

BRITISH PHILATELIC

The ROYAL MAIL magazine *for stamp collectors*

Volume 39 Number 7

MARCH 2002 • 85P

Bulletin

Results of annual stamp poll
• Presentation packs, part 3



Under the big top: Royal Mail celebrates the circus with its new set of five stamps, to be issued on 9 April.



Forthcoming issues and withdrawals



Cover The tightrope walker's gravity-defying performance is a traditional circus act. Royal Mail celebrates the circus in a new set of stamps, previewed on p208. Photograph: Hulton Archive.

5 March	Issue Occasions stamps and presentation pack.
5 March	Withdrawal Northern Ireland 19p, 1st, 40p & 65p Machin head stamp.
11 March	Withdrawal Low Value, High Value, Country presentation packs.
12 March	Issue Low Value, High Value, Scotland, and Wales presentation packs containing current range of stamps. Also Royal Mail Definitive Stamps Collection folder containing all six definitive and country stamp packs (low & high values, England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland).
12 March	Issue Coastlines stamp cards.
12 March	Withdrawal Weather stamps, miniature sheet, presentation pack, stamp cards, and postbag.
19 March	Issue Coastlines stamps and presentation pack.
20 March	Issue Golden Jubilee ingot cover (Wildings prestige book pane and ingot reproducing 1952 2½d definitive stamp).
2 April	Issue Circus stamp cards.
9 April	Issue Circus stamps and presentation pack.
9 April	Withdrawal Submarines stamps, presentation pack and stamp cards.
23 April	Issue 2002 Occasions stamps in 'Smilers' sheets with greetings labels or personalised image.
23 April	Issue Ingot Pack – St George gilded ingot in pack.
25 April	Issue Airliners stamp cards.

Issues Note some items are available only from Royal Mail Talents 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

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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.

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Crown Agents Jubilee issues

Ascension Island
Bahamas
Bermuda
Belize
British Antarctic Territory
British Indian Ocean Territory
British Virgin Islands
Cayman Islands
Falkland Islands
Gibraltar
Jamaica
Nauru
Niuafo'ou
Norfolk Island
Papua New Guinea
Pitcairn Islands
St Helena
St Lucia
Solomon Islands
South Georgia
Swaziland
Tokelau
Tonga
Tristan da Cunha



Golden Jubilee stamps On 6 February the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau released stamps and souvenir sheets for the 24 countries listed above. Each set comprises four stamps showing portraits of Her Majesty as Princess and as Queen at different times during her reign. The souvenir sheets contain the four stamps plus a fifth in a common design showing the famous Anigoni portrait of The Queen. The stamps were designed by Andrew Robinson and printed in litho by Questa. Stamps printed in sheet format carry the official Golden Jubilee logo and have a decorative gold border around the perforations.

Australia Post issued 45c and \$2.45 stamps on 6 February. These feature a photograph of The Queen in the early years of her reign, and a contemporary photograph of Her Majesty taken during her state visit to Italy in 2000. The stamps are also available in miniature sheet format and on maximum cards. Other Golden Jubilee stamps have been issued by Alderney and the Isle of Man (above) •

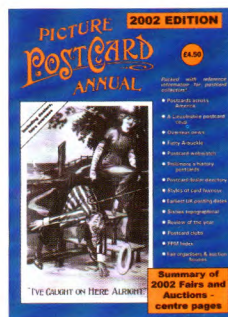
Enquiries Miss V Beeken, 162 Canterbury Road, Newton Hall Estate, Durham DH1 5XT. Telephone 0191 386 1931.

North East Philatelic Weekend The 26th annual weekend will be held at the Swallow Hotel, Gateshead, 17-19 May. The programme will include talks/displays on 'From the Files of William Wilson & Sons, tartan manufacturers' (Roy Erskine), 'George v - Australia & New Zealand' (John Sussex), 'Law and Order' (Valerie Beeken), 'Luxembourg' (Stephen Holder), and 'Nicaragua' (Michael Birks). There will be a dinner, raffle, and auction •

New books Eric Paul Ltd has announced publication of Volumes 13 and 14 of K W Statham's *The Essential Guide to the Great Britain Line Engraved 1d and 2d Stars 1840-1864*. The two latest volumes cover the 1d Die 11 Plates 1-21 including a summary of plates in use in 1855 and earliest known/recorded date of usage, and a comprehensive plating summary covering all the Die 11 plates from 1-21. Vol 13 contains 125 pages and over 745 diagrams illustrating each recorded variety, and Vol 14 120 pages with one lettering set out on each page for clarity and ease of reference. The two volumes are supplied in a hand-made black presentation box with gold embossing. Price until 31 March £90 postpaid UK (overseas add £10 surface mail or £25 airmail), from 1 April £100 plus postage (£10 UK, overseas surface mail £15, airmail £35). Orders received by 31 March will receive a £15 voucher towards the purchase of volumes 15 and 16 •

The 2002 edition of *Picture Postcard Annual* includes the usual reference features and well-illustrated articles. The reference section provides a comprehensive directory of dealers, a diary of 2002 fairs and auctions, lists of fair organisers, postcard clubs, retail outlets, and auction houses, and an index of articles in *Picture Postcard Monthly* from 1978. Recent auction results are featured, along with a review of the past 12 months in the hobby. Feature articles include the Brigg Mill Fire, Fatty Arbuckle, Phillimore's history cards, 1950s and 60s Topographicals, and Railway Freecards. The Annual is well-produced, 96 pages. Available from postcard dealers, fairs or shops, price £4.50 or £5.50 postpaid direct from the publisher: Reflections of a Bygone Age, 15 Debdale Lane, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5HT; telephone 0115 937 4079. *Picture Postcard Monthly* is available from the same address; the annual subscription is £28 UK, £34 Europe, £45 America, £47 Australasia •

Orders and enquiries about earlier volumes should be sent to: Eric Paul Ltd, PO Box 44, Marple, Stockport SK6 7EE.



Thematica celebrates the Golden Jubilee Thematica is inviting all young collectors to prepare a small display that features an aspect of the life and times of HM The Queen as part of the celebrations of the Golden Jubilee. Thematica is Britain's only exhibition dedicated to thematic collecting and is held twice a year (June and November) at the Carisbrooke Hall, Seymour Street, London W2. The displays will be of either four or eight pages (depending on age) and Thematica will provide the pages and protectors in which to house them. Exciting prizes are on offer, including compact auto-focus zoom cameras, CD/stereo radio/cassette players and personal CD players. In addition, every entrant will receive a £5 voucher to spend at the exhibition. Entries should be received by 31 May and the winners will be shown at the exhibition on 29-30 June. ●

Thematica competition For further details and an application form, write to: Thematica 2002 Stamp Competition, British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1M 6PT.

