending Hampex at Wickham on 17 October and the Stafford Stamp Show, Stafford on 6 and 7 November. A Members' Great Northern Meeting will be held at the Pudsey Stamp Fair, Pudsey, near Leeds, on 21 November.

The June issue of the *CSC Newsletter*, from the Concorde Study Circle, includes news of new stamps, postmarks, postcards and other collectable material relating to the iconic aircraft. A miniature sheet from St Thomas & Principe shows in the sheet margin a number of famous Concorde travellers – The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh, Pope John Paul II, Sir David Frost, Tony Blair, The Bee Gees and David Beckham. For details of the CSC email brianasquith@talktalk.net.

The Scarborough Philatelic Society, now in its 76th year, publishes a useful newsletter, *Scarborough Post*. On 6 October Peter Chadwick will display GB Postal History followed by Competition Night on 3 November, and there is a Christmas social on 1 December. Society details are available from the newsletter editor Chris Phillips on 01723 368475 and from chris@philatelic.org.uk.

The Cricket Philatelic Society publishes a quarterly newsletter, *Wickets*, available by post or email. The annual subscription is £7 UK, £9 Europe and £13 rest of world. Contact A Melville-Brown, 11 Weppons, Ravens Road, Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 5AW, email mel.cricket.100@googlemail.com or visit www.cricketstamp.net. The first cricket stamp was, apparently, issued by Cape Verde in 1962 ●

Charles Goodwyn
1934 -2015

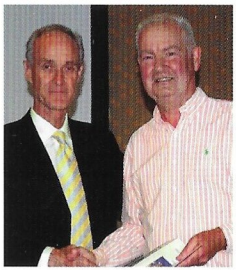


I was sorry to hear of the death, on 10 June, of Charles Goodwyn who was Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection from 1996 until ill health forced his retirement in 2003. He mainly collected stamps of the Far East, particularly Hong Kong and the Treaty Ports. His study of the postal history of the crown colony of Wei Hai Wei was published in 1985. Between 1981 and 1994 he served as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President and President of the Royal Philatelic Society London, and as Secretary again from 1998 to 1999.

In 1999 he gave a lecture on the Penny Black and made clear his view that the sketch submitted in the Treasury Competition by Sir George Steuart Mackenzie was probably the inspiration for the design of the Penny Black, and it was a shame 'the poor chap didn't get a prize' in the competition (see the *Bulletin* August 2001).

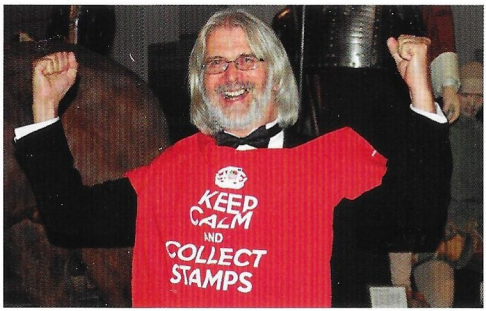
I have to admit I always thought Mr Goodwyn something of a dry old stick until I interviewed him for the *Bulletin* (April 1997issue) when he revealed a delightfully pithy sense of humour ●







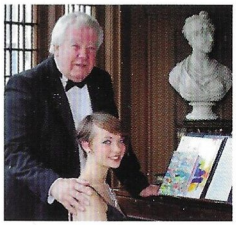
Clockwise from left: a gathering of the ladies at Temple Newsam House, Hugh Jefferies at the Congress Banquet, Christopher Harman and Frank Walton, Dane Garrod thanks John Davies for his excellent presentation on 1890 Exhibitions



Leading collectors in Leeds Just a few of the highlights the 2015 ABPS Congress

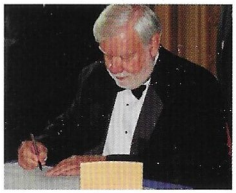


GOOD COMPANY, good weather, a variety of interesting speakers and historic locations all contributed to the success of the 97th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain last month, organised as always by the Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS). The lively Congress programme was devised around the theme of 1890: the year of the Jubilee Exhibition that celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Penny Black, the year Stanley Gibbons launched his first stamp journal, and the year of the first meeting of the Leeds Philatelic Society, Congress hosts. Chairman Yvonne Wheatley opened proceedings by signing an 1890-style 'telegram' from Congress to The Queen and having it collected by a nimble telegram messenger from the 19th century (aka Jon Aitchison).



Julian Stray of the BPMA talked about the Post Office in 1890; John Davies presented a display of 1890 Exhibition material; Hugh Jefferies spoke on 'Stanley Gibbons Catalogues – 150 years and Counting'; Richard Wheatley's display explored 'The Leeds Connection' with the 1890 Exhibition, and Yvonne Wheatley presented her Railway Letter Stamps.





The RDP Ceremony, with music from pianist (and stamp collector) Rachael Winter, took place at Temple Newsam House. This year's signatories of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists were Jørgen Jørgenson of Denmark, James Mazepa and Stephen Schumann of the USA; and Frank Walton, President-elect of the RPSL. The Congress Medal was presented to Bryan Jones of Solihull.

