

BRITISH PHILATELIC

The ROYAL MAIL magazine *for stamp collectors*

Bulletin

Volume 39 Number 5

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The Queen's Golden Jubilee
• Presentation packs, part 1

With new stamps and a prestige book, Royal Mail celebrates the 50th anniversary of Her Majesty The Queen's accession to the throne: five decades mirrored in five photographic portraits.



Forthcoming issues and withdrawals



Cover Official portrait of HM The Queen, taken by Dorothy Wilding in 1952. Royal Mail's new set of stamps, previewed on p144, celebrates the 50th anniversary of the accession. Photograph: National Portrait Gallery, London.

Issues Note some items are available only from Royal Mail Tallents House Edinburgh and Post Office Limited philatelic outlets at main post offices in Bath, Belfast, Birmingham Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge Canterbury, Cardiff, Chester Colchester, Coventry, Croydon Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter Gatwick Airport, Glasgow Grimsby, Guildford, Harrogate Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool London (Trafalgar Square and Eastcheap), Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Oxford, Plymouth Portsmouth, Southampton Southend-on-Sea, Stevenage Stratford-on-Avon, Stroud Truro, Windsor and York

8 January

Issue Kipling: Just So Stories stamp cards.

15 January

Issue Kipling: Just So Stories stamps (sheetlet of 10), and presentation pack.

15 January

Withdrawal Millennium – The Future: stamps, presentation pack and stamp cards.

28 January

Withdrawal Queen Victoria label stamp book.

31 January

Issue Golden Jubilee stamp cards.

6 February

Issue Golden Jubilee stamps, presentation pack, 'A Gracious Accession' prestige book, coin cover, bank-note cover (ingot cover to follow on 20 March).

26 February

Issue Occasions stamp cards.

Cartoons customised stamps As we closed this issue for press we received the first sheets of the Cartoons customised sheets announced in the Late News supplement to last month's *Bulletin*. The sheets contain the 10 stamps with attached labels as follows (label text for each stamp in *italics*).

More: *What would you send?* • Sincerely: *Dear Bank Manager* • Dear lottery prize winner: *Nothing gets through like a letter* • I'm writing to you... *Mrs Rowland Hill had a bright idea*... • My day starts... *Enclosed: a cure for insomnia!* • Mental floss: *Enclosed: brain food!* • Fetch This, Fetch That: *Yours doggedly* • Do you have something... *The mail: receive daily and inwardly digest* • Don't Ring: *Alexander Graham Bell has a lot to answer for* • The Cheque is in the Post: *Post early for Pluto*

The stamps, printed by Questa in lithography have standard (non-elliptical) perforations and are printed on a whiter paper than the Cartoons stamps previously issued in books. The stamps have two phosphor bands as the second printing of the book stamps (11 November 1996). The new sheets with labels are available from Royal Mail Tallents House, Edinburgh and Post Office philatelic outlets, price £2.95. The sheet will be illustrated next month.

Contents



The 1969 Notable Anniversaries presentation pack. To promote stamp sales overseas, some packs were printed in German.

A proper presentation In the first instalment of a new series on presentation packs, Richard West describes the origins of today's pack and looks at special versions and variations **148**

The British Philatelic Bulletin is published monthly by Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ • **Editor** JR Holman • **Price** 85p for single copies, from Post Office Limited philatelic outlets • **Annual subscription** £9.50 in UK and Europe; £13.50 rest of the world. Subscriptions should be sent to Royal Mail Talents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB • **Binders** to hold 24 issues, price £7, are available by post from Royal Mail (Edinburgh address above) • Royal Mail also publishes the fortnightly *British Postmark Bulletin*, which gives details of forthcoming special hand-stamps. Available on annual subscription, from Edinburgh address above: UK and Europe £10, rest of the world £21.75 • **Copyright** Design and text Consignia plc, unless attributed to a specific author. Requests to reproduce any article should be sent to the Editor, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ • **Design** by Robert Maude • **Printed** in Great Britain by The White Dove Press • **ISSN** 0953 8119 • Royal Mail is a trading name of Consignia plc. Registered in England and Wales, number 4138203, registered office 148 Old Street, London EC1Y 9HQ

The Queen's Golden Jubilee Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the accession **144**



Larger than life David David Springbett talks with Richard West **152**

Special prize draw Win Occasions stamp packs **153**

Philately on-line Ron Negus looks at software for Machin enthusiasts **154**

Early collectors Robert Yardley, by Ron Negus **155**

Posting boxes **156**

Posbag Letters to the Editor **157**

Special draw £100 for the first card drawn **157**

Competitions £200 to be won in two easy-to-enter competitions **158**

Events **158**

Late news **159**

Issues and withdrawals **130**

Stamp scene ABPS news; exhibitions; H O Fraser sale; Literature; Cavendish jubilee **132**

Royal Mail news 2001 quantities; Royal Mail albums; Rowland Hill Awards; Stamp Show 2000 award; Special issues for 2002 **134**

2001 Definitives **137**



Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories A philatelic connection, by Jean Matheson **139**

Stamp scene Exhibitions news • Postcards

• GB literature • H O Fraser • Cavendish

Forthcoming exhibitions The main UK exhibitions for 2002 will be: Spring Stampex (London, 27 February-3 March), Thematica (London, 29-30 June), Autumn Stampex (London, 18-22 September), Chester 2002 (Chester, 29-30 November), and Thematica 11 (London, 22-23 November). Spring Stampex will include invited displays by the Royal Philatelic Society London.

The main overseas exhibitions will be Korea 2002 (Seoul, 2-11 August), Amphilex 2002 (Amsterdam, 30 August-3 September), and Spain 02 (Youth exhibition, Acala de Henares, 4-13 October) •

Ron Griffiths 47 Long Arrotts,
Hemel Hempstead HP1 3EX.

Postal postcards An interesting 12-page price list of modern British postcards showing stamps, postal vehicles, post boxes, postbuses, etc is available from Ron Griffiths, specialist dealer in modern postcards. He lists over 600 cards, including Royal Mail stamp cards (PHQ cards), National Postal Museum, postal regions, Bath Postal Museum, PH Topics, Rosalind Wicks and the cards of other publishers. Prices range from 25p to £40. The list is available by sending 25p in stamps to Ron Griffiths •

Andrew Lajer Old Post Office,
Davis Way, Hurst, Reading
RG10 0TR. Telephone 0118
934 4151.

GB Literature The November/December issue of *The GB Journal* includes features on the George V PENCE (for PENCE) variety, 18th century postmarks and a Victorian threatening letter, Victorian stamps (1d Black plate 1b and 1883 9d), College covers, Wattses underprints, and a report on the Cawardine Collection sale at Spink on 20 September. Three pages are devoted to the index to Volume 39. The *Journal* comprises 20 pages of editorial (articles and notes) and 16 pages of advertising.

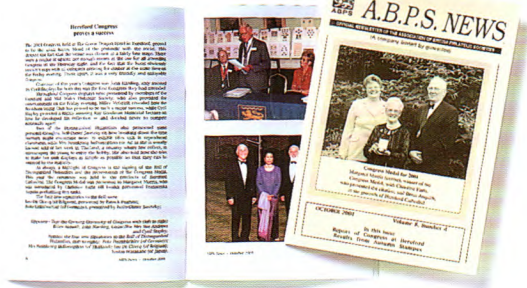
The 24-page *GBPS Newsletter*, sent out with the *Journal*, includes features on the ½d line-engraved of 1870, Victorian Telegraphs stamps, Bishop marks, George V Seahorses as well as a lengthy report of the Society's displays at York in July and other news of Society activities. The Society has certainly received a shot in the arm in recent times and its publications and meetings are increasingly important to all serious collectors of GB stamps. For details of membership of the GB Philatelic Society contact Andrew Lajer at the address opposite •

Mrs V Scott 38 Leopold
Avenue, Handsworth Wood,
Birmingham B20 1ES.

The November issue of the Letter Box Study Group Newsletter includes reports on the 25th anniversary meeting at Leamington Spa and reminiscences of members on the past quarter-century. There is a plea for information about the Penfold box at the Beamish Museum in Co Durham – does anyone know where this box was in service before it was acquired by the museum? Members of the Group are looking forward to the 150th anniversary, in November 2002, of the installation of the first British roadside letter boxes in Jersey. Suggestions are invited on how this anniversary should be commemorated by the Group.

Details of the LBSG are available from the Secretary, Mrs V Scott, at the address opposite •

ABPS News The October journal of the Association of British Philatelic Societies includes a report (with colour photographs) on the Philatelic Congress held in July, Autumn Stampex awards, a useful diary of forthcoming events, and a section of news from the British Philatelic Trust. A talk by Rolfe-Dieter Jaretzky, RDP, given at Congress, is included, also some thoughts from J Miller McGrath of the Bookham Stamp Club on how to run a successful philatelic society. There is a profile of philatelic activist Pat Rothnie and an obituary of Tom Rielly, a stalwart of organised philately in Scotland. An important part of the journal is the reports from local and specialist societies, with details of their displays and meetings, and usually contact names, addresses or telephone numbers. The Trust has supported publication of a new ABPS booklet *Competitive Exhibiting at Local Society and Federation Level* – available by sending a SAE (weight under 60g) to the British Philatelic Trust, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6PT ●



ABPS For details contact the Membership Secretary: A Bosworth, 18 Raymer Road, Penenden Heath, Maidstone ME14 2JQ. Telephone 01622 762577.

H O Fraser sale The collection of Victorian stamps and postal history formed by the late Howard Fraser was sold by Spink in London on 7 November, realising some £929,185 including premium. Realisation for the 812-lot sale ranged from £57 to £59,800 with 18 lots making over £10,000 each. The top price was achieved by a remarkable entire bearing a bisected 2d blue sent in 1842 from West Sandwick to Lerwick and re-addressed to Yell. The bisected stamp was tied by a black Maltese Cross and bears a manuscript '1d'. A rejoined block of 28 1d Black (corner letters EE-FK and GE-HK) cancelled by neat strikes of the Maltese Cross in orange-red made £40,250 (est £35-40,000), and an unused (part to full original gum) block of 12 1840 2d blue (corner letters JA-KF) realised £34,500 (£35-40,000). A die proof of the 1d Black plate with 'Old Original' engraved made £2645 against an estimate of £1000-1200. Amongst the more modest items some good used 1d Blacks went for £80 each ●

Details of further auctions

Contact Spink & Son Ltd, 69 Southampton Row, London WC1B 4ET. Telephone 020 7563 4000.