Machins in Japan The British Stamps Study Circle of Japan Philatelic Society organised a 'Modern British Philatelic Exhibition' featuring 30 years of decimal Machins. Some 300 people visited the exhibition, (23-25 November) which included a portrait of Arnold Machin, and 40 frames consisting of 15 exhibits including a Wedgwood plate and dish featuring the Machin head, and coils of Machin definitives. ●



GB Philatelic Society For details contact Andrew Lajer, Old Post Office, Davis Way, Hurst, Reading RG10 0TR.

I&BPS Contact John Payne, Kelso, Devonshire Avenue, Amersham HP6 5JE.

G B Stevens 29 Syon Park Gardens, Osterley, Isleworth TW7 5NE. Telephone 020 8569 7267.

Society publications The January/February issue of the GB Philatelic Society's *GB Journal* includes features on the end of free franking, Edward VII 1d with CANCELLED overprint, London Inland Section numberless '1844' cancellations, the closure of Grover & Co Ltd (manufacturers of stamp perforating machines), and Victorian postal scales – all worthy, if somewhat esoteric, subjects. Enclosed as a free gift is a nicely produced and illustrated 44-page book *Great Britain King George VI Low Value Definitive Stamps: An Illustrated Study of the Development of Their Design* written by Peter Worsfold.

The Society's January/February *Newsletter*, sent out with the *Journal*, includes a feature on George VI stamps by Mr Worsfold, a comment from Douglas Muir of Consignia Heritage Services on the Wilding portrait, reports of Society displays, and much else to interest serious GB collectors •

The 200th issue (December 2001) of the Insurance & Banking Philatelic Society of GB's *Newsletter* includes a number of features of interest to GB collectors: a report on Brian Asquith's display of Concorde material, a Christmas quiz on GB postal rates, GB overprints (Oxford Union Society and officials), 1951 Festival of Britain issue, GB new issues, and details of the Santa Fun Pack and Smiler stamps. The I&BPS is open to all collectors employed in or retired from the financial world •

Bulletin back issues G B Stevens has the following for disposal: *Philatelic Bulletin* vol 4 nos 10 & 11 and vols 5-38 (June 1967 - August 2001). *In-Phil* nos 1-140 minus nos 23, 28, 32, 39, 45, 80, 90, 91, 101 & 127 (June 1986 - August 1996), *Preview* nos 1-77 minus nos 72 & 73 (August 1996 - June 2001), also assorted philatelic brochures, British and foreign in considerable quantity. These are available to a genuine collector (no dealers) for a £75 donation to the Donkey Sanctuary. All items would have to be collected from Mr Stevens by appointment •

Obituaries The eminent cartoonist and illustrator Paul Hogarth died in December, aged 84. He designed the 1984 London Economic Summit, 1985 350 Years of Royal Mail, 1990 Europa/Glasgow City of Culture and 1994 Golf stamps. At various times he was a lecturer at the Royal College of Art and Associate Professor at the Philadelphia College of Art. He became a Royal Academician in 1984 and was awarded the OBE in 1989 •

Air-Marshal Sir Peter Horsley who died in December, aged 80, was a former Equerry to HM The Queen and HRH The Duke of Edinburgh. In the philatelic world he was, as Peter Beresford, the author of *Journal of a Stamp Collector* published in 1972. He was at different times consultant to Robson Lowe and Stanley Gibbons •

Ian Findlay, who died, aged 83, in January, was Chairman of Lloyd's of London when the insurance market's reputation was hit by a series of scandals. On a happier note, he was Chairman when the new Lloyd's building (shown on the 64p Workers' Tale stamp) was commissioned. He was a keen student of postal history, with a notable collection of early American covers, especially those of Wells Fargo and the Pony Express •

Royal Mail news New packs • New postage label • Forthcoming issues • SAC members

New presentation packs Readers are reminded that a new series of definitive and country stamp packs will be available from 12 March (see p168 of February *Bulletin* for details). The six packs (low and high value definitives, England, Scotland, Wales, & Northern Ireland country stamps) will also be available in a special 'Royal Mail Definitive Stamp Collection' folder with the Machin head printed in silver on the front cover. Price £29.95 with the six packs or £6.99 empty folder •



Stamp Advisory Committee We give details this month of two new members of Royal Mail's Stamp Advisory Committee. Tony Walker, who has recently retired as a landscape architect, established the multidisciplinary environmental consultancy Anthony Walker and Partners in 1970. The practice received many national and international design awards and became one of the largest independent firms in this field in the UK. He has been an external examiner at several university postgraduate courses and visiting design tutor at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. He has served on Government Working Parties and continues as Oral Examiner for final professional examinations of the Landscape Institute. Tony is a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London and a Council member of the Great Britain Philatelic Society for which he edits the Society's *Newsletter*. His specialised collection of £sd Machin definitives has received significant competitive awards in international philately and has done much to encourage the collection of modern GB stamps. His articles 'Machin pre-decimal definitives' were published here in March and April 2000.

Glenn Tuttsel, Executive Creative Director of Tuttsels Enterprise IG, graduated from the London College of Printing and joined Lock Pettersen in 1974. From 1984 until 1992 he was Creative Director of Michael Peters PLC. He co-founded Tuttsels in 1993 which, with its sister company Lambie-Nairn, offered branding both on and off-screen; both companies joining the WPP Group in 2000. Glenn has received numerous awards for his work, including six prestigious USA Communication Arts Awards of Excellence, four International Clio Awards, four D&AD Silver Awards, and two Design Effectiveness Awards. He has also held external examiner posts at the universities of Dundee and Plymouth, and is on the Executive Board of the British Design and Art Direction Association. In 2001 Tuttsels joined the global corporate and consumer brand consultancy Enterprise IG to become Tuttsels Enterprise IG. Glenn Tuttsel designed the 1999 Welsh country stamps and 2000 Spirit & Faith (Christmas) stamps.

Profiles of the other two new members of the SAC, Gordon Marsden MP and Ram Gidoomal, were published in last month's *Bulletin* •



Forthcoming issues Five stamps and a miniature sheet featuring Airliners will be issued on 2 May. The designs, shown here, feature: 2002 Airbus A340-600, 1976 Concorde, 1964 Trident, 1964 VC10, and 1952 Comet. The stamps commemorate 50 years of jet travel. The miniature sheet will be in similar size and format to that for the Buses stamps, issued last May. A book containing four 1st class definitives and two 1st class Airliner stamps will also be available.