Above: Louise Reynolds of Stanley Gibbons, Rachael Winter at the piano with her father Graham, and Dr James Mazepa signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. Far right: Margaret Morris and Kate Shaw

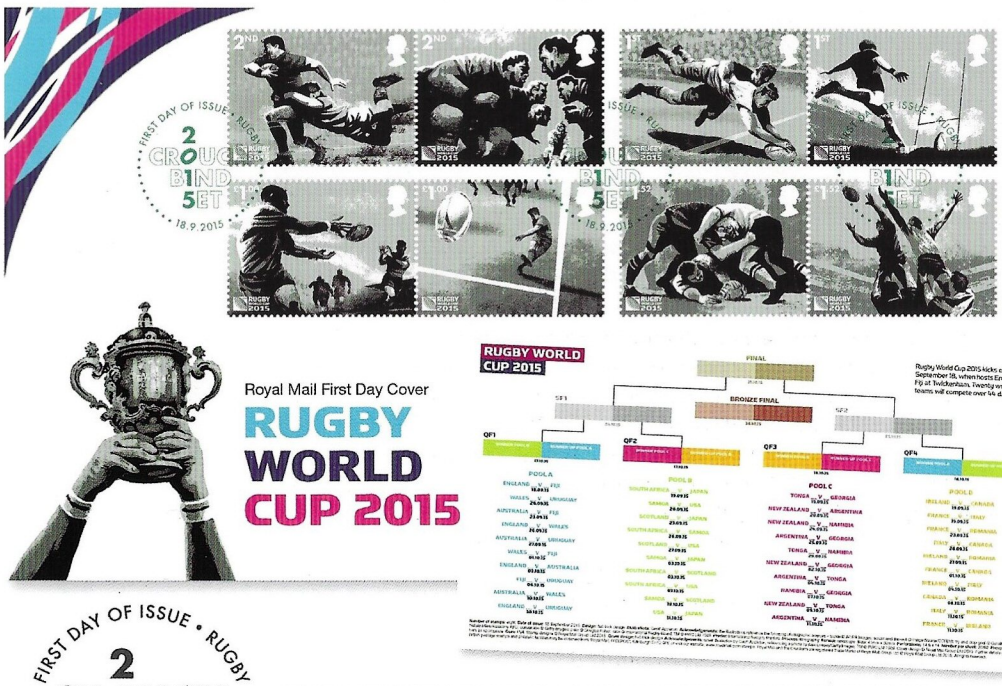
Leeds Royal Armouries lent a backdrop of life-sized horses and warriors in armour at the Congress Banquet on the Saturday. And at the closing ceremony, back at the Queens Hotel the following morning, the Stanley Gibbons Cup was presented to Mike Roberts for his incisive presentation, Local Philatelic Societies: Do They Have A Future?' Judging by this Congress, it would certainly seem so ●

September update Royal Mail Editor William Doherty brings you all the latest product news from Stamps and Collectibles

The longer-lasting cover Missed that first day cover and postmark? Never fear, Royal Mail is bringing out the Stamp Souvenir – available for purchase up to 90 days after the date of issue. Introduced in response to customer feedback, the Stamp Souvenir comprises the same stamp configuration, envelope and filler card as the traditional First Day Cover and will be cancelled with the alternative postmark for the date of issue.

So if you do not manage to buy your First Day Cover in time, you can still to get your Stamp Souvenir! (Unlike the First Day Cover, however, the Souvenir will not be personalised with your chosen name and address.) The first Stamp Souvenir, accompanying the Long to Reign Over Us issue, is available from 9 September. The second is released on 18 September as part of the Rugby World Cup 2015 set. Stamp Souvenirs will be available for order from Tallents House (address on page 32) •

Below: Stamp Souvenirs will first be available to order with the Rugby World Cup 2015 set. This new item will form part of every issue from now on. It is essentially an unaddressed First Day Cover on sale for 90 days after the issue date

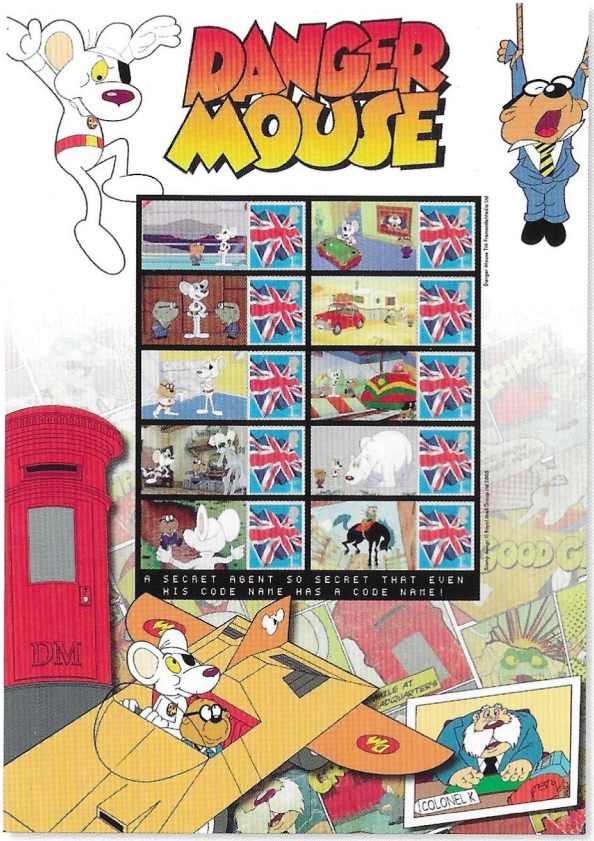


Change of printer for definitives If you have a regular order for Visible Changes, then you should have received your order on or around 2 August, which explained the change of printer from Walsall to De La Rue for 78p, 88p and £1.88p definitives. If you have any queries about this change, please address them to Tallents House at the address on page 32 •

Cartoon classic Keep an eye out for this month's vibrant Stamp Sheet dedicated to that iconic international superspy Danger Mouse, whose headquarters is a post box in central London. The A4 sheet is being issued by Royal Mail on 25 September in association with distributors FremantleMedia. The Sheet is housed in a specially designed folder, and portrays ten scenes from the world-famous cartoon series and includes all the key characters – Danger Mouse, his chum Penfold, his boss Colonel K and evil genius Baron Greenback – alongside First Class Union Flag stamps.