Cavendish golden jubilee The Queen's is not the only golden jubilee this year. Cavendish Philatelic Auctions was founded by Geoff Manton in 1952 and is still a thriving business under the ownership of well-known postal historian James Grimwood-Taylor. The company's 50th anniversary auction will comprise a worldwide sale on 23-24 January. Included in this will be material from the Peter Chadwick Collection – a 4d rate cover to the Isle of Bute bearing two Penny Blacks and a Twopence Blue, a used example of the 1840 'VR' Penny Black, a mint pair of the 1860 printing of the 1½d in rosy-mauve, and mint block of six of the Archer perf 1d plate 94. Geoff Manton will be on the rostrum on 23 January to sell the first lots in this auction – exactly 50 years to the day since the first Cavendish auction. The Vivien Sussex International Large Gold Medal Collection of 'Valuables by Post', 1580-1920 will be sold on 6 March ●

Cavendish Philatelic Auctions 153-157 London Road, Derby DE1 2SY. Telephone 01332 250970.

Royal Mail news Quantities • 2002 stamps • Slipcases for albums • Most northerly PO

Quantities Special stamps of 2000, and various stamp books.

Above & Beyond		People & Place		Spirit & Faith		Prestige stamp books	
19p	13,989,8000	2nd	14,013,300	2nd	220,943,200	Definitive Portrait	130,525
26p	15,614,4000	1st	15,215,700	1st	96,397,400	March 98	
44p	5,169,200	45p	4,436,800	45p	14,551,400	Profile on Print	130,525
64p	5,037,000	65p	4,390,200	65p	15,061,600	February 99	
Stamp cards	44,863	Stamp cards	39,837	Stamp cards	36,702	Queen Mother	128,251
Fire & Light		Stone & Soil		1st class book	5,178,875	August 00	
19p	14,537,500	2nd	14,385,500	2nd class book	5,709,175	Label books	
26p	16,175,100	1st	16,059,900	Airletter	321,885	Postman Pat	4,000,000
44p	5,248,900	45p	5,273,800	Sound & Vision		March 00	
64p	5,115,600	65p	5,132,700	2nd	12,633,200	Botanic Gardens	500,000
Stamp cards	45,100	Stamp cards	37,803	1st	13,840,300	April 00	
Water & Coast		Tree & Leaf		45p	5,317,500	Special books of stamps	
19p	14,693,300	2nd	13,727,800	65p	5,243,000	Space Centre &	4,000,000
26p	16,221,700	1st	15,621,800	Stamp cards	34,015	London Zoo	
44p	5,275,000	45p	5,260,600	The Queen's stamps		May 00	
64p	5,144,600	65p	5,106,100	Miniature sheet	1,116,143	Eden & Trans-	4,000,000
Stamp cards	52,436	Stamp cards	35,474	Jeffery Matthews		Pennine	
Life & Earth		Mind & Matter		Miniature sheet	417,968	September 00	
2nd	14,598,000	2nd	13,504,100	Queen Mother		Quantities for stamp cards	
1st	15,772,700	1st	15,276,900	Miniature sheet	5,098,171	are sets	
44p	3,791,100	45p	5,256,200	Document	20,224	Quantities © Consignia PLC	
64p	4,361,800	65p	5,078,500	Stamp cards	47,574	2002	
Stamp cards	46,352	Stamp cards	33,661	Stamp Show Smilers sheets			
Art & Craft		Body & Bone		Show label	51,724		
2nd	14,139,700	2nd	13,598,900	Customer image	18,047		
1st	16,207,500	1st	15,230,800				
45p	4,786,100	45p	5,197,400				
65p	4,603,500	65p	5,073,000				
Stamp cards	36,499	Stamp cards	34,089				

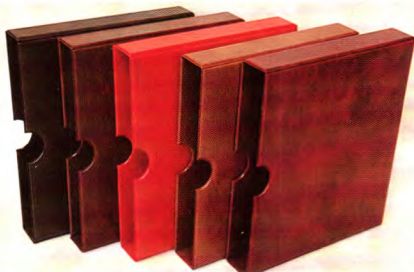
Future issues Five new 1st class Occasions stamps are to be issued on 5 March. The stamp themes are: Love, Best Wishes, Moving Home, Hello, and New Baby. The existing Occasions stamps will remain on sale giving customers the choice of two issues. The new Occasions stamps will be followed on 19 March by ten 27p stamps, printed in a se-tenant block, showing coastal scenes from all four constituent parts of the United Kingdom. Both sets will be previewed next month; meanwhile we show below three of the Coastlines stamps (at reduced size), and another opposite •



Rowland Hill Awards The November *Bulletin* included a form for readers to nominate the post office they consider provides the best philatelic service to its customers. From nominations a short-list will be prepared for final judging in the Post Office Excellence section of the Rowland Hill Awards. The criteria are set out on the nomination form.

If you have not yet returned the form, there is still time to do so. All forms will go into a draw; the winner will receive £100 worth of Royal Mail philatelic products. The Rowland Hill Awards for 2001 will be presented at a ceremony in London in March. Please return completed nomination forms by 11 January to Rachel Lonsdale, at the address opposite •

Royal Mail album slipcases Luxury padded pvc slipcases are available for the range of Royal Mail philatelic albums: First Day Cover (burgundy colour), Presentation Pack (brown), Postcard (tan), Stamp Album (red), and Universal (dark brown). Each slipcasing is covered and lined in matching pvc to the relevant album, with thumb-cut on open edge. They provide all-round protection for your album and stamps. Price £9 each postpaid UK; enquire for overseas prices. The relevant Royal Mail albums are available from Royal Mail Tallents House, Edinburgh and selected Post Office outlets; slipcasing from Complete Collections Ltd (address opposite, telephone 01202 872315) •

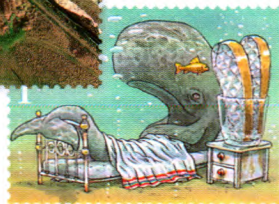


Complete Collections Ltd
8 Teasel Way, West Moors,
Ferdenow BH22 0PQ.

Special offer *Bulletin* readers can order two or more of the above Royal Mail album slipcasing at a special price of £8 each postpaid UK only. Orders should be sent to Complete Collections by 30 January •

2002 Special issues The dates of issue of this year's stamps are listed below. First day of issue postmarks will be available for Tallents House Edinburgh and the alternative places indicated. The Astronomy issue will comprise a miniature sheet and prestige stamp book •

Date	Subject	Alternative postmark
15.01	Kipling Just So Stories	Burwash, Etchingham
06.02	Golden Jubilee	Windsor
05.03	Occasions	Merry Hill, Wolverhampton
19.03	Coastlines	Coast, Poolewe, Achnasheen
09.04	Circus	Clowne, Chesterfield
02.05	Aircraft	London Heathrow Airport
21.05	Football World Cup	Wembley
16.07	Commonwealth Games	Manchester
10.09	London Bridges	London SE1
24.09	Astronomy	Star, Glenrothes
08.10	Pillar Boxes	Bishop's Caundle, Sherborne
05.11	Christmas	Bethlehem, Llandeilo



For an impression of the new postmark send covers bearing at least 1st class postage to: Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, 57 Queen Street, Glasgow G1 3AZ, requesting handstamp No 7667.

Baltasound PO is open 09.00-13.00 and 14.00-17.30 on Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 09.00-13.00 and 14.00-16.30 Wednesday, and 09.00-13.00 on Thursday and Saturday.

Most northerly post office Baltasound in Unst, Shetland, is officially the northern outpost for the 18,000 UK post offices and it now has a specially commissioned handstamp to mark it. The office, one of 1900 in Scotland, normally caters for up to 300 people a week. The office could increase business significantly by becoming a focal point for mail enthusiasts and tourists keen to have the postmark on their mail. Sub Postmistress Valerie Johnson is confident it 'will draw more people into the office and once people know we are officially the northernmost post office I am sure even more will arrive.' The handstamp, introduced on 1 November, was designed by local firm Unst Animation Studio – it shows two puffins with the legend 'Britain's Most Northerly Post Office'. Puffins are a major tourist attraction on Shetland and are protected at the Hermaness Bird Reserve. Baltasound takes over as the most northerly office from Haroldswick, shown on a 20p stamp of August 1997, which closed in November 1999. An article on the postmarks of Baltasound, Haroldswick, and Uyeasound post offices on the island of Unst was published in the *British Postmark Bulletin*, 9 November ●

Definitive and Millennium stamps withdrawal The Machin 19p, Northern Ireland 19p, and the Millennium 1st class definitive were withdrawn from sale at post offices on 31 December 2001. Customers asking for 2nd class (19p) and 1st class (27p) stamps will normally be offered the relevant country issue (England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland). If national definitives are preferred, 2nd class (blue) or 1st class (flame/orange) NV1 stamps will be available. The withdrawn 19p stamps remain available from Tallents House Edinburgh and Post Office philatelic outlets until further notice. The Millennium definitive was withdrawn from philatelic sale on 31 December. Readers are reminded that the final set of Millennium special stamps – The Future – will be withdrawn from sale at Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets on 15 January ●



Stamp Show 2000 award The main Royal Mail stand at Stamp Show 2000 won a silver award at this year's *Marketing Event* magazine awards ceremony at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London on 28 September. Our silver winning entry came in the category 'Best Custom Built Stand Design over £500,000'. The award was received on behalf of Royal Mail by Rachel Lonsdale, Stamp Show Project Co-ordinator and Dick Keeling, Head of Events and Exhibitions in Consignia Communications Services. Also present was John Whittaker, Stand Manager, who worked on the project for over two years. The Marketing Event Awards are in their fourth year and reflect each facet of exhibitions and live events; they are supported by *Marketing Event* magazine and provide a barometer to judge the most effective and creative events in the industry ●

Return form by 18 January to: 2001 Bulletin Poll, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

Favourite stamp poll If you haven't voted yet for your favourite stamps and *Bulletin* author of 2001 there is still time to return the form included with December's *Bulletin*. All forms are entered in a draw for one of seven £100 cash prizes ●

Checklist of 2002 definitives



We hope this list will prove helpful to collectors in completing their collections. Please read the following notes carefully.