A 1st class stamp and miniature sheet of four 1st class stamps to commemorate the England team's participation in the World Cup will go on sale on 21 May, also a book containing four 1st class definitives and two of the 1st class World Cup stamp. Both Airliners and World Cup issues will be previewed next month.

The new Occasions stamps (5 March) will shortly be available in 'Smilers' sheets with generic greeting messages or personalised images on the labels. Details will be given next month ●

High values Initial printings of the current high value stamps by De La Rue were from plate 1 followed by a boxed 4 – as recorded here in May 2000 (page 279). Plate numbers on further supplies are noted as follows: £1.50 1 with boxed 2 and 3; £2 1 with boxed 3; £3 1 with boxed 1 and 2 and 1 dot with boxed 4; £5 3 dot with boxed 1 and 4 ●

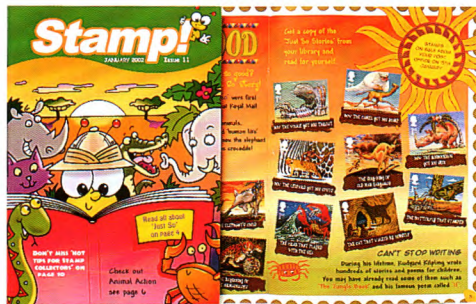
New printers for definitive and country stamps Contracts have now been awarded that will introduce quite a few philatelic varieties. Future printings of the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish country stamps will be by De La Rue instead of Walsall. Business sheets of 100 1st class self-adhesive stamps will be printed by Enschedé instead of Questa and sheets of 2nd class self-adhesive stamps will be Enschedé instead of Walsall. The contract for printing rolls 500 × 2nd class, 1000 × 2nd, 500 × 1st, 1000 × 1st, 1000 × 1st RMUS, and 1000 × 2nd RMUS will change from De La Rue to Enschedé. Dates of first day of availability from Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets will be announced; no first day of issue facilities will be available ●

Going off sale Readers are reminded that the Weather stamps, miniature sheet, presentation pack, stamp cards and postbag will be withdrawn from sale on 12 March. The Submarines stamps, presentation packs and stamp cards will be withdrawn on 9 April and the Buses stamps, miniature sheet, presentation pack, stamp cards and postbag on 14 May. Postbags, a kind of presentation pack for children, include the Weather or Buses miniature sheet, specially commissioned postcards, and other items of interest to young collectors. Postbags, also available for the Pondlife and Nobel Prizes issues, cost £5.99 each ●

Royal Mail postage label Last month (page 191) we announced the issue of a new postage label available at Post Office branches in the Edinburgh, Southampton and Watford postcode areas. Readers are reminded that labels will be printed and affixed by counter staff after a letter/package has been weighed; they will not be available in unused condition. They are intended for use on mail above the minimum weight steps, ie above 60g UK and 20g overseas. Labels are not available from Royal Mail Tallents House or Post Office philatelic outlets •

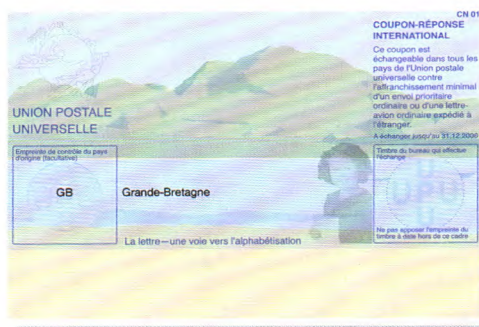


Collectors Club The colourful January issue of the Club's magazine *Stamp!* includes a preview of the Kipling Just So Stories and Queen's Golden Jubilee stamps, a Just So Stories competition, a feature on the RSPCA Animal Centre in Cornwall, tips for stamp collectors, and the cartoon adventures of Sammy the Stamp Bug. A supplement includes members' swaps, puzzles and pen pal requests. The Club is for young collectors up to age 12; members receive a fun starter pack, membership card, something in the post each month, six sets of stamps a year and *Stamp!* magazine six times a year. Annual subscription is £15 UK, £22.50 overseas. Application forms from: Collectors Club, Freepost NEA1431, Sunderland SR9 9XN •



Royal Mail Collectibles The Golden Jubilee Framed Collection is now available from Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. The following are available in beautiful old gold frames: stamps (order code PY676, price £19.95), postcards (PY675, £24.95), and stamp panes from prestige book (PY677, £34.95). A new addition to Royal Mail's increasing product range will be an ingot pack containing a gilded silver ingot reproducing the design of the 1951 George VI 10s stamp featuring St George and the Dragon. This will be available from Tallents House from 23 April, price £139 •

International Reply Coupon A new design coupon went on sale at the Post Office branches which stock this item on 2 January, priced 60p. The new pictorial design features a young girl in the foreground with mountain scenery behind her. The familiar Universal Postal Union globe logo is positioned at top left. Please note that the coupon is not available from Royal Mail Tallents House or at Post Office philatelic outlets •



Annuals and exhibitions Part three: Richard West's series

Greetings Where do Greetings (and now Occasions) stamps fit into the scheme of things? Collectors must really decide for themselves whether they are definitives or special issues (or indeed a separate category). However, from the 1992 series, with its designs on the theme of 'Memories', these stamps have been made available in presentation packs.

The Greetings stamps were produced only in booklets: so initially were the self-adhesive stamps. The 'experimental' booklet of 1993, containing 20 of the 1st class self-adhesive stamp, was also available in a presentation pack.

Although no longer produced, the humble postage due, which had not changed in design from inception up to decimalisation, saw three different designs since 1971. Presentation packs have been available for all the three different designs (when a 7p value was added to the 1971 series, this was also included in the packs).

Annual packs Back in 1967 it was decided to offer the year's special issues in one pack, which was designated at the time as a Gift Pack. It was issued on 27 November, so that it could also include the year's Christmas stamps.

The concept was repeated the following year, although in 1968 the Gift Pack was produced in both an English and a German language version, and did not include the year's Christmas stamps.

However, in 1968 the situation was made slightly more complicated by the addition of a further item, called the Collector's Pack. This was available from 16 September, and contained special issues of both 1967 (from the British Discoveries and Inventions set) and 1968 (up to the British Paintings series).

