BRITISH PHILATELIC

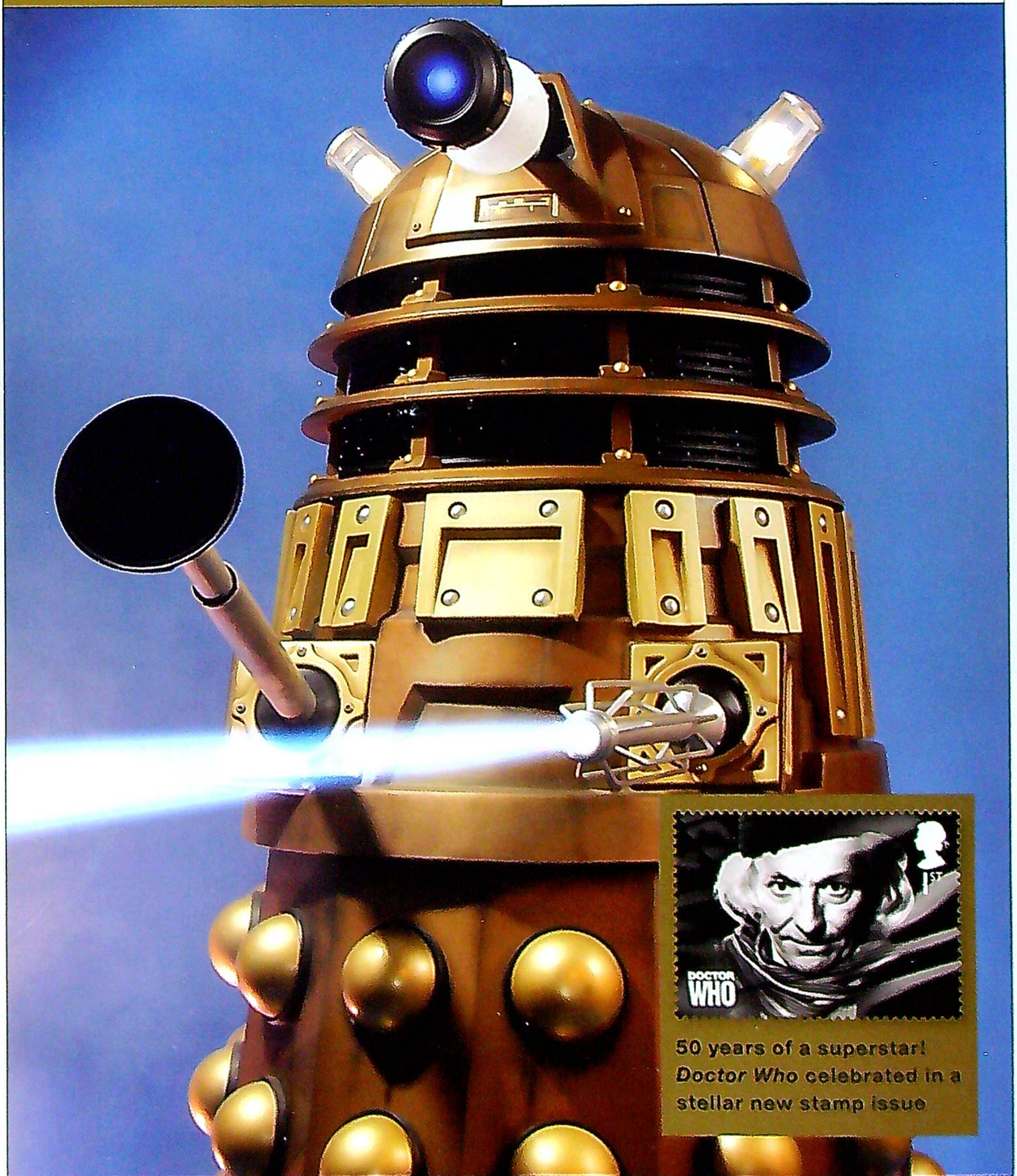
Bulletin

50th Anniversary Year 2013

The Royal Mail magazine for stamp collectors

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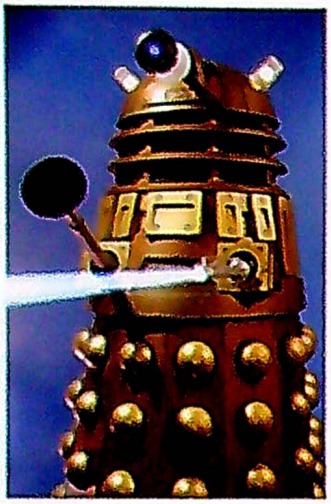
Great Brits • Cool *Britannia*
• *Doctor Who*: the inside story



50 years of a superstar! *Doctor Who* celebrated in a stellar new stamp issue

WIN DOCTOR WHO STAMPS • J HOLMAN UK STAMP SCENE • D MYALL MACHIN STATIONERY

Issues and withdrawals



Cover: Rex Features
Stamp: the special issue released this month celebrates the 50 years of *Doctor Who* on television. Stamp details were featured in the Preview on page 167 of February *Bulletin*. Read about the background to this stellar issue on page 206.

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21 March	**Withdrawal** Lunar Year of the Dragon: Generic Sheet
26 March	**Withdrawal** Comics: Stamps, Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards
26 March	**Issue** *Doctor Who*: Stamps, Miniature Sheet, Generic Sheet, Stamp Book 6 x 1st, Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards, Pin Badges
27 March	**Issue** Country Definitives: 88p Stamps for England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales; Presentation Pack with 4 overseas stamps. **Issue** Definitives: 78p, 88p, £1.88, Recorded Signed For First Class £1.55 and Recorded Signed For Large First Class £1.85; Presentation Pack includes all new Definitives
10 April	**Withdrawal** UK A-Z Part 1: Stamps, Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards
16 April	**Issue** Great Britons: Stamps, Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards
20 April	**Issue** Royal Yacht *Britannia* Commemorative Sheet

Please note: The *British Philatelic Bulletin* aims to give readers full philatelic details of all new stamps at least three weeks before they are issued. We will print all information available at Royal Mail at the time of going to press and, if necessary, add more information in the following edition to coincide with the stamp release.

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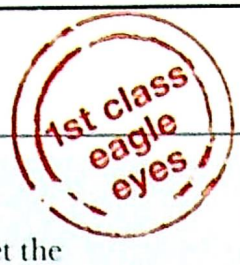
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Correspondence



Perforation creep

I have noticed that the shape of the die-cut simulated perforations on the stamps in Smilers® sheets has changed from serpentine round-ended perforations to square-ended perforations. This appears to have occurred first with the Christmas 2011 Smilers® sheets and subsequently with Business Customised Sheets from April/May 2012. So far this change has not been announced by Royal Mail, nor has there been any discussion I am aware of in the philatelic press.

Are you able to provide me with any information? I am writing an update on stamp variants in Royal Mail Smilers® sheets for Stanley Gibbons' *Stamp Monthly* and would like to provide as much information as possible on the altered perforations. Was it for aesthetic reasons – square-cut simulated perforations look more authentic than round-ended? Or perhaps square-cut perfs are easier/more difficult to remove from the sheet?

John Gray, Cambridgeshire

The specification for die-cut simulated perforations defines the required shape of the cuts and this has not changed since the introduction of self-adhesive stamps in 1993. From the outset the intention was to align the new stamps as closely as possible to traditional gummed stamps, hence the 'square ended' shape of the die-cut. However, in production, matching the specified simulated perforation calls for a degree of tolerance on the sharpness of the 'square end', as we need to consider the release of the waste material when stamps are matrix stripped. Given the running speed of the machines, a consistent release of the waste material is essential to ensure efficient production. Over time there is a tendency for this tolerance to creep if die-cut tool makers refer to the previous job rather than to the original specification.

Recent checks of product samples show the die-cuts have strayed to the extreme of the allowable tolerances, resulting in the 'rounded end' to the perforations. We have therefore reminded suppliers of the need to achieve the original specification as closely as possible and to monitor subsequent tool production to ensure consistency.

Martyn Fry, Royal Mail Stamps and Collectibles

Concealed dates

I notice that each stamp of the last Christmas issue has a small '2012' in the phosphor band:

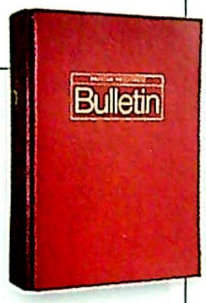
- ***2nd Class stamp – top of the band***
- ***1st and 2nd Class Large – right band bottom***
- ***Other stamps in the issue – right band top.***

Most collectors are aware of the 'hidden code' letters in the iridescent ink of definitive issues. Is this another 'code' and what is its purpose as it is obvious these stamps are 2012-specific?

The inclusion of a year of issue originated from a discussion among members of the Stamp Advisory Committee. The intention was to aid collectors by including the year on designs where the date of issue was not self-evident in the imagery or captioning. To avoid the need to print the year each time and thereby impinge on the design of the stamp, it was decided to either 'reverse out' the date from the phosphor or to include microtext. Christmas stamps tend not to have a date included in the design and therefore have the date either as microtext or reversed out from phosphor.

William Doherty, Editor

Keep the mail coming...



The Editor welcomes your letters and the senders of those published will receive philatelic delights as a thank-you. Occasionally we award a *Bulletin* binder to the writer of the 'First-class letter'. Send your letters to: The Editor, *British Philatelic Bulletin*, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. Or e-mail bulletin.enquiries@royalmail.com.

March update Three new colours for definitives plus four new Country stamps, a right royal new stamp sheet... and more



Above: Presentation Pack available om 27 March, containing the five new definitives

New colours for definitives The following new values of definitive stamps will be issued on 27 March. There will be three definitives in new colours:

- 78p 'Orchid Mauve', Surface Letter Rate up to 20 grams.
- 88p 'Amber Yellow', Airmail Rest of the World Zone 1 and 2 up to 10 grams. Europe Letters up to 20 grams.
- £1.88 'Sapphire Blue', Airmal Rest of the World Zone 1 and 2 from 21 grams up to 40 grams. Surface Letter Rate from 61 grams to 100 grams.

Two new Royal Mail Signed For definitives will also be issued on the same date, finally confirmed just as this edition of *Bulletin* went to press:

- First Class and First Class Large Signed For stamps in 'Flame' colour with a yellow flash.