We quote Tallents House order numbers (prefixed TB, DS, etc) as given on Tallents House stock lists. Some stamps were issued only in books and can be bought from Royal Mail only in complete books.

Printers DLR, De La Rue Security Print Ltd; E, Joh Enschedé Stamps; Q, The House of Questa Ltd; W, Walsall Security Printers Ltd.

Unless otherwise stated, the definitive and country stamps are gravure printed, have PVA gum, perforation gauge 15 x 14 (with ellipses at lower left and right sides) and two phosphor bands. Dates quoted are those the stamps were first available from Tallents House. 2nd and 1st class stamps have Non Value Indicators (NVI) of service rather than a face value.

Machin Definitives

29 January 2nd and 1st class self-adhesive definitives from books listed below. For most collectors the stamps are the same as those previously issued in coils (E, 1997) and sheets (Q, 2000). Specialist collectors will recognise subtle differences between the different printings by Q and W – see Douglas Myall's article in the March 2001 *Bulletin*.

From top left: pictorial Country stamps for Northern Ireland (6 March) and England (23 April); Scottish Country stamps pane in Unseen & Unheard prestige book (22 October); and Queen Victoria centenary label booklet (29 January).

Country stamps

6 March N Ireland 2nd, 1st, E (European rate) and 65p in new pictorial designs. W, litho. (IS194, IS271, IS360, IS651). *2nd class one phosphor band*

23 April England 2nd, 1st, E (European rate) and 65p in new pictorial designs. DLR. (ES190, ES270, ES360, ES650). *2nd class one phosphor band*

22 October Scotland 1st and E stamps, Q, from Unseen & Unheard prestige book (YB017). Previous printings of these stamps, in sheets, W. Specialist collectors may recognise subtle differences between the work of the two printers.

Mixed value and pictorial label stamp panes

29 January Pane of six 1st class self-adhesive plus Queen Victoria self-adhesive pictorial label, W (UL011)

13 February Pane of 10 Cats and Dogs and two 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive. W (UB203)

17 April Pane of two Submarines stamps and four 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive Q (UB204)

4 September Pane of two Punch & Judy stamps and four 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive, Q (UB205)



Above and left: books of four 1st class NVI definitives with Submarines (17 April), Punch & Judy (4 September) and Flags & Ensigns (22 October) special issues. Far left: book of 12 2nd class self-adhesive stamps (29 January).

22 October Pane of 4 × 1st class and 4 × E (European rate) Scottish country stamps with central label showing submarine periscope, Q. From Unseen & Unheard prestige book (YB017). Previous printing of Scottish stamps (in sheets) by W.

22 October Pane of two Flags & Ensigns stamps and four 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive. Q. (UB211)

Stamp books

29 January 1st and 2nd class self-adhesive definitives: books of 6 × 2nd W (UB202), 10 × 2nd Q (TB069), 12 × 2nd Q (UB200), 6 × 1st W (UB201), 10 × 1st Q (TB068), 12 × 1st Q (UB198) and 12 × 1st W (UB199)

29 January 6 × 1st class self-adhesive definitives and Queen Victoria pictorial label. W (UL011)

13 February 10 × Cats & Dogs stamps and 2 × 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive. W (UB203)

17 April 2 × Submarines stamps and 4 × 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive, Q (UB204)

17 April £1 machine books containing 1st & 2nd class definitives (as in book issued April 2000), but revised text on second label – 'postcodes' instead of 'postcode'. Q (TB070)

1 August Self-adhesive stamp books as 29 January, but revised text on outside back cover. 6 × 2nd W (UB210), 12 × 2nd Q (UB208), 6 × 1st W (UB209), 12 × 1st Q (UB206), and 12 × 1st W (UB207)

4 September 2 × Punch & Judy stamps and 4 × 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive. Q (UB205)

22 October Unseen & Unheard prestige book containing mixed pane of Scottish 1st and E (European rate) country stamps and pictorial label. Q (YB017)

22 October 2 × Flags & Ensigns stamps and 4 × 1st class definitives, all self-adhesive. Q (UB211)

Coil stamps

4 July Coils of 1000 2nd and 1st class definitives (gummed), rolled horizontally. DLR (DC904, DC905 single stamps, DC102 and DC101 complete coils)

Presentation packs

6 March Northern Ireland country stamps: pictorial designs (pack no 53) (IP016)

23 April England country stamps: pictorial designs (pack no 54) (EP017) ●

Royal Mail thanks D G A Myall for his help with this listing. The Editor regrets that neither Mr Myall nor himself is able to engage in correspondence regarding its contents.

Just So Stories Kipling's immortal tales, by Jean Matheson

'A POOR THING IN PRINT' a young relative of Rudyard Kipling's called his *Just So Stories* 'compared with the fun of hearing them told in Cousin Ruddy's deep unhesitating voice.' This month Royal Mail issues 10 special 1st class stamps to celebrate the centenary of the stories' publication.

The stories originated in Vermont, USA, where Kipling lived in the 1890s and told his small children tales about wild animals, like the cat walking alone in nearby woods. More were written near Table Mountain where the Empire-builder Cecil Rhodes gave the Kiplings a holiday cottage.



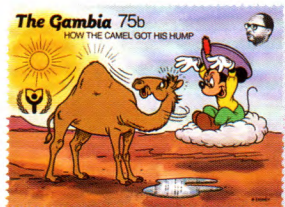
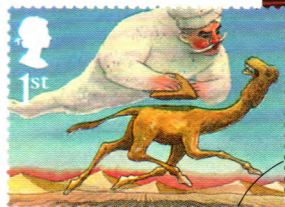


Elsie Kipling described her father's pleasure in illustrating the *Just So Stories* with his own intricate ink drawings. Above, one of his preparatory sketches for 'The Elephant's Child', from the Kipling papers deposited at the University of Sussex, and a modern edition with his illustrations.

The stories In the first story, 'How the Whale got his Throat', a whale engulfed a mariner 'who stamped and jumped...and prowled and howled' until his captor gladly disgorged him. Then the mariner wedged in the creature's mouth a mesh he had made from his raft and suspenders, so whales since then can 'never eat men or boys or little girls'. On an Atlantic crossing Kipling's steamer encountered a whale who looked at him 'with an unforgettable little eye the size of a bullock's... When I was illustrating the *Just So Stories*' he recalled 'I remembered and strove after that eye'. The mariner, played by Goofy on Gambia's 50b stamp (1184) is omitted from the Royal Mail stamp, which shows a sorrowful whale.

Kipling wrote accompanying verses for each story, so even those who haven't read 'How the Camel got his Hump' may have heard that the cure for the hump 'is not to sit still'. When the world was new, the lazy camel refused to work along with the other animals, saying nothing but 'Humph!' Then a djinn (spirit in Muslim mythology) conjured up a hump for the camel's back, and since then he's had to work extra hard to make up for the days he missed, and live on his hump meantime.

Near the Red Sea, a rhinoceros 'with few manners' stole a cake, impaling it on his horn, leaving none for the Parsee who had baked it. In a heat wave the rhinoceros, whose skin in those days was smooth 'and buttoned underneath with three buttons', took it off while he went bathing. When he donned his skin again it was full of 'old, dry, stale, tickly cake crumbs' left by the Parsee. No matter how the rhinoceros scratched and rubbed against a palm tree, until his skin went into folds, he never got rid of the crumbs, and the buttons fell off so he couldn't shed his skin again. On the



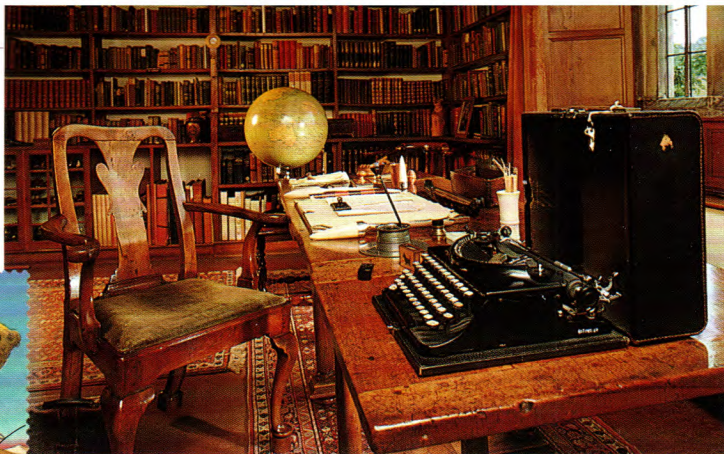
In August 1991 The Gambia marked World Literacy Year (1990) with eight stamps and four miniature sheets (SG 1184-MS1192 a-d) showing Disney characters enacting some of the Just So Stories. All bear the World Literacy Year logo and a portrait of Gambian President Jawara.

Left: 'The Elephant's Child' and 'How the Camel got his Hump' on the 1d25 (1187) and 75b (1185) in the Gambia set, with Royal Mail's designs for the same stories. The Gambian stamps are shown smaller than actual size.

Royal Mail stamp an agonised rhinoceros shakes the tree. This story is illustrated on one of the Gambian miniature sheets (MS1192b).

All the 'sandy-yellow-brownish' animals fleeing from the Ethiopian and the 'sandy-yellow-brownish' leopard hunting them on the High Veldt hid in a forest. Under its alternating patches of sun and shade, the giraffe grew blotchy, the zebra stripy and the others darker, like tree bark. When the hunters found the forest, their prey was invisible, so they too had to change, or eat only rats and beetles. The leopard got his spots when the Ethiopian, who had dyed his skin, pressed five 'fat black finger tips' all over it. Gambia's 1d stamp (1186) shows the duo in open country, while the camouflage background on the Royal Mail stamp is more in the spirit of the 'puzzle picture' that Kipling drew. He wished to illustrate the story 'with paint box colours, but I am not allowed'. Kipling habitually spilt ink on his clothes and papers, and presumably Mrs Kipling had put her foot down.