After 1968 the Gift Pack was dropped, but the Collector's Pack remained, for many years still containing issues which overlapped two years, albeit one pack continuing where the previous had stopped. This practice continued until 1971; thereafter, from 1972 onwards, the Collector's Pack contained just the sets issued in the particular year.

In 1983 the format of these annual packs changed to a standard A4 size, but the change of name, from Collector's Pack to Year Pack, did not take place until 1994. They continue to be offered at the end of each year.

In 1969 and 1970 the packs were also made available with either German or Japanese translation insert cards; from 1971 to 1974 only German cards were provided.

Back in 1978, in preparation for the London 1980 international stamp exhibition, the Post Office issued its first miniature sheet. Similar sheets were also issued in 1979 and 1980 for the 1980 exhibition, and again in 1988, 1989 and 1990 for the 1990 exhibition. However, the Collector's (Year) Packs did not at first include the miniature sheets: the situation changed in 1990 with the miniature sheet issued that year.

From 1994 Greetings stamps (issued in booklets) were, perhaps surprisingly, included in the Year Packs.

Year Books In 1984 came yet a further development, the Year Book. This is a bound volume, giving much background information to each set of special stamps issued during the year, each issue having its own 'chapter'. The stamps are provided, ready for mounting within the appropriate chapter.

Referring back to the miniature sheets produced to support the Stamp World London 90 exhibition, the Year Book for 1988 did include the miniature sheet that combined the four Edward Lear stamps, but it did not include the separate stamps. However, from 1989 the miniature sheets were included in their own right.

From 1995, luxury versions of the Year Book have been made available bound in leather.

In many instances, collectors like to have items which are absolutely pristine, in other words as originally issued. In the case of the Year Books, this means leaving the book with its cellophane protection intact: such books have never been opened and examined. A dilemma for many collectors occurred in 1998. The intention had been

continues with more special packs produced by Royal Mail

From top: 1967 Gift Pack,
1969 Collector's Pack, and
1998 Yearbook.

Collectors Pack 1969

British Pictorial Stamps



1967 Postage Stamps Special Issues

£1



To tell a story that's compelling and convincing requires tremendous skill under any circumstances. To spin a magical tale of another, parallel world populated by its own distinctive peoples, brimming with adventure, governed by unfamiliar yet credible rules and values, and then to offer all this up to the exacting scrutiny of the young reader must be one of the ultimate challenges facing any writer.

For at least two centuries British authors have risen to the challenge of creating parallel realities. Every generation has seen writers emerge to create magical worlds which have enthralled millions of children and their parents. The very best of this writing manages amazing longevity, continually finding new, eager and appreciative audiences many decades after first editions become collector's items.

The genre can trace its roots back to the early eighteenth century and such extraordinary works as Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels* which carries the reader on a mystical journey through a parallel world of strange lands. The glorious sense of other-worldliness, the exhilaration and ingenuity of invention, the lavish attention to detail and occasional dash of anarchy all combine to melt away reality and allow young readers freedom and escape from the adult world. And these are the elements that occur time and again in the classic works celebrated in this year's Magical Worlds stamps which mark the

centenaries of Lewis Carroll's death and C. S. Lewis's birth. Carroll's extraordinarily vivid and surreal world created in the *Alice* books never fails to delight its audience and is as fresh to read and enter into today as when it was first penned. In common with so many of the best children's storytellers, Lewis Carroll, the *nom de plume* of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, found a voice that was somehow exactly in tune with the young audience while avoiding the common pitfall of being patronising.

Like so many children's storytellers, Carroll was clearly a complex character – he was revered as a brilliant mathematician and he lectured on the subject at Oxford. He had one eyebrow noticeably higher than the other, and perhaps his preoccupation with symmetries, in his learned mathematical works and his children's books, tells us something about his fascination with the looking-glass. Both *Alice in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking-Glass* are intricate conundrums filled with parody and puzzles and surreal nonsense poems which manage to appeal on different levels to adults and children alike. However, what really marked it out from other children's fiction at the time was that, unlike most Victorian works, it contained no schill of instruction and moralising.

As Carroll wrote: "I can guarantee that the books have no religious teaching whatever in them – in fact they do not teach anything at all." The books were not just an instant success; they changed children's literature – and our imaginations – forever. In the year that has marked the centenary of his death, Carroll's severely neglected and overgrown grave in Guildford has been restored in



Between the 1830s and '50s, Oxford became a hub of creativity where C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien and poet and novelist writer Charles Williams were among the friends, many of them Oxford dons, who formed an informal literary group called *The Inklings*. They shared an intellectual fascination for language and a love of the ancient tradition of storytelling. On Thursday evenings they would meet in Lewis's rooms at Magdalen College to read out their latest work. Here *The Lord of the Rings* first captured an audience. Tolkien, for example, admitted being inspired by Lewis's encouragement: "Only from him did I ever get the idea that my 'stuff' could be more than a private hobby."

As a child in Bedford, C. S. Lewis's imagination for storytelling developed when he created his fantasy world of 'Narnia'.

that the lowest value of the Christmas set should be a 13p value. The stamps had been printed, and Year Books were made up with the 13p stamps. A decision was then made to increase postal rates, and that the lowest value should be 14p. Replacement stamps were printed: the intention was that the 13p values in the Year Books be substituted with the 14p. However, some Year Books failed to have the stamps changed, and so exist with the 13p Christmas stamp. All examples of the 13p Christmas have come from Year Books, but how do you know if your Year Book contains the error of value unless you break open the cellophane? If your book turns out to contain the 14p, you have reduced the potential 'value' of your book in vain.

As with Year Packs, Year Books continue to be made available each year.

Before leaving special books, it is appropriate to mention *Snowdon Shepherd*, written by Keith Bowen, designer of the Wintertime stamps of 1992: the books were sold with a set of the stamps included.

Christmas packs In 1986 an experiment was tried of producing the 13p Christmas stamp in small sheets of 36 (two panes of 18 separated by a gutter), for sale in special packs. The idea was again tested in 1987, but not continued thereafter (now, of course, the inland rates Christmas stamps are available in booklet form).

The 1986 packs exist with a bar code sticker additionally affixed to the back, for limited test sales through non-Post Office outlets.

Further Gift Packs In 1994, the opening of the Channel Tunnel was marked by both the British and French Post Offices, the same stamp designs being used by both countries. A Gift Pack was made available, which contained joint first day covers of the stamps from both countries, the Souvenir Book (already mentioned), a joint presentation pack, and a 'black print' of the stamp designs.