Printed gravure by De La Rue Security Print, each of the new definitives has phosphor bars as appropriate and is PVA-gummed. The standard definitive measures 20mm x 24mm with a perforation gauge of 15 x 14. The standard Royal Mail Signed For definitive measures 24mm x 24mm with a perforation gauge of 15 x 14. The large Royal Mail Signed For definitive measures 34mm x 24mm with a perforation gauge of 14 x 14. Each perforation gauge includes an elliptical perforation on each side replacing three perforations.

A Presentation Pack contains the three new Machin definitives and the Signed For stamps, as shown above. Its informative insert card carries an illustrated history of the use of Arnold Machin's iconic design.

New Country definitives will also be issued on 27 March – details overleaf. ▸

Stamp designs © Royal Mail Group Ltd 2013

Right: Presentation Pack with the new-value Country definitive stamps





Above: the Royal Mail Red First Class stamps were the first new Machins to be issued this year and are available in these three stamp booklets

New Country definitives Four new Country definitive stamps are to be issued on 27 March, as shown above in the classic Presentation Pack.

Each of the new Country definitives measures 20mm x 24mm and has a perforation gauge of 15 x14, which includes an elliptical perforation on each side replacing three perforations. They are all portrait format and are printed by Cartor Security Printing in lithography.

The England stamp was designed by Sedley Place, the Scotland stamp by Tayburn, the Wales stamp by Tutssels Enterprise IG, and the Northern Ireland stamp by Rodney Miller Associates •

Royal Mail Red Stamp Books For the *Bulletin* preview of Royal Mail Red 1st Class definitives issued on 3 January, we did not have finalised information about the stamp books. Here are some details of the three First Class stamp books currently available, as shown left •

1st Class Revised Colour Palette Stamp Booklets	
Issue date	3 January 2013
1st Class Stamp format 1st Class Large Stamp format	Portrait 20mm x 24mm Landscape 30mm x 24mm
Book formats	6 x 1st Class UB356, 4 x 1st Class Large UB357, 12 x 1st Class UB35
Printer	Walsall Security Print
Print process	Gravure
Phosphor	Double bar
Gum	Self-adhesive



HMY *Britannia* commemorative sheet A new Commemorative Sheet is to be released on 16 April to mark the 60th anniversary of the launch of Her Majesty The Queen's world-renowned ship *HMY Britannia*. This striking sheet, shown left, complements the stamps to be issued by Royal Mail on 30 May to celebrate the anniversary of Her Majesty's Coronation in 1953 (watch out for your Preview in *Bulletin*).

The sheet is packed full of fascinating facts, figures, stories and photos relating to the Royal Yacht – including its launch, historic ports of call and decommissioning on 11 December 1997. It also contains details of the design and specifications of the vessel that played a central role in The Queen's reign as she travelled across the world, welcoming monarchs, presidents, prime ministers and diplomats on board.

Since 1998 Britannia has been permanently moored in the port of Leith in Scotland and has become an award-winning tourist attraction.

Visit www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk for more information. Sheet price: £14.95 •

Celebrating the anniversary of The Queen's Coronation Final details are being approved for a very special stamp issue marking the sixtieth anniversary of the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in 1953. The stamps will be unveiled towards the end of April – watch out for more information •

For the beautiful game, a beautiful stamp set On 9 May Royal Mail issue stamps of 11 British football heroes to mark the 150th anniversary of the Football Association and the 140th anniversary year of the Scottish Football Association. The stamps will be fully previewed in next month's *Bulletin* •

Last chance to buy the Comics issue is 26 March. This stamp set perfectly captures the nostalgic charm of the UK children's comics of the 1950s and 1960s, with ten stamps featuring miniature front pages from the *Beano*, *Bunty*, *Buster*, *Dandy*, *Eagle*, *Tiger*, *Topper*, *Twinkle*, *2000AD* and *Valiant*.

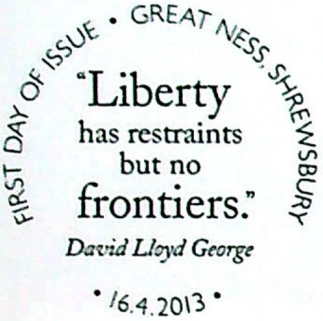
Also being withdrawn from sale this month is the Lunar New Year of the Dragon sheet. It is available until 21 March from whence its successor takes centre stage – the Year of the Snake sheet (see pages 135 and 160 in the January edition of the *British Philatelic Bulletin*) •



Above: the *Eagle* comic features in the ten-stamp Comics issue, which is due to be withdrawn from sale later this month – see page 194



Amazing Brits A first glimpse of next month's fascinating special issue of stamps honouring ten remarkable Great Britons



Above: the Great Britons First Day Cover is designed by Together Design and the Filler Card is written by Nigel Fountain. The special first-day handstamp includes a quote from Lloyd George

HERE ARE TEN LIVES less ordinary – amazing and extraordinary to be precise. The Great Britons issue, released on 16 April, waves the flag for brilliant men and women whose lives and careers have inspired the nation and the world.

They triumphed in every field, from fashion photography to archaeology, football to food, politics and journalism to film and music. The names are legendary, with Norman Parkinson, Vivien Leigh, Bill Shankly, David Lloyd George and Benjamin Britten among them. Great Britons comprises ten stamps, Presentation Pack, First Day Cover, Stamp Cards and special handstamps.

Stamp by stamp Every stamp features a powerful portrait of each outstanding individual, with an evocative background reflecting their achievements. Aptly for such top-notch personalities, all ten Great Britons stamps are First Class.

Norman Parkinson The master photographer, with his hallmark moustache and embroidered Kashmiri wedding cap, was as celebrated as the models and

Great Britons Stamps – Specifications	
Date of issue	16 April
Number of stamps	Ten (2 strips of 5 se-tenant)
Stamp design	Together Design
Stamp format	Square
Stamp size	35mm x 35mm
Printer	Cartor Security Printing
Print process	Lithography
Number per sheet	25/50
Perforations	14.5 x 14.5
Phosphor	All over
Gum	PVA

Great Britons – Prices	
Stamps	£6.00
Presentation Pack	£6.50
First Day Cover UK	£7.68
First Day Cover overseas	£6.40
Stamp Cards	£4.50

movie stars he captured on film in his Mayfair studio or in breathtaking locations across the world. He famously snapped The Beatles and, in 1980, took the 'Blue Trinity' photograph of The Queen, Queen Mother and Princess Margaret to mark the Queen Mother's 80th birthday.

Vivien Leigh The phrase 'movie legend' was made for this stellar beauty. Convent school-educated Leigh, a RADA girl who married fellow film icon Laurence Olivier in 1940, shimmered on the screen like a goddess. She found eternal fame in the role of Scarlett O'Hara in *Gone With The Wind*, for which she won an Oscar. Leigh earned another Oscar for playing Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Peter Cushing The spare figure, angled features and piercing gaze of Peter Cushing cut a heroic dash across screen and stage in a 40-year career, as the Surrey-born star solved mysteries as Sherlock Holmes or as Van Helsing battled Dracula in a series of Hammer horror movies. Later in life, he shone, albeit darkly, as the granite-hearted villain Grand Moff Tarkin in *Star Wars*.

David Lloyd George Ground-breaking social reformer, gifted orator, war leader, political giant – it is not hard to attach superlatives to the name of Lloyd George. As Chancellor of the Exchequer before the Great War, he helped pave the way for the welfare state with his introduction of state pensions and National Insurance. As Prime Minister from 1916, he was a leading figure among the Allied powers during the First World War.

Elizabeth David By importing the cuisine of sunny southern Europe into grim, grey post-war Britain, cookery writer Elizabeth David changed the way that we thought about, shopped for, and prepared food. *A Book of Mediterranean Food* (1950) was the first in a series of books that established this Sussex-born daughter of a Conservative MP as the finest English-language writer on cooking and the culture of food. Other classics include *French Country Cooking* (1951) and *Italian Food* (1954).

Benjamin Britten One of Britain's most beloved musical figures, composer, conductor and pianist Benjamin Britten produced many works that delighted audiences around the world, from *Peter Grimes* to *War Requiem*. *Peter Grimes* premiered at Sadler's Wells in 1945, and in a battered, blitzed-out London, its evocation of lost innocence struck a dramatic and emotional chord. Suffolk-born Britten was also responsible for co-founding the Aldeburgh Festival, one of the most important English celebrations of music.

Bill Shankly 'Some people believe football is a matter of life or death. I can assure you it is much, much more important than that.' Thus spake Shankly, declaring his now-legendary philosophical observation and ensuring his reputation as one of the beautiful game's most dedicated advocates. The charismatic Scot is of course best known for his extraordinarily successful reign as manager of Liverpool FC. He led the team to three League Championships wins, their first FA Cup victory in 1965 and again in 1974, the year he retired. What a way to end your career.

Richard Dimbleby Very special correspondent Richard Dimbleby was a pioneering voice of the BBC who spoke to the nation and to the world, covering some of history's most glorious – and infamous – moments. He was the Corporation's first radio reporter and first war correspondent. Dimbleby ▸















Right: Great Britons Presentation Pack, designed by Together Design and written by Nigel Fountain









reported on the liberation of Belsen, the Coronation, Suez, the Hungarian uprising, the Cuban missile crisis, and the funerals of Churchill and Jack Kennedy. With his knowledge and authority, Dimbleby quite simply shaped the population's perceptions of the news and how it should be reported.

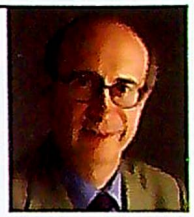
John Archer Born in a deprived area of Liverpool, the son of a Barbados-born ship's steward and Irish mother, civil rights campaigner John Archer rose to become a leading light of local and international radical and socialist politics. His was a life of 'firsts'. In 1913 he became the first mayor of African descent in London (and only Britain's second); in 1918 he became the first president of the African Progress Union. In the following year he was the British delegate to the seminal Pan-African Congress in Paris.

Mary Leakey Digs and visits to caves in France as a child inspired Mary Leakey to spend a lifetime as an archaeologist and palaeoanthropologist making fascinating discoveries around the world. Her glittering career developed, however, from an inauspicious start – she was expelled from two schools and took to informally attending lectures in geology at University College London and in archaeology at the London Museum. Her passion for these subjects would shape her future career: for more than 50 years, along with husband Louis Leakey the archaeologist and naturalist, she played a key role in exploring the origins of humanity. Among her many significant finds were a hominid skull and the Laetoli footprints in Tanzania, which shed further light on human evolution.