The popular *Danger Mouse* series began 30 years ago and ran for no less than 161 episodes. Today the cartoon still enjoys a huge global following, and in the Channel 4 *100 Greatest Kids' TV Shows* programme *Danger Mouse* came third behind *The Muppet Show* and *The Simpsons*.

In 1983, the *Danger Mouse* viewing figures hit an all-time high of 21.59 million viewers and the series has been repeated on various channels and released on DVD. In the US it was broadcast in the 1980s on Nickelodeon, as well as a number of other channels, and it was first broadcast on ABC TV in Australia in 1996. A new digitised version of the series is due to be released this autumn. The Danger Mouse Sheet is printed by Cartor, and the folder is produced by Zenith Print and Packaging. Price: £19.99 ●



Above: the Danger Mouse Stamp Sheet feature scenes from the popular cartoon hit

Pier pressure There is still time to purchase the popular Seaside Architecture stamp issue, which includes the British Piers Miniature Sheet shown on the right. But Seaside fans will have to get their skates on, as the issue is due to be withdrawn from sale on 18 September. For further details, see www.royalmail.com/seasidearchitecture.

On the same date we wave goodbye to Classic Locomotives – the stunning stamps portraying Classic Locomotives of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales steam off the shelves this month along with their associated Stamp Books ●





This Month in History

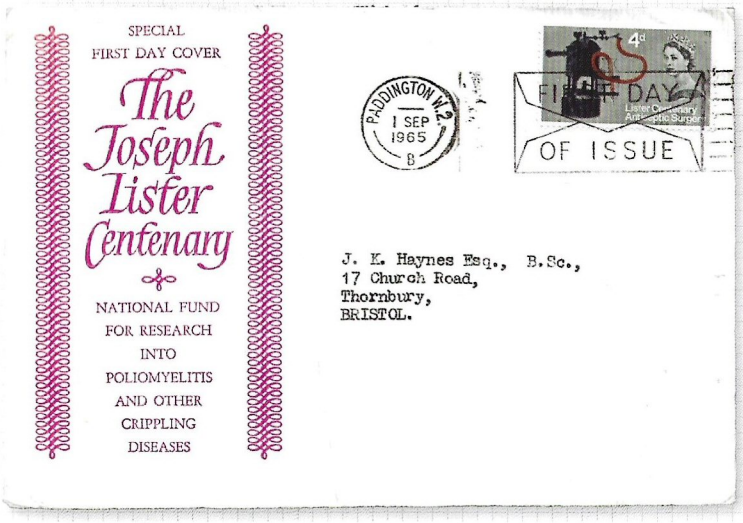
John Holman gives a full philatelic check-up to the stamp issue marking a medical breakthrough by Joseph Lister

FIFTY YEARS AGO, on 1 September 1965, the Post Office issued two sets of special stamps, commemorating the centenary of Joseph Lister's discovery of antiseptic surgery and the Commonwealth Arts Festival. Both sets comprised two stamps. The Antiseptic Surgery set, postponed from 12 August, marked Lister's use of a carbolic spray that greatly reduced infections after surgery and increased the rate of recovery and survival.

The 4d stamp is a simple design, depicting Lister's primitive spray. The 1s stamp is more complex. It features a portrait of Lister set within a hexagon with the letters OH – the whole representing the chemical symbol for carbolic acid (phenol), the fluid used by Lister. Both elements were placed in a white frame representing a square of lint, with the black outer border overlapping the white square and representing a sheet of lead or thin block tin. The whole is a symbolic depiction of Lister's initial experiments. Both stamps are captioned 'Lister Centenary Antiseptic Surgery'. The 4d stamp was designed by Peter Gauld, who produced 18 stamps between 1961 and 1980. The 1s was the work of Frank Ariss, his only issued stamp design.

Printing was by Harrisons in three colours – indigo, brown-red and grey-black for the 4d, and black, purple and new blue for the 1s. A range of shades can be found of the 4d grey-black background. Both stamps were issued plain and overprinted with three phosphor bands. Narrow bands at left or right (both values) are recorded in the *Stanley Gibbons GB Specialised Catalogue*, and there are errors of two broad bands (both values) and one thin and one broad band (4d).

Major printing errors are known. About 40 mint copies are recorded of the 4d plain with brown-red (tube of carbolic spray) missing, and far fewer



of the phosphor stamp with the same error. About ten copies of the 4d plain exist with indigo omitted from a sheet bought in Bradford; others on the same sheet showed the colour partially omitted. The 4d plain is also known with the indigo colour shifted 2mm to the left, and the 1s plain with the purple hexagon displaced downwards by nearly 3mm, protruding beyond the borders of the design. The 1s exists with inverted watermark: 26 copies of the plain stamp are known and 49 – some damaged – of the phosphor. Imperf stamps are imprimaturs from National Postal Museum auctions. Three noteworthy constant varieties are listed on the 4d stamp, as well as over 20 minor flaws, and a further 13 minor flaws on the 1s.

The Post Office did not provide a first day cover for this issue, and covers were not serviced by the Philatelic Bureau. Posting boxes were provided at 59 main post offices for dealers and collectors to post covers for local first day of issue handstamps. Particularly sought-after are the covers with Edinburgh and Glasgow first day postmarks as Lister worked at hospitals in both cities. Especially valuable are covers with the counter date stamp of the post office at Edinburgh's Royal Infirmary. Covers with the first day of issue envelope design machine postmark of Paddington (London) W2 and Edinburgh, used for 'medical mailing' and other first day covers, are also worth looking out for. And covers can be found with the slogan for the Commonwealth Arts Festival, stamps for which were issued the same day.