Similar Gift Packs were offered for the 1994 Christmas stamps (including a presentation pack, first day cover and set of stamp cards), and in the

following year for Cats and the Centenary of The National Trust. The NT pack included a brochure on The National Trust, a presentation pack, and a set of stamp cards, with the stamps affixed to the picture side and cancelled on the day of issue.

Special issues To save any confusion, when mentioning special issues for which no presentation pack was provided last time, there were three further single stamp issues for which no pack was provided. These were for the 80th birthday of the Queen Mother (1980), the London Economic Summit Conference (1984) and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference (1986).

Exhibitions It's amazing how we keep looking back at those four initial packs produced in 1960. They were sold at the international stamp exhibition which was held in London that year, and during a sales tour undertaken by the Post Office in North America. In 1971 a similar situation arose. A sales tour was undertaken of Scandinavian countries, and two packs were produced. The first, with a green cover, contained one of each of the newly-issued low value decimal definitives (up to 9p). It was also felt desirable to have a 'special issue' available in a similar pack, but as it had been decided sensible to have a pause in the release of new 'specials' during the period of the change of currency (fortuitous, as it happens, as this was also the period of a long postal strike), no decimal currency special issues had yet been released. Therefore the pack which was produced, this time with a red cover, contained one each of the 1970 (pre-decimal) Christmas stamps.

Also in 1971, the NABA stamp exhibition was held in Switzerland: for this a special pack was produced which contained both the low values and the four high value decimal definitives. A second pack contained a set of the first decimal postage due labels.

For the international exhibition staged in Brussels in 1972, Belgica 72, a very attractive souvenir pack was produced. Focusing on British stamps



From top: 1994 Christmas Gift Pack, 1986 Christmas stamps in a folder containing 36 of the 13p value, and the pack for a 1971 Scandinavia tour containing newly-issued low-value decimal definitives.

with a religious theme, it featured not only the issued stamps, but also illustrated many of the unadopted designs. This pack included the 1971 Christmas series depicting stained glass windows and the 1972 Village Churches series.

Back in 1978, racing driver Alain de Cadenet was helping promote British stamps, particularly overseas. For the American Philatelic Society Convention held in Indianapolis in 1978 a simple pack was produced, containing a set of the Horses stamps and the Cycling series – transport with not quite the speed that Alain de Cadenet was used to.

Often these ‘presentation souvenirs’ were produced by agents acting for the British Post Office overseas, and were sometimes released without prior consultation with those at Post Office Headquarters in London. Such was the case with the international stamp exhibition held in Tokyo in 1981. A folder containing one of each of the two Royal Wedding stamps was produced. While the bulk of the text was in Japanese, on the reverse appeared the inscription ‘British Post Office’, sufficient to give the item the impression of being officially sanctioned. As a result many collectors wanted to acquire the folder.

Examples were therefore made available from the Philatelic Bureau in Edinburgh. However, it was realised that the original Japanese text made reference to Prince Charles standing on a box for the photograph seen on the stamps to be taken: this was never officially confirmed. The folders sold through the Bureau were consequently a reprint, on which all such reference to the ‘box’ was removed.

At the international exhibition in Copenhagen in 1987, Hafnia, packs of the Studio Pottery issue were being assembled on the British Post Office stand. An insert card placed in the packs noted this.

For an exhibition held overseas, that in 1997 in Hong Kong, just prior to the hand-back, was unusual in that Royal Mail marked the event with a commemorative label stamp book. The British Post Office naturally had a stand, at which two souvenirs of particular interest were sold. One was a folder containing the ‘Hong Kong 97’ book-

let pane: this had just a plain cover carrying suitable text. Far more colourful was the folder containing another commemorative label booklet pane, this time for ‘The Queen’s 70th birthday: the covers featured a montage of tourist sights of London. Both these folders were inscribed inside with the text ‘The Marketing Department, British Post Office’.

The most recent ‘international’ in London was, of course, The Stamp Show 2000. The exhibition souvenir (featuring the Machin colour palette by Jeffery Matthews) and the miniature sheet (including a 1953 Coronation design) were made available in presentation packs. One might also describe the admission ticket, which consisted of a folder in which was placed the appropriately inscribed ‘Millennium Timekeeper’ miniature sheet, as a ‘pack’. However, these were not only sold at the ‘international’, but were made more widely available.

Of particular interest, however, was the presentation pack containing a block of four of the Penny Black which was printed from a special plate created using the original die held by the Post Office. This reproduction Penny Black was created specifically for the exhibition, and demonstrations of its printing were a highlight of the exhibition.

These packs and folders in no way reflect the total participation of the British Post Office at stamp exhibitions. Often a special item is produced for sale primarily at the exhibition, including the range of exhibition cards produced during the 1980s. However, as these are not in the style of presentation packs or folders, they are outside the scope of this article.

In addition to postal administrations, it is quite usual for stamp printers to be present at stamp exhibitions, not only demonstrating their skills but also often producing souvenir items. However, these are rarely in the form of presentation packs. An example may be found for Philypia held in London in 1970: Harrison and Sons had printed the three Philypia stamps which were to publicise the event, and made the three available in a souvenir folder sold from their stand at the exhibition. *To be continued* ●

British STAMPS



APS CONVENTION INDIANAPOLIS 1978
HORSE POWER AND WHEELS
FROM THE SPONSORS OF
ALAIN DE CADENET'S
BRITISH STAMP SPECIAL

Above, pack for the American Philatelic Society Convention in Indianapolis in 1978. Right, pack produced by the British Post Office agent in Japan, for the exhibition in Tokyo in 1981.



Above and right, the souvenir folders sold at Hong Kong '97. Below, folder containing the Philympia 70 stamps, printed by Harrison and Sons.

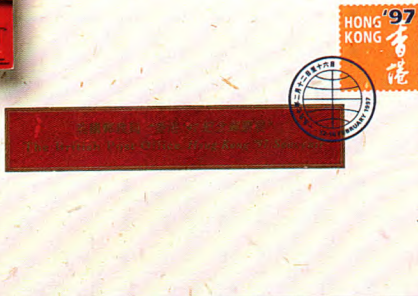
Harrison & Sons Ltd printed these three Philympia stamps designed by David Gardeman. Each stamp is printed by photogravure at Harrison's High Wycombe factory. The 5d, in three colours, features in its design the 1848 1d black, the world's first adhesive postage stamp, and bears the corner letters P and L for Philympia, London. The 9d in four colours, shows the 1s green of 1847, the first embossed stamp issued in Britain. The 16d is in four colours and features the 4d carmine of 1865, the first British surface-printed issue. The stamps are all in sheets of 120, and treated with phosphor.