Orders for Serviced First Day Covers must reach Royal Mail by 16 April. Customers can also send stamped envelopes on the day of issue to Royal Mail, Tallents House, for the Tallents House, Edinburgh postmark. As an alternative to the Tallents House, Edinburgh postmark, a Great Ness, Shrewsbury postmark is available – the wonderfully named Great Ness has been chosen for obvious reasons! The postmark has a quote from Lloyd George: 'Liberty has restraints but no frontiers'.

For any philatelists inspired to learn more about the lives of these Great Britons, the Presentation Pack makes an informative starting point to further reading about the lives and works of the characters on the stamps •

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



Events

9 March National Philatelic Society (NPS) display 'Wembley 1924 and 1925' (Ramon Goode), Welsh Centre, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1, 2.30pm.

14 March Royal Philatelic Society display (from 1pm) and lecture (5pm) 'The British Stamping Office and Taxation – Revenues 1671-1853' (Christopher Harman), 41 Devonshire Place, London W1. Non-members are welcome by prior arrangement – phone 020 7486 1044.

15 and 16 March 2013 Salisbury Stamp Fair, Five Rivers Leisure Centre, Hulse Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 3NR.

22 March Strand Stamp Fair, Royal National Hotel, Russell Square, London WC1. 9am to 4pm. Enquiries: 020 8946 4489 or see www.stampshows.net.

23 March NPS country meeting at Westbex 2013, Kennet School, Stoney Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire RG19 4LL, 1.30pm.



6 April GB Philatelic Society displays 'The Downey Head, Here and There' (Michael Sefi) and 'Postal Innovation in the Reign of King George V' (Graham Mark), Grosvenor Philatelic Auctions, 399 Strand, London WC2.

12 April Strand Stamp Fair, The Galleon Suite, Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way (Russell Square tube), London WC1H 0DG, 8am to 4pm.

13 April Manchester and District Philatelic Traders Association Stamp Fair at Sale Grammar School, Marsland Road, Sale M33 3NH, 10am to 4pm.

16 April NPS seminar 'How to Use the Internet to Buy and Sell Stamps'. See www.ukphilately.org.uk or call 01582 762284 for details.

19 and 20 April Scottish Philatelic Congress, Dewar Centre, Perth PH2 0TH

10 to 15 May Australia 2013 international stamp exhibition, Melbourne •



British Postal Museum and Archive

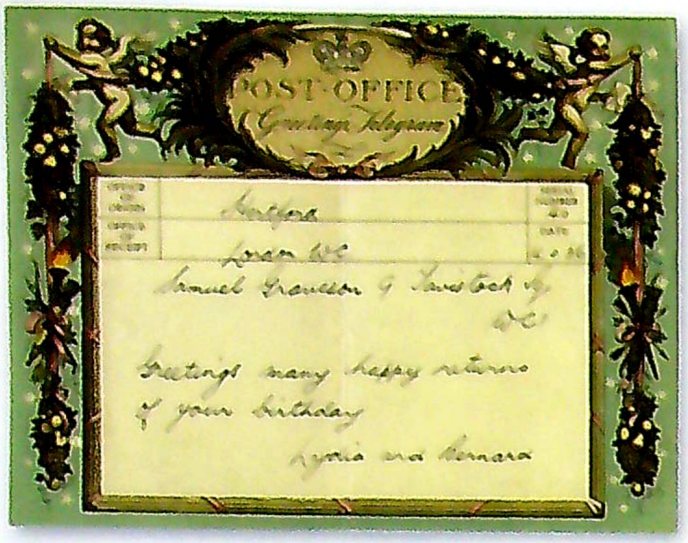
Events planned for 2013 by the British Postal Museum and Archive (BPMA) can be seen on the Exhibitions & Events section of the BPMA website: go to www.postalheritage.org.uk/page/whatson. If you want to become a Friend of the BPMA, download an application form on the Friends page (ordinary membership is £20 a year). Or apply in writing to Membership Secretary Mrs Avice Harms at 13 Amethyst Avenue, Davis Estate, Chatham ME5 9TX. Email enquiries to friends@postalheritage.org.uk.

The BPMA, located at Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1, near the famous Mount Pleasant sorting office, is open Monday to Friday 10am to 5pm (Thursday evening until 7pm). It will also be open on Saturday 9 March and 13 April (10am to 5pm), but closed on Monday 11 March and 15 April. Visit www.postalheritage.org.uk for more information and online exhibitions •

Friends of the BPMA

Brian Sole, Chairman of the Friends of the BPMA, gave a talk and display on British Greetings Telegrams on 6 November. The GPO introduced special decorated telegrams in 1935, preceded by souvenir telegrams at the British Empire Exhibition of 1924 to 1925. Artists such as Rex Whistler were commissioned and 23 designs appeared until the service was suspended in ▸

© iStockphoto



Decorative telegram illustrated by Rex Whistler

1943 due to the restrictions of wartime. Greetings telegrams were then reintroduced in 1950, with many new designs, including four-page 'luxury telegrams' for various celebrations such as weddings, births and coming of age. All are extremely collectable items for postal historians and social philatelists. Brian illustrated these with actual examples rather than slides, completing the display with the greetings telegrams sent from Buckingham Palace to centenarians and couples celebrating their diamond wedding anniversaries.

Members of the Friends of the BPMA visited the British Library Philatelic Collections on 13 December. A particular highlight was seeing the work of the Conservation Department, including progress on a book of 18th century GB revenue stamps with an explanation of the issues involved as well as techniques used. The visit ended with David Beech showing Friends the exhibition prepared for the London 2010 Festival of Stamps (still on show to the public) •

GB Philatelic Society



The GBPS, founded in 1955, is the main society for collectors of GB stamps, especially pre-Elizabeth II issues. The Society's *GB Journal* and *GBPS Newsletter* both contain articles, notes and news of interest to GB collectors. The January/February edition of *GB Journal* includes articles on the 1935 Silver Jubilee booklets, 1841 1d Plate 9, 1968 6d Machin and George V Downey Head ½d cut from voting papers and used on ordinary mail.

A new GBPS book, *Uniform Penny Post: Handstruck Paid Postage Stamps of England and Wales 1840-1853*, by Steve Walker costs £15 (members £13.50), postage £1.50 UK, £2.25 Europe, £3 rest of world from Ian Harvey, 27 Landford Road, London SW15 1AQ. For details of GBPS membership and activities contact Peter Tanner, 13 St Hubert's Close, Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire SL9 7EN or visit www.gbps.org.uk •

Auction round-up



Above: 1912 Cover from the Peter Burden collection

Cavendish's Worldwide Stamps & Postal History auction, held on 6 and 7 March, includes the Otis Collection of British postal history with very rare machine cancels.

The sale also features the Peter Burden Collection of early letters, ship letters, railway mail and Devon postal history. Cavendish will have a stand at the international exhibition in Melbourne in May. Enquiries to Cavendish on 01332 250970, email stamps@cavendishphilau.demon.co.uk, or visit www.cavendish-auctions.com.

Grosvenor's sale on 7 March will include the John du Pont collection of Falkland Islands stamps and postal history. The April sale will feature an important section of Wilding issues and the John Sussex collections of Machins and Isle of Man. Contact Grosvenor on 0207 3798789 or visit www.grosvenorauctions.com •

Australian exhibition

A major international stamp exhibition, Australia 2013, will be held at the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne from 10 to 15 May, to mark the centenary of the first Commonwealth of Australia postage stamps – the famous Kangaroo and Map stamps. Admission to the exhibition will be AUS $10 for a daily pass. Passes can be ordered at shop.auspost.com.au.

Royal Mail will be producing an exhibition sheet bearing 20 First Class Hello stamps with attached labels depicting Melbourne scenes, including the Royal Exhibition Building, Queen Victoria Hotel, Royal Botanic Gardens, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne cricket ground, Australian Open tennis and Melbourne Cup horse race. An aerial view of the city forms the background to the sheet. Watch out for more details in the *British Philatelic Bulletin* •

Obituary

Otto Hornung, who died in January, was a noted collector and writer and a popular character in the philatelic fraternity. He was born in Czechoslovakia in 1920 and escaped the Nazi occupation in 1939 to fight with the British in the Second World War. He returned to Czechoslovakia but his allegiance to the West led to his settling permanently in the UK in 1967 when he became, until 1989, Secretary of the Philatelic Traders Society and hence the main organiser of the Stampex exhibitions.

A prolific writer, he was the London correspondent of major philatelic journals in Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain and Switzerland. In 1952 he was a founder member of the Association Internationale des Journalistes Philateliques (AIJP) and served as its president from 1990 to 2003. For a decade to 1990, he was the UK representative for the FIP commission for literature and served as a literature judge nationally and internationally. His popular *Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Stamp Collecting* (1970) was published in English, German, Danish and Japanese editions.

Otto first exhibited internationally in 1949 and from the late 1960s he was present, in some capacity, at numerous exhibitions in the UK and overseas. His collection of Czech stamps was lost in the war, but from 1954 he specialised in the classic stamps of Turkey, receiving high awards at exhibitions and publishing research papers on the country's stamps and postal history. Perhaps his proudest moment was being asked to provide an exhibition from his extensive collection at the National Postal Museum in 1989. This 'Ottoman Empire' exhibition was opened by the Turkish ambassador to London, who greatly enjoyed seeing the material and talking to Otto (see *Bulletin*, May 1989 – picture on page 235). Otto signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in 1993, and received a Rowland Hill Lifetime Achievement Award in 2003.

Otto was always an interesting character to meet, and during my time as *Bulletin* editor he quite often phoned me with enquiries about modern British stamps. Usually he started the conversation with: 'It's Otto, now listen...' or sometimes just 'Listen'! At Royal Mail press events for new stamps he championed putting the year of issue on special stamps to aid collectors sorting stamps in the future. This was introduced in the stamp margin in 1987, but is now incorporated into the design or phosphor, rendering its purpose less helpful.