Ten unused designs for the Lister issue were reproduced in the *Bulletin* of January 1966 (Vol.3 No.5), which also included an interesting biographical sketch of Lister. Further information can be found in Tom Wilson's article, 'British Discoveries in Medicine on Stamps', in the *Bulletin* of October 1994, which features a photograph of Lister's statue at Upper Portland Place in London. The Lister stamps were withdrawn, seven months after issue, on 15 April 1966. Sales amounted to 92.1 million plain and 10.7 million phosphor of the 4d stamp and 8.3 million and 1.4 million of the 1s value •

Above: a special charity cover with Paddington postmark and the FIRST DAY OF ISSUE machine postmark in the shape of an envelope

Facing page: another first day cover postmarked Edinburgh and showing one of the hospitals where Lister worked

I is for... illustrated envelopes

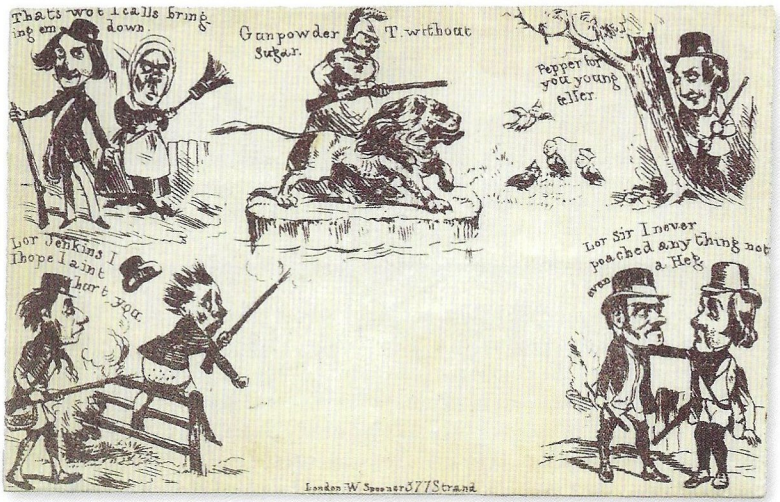


Fig 1

Colin Baker's A to Z of postal stationery history spells out the spread of advertising on envelopes

Fig 1 Caricature envelope: one of the many satirical envelopes produced in 1840

Fig 2a Solicitors Benevolent Association advert

Fig 2b Solicitors Benevolent Association envelope front: ads inside envelopes were only effective on ungummed types

Fig 3 Quaker advert: some images from Victorian times are familiar to us today

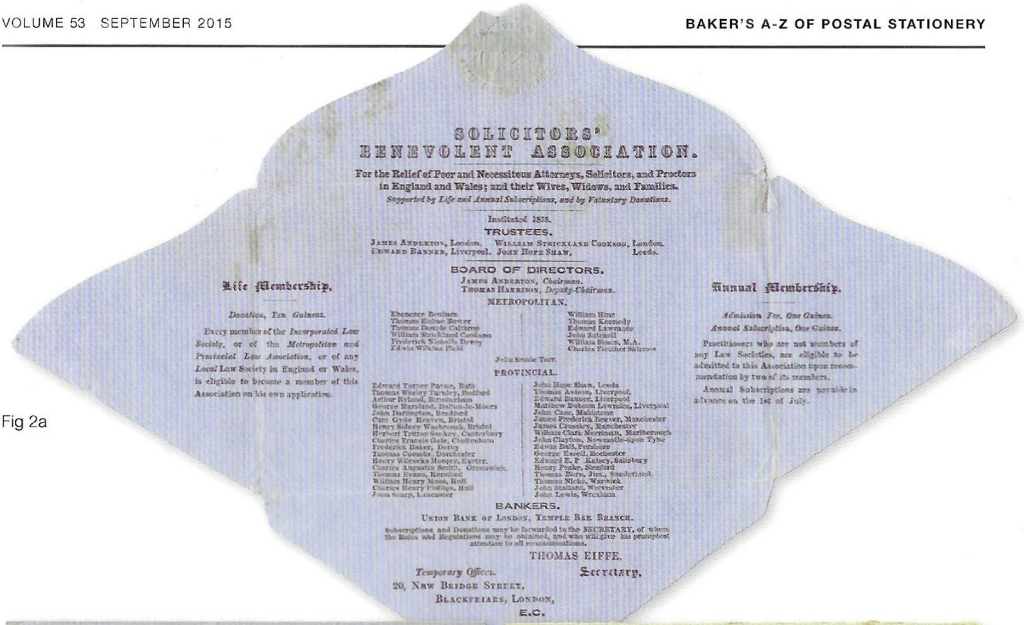
Fig 4 Cresswell advert: although printed separately, the stamp and the advert are effectively matched

Fig 5 Single colour advert: some firms made their adverts stand out with bold colours

THE IDEA of illustrating the front of envelopes with images and designs started in 1840 when caricatures were first printed on them. These 'caricature envelopes' poked fun at the design of William Mulready's Post Office envelope issued that year. Although many different designs of caricature envelopes were produced, followed by other envelopes illustrated with ideals such as temperance and clean living, the concept of using the outside of an envelope to advertise products took a long time to come to fruition.

In 1840 envelopes were sold as flat sheets of paper, without gum, though local stationers would often employ a clerk to fold them for customers. They were sealed with a single blob of wax and put into the post. On receipt, the envelope would have been cut around the seal and opened out flat, unlike today's envelopes which are of course normally slit open.