Issued by the British Post Office on September 18, 1970.

Harrison & Sons Ltd, 38 Warren Street, London, W1P 8EE 01-87 8233



発行日 1981年7月22日
種類・種類 14p・25p 2種
国 家 チャールズ皇太子と
ダイアナ妃
印刷・版式 ジェフリー・マシューズ
印刷・版式 ハリソン父子社
サイズ 50×41mm
シート構成 10×10 まで10-100部



The circus comes to town Royal Mail's new



Technical details

Printer House of Questa

Process Gravure

Stamp size 37 x 35mm

Sheets 100

Perforation 14.5

Phosphor 2nd class one band, others two vignetted bands

Gum PVA

Gutter pairs Horizontal

Cylinders and colours

Q1 greenish yellow ● Q1 magenta ● Q1 new blue ● Q1 black ● Q1 bright orange ● Q1 emerald ● Q1 silver ● Q1 phosphor

THE CIRCUS COMES TO TOWN next month. This year's theme for Europa stamps, chosen by the Posteurop organisation, is Circus. Five colourful stamps on this theme will go on sale at post offices, Royal Mail Tallents House, Edinburgh, and Post Office philatelic outlets on 9 April. They depict: 2nd class (19p) Slack Wire Act; 1st class (27p) Lion Tamer; E rate (37p) Trick Tri-cyclists; 45p Krazy Kar; and 65p The Equestrienne. The Queen's head and value are printed in silver at top left, the EUROPA symbol appears at lower left on the 1st and E stamps.

During a trip to Suffolk, Barry Robinson, Royal Mail's Stamp Programme Director, spotted a circus automata in a craft shop. The Circus contained a total of 11 acts on a moving circular base. Barry tracked down its creator, Ron Fuller, and selected five of the acts to put to the Stamp Advisory Committee as potential stamp images. The intention was to photograph the models for the stamps, but the SAC was so impressed by the watercolours Mr Fuller submitted as a guide that they adopted them on the spot. A photograph of Mr Fuller's complete circus automata is the main feature in the presentation pack, while his circus strongman is shown on the filler card.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets about a week before 9 April, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the five stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House or Clowne, Chesterfield must reach Royal Mail (address below) 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 (Tallents House postmark), or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, South Shields DO, Keppell Street, South Shields NE33 1AA (Clowne postmark), marking the outer envelope 'FDO211' (Tallents House), or 'FDO212' (Clowne). Covers can be posted or handed in at main post offices for the Clowne postmark.

Details of other handstamps for 9 April will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House (£10 UK / Europe; £21.75 elsewhere). For a sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

issue of stamps on this year's Europa theme



The designer Ron Fuller lives near Woodbridge in Suffolk. Automata making as a distinct craft has a long history, from the spring and wind mechanisms of the master clock and watchmakers of late 18th century Germany, to the penny arcades of the English seaside. Mr Fuller is a leading figure in contemporary automata making, having constructed 13 circus automata.



Mrs J Robinson
200 Manorbie Road
Ilkeston
Derbyshire
DE7 4AB

Royal Mail 'Talents House' 11 South Oyley Crescent Edinburgh EH11 9BB



One of the most popular additions to Astley's original circus was the clown, whose basic character was derived from earlier forms of Roman and Elizabethan theatre. By the 1800s, clowns of all shapes and styles had established themselves as a staple of the circus, with no little thanks to the work of the inspired Londoner Joseph Grimaldi, whose white face and impeccably timed comic pratfalls provided the template for future performers.

Aerial gymnastics began to fly high in 1859, the year that the French acrobat Jules Léotard developed the first flying trapeze act and Charles Blondin crossed the Niagara Falls on a

The animal trainer Isaac A Van Amburgh was reputedly the first person feckless enough to stick his head in a lion's mouth. Through horses, lions and elephants are most closely associated with the circus, in earlier times camels, snakes and hippopotamuses have been trained to amuse and delight.

The circus strongman was usually part of the sideshow, which was a collection of somewhat dubious attractions in smaller tents and in wagons surrounding the dominant big top. Particularly popular during the Victorian era, punters paid their pennies to gawp at the strange and the unfortunate, from bearded ladies and contortionists to chews or generously

A presentation pack containing the five stamps (left, price £2.30) and stamp cards (25p each) will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets. The pack, designed by Tuttsels Enterprise IG, includes a photograph of the circus models of Ron Fuller.



Circus stamps This is Britain's first set dedicated to the circus. Circus performing animals featured on the 20½p stamp of the 1983 British Fairs set, marking 300 years since the first Chipperfield performance at the Frost Fair on the Thames (below right). A clown features on one of the 'Smiles' greetings stamps first issued in 1990 (below left, and currently available in a 'Smilers' sheet with greetings labels or personalised image), on a 1995 greetings stamp (below centre), and on the 1992 Christmas aerogramme.

The circus was the idea of English cavalryman Sergeant Major Philip Astley who in the 1760s set up a spectacular trick riding exhibition in London. Like the Romans, Astley appreciated that performing in the round gave the audience a perfect view – the optimum size of the ring, 42 feet in



Above (bottom row, from left): US stamps of 1966 and 1993, Canada 1998 and Italy 1994. A circus wagon of the 1900s features on a 5c US definitive of 1990.