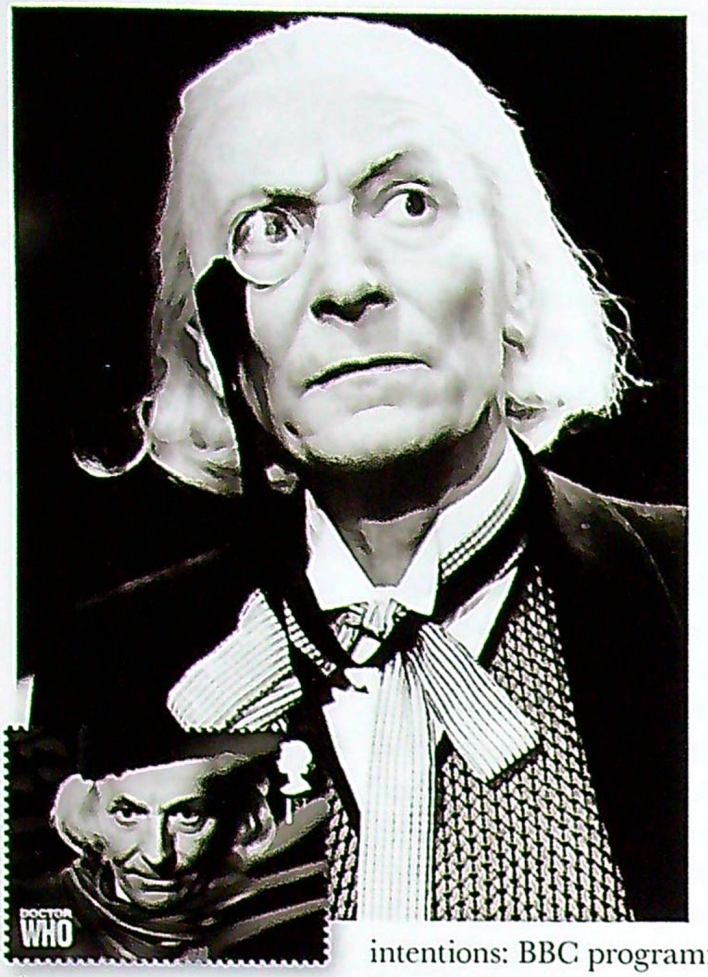
For more on Otto's long and eventful life, including his wartime as well as philatelic experiences, see Richard West's feature on him in *Bulletin*, May 2003 •





Above: Otto Hornung

Top: Otto's popular *Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Stamp Collecting*, published in four languages



1

Who's *Who*

As the much-awaited *Doctor Who* special issue is launched this month, Simon Ball reveals the inside story of science fiction's favourite space (and time) hero

WITH THOUSANDS of fans in over 50 countries eagerly anticipating his next adventure in time and space, a merchandising portfolio worth millions and a cupboardful of awards, *Doctor Who* is one of TV's hottest properties. State-of-the-art computer graphics, make-up, prosthetics, costume and set design have melded with action-packed storylines and brilliant characterisation to propel the world's longest-running science fiction drama forward into the 21st century. This is a far cry from the show's beginning in 1963. It started with the best of intentions: BBC programmers wanted a children's educational drama to slot into the Saturday teatime gap between *Grandstand* and *Juke Box Jury*.

No monsters allowed As it happened, the BBC's head of drama Sydney Newman was a science fiction fan. So, together with script department head Donald Wilson and staff writer Cecil Edwin Webber, he came up with the idea of a character who travels in time and space to bring history and science to life for young viewers.



2

Initially, evil aliens and ugly monsters were not part of the plot – on the orders of Donald Wilson. The result was *An Unearthly Child*, broadcast on 23 November 1963. In it curious teachers Barbara Wright (Jacqueline Hill) and Ian Chesterton (William Russell) follow their mysterious pupil Susan Foreman (Carol Ann Ford) to the junkyard that is apparently her home. There they hear Susan's voice coming from a police callbox, only to discover that the box is much bigger on the inside. Here lurks Susan's alien grandfather known only as the Doctor. They travel back through time in the TARDIS to the Stone Age, where they are captured by cavemen seeking the secret of fire.

Like much in the early days of Doctor Who, the choice of a police box for the Doctor's TARDIS ship was driven by a pragmatic yet imaginative approach to the show's tiny production budget. Obviously the interior had to be larger than the police box exterior to enable filming within, so the solution was to place the interior in another spatial dimension and to devise a malfunction that results in the exterior appearance of a police box – so saving money by not building a large ship. But why a police box in particular? Well, the producers originally intended the TARDIS to have a 'chameleon circuit'

that enabled it to take on the appearance of an object local to wherever it materialised, so blending in with the surroundings. In this case, a police box would not, of course, have been an uncommon sight in 1960s London. Then they had the circuit break down in the script, so the police box remained a police box and any expensive prop change to different-looking space ships – could cleverly be avoided.

Galactic hard man The police box became such an iconic element of the show's legend that when the Metropolitan Police challenged the BBC's application to trademark the image, the Patent Office ruled in the Corporation's favour.

The Doctor proved to be a knowledgeable but frequently bad-tempered Edwardian dandy, which was a bit of a departure for the actor chosen to play him. William Hartnell (1) had made a name for himself doing hard man characters, particularly tough soldiers like Sergeant Major Bullimore in *The Army Game*. Interestingly, his appearance as the first Doctor in the new stamp set released on 26 March will be Hartnell's second in the Royal Mail stamp programme. He featured on a 2008 stamp marking the 50th anniversary of Carry On Sergeant in the role of 'Sergeant Grimshawe'.

Viewing figures of around four million for the Stone Age adventure in the first four shows were disappointing. But that changed with the second series. Suddenly children all over Britain were taking cover behind the sofa in eager anticipation of the thrilling show. The Daleks had arrived.



3

Above: enter Jon Pertwee as the third Doctor in 1969

Below: the Dalek, now a world-famous celebrity

Exterminate!!! Things would have been very different had producer Verity Lambert complied with Donald Wilson's prohibition on bug-eyed monsters. *Doctor Who* operated on a very tight production schedule so 'instantly' available scripts were at a premium. And that meant monsters were in: a script about aliens driving metal war machines was the only one ready to shoot at that time, so the Daleks made their debut.

The response was phenomenal: the Daleks drew in 12 million viewers and every school playground resounded to cries of 'Ex-term-in-ate!!!' As Wilson's bug-eyed monster ban bit the dust, the educational purpose of the show diminished. Viewers wanted alien monsters and that is what they got. Intent on galactic domination, the Daleks kept coming back. And in 1966 they were joined by the Cybermen to make their first attempt to destroy Earth in *The Tenth Planet*.

The Tenth Planet was also a landmark event for the lead character. William Hartnell's health had been seriously deteriorating from arteriolosclerosis and he wanted out. Cast changes were nothing new to the show – throughout its run the programme would see several companions come and go – but the loss of the main actor was a far more serious dilemma for the producers. The problem was solved with an imaginative quirk of Time Lord physiology, allowing physical regeneration when bodily death threatens and so Hartnell regenerated into Patrick Troughton (2) for the 1967 season.

Continued on page 210 ▸

MARVELLOUS MONSTERS

Your inside guide to some of Doctor Who's most fiendish and famous villains

Dalek

The Daleks, bent on dominating the universe, were created on the planet Skaro by Kaled scientist Davros when he implanted mutant Kaled bodies into robotic shells during the thousand-year war between his race and the Thals.

He had realised that years of radiation and chemical poisoning from the war would lead the Kaleds to mutate into immobile organisms. Their metal shells would allow them to survive.

Daleks have had every emotion purged from their being except hate. Now they have only the desire to rid the universe of all non-Dalek life. First appearing in 1963, they are famous, of course, for their catchphrase 'Exterminate!'.





Weeping Angel

First appearing in Blink in 2007, the Weeping Angels are an ancient race of aliens who have the ability to send other beings into the past. This allows the Angels to feed on the potential time energy of what would have been the rest of their victims' lives.

When they are not being watched, they can move very quickly, and silently, but when being watched, they become quantum-locked, occupying a single position in space and becoming stone.

If two Angels look at each other at the same time, they are trapped in stone form until an outside force moves them apart, so they cover their eyes while moving – giving the impression they are weeping.

Marking the 50th anniversary of Doctor Who, the Royal Mail issue of 26 March comprises 11 sheet stamps and a five-stamp, £2.60 Miniature Sheet featuring the TARDIS and the four monsters here. For full specifications please see page 169 of the Preview in last month's *Bulletin*



The Ood

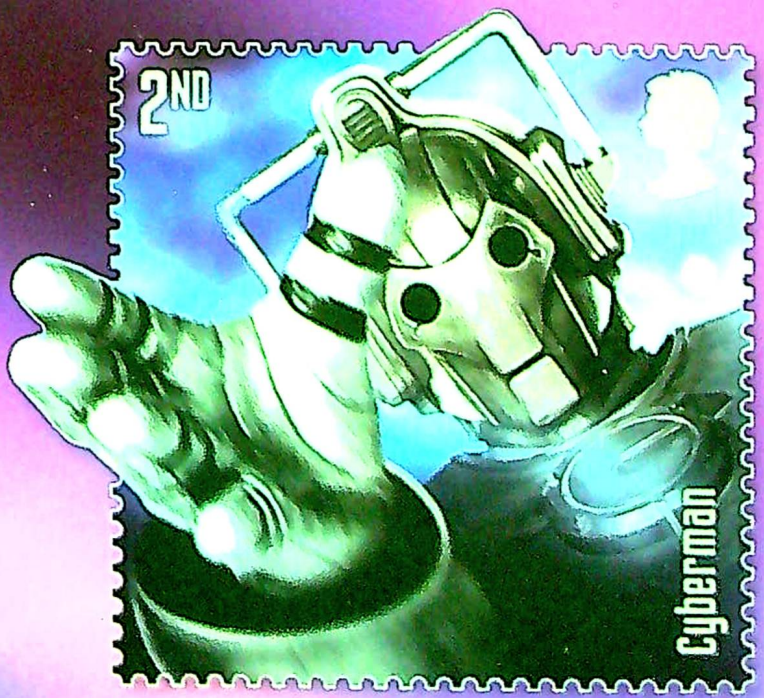
Just about humanoid in appearance and with tentacles on the lower portions of their faces, the Ood speak through a translator device – a sphere connected to their mouths by a tube. The tube originally connected their bodies to a hive brain, but humans from the far future isolate them from the brain and use them as a slave race.

Ood are not monsters. They are a peaceful race, sophisticated and wise, and loyal friends of the Doctor. However, when they are taken over and controlled by evil entities they become monstrous creatures, acting against their instinct with lethal intent. The Ood first appeared in *The Impossible Planet* in 2006.