In those early years it was not uncommon to print advertisements on the inside of envelopes as they would easily be seen by the sender and receiver of a letter. But by the mid-1840s, folding and gumming machines were beginning to be developed, and envelopes started to be sold already made up. It became the practice to slit open these envelopes so that the advertising on the inside was no longer visible. Advertising on envelopes seemed to have come to a


SOLICITORS'
BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

For the Relief of Poor and Necessitous Attorneys, Solicitors, and Proctors in England and Wales; and their Wives, Widows, and Families.

Supported by Life and Annual Subscriptions, and by Voluntary Donations.

Instituted 1858.

TRUSTEES.

JAMES ANDERTON, London. WILLIAM STRICKLAND COOKSON, London.
EDWARD BANNER, Liverpool. JOHN HOPE SHAW, Leeds.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

JAMES ANDERTON, *Chairman.*
THOMAS HARRISON, *Deputy-Chairman.*

Life Membership.

Donation, Ten Guineas.

Every member of the Incorporated Law Society, or of the Metropolitan and Provincial Law Association, or of any Local Law Society in England or Wales, is eligible to become a member of this Association on his own application.

METROPOLITAN.

Ebenezer Bonham
Thomas Hallam Bower
Thomas Beadle Calthrop
William Strickland Cookson
Frederick Nicholls Dewey
Edwin William Field
William Hine
Thomas Kennedy
Edward Lawrance
John Salwood
William Simon, M.A.
Charles Fletcher Swinnow
John Semple Torr.

PROVINCIAL.

Edward Turner Parson, Bath
Thomas Wesley Turnley, Bedford
Arthur Hyland, Birmingham
George Marriland, Bolton-le-Moors
John Darlington, Bradford
Capt. Gyde Heaven, Bristol
Henry Sidney Wadebridge, Bristol
Herbert Tritton Sankey, Canterbury
Charles Francis Gale, Cheltenham
Frederick Baker, Derby
Thomas Cusmile, Dunstable
Henry Wilcocks Hooper, Exeter.
Charles Augustin Smith, Greenwich.
Thomas Evans, Kendal
William Henry Nunn, Hull
Charles Henry Phillips, Hull
John Seary, Lancaster
John Hope Shaw, Leeds
Thomas Avison, Liverpool
Edward Banner, Liverpool
Matthew Dobson Lowndes, Liverpool
John Case, Maidstone
James Frederick Brewer, Manchester
James Chessher, Manchester
William Clark Merryman, Marlborough
John Clayton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Edwin Bell, Pershore
George Escott, Rochester
Edward E. P. Kelsey, Salisbury
Henry Peake, Stratford
Thomas Sorn, Jun., Southwold
Thomas Nicks, Warwick
John Stallard, Worcester
John Lewis, Wrexham

Annual Membership.

Admission Fee, One Guinea.
Annual Subscription, One Guinea.

Practitioners who are not members of any Law Societies, are eligible to be admitted to this Association upon recommendation by two of its members.

Annual Subscriptions are payable in advance on the 1st of July.

BANKERS.

UNION BANK OF LONDON, TEMPLE BAR BRANCH.

Subscriptions and Donations may be forwarded to the SECRETARY, of whom the Rules and Regulations may be obtained, and who will give his prompt and attention to all communications.

THOMAS EIFFE.
Temporary Offices. Secretary.
20, NEW BRIDGE STREET,
BLACKFRIARS, LONDON,
E.C.

Fig 2a



Fig 2b

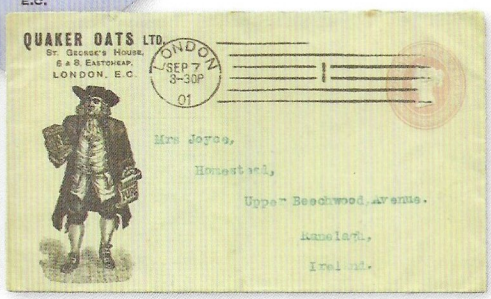


Fig 3



Fig 4



Fig 5

stop. And it was not until the 1860s that advertising on the outside of envelopes got started, and even then it was very slow to catch on. It took until the end of the 19th century for adverts to appear on envelopes in large numbers. Some of these were incredibly ornate, while others just stated the facts. With the accession of King Edward VII, advertising on envelopes continued apace. ▸

Fig 6

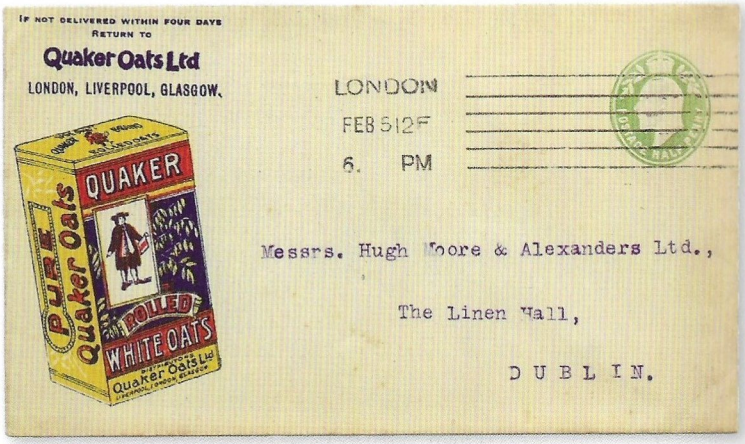


Fig 7



Fig 6 Multicolour advert: a rare full-colour example from the beginning of the 20th century

Fig 7 Cerebos salt advert: a charming promotion set around the address panel on a window envelope

They were cheap to produce, cost nothing extra to send through the post and were seen by everyone who handled the letter. Although some adverts promoted particular products, in the main they helped to keep a company's name in the public eye. We tend to take colour printing for granted today, but 100 years or more ago it was expensive and took skill to keep the colours in exact registration. Some companies opted for a single colour, rather than black, to make their advert stand out, and some even matched this with the colour of the stamp embossed on the envelope.