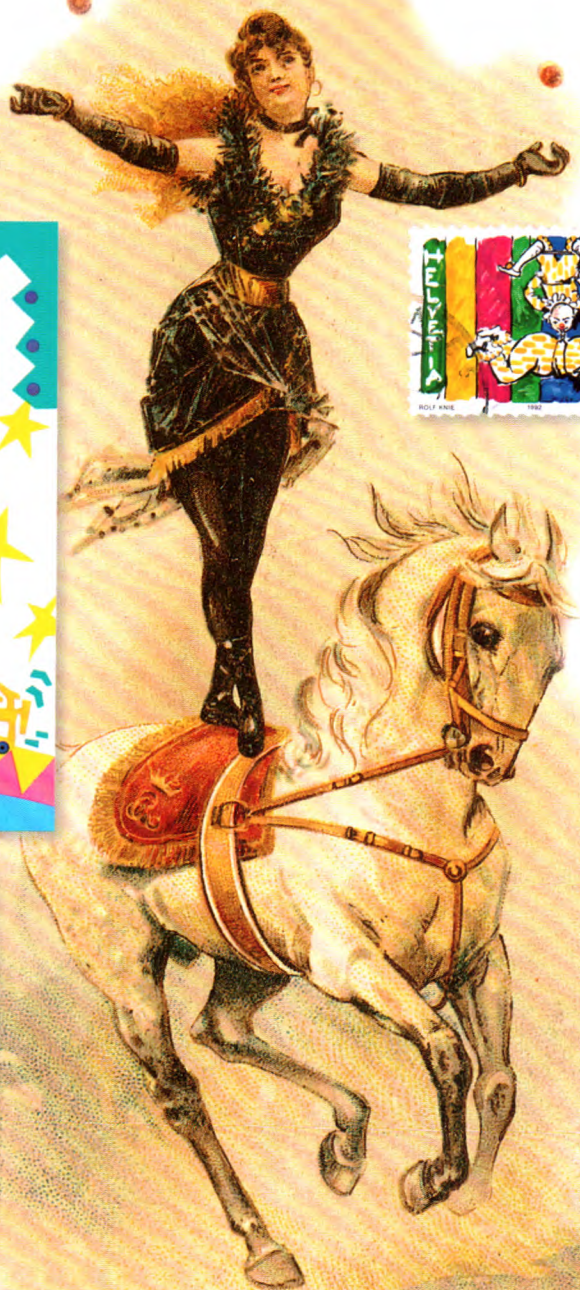
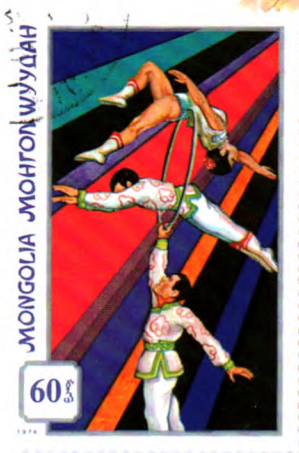
Opposite left, from top: stamp marking the centenary of the circus in Sweden in 1987; and issues from Germany in 1993 and Mongolia in 1974.

Opposite right: the Swiss PO issued four stamps showing clowns with a sealion, a horse and an elephant, in 1992.

diameter, remains to the present. Astley later added novelty acts including tight-rope walkers, jugglers, acrobats, etc. Amongst the best-known British circuses are those of Billy Smart, Gerry Cottle, Bertram Mills, Chipperfield and Sanger. The Sanger brothers, John and George, styled themselves Lords; their travelling circus began in the provinces and then came to London. Bertram Mills circus was, for many years, held at London's Olympia with Coco the Clown as one of the main attractions. The first circus held at Olympia was the 'Paris Hippodrome' in 1886 – this included 400 animals, chariot races and a stag hunt.

In America the most famous circus was that of Barnum and Bailey – the 'Greatest Show on Earth'. Phineas T Barnum began his show in 1871, merging it with that of his rival, Anthony Bailey, 10 years later.

Stamps commemorating the centenary of circus in their respective countries were issued by many countries. The new Royal Mail stamps can be added to an attractive and entertaining 'Big Top' thematic collection ●



Bulletin stamps poll The Editor announces your favourite



IN DECEMBER we invited you to vote for your favourite set of special stamps of 2001, also your favourite individual stamp and *Bulletin* author. This was our 16th annual stamp poll and, as in previous years, we received a good response from readers in all parts of the world.

Favourite set As always, points were allocated for each vote for the set: three points for first choice, two points for second, and one point for third. This enables us to get a clear picture of the relative popularity of each issue. The voting was as shown opposite.

For interest, past winners were: 1986 Nature Conservation; 1987 Flowers; 1988 Linnean Society; 1989 Birds; 1990 Queen Mother; 1991 Maps; 1992 Wintertime; 1993 Autumn; 1994 Age of Steam; 1995 Christmas; 1996 Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust; 1997 The Great Tudor (Henry VIII); 1998 Lighthouses; 1999 Scientists' Tale; and 2000 Tree and Leaf.

Favourite stamps For comparison, the favourite individual stamps of 1996-2000 were the Wildfowl & Wetlands 19p; Henry VIII 26p; Endangered Species 20p; Scientists' Tale 64p; and Above and Beyond 19p.

Favourite *Bulletin* authors This was the sixth year we had conducted this poll. Douglas Myall, as in four of the five previous years, was again your favourite author. James Mackay, Dorothy Martin and Ron Negus were voted second, third and fourth.

Draw winners All the voting forms went into the proverbial hat (really a large cardboard box) for the two draws. The five winners of £100 each in the FAVOURITE STAMPS draw were: Peter Hames of Sussex; James Pearson, Canada; L Percy, Derbyshire; C Cooke, Nottinghamshire; and Philippa Backe, Norway. The winners of £100 each in the FAVOURITE BULLETIN AUTHOR draw were Stuart Young of Falkirkshire and James Craig of Edinburgh.

Our thanks to all of you who cast your votes. My thanks also to Barbara Best of Royal Mail's Stamp Programme team, who, for the seventh year, counted up all the votes.

Still available The Future and Cats & Dogs stamps have now been withdrawn from sale, but all other 2001 issues are still available. The Weather stamps will be withdrawn on 12 March. All sets are still available in the 2001 Yearpack and Yearbook ●

stamps and Bulletin authors of 2001, and prize draw results



Favourite stamps The numbers following each value are as in December's *Bulletin*.