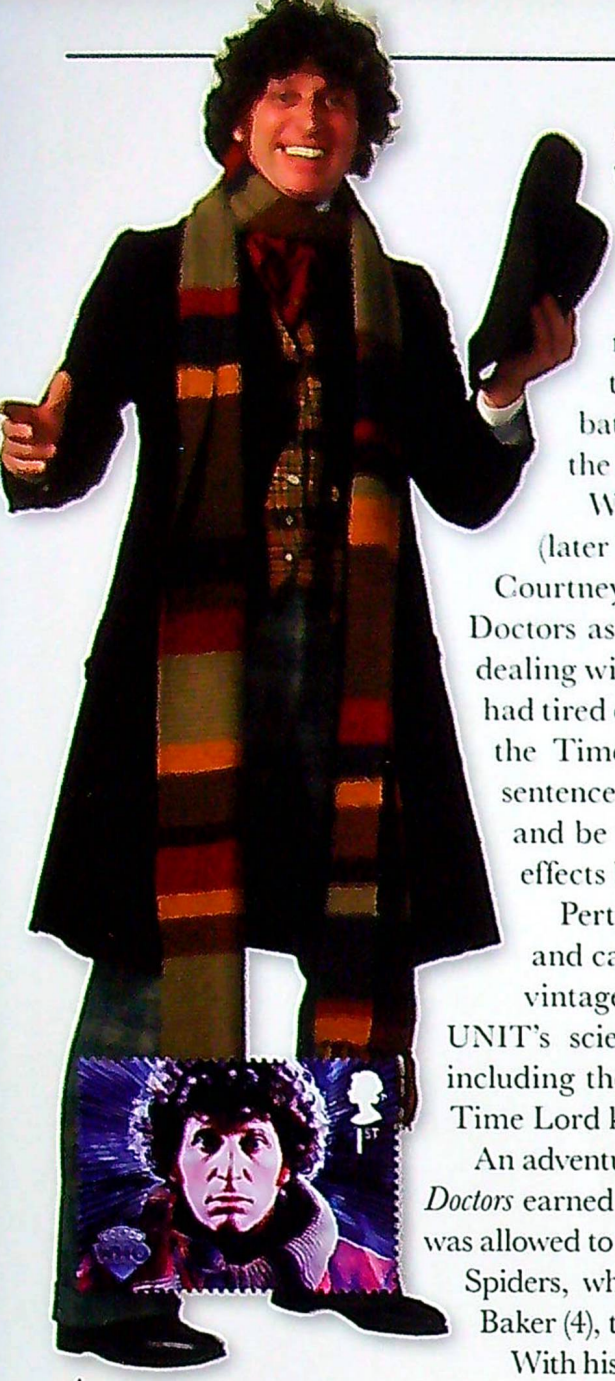
Cyberman

The Cybermen were originally humanoids and came from Earth's twin planet Mondas. They implanted more and more artificial parts, made of metal and plastic, into their bodies so they became coldly logical and calculating cyborgs, who had every emotion deleted from their minds.

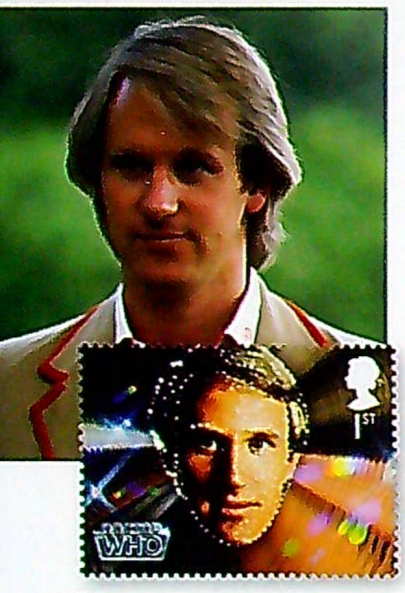
The Cybermen made their debut appearance in *The Tenth Planet* in 1966, for the farewell adventure of the First Doctor William Hartnell. They returned in the 2006 two-part story, *Rise of the Cybermen* and *The Age of Steel*, and have been recurring villains in the revived series ever since.



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4



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Continued from page 207

Who's a naughty boy Where Hartnell had been aloof and irascible, there was something of the naughty child about Troughton's more playful take on the Doctor's personality. In his trademark baggy suit and penchant for playing the recorder, he was described as a cosmic hobo. Troughton's tenure in the role lasted for three years and along the way he battled Daleks and Cybermen, as well as new adversaries like the Macra, Ice Warriors and the Yeti.

While taking on the Yeti the Doctor first encountered Colonel (later Brigadier) Alistair Lethbridge-Stewart, played by Nicholas Courtney. He became a regular sidekick to the third and fourth Doctors as head of the United Nations Intelligence Taskforce (UNIT) dealing with extraterrestrial threats against Earth. By 1969 Troughton had tired of the role. To facilitate his exit the Doctor was put on trial by the Time Lords for interfering in the destiny of other races. His sentence was to regenerate as comic actor Jon Pertwee (3, page 207) and be banished to Earth, which saved on the costume, props and effects budgets for the first *Doctor Who* episodes shot in colour.

Pertwee's Doctor was a Seventies peacock in a crushed velvet suit and cape. He was also a bit of an action man, driving a souped-up vintage car and practising Venusian martial arts. While serving as UNIT's scientific advisor Pertwee's Doctor took on some new foes including the Autons, Silurians, Sontarians, Sea Devils and a renegade Time Lord known as the Master.

An adventure teaming Pertwee with Hartnell and Troughton as *The Three Doctors* earned the Doctor a reprieve from his Earth-bound punishment –he was allowed to travel with new assistant Sarah Jane Smith to The Planet of the Spiders, where radiation poisoning caused him to regenerate into Tom Baker (4), the fourth Doctor

With his unruly mop of hair, popping eyes and absurdly long scarf, Baker was the longest-serving pilot of the TARDIS from 1974 to 1981. Where Pertwee had played the role as a kind of intergalactic James Bond, Baker, like Troughton, brought a degree of eccentric anti-authoritarianism back into the role, only with his frock coat pockets filled with bags of jelly babies instead of a recorder.

Horror story The show also took a darker aspect as new producer Philip Hinchcliffe and script editor Robert Holmes were clearly more influenced by the then popular Hammer Horror films rather than the jollier James Bond and *The Avengers* of the 1960s. As viewing figures climbed, the number of complaints the BBC received from Mary Whitehouse's National Viewers' and Listeners' Association mounted. Although this led to more viewers tuning in to see what all the fuss was about, the BBC eventually moved Hinchcliffe onto the tough cop show Target and Holmes was ordered to tone down the horror.

Baker was delighted with this new direction and was soon off adventuring with a new companion, the suede bikini-clad savage Leela (Louise Jameson, a firm favourite with dads) and robot dog K-9.

Photographs: Alamy, Rex, Getty Images



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In 1979 Douglas Adams, whose *Hitchiker's Guide to the Galaxy* was already a cult favourite on Radio 4, was hired as script editor. This boosted the humorous content of the scripts and saw the show's viewing figures peak at 17 million.

Buck rogers beats the doc Ratings were to take a serious dip in 1980 when ITV pitched the big-budget American sci-fi show Buck Rogers in the 25th Century against *Doctor Who*'s Saturday tea-time slot. Worse still for the BBC was Baker's decision to quit the TARDIS the following year, and the job was given to *All Creatures Great and Small* star Peter Davison (5). Despite his outlandish Edwardian cricketer's outfit, Davison's Doctor was much more introverted character acting in consensus with his burgeoning crew of companions, which included an air hostess, alien assassin and a robot. On the advice of Patrick Troughton, Davison only stuck with the role for three years, regenerating into Colin Baker (6) for the 1984 season. Baker's Doctor was rather pompous and overbearing and his tenure on the show was beset with scheduling problems.

Moving the production budget from one financial year to another led to an 18-month gap between the series end in 1985 and 1986's season. By then *Doctor Who* found itself up against The *A Team* on ITV, which had already gained a massive following in the battle for ratings.

With the viewing figures in tatters, Baker was replaced by comic actor Sylvester McCoy (7) for the 1987 season. Despite an outwardly comedic exterior, McCoy's Doctor had a much darker, more manipulative personality than his predecessors'. The new Doctor was well received by fans, but the show was rescheduled on weekdays against ITV's flagship soap *Coronation Street*. This led to disappointing viewing figures and in 1989 production was suspended.

But that was not the end of the time-travelling adventurer. New fans joined the ranks of the hardcore *Who*vians as reruns of classic episodes found their way onto cable and digital networks (particularly in the United States) and sales of videos, DVDs, new audio adventures, comics, action figures and novels fed their addiction. After a false start with 1996's made-for-TV movie starring Paul McGann (8), *Doctor Who* was an instant hit when rebooted in 2005 with Christopher Eccleston (9).



8

Better than Hollywood No longer bedevilled by cardboard sets and wobbly special effects the new show was able to hold its own with any Hollywood sci-fi epic. Producer Russell T Davies applied lessons learnt from successful ▸

Stamp images © Royal Mail Group LtdStamp images © Royal Mail Group Ltd



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11

American franchises like *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, making each episode a self-contained adventure. They were also part of an overall story encompassing each season, with randomly distributed plot elements in each show that were 'tied up' in the series' final episodes. Tricks derived from popular soap operas were also applied to weave in the backgrounds of the companions and their families.

Eccleston was replaced by David Tennant (10) at the end of the 2005 season, just in time for a new innovation, the *Doctor Who Christmas Special* – which immediately became a traditional festive viewing fixture.

In 2010, after finally usurping Tom Baker as the most popular Doctor of all time (and space), Tennant conceded the role to Matt Smith (11), who at 26 is the youngest Doctor so far. The show continues to grow from strength to strength.

Old villains like the Daleks, Cybermen and the Master have returned and the show's legends are frequently recalled with references to UNIT and the odd guest from the past. Well-known actors, including Sir Micael Gambon, Kylie Minogue and Simon Pegg, vie for guest appearances, while new villains like the Weeping Angels and the Slitheen have joined *Doctor Who*'s rogues gallery. The programme has also spawned spin-offs, including *Torchwood* and the *Sarah Jane Adventures*.

Given the show's longevity, it is hardly surprising that many of the present production team and writers grew up as fans of the original series. One such writer is the popular sci-fi author Neil Gaiman, who has contributed two episodes to the new series, including Hugo Award-winning *The Doctor's Wife*.

Asked to name his favourite Doctor, he says: 'That's a hard one. My Doctor was Patrick Troughton. He really was the Doctor, for me as a boy, and is the person I most wanted to explore the universe with, and the person I most wanted by my side when things got scary. Matt Smith is amazing, though. He plays the Doctor as a thousand-year-old alien with a young man's face and a child's sense of wonder, and writing dialogue for him is as much fun as hearing him speak it.'