We still get plenty of advertising envelopes arriving on our doormats today, many covered with full colour illustrations of the products on offer inside. They can make a wonderful theme, and coupled with the printed postage impressions, can build up to produce a fascinating collection •

Next in Baker's A to Z of Postal Stationery: J is for the Jubilee of the Penny Post. Colin Baker is Secretary of the Postal Stationery Society. He welcomes enquiries about the Society by email at pss.secretary@gmail.com.

Island stamps Royal tributes on 9 September

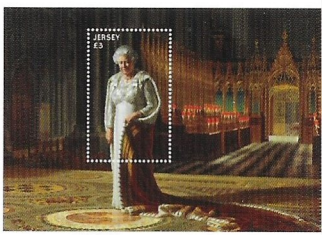


Guernsey A £10 stamp for Alderney is issued by Guernsey Post on 9 September, marking the day of The Queen becoming the longest reigning British female monarch in world history.

Designed by Bridget Yabsley, the stamp is 38.4mm deep and 28.88mm wide, printed by offset lithography with silver foil. It is available as a single definitive, in sheets of five, first day cover, presentation pack and limited-edition souvenir folders. Enquiries: Guernsey Philatelic Bureau, Freepost GU267, Envoy House, La Vrangue, Guernsey GY1 5SS, email philatelic@guernseypost.com •

Jersey is also issuing stamps in tribute Queen Elizabeth II: The Longest Reigning British Monarch. Released on 9 September, they feature four official photographic portraits of Her Majesty, marking each of the significant milestones of her reign: The Coronation Portrait of 1953 by Cecil Beaton, The Silver Jubilee by Peter Grugeon 1977; The Golden Jubilee of 2002 and The Diamond Jubilee of 2012, both by John Swannell. A fifth portrait, by Ralph Heimans, features on a £3 miniature sheet printed on silk. Enquiries: Jersey Philatelic Bureau, Freepost JE793, Jersey Post, Jersey JE1 1AF, or via www.jerseystamps.com •





Isle of Man On 9 September the Isle of Man issues a prestige book containing 16 stamps, two of the eight-stamp Pomp and Circumstance sets issued in June. As shown below, the stamps depict some of the most important ceremonial occasions of Her Majesty's long reign.

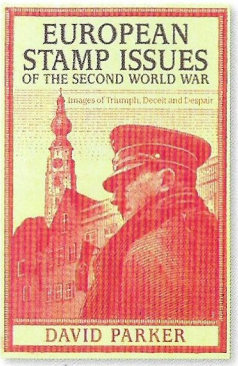
Orders and enquiries to: Isle of Man Stamps & Coins, PO Box 10M, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1PB, or visit www.iomstamps.com •





Stamps of the Second World War

John Holman reviews a new book and recommends some additions for UK collectors



'European Stamp Issues of the Second World War: Images of Triumph, Deceit and Despair' by David Parker. With 256 pages and hardback price of £25, published by The History Press, The Mill, Brinscombe Port, Stroud GL5 2QG

The History Press has recently published *European Stamp Issues of the Second World War: Images of Triumph, Deceit and Despair*, written by history lecturer Dr David Parker. The dust-jacket blurb states: 'Today, European nations still use stamps to commemorate aspects of a nation's culture, history and achievements. During the Second World War, however, stamps were considered far more important in conveying political and ideological messages about their country's change in fortunes – whether it was as triumphant occupier, willing or unwilling ally, or oppressed victim.'

The book's introduction sets the scene, before moving on to a 26-page account of Germany: The Third Reich 1933-45. A number of the stamps illustrated, not surprisingly, feature Adolf Hitler, who ensured that for each lost European territory restored to Germany a stamp and accompanying special cancellations were issued in celebration. Another much-used stamp image showed grateful families welcomed home.

There follow chapters on 19 countries or areas: Finland, Bohemia-Moravia, Slovakia, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Belgium, France and Channel Islands, Italy (including the Vatican), Albania, Yugoslavia, Greece, Soviet Union, Baltic States, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria. But where, one might ask, is Great Britain? In the introduction, the author notes that 'in May 1940 Great Britain issued its only wartime set and for this reason has no chapter to itself'. However, quite an interesting story could be told about this issue – it nearly did not happen because of the war: there were initially plans for a more exciting issue, and philatelic events to commemorate the Penny Black anniversary were curtailed by hostilities (see May 2015 *Bulletin*, pages 282 to 283). In addition, the colours of definitive stamps were changed to save ink (*Bulletin* March 1981), and emergency printings of definitives in letterpress rather than photogravure were planned for (*Bulletin* June 1982).

Somewhat surprisingly there is no mention of the proposed Anglo-French stamp featuring King George VI and President Lebrun of France (*Bulletin* April 1971 and January 1988), and the the Victory issue of 1946 deserves at least a footnote. One page is given, in the chapter on France and the Channel Islands, to the wartime issues of Guernsey and Jersey and the use of bisected 2d stamps in Guernsey. More could have been said on the wartime issues which, particularly in Guernsey, were reprinted and exist in a range of shades. Also worth mentioning would have been the Guernsey stamps printed on French banknote paper, Jersey stamps printed on rough and newsprint papers, the prepared but unissued George VI definitive and Stamp Centenary stamps overprinted with a swastika and 'JERSEY/1940', and a design featuring the Jersey arms, also existing with swastika overprint.