'I am not allowed to paint these pictures, he complained again when illustrating 'The Elephant's Child'. In the days when the elephant had only a 'blackish, bulgy nose as big as a boot', one young elephant asked so many questions that the other animals grew annoyed and spanked him, expecting the crocodile who grabbed his nose and pulled until it stretched into a trunk. When he escaped (helped by a bi-coloured python) his new trunk was useful for trumpeting, swatting flies, pulling bananas from trees, and spanking those who had spanked him, until all the elephants asked the crocodile to pull their noses. Gambia's 1d 25 stamp (1187) and the Royal Mail stamp ignore Kipling's plea for a red elephant, but their colourful pythons might console him.



Above: the book-lined study at Bateman's, Kipling's home from 1902-36. Most of the rooms in this fine Jacobean house, now cared for by The National Trust, are much as Kipling left them.

Kipling's home, Bateman's

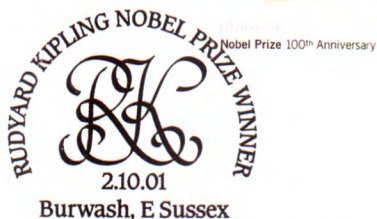
Burwash, Etchingham TN19 7DS

Telephone 01435 882302

Open in 2002: 23 March to 29 September, weekly Saturday to Wednesday (and Good Friday), 11.00-5.30. Last admission 4.30.

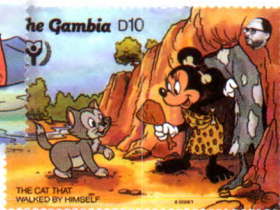
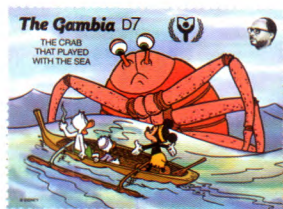


45



Above, Kipling's Nobel Prize for Literature, awarded 1907, and one of the two Burwash special handstamps on the day of issue of Royal Mail's Nobel Prize stamps.

Below, two more of Gambia's Just So stamps.



Old Man Kangaroo had four short legs in those days. His 'pride was inordinate' and he asked his gods to make him different from other animals and popular and 'wonderfully run after' by five o'clock, so Yellow-Dog Dingo was ordered to pursue him. As they ran over Australia, through the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer, the kangaroo's legs grew longer and the dingo hungrier. By five o'clock they were stranded in a desert, but the kangaroo had learned how to hop and to stick out his tail 'for a balance weight behind him'. Goofy is the Dingo on Gambia's 1d50 stamp (1188), and on the Royal Mail stamp the Dingo grins like the 'coal scuttle' of the story.

'Can't curl, but can swim – Slow-Solid, that's him! Curls up, but can't swim – Sticky-Prickly, that's him!' The jaguar's mother's rhyme helped him distinguish the hedgehog from the tortoise. He had a paw full of prickles through confusing them, and looks quite fearsome on Royal Mail's stamp. In self-defence the tortoise learned to curl up, and the hedgehog to swim, until they evolved into a new animal. The jaguar's mother advised him to call it an 'armadillo'. And to leave it alone. (This story is omitted from the Gambian set.)

'The Crab that Played with the Sea', causing floods and distress for other creatures, repented only when the Eldest Magician took away its hard shell. In this story, the 'Man' and 'his own little girl-daughter' – plainly Kipling and Elsie – were rewarded for their part in hunting down the crab by the advent of tides to carry their boat along. On Gambia's 7d stamp (1189) and on the Royal Mail stamp the crab 'taller than the smoke of three volcanoes' dwarfs other figures.

'The Cat that Walked by Himself' was a schemer who infiltrated a family of cave-dwellers. Because it caught a mouse, and amused her baby, the woman came to terms with it. The man and his dog threatened reprisals unless it always caught mice in the cave, and was always kind to the baby. The cat retained its right to return at times to the 'Wet Wild Woods... waving his wild tail and walking by his wild lone.' The Royal Mail stamp catches the story's essence with the shadow cast by a little cat in the fire-lit cave.

Legendary figures feature in 'The Butterfly that Stamped' – King Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. The King tamed his warring wives by convincing them that his palace would collapse if a butterfly stamped. On the Royal Mail stamp, walls and minarets quiver at the butterfly's approach. On Gambia's 15d stamp (1191) Mickey and Minnie Mouse represent the regal pair.



A thematic collection Kipling himself appeared as a Nobel Prize for literature laureate on a Swedish stamp of 1967 (SG 547, above), and on stamps from Antigua in 1995 (2236), and the Central African Empire in 1977 (505). These stamps, and the two 'Stories' sets, could well form the start of a thematic collection on Kipling's life and works.

Two of the Gambian miniature sheets feature the stories 'How the Alphabet was Made' and 'How the First Letter was Written' (MS1192c and d), and another shows Mickey Mouse reading a Kipling story to Morte and Ferdie (MS1192a).

It is interesting to note that Kipling was a good friend of George v – the philatelist King – and died just two days before his monarch. Kipling's son served with the Irish Guards and was killed near the start of the Great War. It was in connection with the Imperial War Graves Commission that Kipling and the King met. Kipling accompanied George v and Queen Mary on their visit to the British Empire Exhibition and he was one of the authors who contributed to a miniature book for Queen Mary's Dolls House. It is believed he made substantial contributions to George v's Christmas broadcasts. Various stamps can be used to add to a Kipling collection – the GB stamp of 1983 featuring the Irish Guards (Kipling wrote their history), the British Empire Exhibition commemoratives, the War Graves stamp of October 1999 and the Ascension Island stamp of 1982 showing George v making his first Christmas broadcast in 1932 (SG 331) ●

Left: Kipling and George V on a visit to British war graves in Belgium in 1922. Above, some examples of a Kipling theme: war graves from the Soldiers' Tale set, 1999; Sweden Nobel Prize stamp, 1967; Ascension Island George V broadcast, 1982; Irish Guards on British Army Uniforms issue, 1983; and a sponsored handstamp for the Just So Stories issue, 2002.

Sources

Rudyard Kipling: His Life and Work by Charles Carrington, 1970. *Something of Myself* by Rudyard Kipling, 1936, 1937. Stanley Gibbons *Stamps of the World Catalogue*, 2001. *British Postmark Bulletin* 31 August and 9 November 2001

p139L, 142TL National Trust Photographic Library/John Hammond; p139R Public Record Office; 140TL National Trust/University of Sussex; p141TR National Trust/Geoffrey Frosh; 143TL Hulton Archive

The Queen's Golden Jubilee Five portraits



Technical details

Printer De La Rue

Process Gravure

Stamp size 35 x 37mm

Sheets 100

Perforation 14.5 x 14

Phosphor One band 2nd class, two bands others

Paper Watermarked '50' (sideways)

Gum PVA

Gutter pairs Vertical

Cylinders and colours

1A silver ● 1B pale turquoise-green ● 1C black ● 1D grey-black (deep grey 2nd class) ● Phosphor P10 2nd class, P11 others

FIVE STAMPS to mark the 50th anniversary of the accession of HM The Queen will go on sale at post offices, Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets on 6 February. The stamps, designed by Kate Stephens, feature studies of The Queen by the following photographers or photographic studios: 2nd class – official portrait by Dorothy Wilding (1952); 1st class – official portrait by Cecil Beaton (1968); E (European rate, 37p) – portrait by Lord Snowdon taken at Windsor Castle (1978); 45p – portrait by Yousef Karsh of Ottawa (1984); and 65p – portrait by Tim Graham taken at banquet at Prague Castle during visit to Czech Republic (1996). The stamps will be included in a prestige book (see p146) as well as in normal counter sheets.

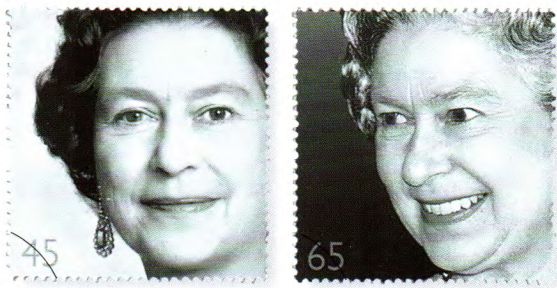
Designs were submitted to the Stamp Advisory Committee, including contributions from Jeffery Matthews. The Committee selected the photographic-based work of Kate Stephens, which uses classic formal and informal portraits from the five decades of her reign. Each image has been cropped so that all are connected by eye-line.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets about a week before 6 February, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House or Windsor must reach Tallents House by the day of issue. Price £2.69 UK (including VAT) or £2.29 overseas (no VAT).

Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, Wexham Road, Slough SL1 1AA (Windsor postmark), marking the outer envelope 'FD0205' (Tallents House), or 'FD0206' (Windsor). Covers can be posted or handed in at main post offices for the Windsor postmark. A non-pictorial Windsor postmark is also available from the Special Handstamp Centre, request 'FD0206 FD'.

Details of sponsored handstamps for 6 February will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House (£10 UK/Europe; £21.75 elsewhere). For a free sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

to mark the 50th anniversary of the accession



Portraits of HM The Queen by Dorothy Wilding, 1952; Cecil Beaton, 1968; Lord Snowdon, 1978; Yousef Karsh, 1984; and Tim Graham, 1996.



ROYAL MAIL FIRST DAY COVER
THE GOLDEN JUBILEE
THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S
ACCESSION TO THE THRONE

Mrs J Robinson
200 Manorbie Road
Ilkeston
Derbyshire
DE7 4AB



FIRST DAY OF ISSUE - WINDSOR
'FAMOUS
HAVE BEEN
THE REIGNS OF
OUR QUEENS'
CHURCHILL
1952

06.02.2002

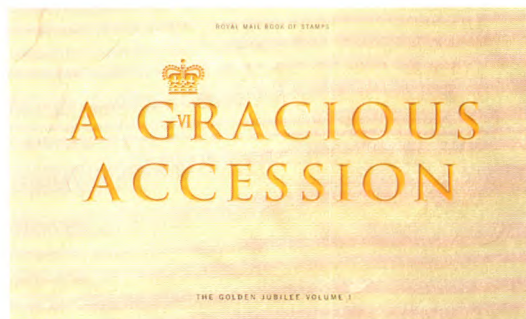
6 February first day postmarks
FD0205 and FD0206



PHILATELIC PRODUCTS A well-illustrated pack (above, price £2.30) and stamp cards (25p each) will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets. There will also be coin, bank note, and ingot covers, available from Talents House, price £15.95, £44.95, and £49.95 respectively. The ingot cover (available from 20 March) will carry a replica 1952 2½d definitive stamp. The coin and banknote covers will be serviced with special GOLDEN JUBILEE/LONDON SW1 postmarks (right) •



Postmarks for the coin cover, top, and banknote cover.