Philatelic specifications of the 'Doctor Who' stamps are on page 167, Preview, February • *Neil Gaiman's latest novel for adults 'The Ocean at the End of the Lane' is published in the UK later this year.*

It's *Who* you know...

- Asteroid 3325, discovered in 1984 by Arizona's Lowell Observatory, is called Tardis after Doctor Who's famous ride.
- The noise made by the TARDIS when it 'takes off' was originally produced by running a bunch of keys along the strings of an old piano.
- 'Voice of the Daleks' Roy Skelton also acted the voices of Zippy and George in children's show Rainbow.
- The first Doctor Who episode was overshadowed by news of President Kennedy's assassination the previous day – so BBC ran it again before the second episode.
- In a new BBC drama about the creation of *Doctor Who*, William Hartnell is played by David Bradley – in a 2012 episode he was a killer who hijacked a spaceship for its cargo of dinosaurs.

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Another view Douglas Myall sheds light on the much-neglected Machins of prepaid stationery

When Rowland Hill put forward his ideas for prepayment of mail at a uniform rate, his preferred method was the Mulready envelope, so named after the artist who drew its elaborate design. There were two of these, a one-penny envelope in black and a two-penny envelope in blue. However, the public thought the Mulready design absurd and many caricatures of it appeared. Mulready envelopes were the first form of what has become known as postal stationery. Their negative public reception meant that the subject got off to a bad start and from a collector's view it has never really recovered. Elizabethan postal stationery does not feature, for example, in the famous Stanley Gibbons specialised GB catalogues. Yet there is a wealth of such material worthy of a collector's serious attention and in this article I want to take a look at some of it.

Briefly, the genre comprises postal material that incorporates an officially authorised stamp or inscription, indicating that a specific rate or class of postage or postal service (such as registration) has been prepaid. It includes cards and envelopes of various kinds, air letters and gummed labels, all of which have been issued with the Machin head.

The phrase 'officially authorised' includes not only stationery that is sold by the postal authority but also that which is privately produced and stamped to order – known as STO. This service was withdrawn in 1973 but not before a considerable quantity of stationery had been produced. Today's postage stamps are printed on special paper, certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), but there were no controls over the paper used for private cards and envelopes, some of which were coloured and all of which were intended to be written on by the public.

These constraints meant that, although the colour of the impressions usually followed that of the corresponding postage stamp, many were printed by methods that were little used for ordinary stamps. Chief among these were embossing and letterpress, both of which were used on official stationery as well as gravure and lithography. More than ten different representations of the Machin dressed head have been used. Let us have a look at some of them.

Cards and envelopes The rectangular head (image 1) was used only on pre-decimal cards, including reply-paid cards. These consisted of two halves, both of which contained the paid impression. The lower half was used for the reply. If the card had been sent overseas, the prepayment was valid at surface rates, making very interesting additions to a 'used abroad' collection.

There does not seem to have been any restriction on the country to which these cards could be sent, as long as it was a member of the Universal Postal Union. If the respondent wished to reply by airmail, he had to add postage stamps of his own country to make up the difference between the surface and airmail rates. The 4d was printed in olive sepia and vermilion and a 5d in Stewart blue.

The first letterpress head (image 2) used on decimal stationery was octagonal. It was used on cards, including letter cards and reply-paid cards and on ▸



1



2



3

Above: Machin head used on prepaid postcards (1); the first letterpress on decimal stationery (2); the Postnote inland letter form (3)



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envelopes. The cards were issued from February 1971 to January 1981 with values from 2½p to 14p. The envelopes were issued from February 1971 to February 1982 and had values from 2½p to 15½p. The impressions were in the same colours as the contemporary stamps.

Letter cards were withdrawn from sale on 29 January 1982 and replaced on 21 April that year by inland letter forms, known as Postnotes (image 3). The address side of the Postnote form had an impression of the Machin head above the words Royal Mail and a number '1' indicating prepayment of the first-class service. These were the first NVIs (Non Value Indicators) to be issued in the UK, predating the adhesive stamps by more than seven years. The NVI concept was regarded as a success and the Postnote design was used on envelopes in June 1983. These included a modified design for the second-class service. Postnotes were withdrawn in 1986.

A letterpress design bearing first-class and second-class NVIs – but with an octagonal frame and white head – was used for envelopes from 1991 to 1995 (image 4). They were issued in international sizes C4, C5 and DL. The first issue had an interesting history. It was printed in 1988 for a customer who failed to take delivery. Royal Mail's retail division sold these NVIs by the 100 in 1991. They are easily recognised because they have a red peelable strip on the flap reading 'RIVER series'. A new design for first-class and second-class envelopes was introduced on 3 July 1995, printed in offset lithography (image 5).

Above: the letterpress NVI design (4); a letterpress design introduced in 1995 (5); embossed impressions for registered envelopes – for fee and postage (6) and for fee only (7)



6



7

Registered letters When valuables are to be sent by post, it is of course wise to put them in a strong envelope and use the registration service, which provides proof of delivery. While letterpress is occasionally used, the postal impressions on such envelopes are best made by embossing. These have all employed an octagonal frame and exist in pre-decimal as well as decimal currency. Embossed impressions on registered envelopes exist for the combined fee and postage (image 6) and for the fee alone (image 7).

The first registered envelopes with the Machin head were sizes G, H and K issued on 13 April 1970 when the combined postage and registration fee came to 3s 5d. The embossed impression was in light grey. Since then, several colours have been used with the stamps on overseas mail ranging from 15p magenta in 1971 to £1.10 vermilion in 1984.

Air letters (aerogrammes) The term 'air letters' was applied to lightweight paper forms to be sent by airmail. Other countries called them aerogrammes and the UK followed suit from 1 February 1982, but reverted to air letter in



8



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Above: aerogramme design introduced in 1988 (8) and self-adhesive labels (9)

July 2000. Both definitive and pictorial forms exist. This is a very large category, though no pre-decimal forms exist with the Machin head. The head used on decimal forms is unframed and exists either with a value, positioned as on ordinary stamps, or, from September 1988, as an adjunct to an NVI in the form of a figure '1' and the text 'Great Britain Postage Paid' (image 8).

Self-adhesive labels Did you know that our first self-adhesives appeared on postal stationery? Under the Stamped To Order scheme, the Post Office allowed stamps to be printed on private adhesive labels for affixing to large envelopes. They were all printed by letterpress with the Machin head in an octagonal frame. They measure 3 inches by 2½ inches and have rounded corners. There are three values: 2½p pale magenta, 3p ultramarine and 3½p grey-green. The first date of use was 30 June 1972. All three labels were uprated with a ½p turquoise impression when postal rates were increased in 1973 (image 9).

Find out more This has been a bit of a gallop but I hope I have aroused your interest in this neglected field. If you would like to know more, a fully illustrated list is included on my Machin CD: visit www.deegam.com •

Below: a selection of used prepaid stationery – including the aerogramme design that was available from 1988



View from the Chair John Baron welcomes some positive changes in UK stamp collecting



IN MY AD HOC JOTTINGS over the past three years I have at times cast a sceptical eye over our hobby. I am, however, seeing distinct glimmers of light, with the number of new collectors and some major relationship-building plans currently gathering pace among philatelic associations and stamp clubs.

I receive more than a hundred e-mails a month – a number that has consistently increased over the past year – on subjects varying from notification of changes of officers, publicity of events, sale of old albums and recently more requests for location of local societies.

It's always good to hear of people embarking upon the hobby or renewing an interest. For example, one of the enquiries was for a local club and I was able to contact an ABPS* member and arrange for the enquirer to be met and introduced to the Society. He emailed me shortly after to say how much he had enjoyed the meeting and could he take a friend to the next one?

This greatly encourages me, but I have to ask *Bulletin* readers where are the estimated 20,000 UK stamp collectors who choose not to join a local society? I invite all those non-members to go along to a local society and introduce yourselves. It really makes no difference whether you are a beginner (where better to gain knowledge?) or an experienced collector (where better to share and increase it?). It's about keeping our hobby alive and kicking.

Opposite page: changing faces over the past century – George V, 'King of Philately' was honorary vice-president of the Royal Philatelic Society, London; today Stamp Active Network encourages young collectors; Alex Haimann at the 2012 Perth Congress

UK main events Spring Stampex will have been and gone by the time you read this but now is the time to plan to visit the Autumn Show. This will take place between 18 and 22 of September at the Design Centre in Islington. The other main event of the year is the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain which this year takes place in Gloucester.

The Royal Philatelic Society London (RSPL) has formed a partnership with many philatelic libraries worldwide, providing a new and important



gateway by which philatelists can search, locate and access research from any computer. The Royal is to be congratulated on this development. It shows a committed response to the call for more international research and is a very significant development for people who are looking to research and develop their collections.

European cooperation The ABPS has been negotiating with the Federation of German Philatelists e.V and has just signed an agreement that will provide more efficient communication and greater cooperation between the two groups, especially in the areas of judging and exhibiting.

Personally I am continuing my commitment to visit each UK Federation within a five-year period. During one of my recent visits I was pleased to see on the meeting agenda an item for discussion on how to encourage more members and to bring non-affiliated societies into the network.

Introducing new members The 'best' suggestion is that societies have to be proactive, as they cannot afford to sit back and hope that new members will appear from nowhere. I recommend one simple strategy: why not agree that each member invites two people over the next year and see what happens?

The atmosphere at PERTH2012 demonstrated that our hobby is thriving in Scotland and I am sure that those who attended gained from the experience. My hope for 2013 is that we will see more new faces, more young faces and even more familiar faces at this year's Philatelic Congress. It takes place on 27 to 30 June at the Hallmark Hotel, Matson Lane, Robinswood Hill, Gloucester, GL4 6EA. Find out more at www.abps.org.uk •

*John Baron is chairman of the *Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS)*

Please note that the ABPS does not undertake valuations.

The Baron manifesto

Philately has been described as 'the world's greatest hobby' and is well placed to build on its fascinating heritage, provided that we can:

Challenge
the status quo
Change
where necessary
Commit
to those changes
Communicate
with all – especially youngsters





Stamp image © Royal Mail Group Ltd. Photography: Dane Garrod; Dan Froude





News from the islands



The first Guernsey issue of 2013, on 20 February, comprised six stamps for Guernsey Marine Life and an Endangered Species miniature sheet featured a giant panda. There will be two issues in May – six stamps on the Europa theme of The Postman's Van and six featuring Herm, a small island east of Guernsey which issued its own local stamps from 1949 to 1969, but now has a Guernsey post office and uses Guernsey stamps.