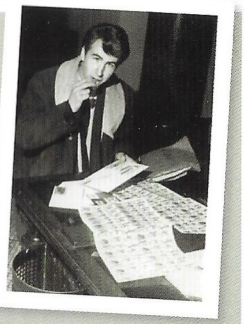
There is much of interest in Dr Parker's well-written book, with valid comments on the propaganda of stamp design, but if he was aiming at a philatelic readership (I suspect not) more detailed philatelic information would have been appreciated. Nevertheless a worthwhile book ●

Correspondence

STAMPS OF SIGNIFICANCE

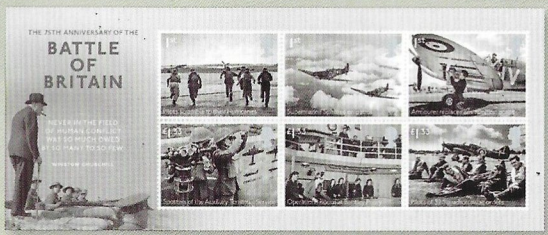
Battle of Britain memories

I am attaching a photo taken on 13 September 1965. I was 18 when this picture was taken in Leicester's head post office. I was sticking stamps onto first day covers for the 25th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain stamp issue. Then I could not have envisaged that I would one day make a full-time career of designing and marketing first day covers. The picture featured in the *Leicester Mercury* in September 1965 on the issue date of the stamps. Where have all those years gone? *Adrian Bradbury, Leicestershire*





1965



2015

Arnold the Great? Yes, but...

Mad about Machins? Nowadays you must be kidding! Yes, Arnold Machin supplied us with a very nice Queen's head, but it has been around for yonks – more than half a century. Machins come in nice colours and we enjoy the colour changes, but give over – do you really believe this incessantly repeated image is still as beautiful in our eyes as when it burst onto the scene in the 1960s?

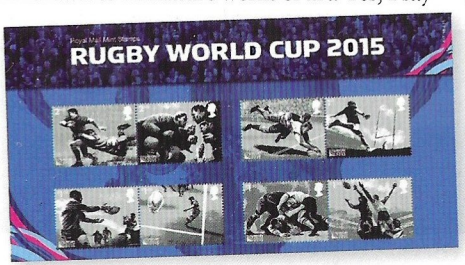
Just look at the super designs and lovely borders of other UK definitives – the ½d to 1s Victoria Jubilee, Edward VII, George V, George VI, and the Elizabeth II Wildings. They knock our definitives into a cocked hat.

As a signwriter/artist for more than 60 years, I am drawn to miniature works of art. Yes, I say thank-you to Mr Machin – you were a clever old stick. Thanks also to Royal Mail for Prestige Stamp Books, which never disappoint. Look back a few years and our stamp booklets had pictorial covers, interesting designs and gummed stamps. For me the modern booklets have spoilt collecting and I have all but given them up.

So come on, designers. Show us collectors what you are made of. Show those artists and designers of the past that you have style too. And for Pete's sake, bring back gum, by gum!

Stan Davies, Norfolk

How very bold! You have set the definitive cat among the pigeons now, Mr Davies. What do other readers think?



Keep the letters coming...

We welcome your letters... Write to: The Editor, *British Philatelic Bulletin*, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. You can also email: bulletin.enquiries@royalmail.com. The senders of letters published here receive a Rugby World Cup 2015 Presentation Pack as a token of our thanks.

Brain reign Pens at the ready for your puzzling page? You could win a right royal Presentation Pack and stamp album

NAME THAT STAMP From the details shown below, identify the name and year of issue of the stamp beneath the magnifiers.



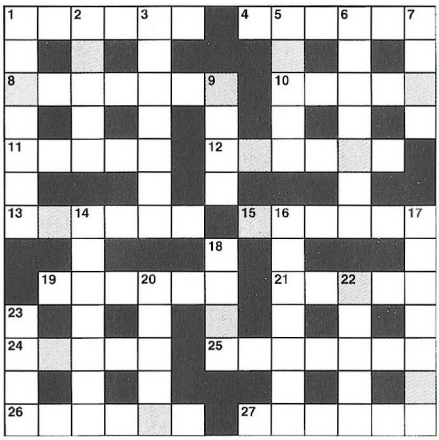
How to enter Send your answers, with your contact details, marked 'September Name That Stamp' and/or 'September Crossword' to Bulletin Prizes, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB or email rmbulletin@rocketmail.com. **Closing date** 9 October 2015.

Prizes The senders of the first correct entries drawn in each section after the closing date win the Long to Reign over us Presentation Pack and a Royal Mail stamp album. Eight runners-up receive Presentation Packs ●

June solutions and winners *Words Quiz* 1b, 2a, 3c, 4b. *Winner* Mr R Murdie, Durham. *Name That Stamp* 68p, 250th Anniversary of the RSA, 2004. *Winner* Mrs W Cowley, Lytham.

Prize draw rules and regulations 1 Promotions are open to all readers, except employees of Royal Mail Group Ltd, their business associates and immediate families. 2 Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries which are incomplete, damaged or not received for any reason. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt. 3 Prizes must be accepted as offered; they are not transferable and there are no cash alternatives. 4 Winners are notified within 28 days of closing date stated. 5 For prize draws where readers must answer a question, winners will be the senders of the first correct entries drawn at random by an independent person after the closing date. 6 Promoter's decision on any aspect of the promotions is final. No correspondence will be entered into. 7 Entry implies acceptance of these rules. 8 Prizes are subject to suitability and availability. The promoter reserves the right to a) substitute a prize of equal or greater value if circumstances so demand and b) suspend or cancel or hold void any of the competitions or prize draws at any time without notice. 9 Winners' names are available 28 days after closing date; send an SAE to The Editor, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. The promoter is Royal Mail Group Ltd, 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HQ.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD Complete the puzzle, then rearrange the letters in the grey squares to form a family often seen on stamps.