Pane 1 Top and middle rows Machin E (European rate), 2nd and E stamps; middle row two Machin 2nd class stamps separated by label showing head of King George VI.

Pane 2 Top row 2nd and 1st class Golden Jubilee stamps; bottom row E and 45p Jubilee stamps.

Pane 3 Top row 1st and E Jubilee stamps; bottom row 45p and 65p Jubilee stamps.

Pane 4 Top and bottom rows two 1st class stamps in Wilding 1½d design separated by 2nd class stamp in Wilding 2½d design; middle row two 2nd class in Wilding design separated by blank green label. Another 2nd class in Wilding design is printed to the left of the block of stamps alongside an image of a postmarked 1952 1½d Wilding (not valid for postage).



A Gracious Accession A new prestige book containing Golden Jubilee and definitive stamps in Wilding and Machin designs will be issued on 6 February, price £7.29. The text of the book recalls the events of 1952 from the death of King George VI and The Queen's accession to her first Christmas broadcast. A second prestige book related to the Golden Jubilee will be issued in June 2003.

The February 2002 book contains four panes, as detailed above. Pane 1 is printed on standard coated stamp paper; panes 2 and 3 on coated watermarked paper and the fourth (Wilding) pane on uncoated watermarked paper similar to that used for the original Wilding definitives. The Jubilee and Wilding stamps are printed on a special '50' watermarked paper. The Machin and Wilding definitives have elliptical perfs. The book is being printed in gravure by Enschedé. Collectors will recall that 20p, 26p and 37p stamps in Wilding designs were included in *The Definitive Portrait* prestige book of March 1998.

Tallents House covers

Pane 1 £3.05 UK, £2.60 overseas; Pane 4 £2.58 UK, £2.20 overseas.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES As for sheet stamps – see p144. Any stamp from the prestige book can be used, singly or in combination, for all first day, philatelic and sponsored handstamps in use on 6 February. Tallents House will service covers with panes 1 (Machins) and 4 (Wildings). Note: Pane 4 includes the block of stamps and label but not the additional 2nd class stamp printed to the left. Please state if Tallents House or Windsor postmark required when ordering ●

The Golden Jubilee As for her silver jubilee in 1977, The Queen will undertake a tour of the UK. The 2002 tour starts on 1 May and continues until early August. The focal point of celebrations will be a four-day weekend, 1-4 June, during which The Queen will attend a National Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral, London, followed by a lunch at the Guildhall. 4 June will be a bank holiday. Plans for the Jubilee were announced by the Prime Minister last June; Mr Blair stated that the Jubilee 'should be a time for looking forward as well as back – including the great changes that have taken place in the nation's life during Her Majesty's reign.' He hoped 'the events surrounding the Jubilee will provide numerous opportunities for voluntary and community service.'

The Queen is inviting people born on 6 February 1952 to Golden Jubilee parties at Buckingham Palace and the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh; some 3000 people will be eligible to attend.

Part of the Jubilee celebrations will be an exhibition of stamps from the Royal Philatelic Collection. This will be on show at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh (from 27 April - 5 May); Sandringham House Museum, Norfolk (11-19 May); and Hampton Court Palace, Surrey (25 May - 4 June) •

Kareh/Camera Press



A proper presentation Richard West relates the history of

Two forerunners of today's presentation packs, those containing Regional stamps and the Castle high values, showing the price in either sterling or US currency.



IT IS WIDELY recognised that it was during the 1960s that the Post Office discovered philately. A philosophy that scarcely saw a need for special stamps, and would announce designs at midnight on the day of issue, was turned around almost overnight. More issues, more pictorial designs and the use of more colour was matched by a proper acceptance of first day covers, even providing 'first day of issue' cancellations.

The most remarkable change came in 1964: it was still not possible blatantly to commemorate the 400th anniversary of William Shakespeare's birth, but the accompanying Festival was celebrated – and with five stamps. Most significantly, the Post Office introduced a product that would soon accompany every British stamp issue, and indeed would be widely embraced by many other postal administrations – the presentation pack. The Shakespeare Festival pack adopted a style that would be used hereafter: the stamps within clear strips on a black card contained within an informative folder, the whole slipped into a cellophane protector.

A problem noted with many early presentation packs is that the cellophane shrinks, causing the pack to curl: the material used for the protector was later changed. The format of the pack was also to change – but more on that later.

The Shakespeare packs can be found with all five stamps overprinted 'CANCELLED' in black (the same overprint used on samples of the 1963 COMPAC stamp presented with this *Bulletin* at the

time the stamp was issued). These packs were mainly used to promote both the issue and the product among dealers in the United States.

Forerunners While the Shakespeare issue was the first for which the term 'presentation pack' was adopted, most collectors recognise a group of four forerunners produced in 1960. These were the idea of Frank Langfield, who at the time was spearheading the development of philatelic sales for the PO. They were prepared to ease the sale of sets of current definitives at both the international stamp exhibition at the Royal Festival Hall in London in 1960, and during a sales tour in the United States. As a result, all four packs can be found priced either in sterling or US dollars.

The stamps are placed in strips on dark grey card, which is encased in a 'window' envelope, allowing the contents to be seen. Details of the stamps enclosed (designs, designers, technical details) are printed on the back of each envelope. On the face of each appears the 'GPO' cypher with the inscription 'British Postage Stamps'. The four packs produced were as follows.

One contained one of each of the Wilding definitives from 1½d to 186d. All the stamps have

the British presentation pack, in the first part of a new series

the Multiple Crowns watermark, except the 1½d and the 11d which have the St Edward's Crown watermark. The pale blue envelope is inscribed 'Eighteen Low Value Stamps' with a price of either 10s6d or \$1.80.

The second pack is inscribed 'Sixteen Experimental Stamps', and contained two sets of the phosphor-graphite definitives from ½d to 4½d, one set being shown face upwards, the second set showing the reverse with the graphite lines. The technical details printed on the reverse of the envelope state that all the stamps have the Multiple Crowns watermark: a sticker was affixed, giving the corrected information that the ½d, 1d and 1½d stamps in fact have the St Edward's Crown watermark. The pack, in a pink envelope, is priced at either 3s8d or 50c.

The four 'Castle' high values were in the third pack, enclosed in a grey envelope inscribed 'Four High Value Stamps' and priced at £1 18s, \$6.50, or unpriced (the unpriced version was also for sale in the UK). The stamps were from the De La Rue printing with Multiple Crowns watermark.

The final pack, in a cream envelope inscribed 'Twelve Regional Stamps', contained the 3d values for Guernsey, Isle of Man and Jersey, and the 3d, 6d and 1s3d for Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The pack was priced at 7s 3d or \$1.20.

After Shakespeare Following the Shakespeare Festival pack, the remaining three special issues of 1964 were also available in packs. Almost without exception packs contained the non-phosphor versions (where both phosphor and non-phosphor was issued). However, clearly at the time it had not been decided to provide a pack for every issue. Thus, when it came to 1965, several of the issues did not have a pack, namely Salvation Army, Joseph Lister, Commonwealth Arts Festival, United Nations and ITU Centenary.

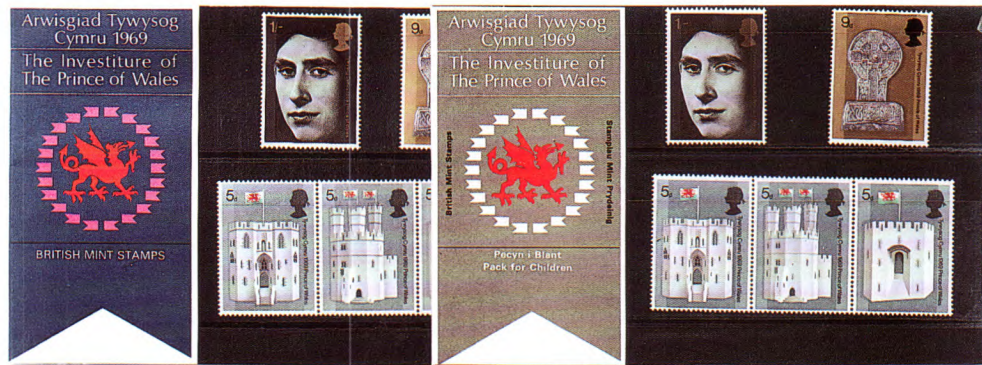
In the following years, a few other issues did not have packs provided: Landscapes and England Winners in 1966; Sir Francis Chichester and Christmas in 1967; Gandhi in 1969. However, a few years later, privately-produced presentation

packs were made available for the various 'missing' issues. Such 'private packs' will be dealt with in a subsequent article.

In 1965 the opening of the Post Office Tower was marked by two stamps, 3d and 1s3d. The presentation pack of this issue remained on sale at the Tower until decimalisation. As a consequence, while at first the packs on sale contained non-phosphor stamps, these were later replaced by the phosphor version. (Post Office Tower stamps were also sold from machines at the Tower in small white envelopes bearing a silhouette of the Tower in blue: these contained a block of four of the 3d value, and a pair of the 1s3d value.)

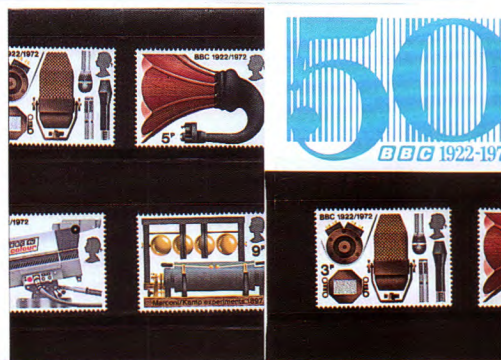
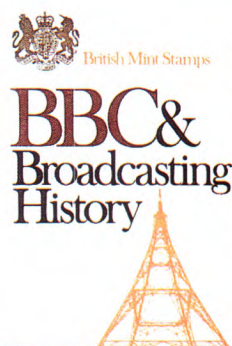
Overseas versions One of the most interesting developments in presentation packs came about in 1968: the pack for the Paintings series that year was available not only with the text printed in English, but a separate version was also produced with all the text in German. At the time the Post Office had a growing network of overseas sales agencies promoting the sales of British stamps. Similar German language packs were produced for several subsequent special issues: Christmas 1968; Ships, Concorde, Anniversaries, British Cathedrals and the Investiture of The Prince of Wales in 1969. Apart from packs containing definitives (referred to in a subsequent article), these were all the German packs that were produced. As an alternative, for a time, insert cards were inserted into English language packs which provided a translation of the text. Such insert cards in German started with the Post Office Technology set in 1969, and continued through to the Christmas issue of 1974.