An attractive yearbook containing all Guernsey and Alderney stamps issued during 2012 is now available, price £58.73 plus postage £4 UK, £5.50 elsewhere. Yearbooks for 2007 to 2011 inclusive are also still on sale from the Guernsey Philatelic Bureau.

The '2012 Collection' has an introduction by the Chairman of Guernsey Post. It includes the background story for each issue and mounts in which to place the year's stamps and miniature sheets, all supplied in packets. There is an interesting pen-portraits of the designers – Guernsey mostly uses individual designers rather than design groups. Two of the issues were the work of Guernsey Post staff – Bureau Production Manager Mark Totty and Philatelic Marketing Co-ordinator Bridget Yabsley. There is also an extended profile of Nick Watton, designer of the *Titanic* stamps. The '2012 Collection' houses 70 stamps and six miniature sheets, including Royal issues for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and Prince William's 30th birthday. For all enquiries and order contact Guernsey Philatelic Bureau, Freepost GU267, Envoy House, La Vrangue, Guernsey GY1 5SS, e-mail philatelic@guernseypost.com





Issued on 5 February, Jersey Post's Royal Legacy of Queen Victoria stamps featured Edward VII (see page 191). Six stamps commemorating the Kennel Club of Jersey and four Europa (Postal Vehicles) are issued on 8 and 19 March respectively. The Europa stamps,designed by Colleen Corlett, are printed by Lowe-Martin, Canada in four colour offset lithography, in sheets of ten. Enquiries to: Philatelic Bureau, Freepost JE793, Jersey Post, Jersey JE1 1AF, phone 0044 (0)1534 516320 or website, www.jerseystamps.com.



Isle of Man On 6 February the Isle of Man issued six stamps to mark the 60th anniversary of the Coronation of HM The Queen. They feature portraits and memorabilia from the Coronations of Queen Victoria (38p), Edward VII (41p), George V (65p), George VI (£1.05), and Elizabeth II (£1.37 and £1.73). The stamps are printed in sheets of eight. The set costs £5.59 mint/used, £6.34 in pack, and £30 for sheets of stamps in a special commemorative folder. On 20 February there were two more new issues – Isle of Man Constabulary 150th Anniversary and Fire and Rescue Service Miniature Sheet (shown left). Orders/enquiries to Isle of Man Stamps & Coins, PO Box 10M, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1PB, or see www.iomstamps.com •

This month in 1963 Six months before the birth of *Bulletin*, the idea of a global effort to end hunger inspired one of the biggest stamp-issuing campaigns in history



For collectors of British special stamps 1963 was a key year. A new policy was announced and there were no fewer than six issues, totalling 12 new stamps or 24 if you count plain and phosphor versions separately. The first was on 21 March with two stamps for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign, adopted by the United Nations that year. In support of the global campaign, 140 postal administrations agreed to issue special stamps.

The British stamps Freedom from Hunger stamps were designed by Michael Goaman (1921-2009) and both featured an image of wheat, the campaign emblem. The 2½d portrayed the family and 1s3d children of three races. The stamps were of quite bright appearance, printed respectively in crimson and pink and bistre-brown and yellow. They were produced in both plain and phosphor-lined version, the latter now catalogued at 15 times the price of the former.

For the first time, the GPO provided special boxes at main post offices to enable collectors to post first day covers and be given a clear machine postmark. For the next special issues, in May, 'First Day of Issue' machine postmarks were provided and the newly established Philatelic Bureau provided a first day cover (FDC) service. The stamps were released during Stampex and many FDCs were posted there to receive the Freedom from Hunger week slogan or exhibition postmark.

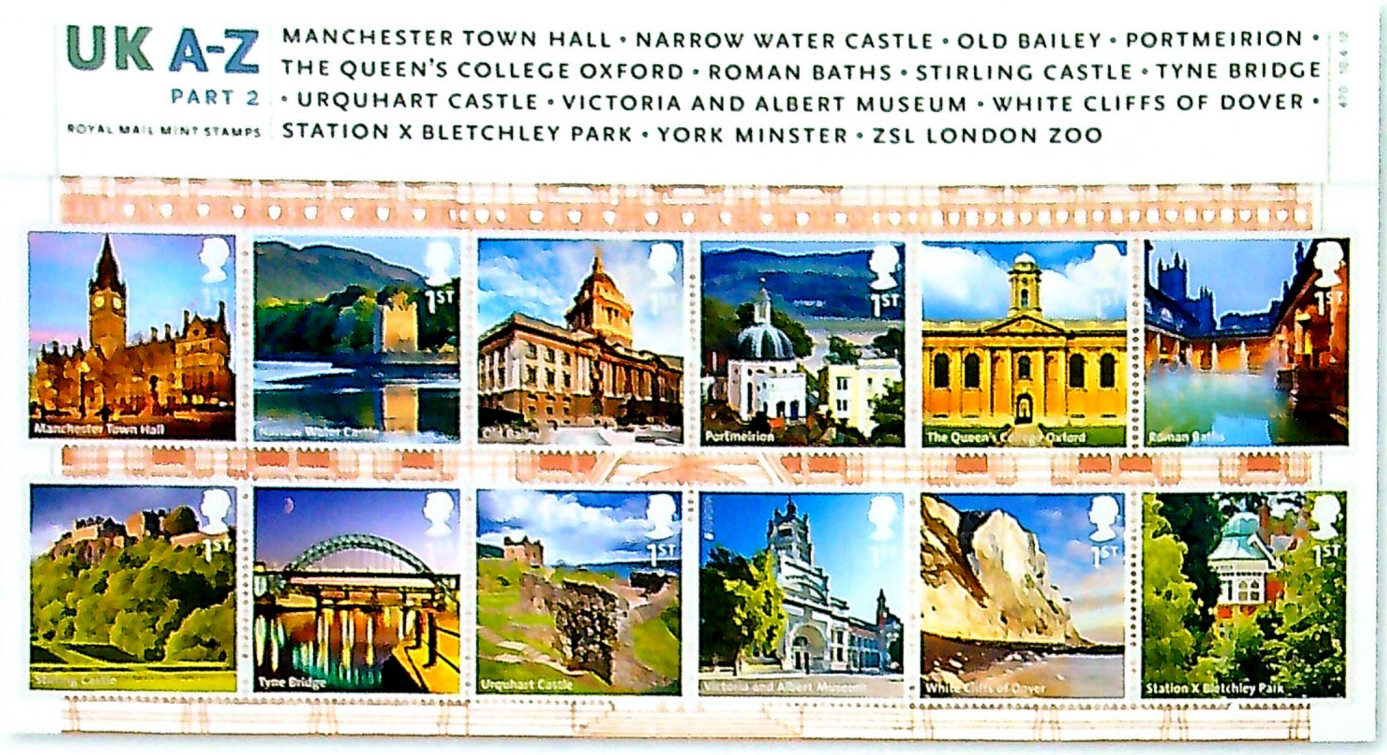


The Freedom from Hunger stamps were free of major errors but two constant varieties on the 2½d value are listed in the SG Specialised Catalogue. They were withdrawn from sale on 1 May 1964, by which time sales had amounted to over 100 million of the 2½d stamp and nearly 10 million of the 1s3d value •

John Holman



Above: what collectors were buying this month in 1963: Freedom from Hunger stamps Right: an official First Day Cover and a selection of the hundreds of stamps issued by other countries in support of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign



Results of 2013 readers' poll

In December *Bulletin* we asked you to take part in our 26th annual stamp poll by voting for your favourite single stamp and favourite stamp set of 2013 Those who returned the voting sheets or voted bay email numbered well over 2,000 and we extend our thanks to all who took part.

Winning set with a sense of history. In a year dominated by high-profile public events connected with The Queen's Diamond Jubilee and London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Game, there was a fine array of 2012 commemorative sets. Collectors who like to see The Queen or popular sports on stamps had an exceptionally wide variety to choose from. Yes, as if to celebrate more everyday scenes in the UK after a year of elaborate celebrations, the biggest majority of voters have chosen the evocative landscapes and buildings of UK A-Z Part II among their favourite stamp sets of the year.

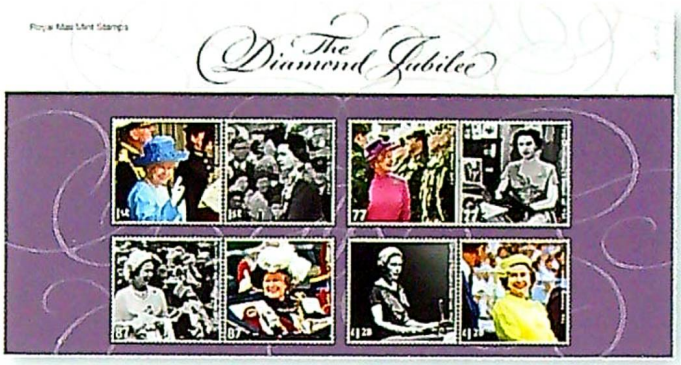
TOP TEN FAVOURITE SETS 2013

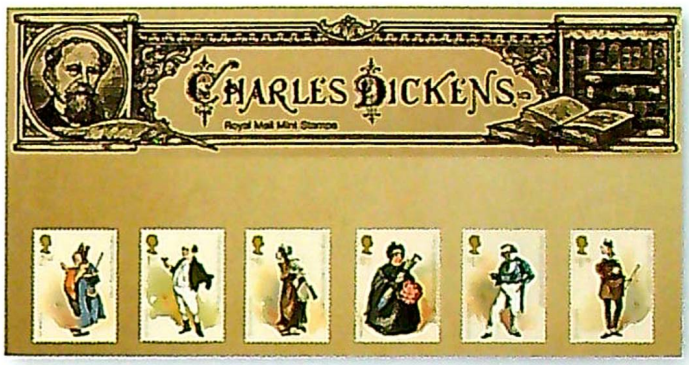
	Votes
UK A-Z Part II	655
Diamond Jubilee Pictorial	441
Space Science	439
Charles Dickens	402
Diamond Jubilee Defin	308
Team GB Gold Medal Winners	305
Classic Locomotives	298
Memories of London 2012	244
House of Windsor	223
Comics	193

Votes for The Diamond Jubilee pictorial set combined with those for the Diamond Jubilee Definitives outumber the overall winner and put the royal-themed stamps sets in second and fifth place respectively.