ACROSS

1 A college fellow is with beautiful youth (6)
4 Puzzle formulated in game (6)
8 Inferior writer observed cutting tool (7)
10 Express disapproval with alternative teacher (5)
11 Country river, Russian one? (5)
12 Unpretentious fashions by team leader (6)
13 Stitch certain to grip you French (6)
15 Animal trapped in Blenheim Palace (6)
19 Material part of medical I conduct (6)
21 Thrust forward and dive, losing head (5)
24 Farewell is something cast in gold (5)
25 Try to lure volunteers back initially (7)
26 Baby bird of awkward age allowed to follow (6)
27 Look for a male bird (6)

DOWN

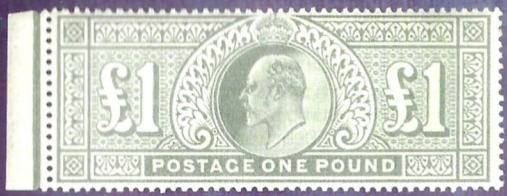
1 Sticks the notices round this place (7)
2 Film prize is large vehicle (5)
3 Endlessly affront a leader of Rome, being narrow-minded (7)
5 Carefully observed the famous (5)
6 Proceed to watch, it's said, what sailors do (2,2,3)
7 Open creamery but not initially (4)
9 Now important to protect weak man (4)
14 Mockery of seating arrangement (7)
16 I mail it out to the civilian army (7)
17 Accomplice has a chance to repent, initially (7)
18 Seat not finished as yet (4)
20 Toughen, that is, having to sprint backwards inside (5)
22 Sign of approval about mother becoming a wanderer (5)
23 Held back by menacing stick (4)

Puzzle page sponsored by CORBITTS

GREAT BRITAIN OFFERS FROM STOCK



Waterlow Specimen £270



DLR SG.266 £1200



SG.134 £600



Colour Trial £800



Ochiltree
Undated Circle
£650



SG.O9 £800



Plate 14 Mint block £1750



Victorian Handpainted £120

For further offers from stock visit www.corbitts.com



5 Mosley Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1YE
Tel: 0191 232 7268 Email: info@corbitts.com

STAMPEX STAND NO. 87

Established 15 Years

Royal Mail stamp issues and withdrawals

9 September



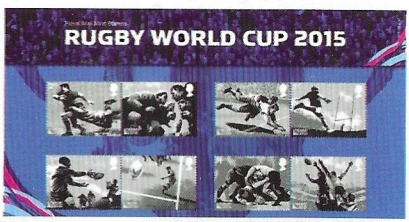
Issue Long to Reign Over Us: 1st Class Amethyst Definitive, Miniature Sheet (3 x 1st Class including Amethyst Definitive, 2 x £1.52), Presentation Pack, Press Sheet (4 Miniature Sheets), Stamp Cards (6 in set, 5 stamps and Miniature Sheet), Stamp Book (6 x 1st Class Amethyst Definitives), Stamp Sheet Souvenir, Framed Miniature Sheet, Brilliant Uncirculated Coin Cover, Silver Coin Cover, Gold Coin Cover.

15 September — **Issue** 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain: Brilliant Uncirculated 50p Coin Cover.

16 September — **Issue** Post & Go: Sea Travel (six designs).

17 September — **Issue** Animals of the First World War: Commemorative Sheet (10 x 1st Class, with information card).

18 September — **Issue** Rugby World Cup 2015: Stamps (2 x 1st Class, 2 x 2nd Class, 2 x £1, 2 x £1.52 in se-tenant pairs), Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards set, Stamp Book (4 x 1st Class Definitives, 2 x 1st Class Special Stamps), Stamp Souvenir.



18 September — **Withdrawal** Classic Locomotives Stamp Books. Classic Locomotives of England (2 x England Classic Locomotives Stamps, 4 x Machins). Classic Locomotives of Scotland (2 x Scotland Classic Locomotives Stamps, 4 x Jubilee Definitive Stamps). Classic Locomotives of Wales (2 x 1st Class Locomotive Specials, 4 x 1st Class Machins). Classic Locomotives of Northern Ireland (2 x Locomotives, 4 x Machins).

18 September — **Withdrawal** Seaside Architecture: Stamps (2 x 1st Class, 2 x 97p, 2 x £1.28), Miniature Sheet (2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.28), Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards set, Coin Cover.

25 September — **Issue** Danger Mouse Customised Sheet and Folder.

14 October — **Withdrawal** Prime Ministers: Stamps (2 se-tenant strips of 4; 4 x 1st Class, 4 x 97p), Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards set.

19 October — **Reintroduction of Poppy stamps to Post Offices** Lest We Forget definitive-sized 1st Class Poppy Stamp in self-adhesive sheets of 50; and Post & Go Symbolic Flowers Poppy Stamp.



20 October — **Issue** Watch out for details next month.

To order philatelic items, including all those listed above, contact Royal Mail online at www.royalmail.com/stamps or at Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. We would advise you to quote 15CDH, the *Bulletin* media code. Telephone order line (08.30 to 17.00 Monday to Friday): 03457 641 641. From overseas: +44 131 316 7483. Minimum handling charge UK £1.45, Europe £1.55, rest of world (airmail) £2.15.

9 770953 811015 01

Information about Royal Mail products is the latest available at time of going to press. Issue dates shown in advance may be subject to change. Stamps are not shown to scale. Stamp sizes are listed on Royal Mail Preview pages.

Royal Mail

All stamp images © Royal Mail Group Ltd. Royal Mail. The cruciform and the colour red are registered trade marks of Royal Mail Group Ltd, © Royal Mail Group Ltd 2015, all rights reserved.