Similar insert cards were also produced in Dutch and Japanese, and were first included with packs in 1969, starting with the British Ships series. However, not all issues had such insert cards provided, particularly of the Dutch versions, which were produced finally in 1970 for the Commonwealth Games set. The Japanese cards continued a little longer, finally appearing with the Christmas issue of 1972.



Above: The Investiture of the Prince of Wales – the standard pack (left) and the version for distribution to schoolchildren in Wales.

Right: the standard BBC and Broadcasting History pack, and that containing just the three values dedicated to the BBC prepared for distribution to BBC staff.



However, this was not the end of the Japanese pack. The final special issue for 1972 appeared after the Christmas stamps: it was the two stamps issued on 20 November for the Royal Silver Wedding. Packs were produced with all the text translated and printed in Japanese, rather than by the use of an insert card.

Welsh packs The Welsh language has appeared on a number of packs. A notable example is that for the British Cultural Traditions series of 1974 of which two values were devoted to the Royal National Eisteddfod of Wales. The pack had its body text printed in both English and Welsh. (The stamps also featured the Highland Games, and so key information also appeared in Gaelic.)

However, packs have been prepared primarily for distribution in Wales. For the Investiture of The Prince of Wales in 1969, the standard pack understandably included text in both English and Welsh (plus the German text pack already mentioned). However, special packs were also

produced for schoolchildren in Wales, with most of their text in Welsh. In addition, while the standard and German packs have a blue front panel, the 'schoolchildren' version has a grey panel.

More recently, the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial issue was produced in both English and Welsh. Within the Welsh pack was inserted a card written by 5 year old David Morris: 'Dear God, Thank you for all the love and cuddles Princess Diana gave children everywhere. Amen.'

Special versions In 1969 the British Ships issue was planned to coincide with the maiden voyage of the Cunard liner *Queen Elizabeth II*. The stamps were issued on 15 January, two days prior to the intended date of her maiden voyage. The presentation packs on general sale made reference to 17 January, but the maiden voyage was postponed. Packs were to be on sale on board ship when she did eventually sail; as a consequence the text in such packs was amended to refer to the maiden voyage as taking place 'early in 1969'.

Pack number 5c
This pack and the stamps were issued
on 14 November 1973 by the British
Post Office.

Designed by Clarke Clements Hughes.

The stamps were designed by
Colles Clements MSA and Edward
Hughes MSA.
The photograph was specially taken
by Lord Lichfield.

Printed in photogravure by
Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe) Ltd.

All compliments to the photo-
graphs used in this pack are given to
Camera Press Limited.

Central Office of Information:

Lord Lichfield.

Syndication International Limited.

The Press Association Limited.
Made and printed in Great Britain by
Moore and Matthews Printers Limited.

Further details about British postage
stamps and philatelic facilities can be
obtained from the British Post Office
Philatelic Bureau, 2-4 Waterloo Place,
Edinburgh EH1 1AB.



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7TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BBC

ISH POST OFFICE MINT STAMPS



Marjorie Saynor

The 1s and 1s 9d stamps were
designed by Marjorie Saynor. She



Marjorie Saynor

The 1s and 1s 9d stamps were
designed by Marjorie Saynor. She

Curiously two printings were
made of the Royal Wedding
pack of 1973, one having the
photograph on the rear of the
pack trimmed (above).

Left: two dies were used to
emboss the coat of arms for
the General Anniversaries
pack: note the chains around
the hind legs of the unicorn
(on one version partly filled in)
and the area above 'DROIT'.
On the same pack, note the
incorrect spelling of Marjorie,
later corrected to Marjorie.

Four stamps were issued in 1972 to mark both the 50th anniversary of the BBC and the experiments conducted by Marconi and Kemp. The BBC wanted to present its staff with a pack containing just the three stamps appertaining to the organisation: special packs, in a completely different design and with minimal text, were produced for this purpose. Interestingly these packs adopted a different format, in that the information folder, when opened, was of a portrait format. Folders in normal packs were at that time landscape format when opened: only later did the style change to portrait.

Differences Many early packs included an embossed Royal coat of arms. Michael Morse, writing in *Stamp Magazine*, September 1996, noticed two types of embossing. The differences are best seen at the base of the tail of the lion, and the chains around the hind legs of the unicorn. As embossing is a slower process than printing, it is likely that two dies were often needed to speed the task of producing the packs.

The pack for the Royal Wedding of Princess Anne to Captain Mark Phillips in 1973 was clearly reprinted. Apart from the blue on the reprinted version being paler, a photograph of the couple on the back of the pack was amended: on the reprint, the dog's hindquarters have been trimmed at lower right (see above).

The 1974 Famous Britons presentation pack was also reprinted. The initial printing was on cream card; the reprint is on white card, which affects the appearance of other colours used in the printing of the pack.

Errors The pack for the five General Anniversaries in 1970 contained two spelling errors: one of the two designers was credited as Majorie, rather than Marjorie, Saynor, while the text referred to the *Mayflower* Decendants rather than Descendants. Interestingly, packs exist in four forms: with both spelling mistakes; with Majorie and Descendants; with Marjorie and Decendants; and with both mistakes corrected.

A change of style For many years the majority of packs adopted a standard format with the information folder having a landscape format when opened out. However, the Post Office received complaints that this meant that opened packs were difficult to mount on standard-sized stamp album leaves. Likewise, comments were received that first day envelopes, which were the same size as a 'closed' presentation pack, were not ideal for sets of four or five values, particularly when se-tenant strips were involved. It was therefore

decided to change the size of both the first day envelopes and closed packs, while the information folders in the packs were to become portrait format when opened. The first pack in the new style was for the Charles Darwin set in 1982.

Now each special issue has its presentation pack. However, the story certainly does not end here: there is much of interest surrounding the definitives, plus Special Packs, the annual packs, promotional and private packs – more of these in subsequent articles •

Text © Richard West 2002

Larger than life Richard West talks with David Springbett

REINSURANCE – it's hardly a scintillating subject for a conversation at any time, let alone with a lady! David Springbett admits he left school as a 'dunce', but has never been afraid of hard work, or lacking initiative. So he set himself up in reinsurance, a career that meant frequent flying: in fact, he has now flown well over 5 million miles. His preference was for the less popular airlines, in the hope he would find himself with no fellow passenger in the next seat – he is averse to sleeping next to men.



His plan did not always work. A flight from London to Caracas found David seated next to a very attractive lady. Being a gentleman, David was not the first to speak. The eventual conversation revealed that his travelling companion was a Miss World 'look-alike', who had nearly married Arnold Schwarzenegger. They agreed to meet again, on which occasion more was revealed: Arnold had appeared in the *Guinness Book of Records* as having the most beautiful body ever. David rose to the challenge: he would earn a place, together with his photograph, as a 'record breaker'. He would attempt to fly around the world on scheduled flights in the fastest time. He managed a double achievement: he broke the record, and the lady became his wife.

David is certainly larger than life. He has not been content with just one record: he now has six records acknowledged by Guinness. He broke

the world record for a journey from St Paul's in London to Wall Street, using helicopters and Concorde, in a time of 3 hours 59 minutes 44 seconds. He is the fastest around the world, starting and finishing at the same airport, and setting foot on all six continents en route. And he holds the record for the fastest around the world setting foot on 'anti-podal' points on both hemispheres, that is points linked by a line passing through the centre of the earth: he chose Terminal 2 at Madrid Airport in Spain and a remote road junction near the south eastern tip of the North Island of New Zealand.

David derives much from his love of life: he has a large garden and a farm to keep him busy. He has brought up seven children, and now there are four grandchildren, although none have been captivated by stamp collecting. His own collections include airline and hotel ephemera: of his countless flights over the years, there is just one for which he no longer has the ticket. Plus, of course, there are his stamps.

Collecting started around the age of 5, and as a schoolboy much of his pocket money passed over the counter at Stanley Gibbons' shop in the Strand. Later, when travelling the world, one of his first tasks on reaching his destination was to locate the nearby stamp shops – the owners were usually delighted to offer material that their regular customers did not request.

At that time David also had a passion for kiloware, and indeed is still sorting through some 50lb sacks that he bought for £5 in the 1970s. His other love was Great Britain 20th century (and the 1897 Jubilees) fine used. However, the greatest influence came from a dealer in Bermuda who suggested David might like to build a gold-medal collection of that country. It was thus that David discovered the large 'key plate' design.

He found that other Colonies had also adopted the 'key plate', but more importantly, that it was generally used for revenue stamps. He had a liking for high face value stamps, and found that those used for revenue purposes were cheaper to buy: indeed the same is still true today. His many collections, which include both gold and large gold medal exhibits, extend to Ceylon, Nyasaland, the Nigerias, Straits Settlements, East Africa, Sierra Leone and, of course, Bermuda. His pride and joy is a block of four of Kenya and Uganda £100 fiscally used: a mint single of the stamp is catalogued at £50,000 – the block cost him less! Another superb item is a sheet of 60 of the Nyasaland £10, used to pay the Stamp Duty for the registration of a new company in the 1920s.

David still manages to put much back into the hobby. He was the Chairman of the Philatelic Advisory Board for The Stamp Show 2000. This gave him a keen insight into the running of such 'internationals'; he comments 'If there is to be a 2010 exhibition, the Philatelic Board and the sponsor need to be carefully picked, and they need to establish at the outset, by 2005, the budget and who is going to do what. This hopefully

will prevent the near fiasco that existed with The Stamp Show 2000 when we reached an impasse in May 1999 whereby the joint consortium of P&O Events and Royal Mail grounded, largely because of differences in their outlook towards philately and philatelists. Luckily a solution was reached where Royal Mail took over, and P&O Events withdrew. We had a very successful show.'