The voting of sports enthusuiasts was similarly split between the 'Welcome...' and 'Memories of...' Olympic and Paralympic stamps. But the Team GB Gold Medal winners still make it into the leaders list. Such popularity is rather to be expected for the unique London 2012 issues, which look set to remain in people's memories along with the mounting excitement of Team GB's gold medal wins last summer.

Perhaps a little more surprising is the high ranking of the Space Science set. Not that it was ever a serious outsider – themes









Above: Presentation Packs of readers' favourite stamps sets of 2012

of Nature and Literature are always popular with UK collectors. This year the stunning Space Science and Charles Dickens sets are no exception, reaching third and fourth position in the top ten sets (shown above).

Favourite set As soon as your votes started to come in, the definitive-sized poppy stamp quickly leapt ahead. Including this all-time favourite design in the Favourite Stamp Poll almost guaranteed it as the winner, but it was felt it only fair and proper that the poppy should take its place this year.

The six stamps listed below topped the poll decisively, with votes being divided much more equally between the other 195 stamps After the poppy came two of the Diamond Jubilee pictorials designed by Kate Stephens. We cannot end without mentioning the Classic Locomotives voted into both lists – it's good to see that some things never change and *Bulletin* readers can be trusted to vote in large numbers for any kind of train!

Prize draw winner All the postal votes and votes by email went into a prize draw and the lucky winner of the leather-bound Royal Mail 2013 Year Book is Monique Erkelens who is a curator at the Museum of Communications at The Hague. The senders of the next five votes drawn are to receive a selection of Royal Mail stamps and philatelic products issued in 2012.

Favourite stamp poll results In the table right the number in brackets following each stamp name refers to the key numbers beneath the illustrations on the voting form distributed with December 2012 edition of the *British Philatelic Bulletin* •

SIX FAVOURITE STAMPS 2013

	Votes
Lest We Forget, Poppy (197)	310
Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen Elizabeth II: 1997 Trooping the Colour (97)	192
Elizabeth II: Golden Jubilee 2002 (92)	169
Classic Locomotives of Scotland: (47)	163
House of Windsor: Elizabeth II (19)	166
Space Science: Saturn (196)	143

Prize draws Pick up a pen – it's puzzling time



Stamp stars of the small screen The Royal Mail has a long tradition of celebrating television classics. The five questions below relate to the stamps labelled a) to e) above. Answer them correctly and you could win the complete Doctor Who issue.

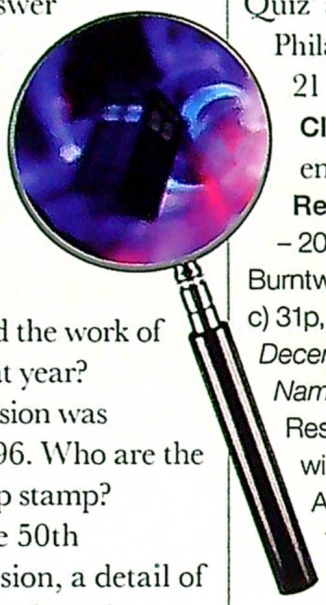
a) On 30 March Part 2 of the current series of BBC's *Doctor Who* returns to our screens. Who plays the eleventh Doctor and features in this month's special stamp issue?

b) A popular stamp series celebrated the work of Gerry and Sylvia Anderson. In what year?

c) Half a century of children's television was marked by a five-stamp series in 1996. Who are the extra-terrestrial creatures on the 37p stamp?

d) In the 2005 issue celebrating the 50th anniversary of Independent Television, a detail of the Sistine Chapel ceiling by Michaelangelo represents which long-running ITV programme?

e) Name the Scottish engineer honoured in this stamp from the 2007 World of Invention issue.



Name that stamp Identify the stamp shown under the magnifier, with its name and year of issue.

How to enter Send your answers, marked 'March Quiz' and/or 'March Name That Stamp' to: Philatelic Bulletin Prize Draws, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB.

Closing date: 12 April, 2013. First correct entries drawn win *Doctor Who* stamps •

Recent winners: *November Name That Stamp* – 2006 Christmas; chimney. Winner: A Everall, Burntwood. Santa Quiz a)1966 b) Raymond Briggs, c) 31p, d) Gruffalo. Winner: J Jobbins, Solihull. *December Quiz* Winner: A Everall, Burntwood. *January Name That Stamp* – 11p, Natural Gas, 1978 Energy Resources. Winner: A Downey, Dunfermline. Quiz winner: J Lucas, Grantham. Crossword – Across: 1 Scuffle. 5 Smog. 10 Ear. 11 Dark horse. 12 Total. 13 Common. 15 Classy. 17 Eskimo. 18 Relief. 20 Rites. 23 Outskirts. 24 Pal. 25 Mayo. 26 Low tide. Down: 2 Carat. 3 Fiddlesticks. 4 Lyric. 6 Marconi. 7 Grew. 8 Lettuce. 9 Chemistry set. 14 Console. 16 Adeptly. 19 Forgo. 21 Tepid. 22 Form. Solution: magnifier. Winner: R High, Wilmslow.

Prize draw rules and regulations 1 Promotions are open to all readers aged 18 and over, 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. The cost of transport to and from a prize venue, where applicable, is not included. 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) to 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 William Doherty, *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. November and December puzzle solutions and prizewinners are not available at time of going to press and will be published in a future issue of *Bulletin*.

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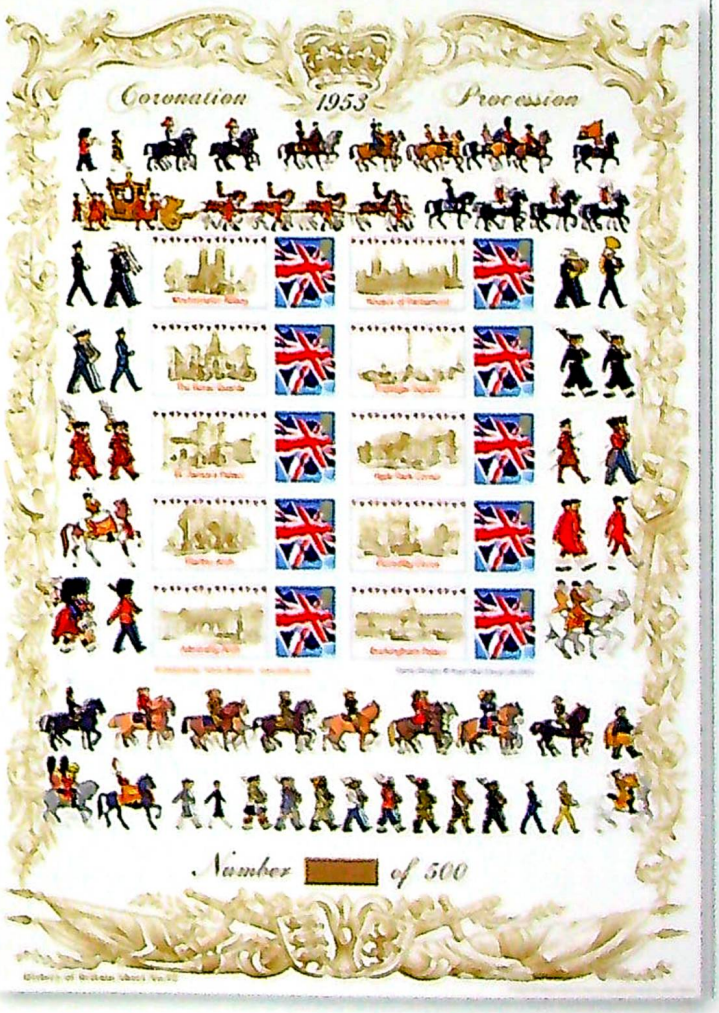
Cover producers wishing to announce recent or forthcoming covers and sheets should submit an image and up to 75 words. We have space to publish only two or three announcements each month. The choice will be made on a first-come-first-served basis or around a theme, and always at the discretion of the Royal Mail Editor in maintaining fair representation of as many cover producers as possible. Please send submissions for the May edition of the British Philatelic Bulletin to arrive by the end of March. Post to the Tallents House address above or e-mail rmbulletin@rocketmail.com.



150 Years of the London Underground Two handsome Buckingham covers with artwork by J Wigston: one (R233B, shown below right) was carried on the Sarah Siddons Locomotive and bears the 1898 stamp and carriage label and Sarah Siddons Locomotive cachet; the other (R233A) travelled on the Metropolitan Number 1 Steam Locomotive and also bears relevant stamps and cachet. **Price**: £14.90 each including p&p ●



Dickens' Dog and Pot This Tilbury Editions cover marks the inauguration in Southwark of the Dog and Pot sign – on 6 February, the last day of the Dickens bicentenary year. Includes explanatory filler card. **Price**: £12.50 +p&p worldwide. Limited number signed by Dickens' great great grandson, £25 +p&p ●



Commemorating the 1953 Coronation Procession BFDC has produced this delightfully detailed stamp sheet in a limited edition of 500 numbered copies, to mark the 60th anniversary of the Queen's Coronation. The sheet design shows a variety of ceremonial dress seen in the Coronation Procession. Alongside ten Union flag stamps are illustrations of ten London landmarks on the procession route. **Price**: £50, including p&p worldwide (stockcode 38961) ●

50 Years of *Doctor Who*



Released on 26 March 2013, the stunning and fact-packed ***Doctor Who* Prestige Stamp Book** (PSB) looks set to shoot to philatelic stardom with UK collectors and fans of the BBC television show. Find out more about *Doctor Who* stamps on pages 167, 206 and 208.

• To order, write to Tallents House at the address on page 194 or visit www.royalmail.com/doctorwho

***Doctor Who* Prestige Stamp Book**
Design: GBH. Text: Gary Russell. Price: £13.77. Five unique stamp panes comprise:
Pane 1 Miniature Sheet comprising 4 x 1st Class *Doctor Who* aliens stamps, 1 x 1st Class TARDIS at centre (this pane not shown above). Litho printed by Cartor Security Print, self-adhesive.
Pane 2 1 each 1st Class of Matt Smith, David Tennant and Christopher Eccleston Doctors.
Pane 3 1 each 1st Class of Paul McGann, Sylvester McCoy, Colin Baker and Peter Davison Doctors.
Pane 4 1 each Tom Baker, Jon Pertwee, Patrick Troughton and William Hartnell Doctors.
Pane 5 4 x 1st Class TARDIS, 1 x 5p Machin, 1 x 10p Machin, 1 x 20p Machin and 1 x 87p Machin. Panes 2, 3, 4 and 5 are gravure printed by Walsall Security Printers, gummed.

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