David has also been very active within The Royal Philatelic Society London, and was Chairman of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. He is Chairman of the Revenue Society of Great Britain, and President of the Grand Prix Club, whose members have won a Grand Prix at an international stamp exhibition. Indeed, he has recently completed a book which provides a history of international stamp exhibitions from 1950 to 2000, including Grand Prix winners and details of many other leading philatelic societies and awards. He would like to extend the work back to the first stamp exhibition. He also feels there is a need to embrace the many outstanding collectors who have never felt the need to exhibit internationally. He would like to establish a Grand Prix Museum to include archival material from past 'internationals' including examples of the medals awarded.

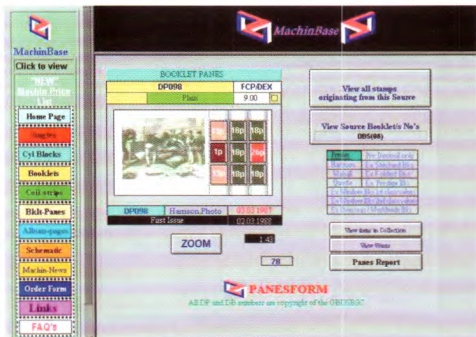
He has strong views about both exhibiting and judging. Above all, he feels that the hobby needs the 'spice' putting back into it. He believes that more imagination is needed in the way the hobby is marketed, so it can be rejuvenated by attracting more young, and female, collectors. But this is hardly surprising: David has always had a keen eye for beauty! ●

Special prize draw Five Occasions stamp packs to be won

WE HAVE one of each of the five packs each containing 10 of the 2001 Occasions stamps to give away – to the senders of the first five cards drawn on 8 February. Two of the five packs are shown opposite. To enter the draw, simply write your name and address on the back of a postcard and send it to: Occasions Packs Draw, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ ●



Philately on-line Ron Negus looks at software for Machins



www.machinbase.freemove.co.uk This site gives full details of the facilities provided on the MachinBase program and contains an order form for buying the original software and its subsequent updates. The MachinBase program is designed to operate under any version of the Windows system, and can also run on a Macintosh in a Virtual PC environment.

COLLECTING MACHINS remains very popular in spite of, or perhaps because of, the extreme complexity of the series. Checklists, catalogues and handbooks giving detailed descriptions are essential in managing any sizeable collection of these GB stamps. But such printed documents often become out of date as regular additions are made to the Machin issues. A solution to this is provided by the MachinBase computer program designed and operated by Machin collector Ron Jackson.

Details can be found at the web address above. This site gives examples of the various facilities offered by the program, illustrated with screen shots in colour. The program itself maintains a comprehensive database of all varieties of Machin issues including singles, cylinder blocks, booklets, coil-strips, and prestige book pages. These details are updated regularly as new varieties appear.

The user buys a copy of the program for £49.50, supplied on a CD-ROM or on floppy disks, containing the latest version of the database. Subsequent updates can be ordered at any time, and are priced at a basic £5.50 plus 30p for each month since the last update was purchased.

There are well over 2000 different single stamps making up the mainstream Machin issues to date, when the Regionals, NVIS, Penny Black anniversaries, Decimal Wildings and High Values are included. The program database lists the following details, amongst others, for each of these: Perforations, Colour, Phosphor type, Bands, Screen, Width, Paper/Gum, Direction of print, Description, Source, Printer, Process, Date of

issue and Withdrawal. This comprehensive information can be accessed in many different ways, allowing comparative listings to be produced on any basis required by the collector. Relevant entries in the database are allocated reference numbers in accordance with the scheme devised by the GB Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle.

The program is designed to be fully interactive allowing the user to check off items in their collection, produce inventories, valuations and want lists. This information is stored in the user's own database and is not overwritten by subsequent updates. The program also has built-in reports that allow the printing of custom album pages, and the website contains an example page created with this facility.

Any collector with an interest in Machin issues, at any level of specialisation, will find this reasonably priced program of great interest, and a visit to the website is recommended.

On the broader scene, the FIP website awards for 2001 were announced at Hafnia 01 in Copenhagen in October. The main award of FIP Best Philatelic Web Site went to the Post Office in Paradise site which I reviewed in last January's *Bulletin*. The winner of the 2000 competition, from the Scouts on Stamps Society International (see September 2000 *Bulletin*) was awarded an Hors Concours place this year, alongside the FIP's own Postal Stationery Commission site. Full details of the awards are given on the main FIP site at www.f-i-p.ch or on the Philatelic Computing Study Group listing at www.pcs.org •

Eminent early collectors Robert B Yardley, by Ron Negus

EVIDENCE of Robert Blake Yardley's desire to study his stamps seriously was obvious from the time he first joined the (now Royal) Philatelic Society, London in October 1901. On the letter which confirmed his membership application had been accepted, the Secretary had added a handwritten list of Society publications still available for sale.



When he became a member, Yardley was 42 years old, but he had been collecting stamps in an amateurish way since his schooldays. His late entry into any form of organized philately was due solely to the time pressures that arose from pursuing his career. Although he was born into the famous family that had made the name of 'Yardley's Soap and Perfumes' a household word, he did not enter the business. After earning a first class mathematics degree at Cambridge University, he began a course of legal studies. He was called to the Bar in 1884 and specialized in the law connected with land and conveyancing. His book *Land Value Taxation and Rating* became a standard reference in this area. He married in 1895, but there were no children of the marriage.

He began to take a serious interest in stamps in 1896 and started to build up a whole world collection, which he retained for the rest of his life. This was kept in an old *Imperial* album, and he often mounted varieties in the margins of the pre-printed pages. Yardley never worried about the value of his collection, and a collector friend once noted 'the cavalier way in which rarities of considerable value were assembled and mixed, in no noticeable order, with very ordinary stamps'.

However, this haphazard collection enabled Yardley to study a wide range of specimens and his general philatelic knowledge was of a very high standard. As a result, in May 1905, he was elected to the Council of the Philatelic Society, London, filling the vacancy left by Gordon Smith. The following year, he became a member the Society's Expert Committee: a role he performed with great distinction for the next 36 years.

Study, publish and move on Once involved at this level, he began to build significant single country collections and spent a great deal of time in research. During his lifetime the material he assembled for in-depth study included Queensland, Tasmania, New South Wales, Victoria, Turkey, Malta, Virgin Islands, Mexico, Portugal, and the Indian States of Jammu and Kashmir. At first, he preferred to collect issued adhesives, but later he added the study of proofs and essays. He was also among the first to study postal history by including covers in his albums. His method of working was to acquire a representative collection of a country, perform the study, publish the results as an article or a monograph, dispose of the collection at auction and move on to another area.

For this reason, Yardley's name appears regularly throughout the philatelic literature of the period 1900 to 1940. His written work is characterised by the accuracy of the research and the scientific presentation of the results. A classic example of this was the work he did on plating the Samoa Express Stamps in 1916. The subsequent 64 page monograph that he wrote is still regarded as the last word on these issues. Another publishing success came in 1922 when his series of articles on Virgin Islands in *The London Philatelist* earned him the Royal Philatelic Society's prestigious Tapling Medal for that year.

It was natural that he should be a member of the Philatelic Society's publication committee, and he was involved with the production of many of their early handbooks. In particular, he was given the task of preparing the Transvaal section of the *British Africa* handbook, which the Society published in 1906. His work occupied almost half the finished book and was regarded as a masterpiece of documentation of the difficult issues and surcharges of this Colony. In that year an International Exhibition was held in London, and Yardley entered the Transvaal material he had used for the book and was awarded a gold medal.

Photography and climbing In 1907, he wrote about the dies of the first two issues of Portugal, which was printed by the magazine *Philatelic Record* as a handbook. This work was illustrated with photographs of the stamps taken by Yardley. This revealed another of his hobbies, which, in addition to philately and photography, included an active interest in Alpine climbing.

Much later, in 1934, the Royal Philatelic Society started work on Part 11 of a handbook on the stamps of Queensland to continue the study it had published four years before on the issues of this Australian state. The work was planned to be undertaken by Captain Crawford, who had resigned as the Society librarian for this purpose. Unfortunately, shortly afterwards the Captain died and Yardley cancelled a holiday cruise he was about to start so that he could take over editorial work on this new book. Progress was very

slow, however and, finally, the start of the Second World War caused it to be abandoned.

Although never very interested in entering exhibitions himself, Yardley was regularly asked to act as a judge at these events at home and abroad. His opinion was always valued and when the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists was inaugurated in 1921 he was amongst the first signatories. He was honoured by the Royal Philatelic Society, being appointed Vice-President in 1923 and serving as its President from 1931 to 1934. Despite being invited to serve, he refused a second term.

At the beginning of 1943, in his 84th year, Robert Yardley suffered a slight stroke and this led to pneumonia. He died peacefully at his home in Witham, Essex on 15 January. His obituaries all mentioned how modest and unassuming he had been, and described him as the 'Grand Old Man' of British Philately ●

Text © Ron Nagus 2002

Posting boxes 208

A NICE MIXTURE of boxes this month, beginning with one on the beautiful island of Mauritius. This was photographed in the grounds of the Natural History Museum in Port Louis by Patricia Rigby. A nearby tablet, now weathered and difficult to read, is inscribed: 'The first pillar boxes made in England were in use in certain localities of Mauritius as from 1862. Pillar boxes like this one were made locally in 1889 only a few are still in service today. This plaque was unveiled by Hon Moorkhesswur Choonee Minister of Arts, Culture, Leisure and Reform Institutes on Thursday 3rd December 1992'.



The second photo is of a Type L cast iron box on post, near Haslemere, Surrey. Manufactured by Machan Engineering, Denny, Scotland in 1995, it was photographed by Norman Atherden. A box of this type was shown here in March 1998.

The third subject is a now disused Elizabeth 11 box photographed on Nevis by J M Beveridge. The box is on the highway outside Charlestown at a place called Church Ground. Mr Beveridge notes: 'These islands now have independence and the sale of stamps has more to do with their tourist industry. Letters (if not e-mails – widespread) are handed into the small local post offices.' ●



For details of the Letter Box Study Group send a SAE or IRC to the Membership Secretary, Mrs V Scott, 38 Leopold Avenue, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham B20 1ES. The Group produces interesting publications and postcards.

Postbag Letters to the Editor

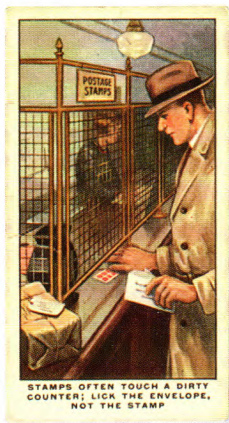
Printed Postage Impressions I note that James Mackay has illustrated the British Postmark Society's 40th anniversary commemorative PPI in his article in the October *Bulletin*. Perhaps readers would like to know that a few examples of this PPI which is on a self-adhesive strip are still available and can be obtained on a first-come-first-served basis by writing to me at this address, enclosing a SAE large enough to take the 17 x 5cm strip: DR ERIC INMAN, 28 DOWNS HILL, BECKENHAM BR3 5HB

Dr Inman is Editor of PPI News, published by the Printed Postage Impression Study Circle of the British Postmark Society. Issue No 16 features a number of attractive and unusual designs. ED •

Flags & Ensigns I have now examined the attractive Flags & Ensigns stamps from the miniature sheet, prestige book and self-adhesive book, all issued on 22 October. The blue background to the stamps is slightly deeper in the prestige book than on the sheet, but otherwise the colours seem well matched. The two self-adhesive stamps (Jolly Roger and White Ensign) have the silver printing further to the left, so the value is nearer the left edge of the stamp and the Queen's head nearer the two flags. The blue background on these stamps is deeper colour – nearer to that of the prestige book stamps than the miniature sheet. The Submarine stamps in the prestige book have a different perforation gauge to those in sheets issued in April, but the colours are well matched between the two printings. However, the colour of the 65p stamp from sheets shows through the back of the stamp but this is not evident on the stamps in the prestige book. The prestige book

also includes Scottish 1st and E stamps printed by Questa whereas the sheet stamps are by Walsall. The colours are well matched but the silver printing is positioned lower on the book stamps and the sheet stamps appear on a creamier paper when viewed from the back. Also there is a wider space between the phosphor bands on the book stamps and the ellipses on the vertical sides are slightly different – the prestige book ones being oval, whereas the sheet ones are more elongated. I hope these comments will be of interest to fellow readers. KEN MARKS, PORTSMOUTH •

Self-adhesive stamps Now that self-adhesives are widespread, I enclose an item which I recently purchased – it may amuse your readers. The cigarette card was issued by the British American Tobacco Co in 1931. The November *Bulletin* has just arrived – as always crammed with interesting information. DAVE JOHNSTON, STUBBINGTON, HANTS •



A 'Safety First' cigarette card issued in 1931. The caption beneath the illustration reads: 'Stamps often touch a dirty counter: lick the envelope, not the stamp'.

Special draw £100 cheque for the first name 'out of the hat'

A CHEQUE for £100 will be sent to the sender of the first card drawn on 15 February. Simply write your name and address on the back of a postcard and send it to: £100 Draw, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y

8HQ. Owing to the invalidation of the Identify competition in the November *Bulletin*, all entrants to that competition will be automatically entered in this draw •

Competitions Win £200 in two easy-to-enter competitions



October identify The detail is from the 1996 Robin stamp. The winner was M Harrison of Hertfordshire.

October knowledge Answers: 1) David Driver; 2) 28p; 3) Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London. The winner was P van der Wal of the Netherlands.

Ten runner-up prizes were also sent for each competition. Our thanks to all who entered.

FIRSTLY, identify the stamp from the detail above. Send your answer to January *Identify* Competition. Secondly, test your philatelic knowledge by answering the questions below. Send your answer to January *Knowledge* Competition.

- 1 Who designed the 1960 General Letter Office stamps?
- 2 In which year did the *Cutty Sark* feature on a stamp?
- 3 What is Britain's twice annual national stamp exhibition called?

Send your answer (addressed to either January *Identify* competition or January *Knowledge* competition), name and address on a postcard or back of a sealed envelope to: British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ. The senders of the first cards drawn in each competition on 15 February will each receive £100. Ten runner-up prizes of presentation packs or FDCs will be awarded in each competition.

The competitions are not open to Royal Mail employees •

Events

Until further notice Postal Memorabilia displays at Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Road, Lincoln and Manchester Postal Museum, Wythenshaw Park, Manchester (open 10.00-16.00). **Enquiries** D Harrop, 15 Hawthorn Road, Stockport SK4 3DQ.

Until January 2002 Exhibition Chand Collection of Classic Mauritius stamps at British Library, 96 Euston Road, London NW1. Open Mon-Sat 09.30-18.00, Sun 11.00-17.00. **Enquiries** 020 7412 7635/6.

15 January Display 'English & Scottish Postal History' by A Ford at Wallington & Carshalton Phil Soc, Guide Hall, Wrights Row, Wallington Green, 20.00. **Enquiries** D Mauri, 020 8647 2877.

19 January GB Philatelic Society meeting at British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London

EC1, 11.00. Victoria and George V displays, Society competitions. **Enquiries** A Lajer, 0118 934 4151.

25-26 January 5th Annual London Westminster Stamp & Postal History Fair at Central Hall, London SW1. Friday 11.00-18.00. Saturday 10.30-16.00. Admission free. **Enquiries** John Auld, 01279 758854.

26 January Young Collectors Afternoon at Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1, 14.00-16.30. 'Hands on' involvement with stamps, standing and entertaining displays. Tea provided. **Enquiries** Secretary, RPS 020 7486 1044.

13 February Display 'GB Postal History Old & New' by Michael Lockton at Guildford Phil Soc, Friends Meeting House, North Street, Guildford, 19.00. **Enquiries** J Boorman, 01483 503546 •

Late news

Stamp Advisory Committee Four new members have recently been appointed to Royal Mail's Stamp Advisory Committee: Balram Gidoomal, Chairman, Winning Communications Partnership Ltd; Gordon Marsden, MP for Blackpool South and Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Lord Chancellor's Dept; Glenn Tutssel, Executive Creative Director, Tutssels Enterprise IG; and Anthony Walker, philatelist and Editor *Great Britain Philatelic Society Newsletter*. Profiles of the new members appear in future issues of the *Bulletin*. TV presenter Floella Benjamin and designer Richard Negus have now left the Committee.

The full list of current members is as follows. Royal Mail representatives are: Gavin Macrae, Managing Director Royal Mail Stamps & Collectibles (Chairman); Barry Robinson, Stamp Programme Director; Jane Ryan, Stamp Design Manager; John Bliss, Stamp Programme Manager; and Rosemary Wagstaff, Secretary. The external members of the Committee are: Dr Jean Alexander (food scientist and philatelist); Mary-Anne Geary (Dept of Trade & Industry); Balram Gidoomal; Prue Leith (businesswoman, company director); Mary Lewis (designer); Alan Livingston (Professor of Design, Falmouth College); John McConnell (designer); Gordon Marsden MP; Paul Singleton (print expert); Glenn Tutssel; Anthony Walker; and Michael Wolff (designer) •

Consignia Chairman leaves The Secretary of State for Trade & Industry announced on 29 November that Dr Neville Bain will stand down as Chairman of Consignia at the end of December when his current contract ends. We await with interest the appointment of a new Chairman. Dr Bain has been Chairman of Consignia (formerly The Post Office) since 1998 •

Unissued definitives go on show Collectors have a unique opportunity to see proposed definitive stamps, showing The Queen as she has never been seen before, at Spring Stampex (27 February - 3 March). The Heritage Services, Consignia display will feature alternative portraits of The

Queen which never made it to the finished stamp. Several of these from the early 1980s have never been seen in public before. Experimental essays based on entirely new portraits were produced to find an alternative to the Machin, but without success, and it is only now that they can be shown. This display, for The Queen's Golden Jubilee, will include the development of the design of the Jubilee stamps to be issued on 6 February.

Treasures from The Queen's collections will be displayed in The Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace when it reopens later this year. Amongst the items on display will be the George IV diadem worn by The Queen on the Wilding and Machin definitives •

Christmas stamps The cylinders used for the books of stamps were: 1st class 1A (red orange) 2B (blue) 1C (greenish yellow) 1D (bright vermilion) 2E (bright magenta) 2F (new blue) 1G (black); 2nd class 2A (new blue) 2B (blue) 2C (greenish yellow) 2D (bright vermilion) 2E (bright magenta) 2F (vermilion) 2G (black). The cylinder numbers are positioned above the first stamp in the bottom row. Lines of rouletting enable folding of the sheetlet into book format, but there is no rouletting between individual stamps as on the sheets of 50 stamps •

GB Decimal Stamp Book Study Circle After five years as President, Gerry Fisk stepped down at the AGM in October, succeeded by Roger Knights as the Circle's fourth President since its founding in 1971. Hanns Jorg Fasching continues as the Circle's Catalogue Editor but relinquishes the post of *Journal* Editor. For details of the Circle visit its website - <http://www.gbdsbc.kabsi.at> or write to Roger Knights, 7 Old Farm Close, Needingworth, St Ives PE27 4SG •

Franceska Rapkin It is with great sadness that we record the death, on 13 December, of Franceska Rapkin, RDP, a leading exponent of thematic collecting and occasional *Bulletin* contributor. An appreciation will be published next month •

ROYAL MAIL ALBUMS



Half the pleasure in collecting stamps and related philatelic products is their presentation. And what finer way to display your collection than in official Royal Mail albums. If you collect first day covers, presentation packs or stamp cards, there is a Royal Mail album to keep your collection in pristine condition. Royal Mail albums are made of hard-wearing leather-look material with gold-embossed covers. Continuation pages are available as your collection grows.

Both the First Day Cover Album and Presentation Pack Album hold up to 64 covers/packs. The Postcard Album accommodates 130 Royal Mail stamp cards. Price £16.50 each.

Available from Royal Mail Tallents House and selected Post Office philatelic outlets. Tallents House order codes: FDC Album PAC001; Presentation Pack Album PAC008; Postcard Album PAC005. Quote reference 02AAQ.

Royal Mail, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB
UK telephone order line 08457 641 641, overseas +44 131 316 7483



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