Flags Union Jack 54	91	Cats & Dogs 12	10	Cats & Dogs 15	2
Weather 27p 21	70	Cats & Dogs 14	9	Buses 29	2
Weather 65p 23	61	Weather 45p 22	9	Punch & Judy Beadle 45	2
Nobel Prizes 65p 52	52	Fabulous Hats E 34	9	Occasions ABC 8	1
Nobel Prizes E 49	44	Punch & Judy Mr Punch 43	9	Occasions Love 9	1
Pondlife 1st 37	35	Nobel Prizes 1st 48	9	Fabulous Hats 45p 35	1
Pondlife 45p 39	35	Nobel Prizes 40p 50	9	Punch & Judy Clown 42	1
Weather 19p 20	33	Christmas E 59	8	Christmas 45p 60	1
Flags White Ensign 53	33	Buses 28	7	Occasions Thanks 5	0
Submarines 1st 25	31	Fabulous Hats 1st 33	7	Occasions Cheers 6	0
Submarines 65p 27	31	Pondlife 65p 40	7	Punch & Judy Mrs Punch 44	0
Cats & Dogs 10	25	Cats & Dogs 16	6	FAVOURITE SETS	
Submarines 2nd 24	24	Cats & Dogs 18	6		
The Future 2nd 1	22	Nobel Prizes 45p 51	6	Weather	960
Christmas 1st 58	21	Cats & Dogs 17	5	Submarines	752
The Future 1st 2	19	Flags Jolly Roger 55	5	Pondlife	638
The Future 45p 3	17	Occasions Welcome 7	4	Buses	588
Cats & Dogs 11	16	Cats & Dogs 19	4	Nobel Prizes	565
Christmas 2nd 57	16	Buses 32	4	Flags & Ensigns	565
The Future 65p 4	13	Fabulous Hats 65p 36	4	Christmas	475
Cats & Dogs 13	12	Pondlife E 38	4	The Future	360
Submarines 45p 26	12	Punch & Judy Policeman 41	4	Cats & Dogs	278
Nobel Prizes 2nd 47	12	Flags Chief of Defence Staff 56	4	Punch & Judy	198
Buses 30	11	Buses 31	3	Fabulous Hats	148
Christmas 65p 61	11	Punch & Judy Crocodile 46	3	Occasions	124

Royal Mail products Steve Griffiths reports

2001 framed special stamps

Illustrated by Andy McCafferty.
Limited to 500 copies. See
below for ordering information.



Framed stamps The manufacturers used by Royal Mail are generally very proud of what they create on our behalf, and enjoy working with such interesting material as our colourful stamps. That said, it still comes as a pleasant surprise to discover our new products given pride of place in their boardrooms and even above the mantelpiece.

The latest find here was that the owner of The Real McCoy really did have one of my limited edition annual stamp sets dominating his lounge. Why was this so pleasing? The Real McCoy deal in hundreds, if not thousands, of great works of art every year and this chap surely had the pick of the crop. And he chose Royal Mail. This particular product was a risk for us as we commissioned a fairly unknown graphic artist, Andy McCafferty, to design the backdrop. Andy's versatility in working in a range of styles made him ideal for creating a scene to complement such a diverse range as our 2001 Special Stamp programme. As the illustration shows, the work included animal portraits, still life and an inventive range of watercolours. It almost broke my heart to see his vivid images 'knocked back' to ensure the right balance with our stamps, but the result is simply superb.

The 2001 framed special stamps set features a brushed silver frame with the background printed on Munken Linx fine art watercolour-enhancing paper (volume 18), laminated to neutral pH mountboard, featuring precision laser-cut apertures for each stamp set and signed by the artist.

Available from Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9BP, price £79.95 •

Steve Griffiths reported on a framed White Ensign and Flags and Ensigns stamps in the October Bulletin.

The screenshot shows a presentation slide titled "Flags and Ensigns". The slide has a dark blue header with the title in white. Below the title, there are four small flags: the Indian national flag, the European Union flag, the United States flag, and the Japanese flag. To the left of the main text area, there is a sidebar menu with the following items:

- Home**
- History of flags**
- Flags and ensigns**
- Origins from Royal Navy**
- Rearview 2002**
- History of the flag of India**
- Various shipping issues**
- Tributes for you**
- Young collection**

The main text area contains the following content:

Flags and Ensigns

In 1801, the Act of Union of Great Britain created the Union Flag as used in present day. To commemorate the Acts legislation, the Royal Mail has issued a new Special Stamp in a miniature sheet called Flags and Ensigns.

WHITE ENSIGN

The flag flown by naval vessels is called simply the 'ensign'. The White Ensign is flown by the Merchant's ships and Royal Naval shore establishments. It consists of the Cross of St George, with the Union Jack in the canton (the upper quarter nearest the flagpole).

In the mid-seventeenth century, the Royal Navy used three ensigned: white, red and blue; and now fleets were also divided into squadrons by colour. Each commanded by a Flag Officer. The Navy retained these ensigns until 1864, when the Red Ensign, the oldest, was passed to the Merchant Service.

The Blue Ensign was given to the newly formed Royal Naval Reserve, and is now flown by ships of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Group. The White Ensign was reserved for the Royal Navy, and of all the eight colours only the Royal Fleet Auxiliary have the privilege of flying it.

For British collectors, however, it should be remembered that the official site from Royal Mail at www.royalmail.com contains a great deal of background philatelic information. This can be accessed by clicking the 'Stamps and Collectibles' navigation button on the opening screen. The 'collectibles' part gives illustrations for the various gifts, toys, artwork and accessories produced by Royal Mail which have philatelic associations, such as Penny Black key-rings, Corgi

Finally, the younger collector has not been forgotten. A separate section of the site is devoted to the Collectors Club, hosted by a cartoon character called Sammy, Stamp Detective. Members of the Club use a secret password to gain access to pages designed specially for children and enjoy the various games, puzzles and quizzes aimed at increasing their enjoyment of the hobby. ●

Eminent early collectors Edward B Evans, by Ron Negus

THE TAPLING COLLECTION, which is housed in the British Library in London, contains amongst its other rarities, an example of the 1847 1d 'Post Office' Mauritius on cover, and a mint copy of the 2d 'Post Office' deep blue from the same colony. Both these items were shown in the Library's exhibit at the Stamp Show 2000 in Earls Court. Originally they were in the collection of E B Evans until broken up in 1885 and purchased, with other valuable items, by Thomas Keay Taping, MP. They were then bequeathed to the nation upon the latter gentleman's death in 1891.



Edward Benjamin Evans was born on 3 November 1846 and attended Uppingham Grammar School. When he left that institution in 1862, he claimed that he had the finest stamp collection of any boy there. He retained this after leaving, and showed an early interest in philatelic journalism by writing an article two years later, at the age of 18, entitled 'On Stamp Collecting' in the *North of England Stamp Review and Advertiser*. This appeared under the pseudonym 'Cheth'.

After completing his education, Evans pursued a military career and received his commission as a Lieutenant in the Royal Artillery in 1867. His first posting was to Malta and amongst the soldiers he met there was Lieutenant Joseph Speranza, who later became a founder member of the (subsequently Royal) Philatelic Society, London. Upon his return to England in 1873, Evans was stationed in Plymouth where he soon made the acquaintance of E Stanley Gibbons, who was making his name as a stamp dealer in the town. Also, the well known collector and later dealer, Edward Loines Pemberton, lived in the nearby Devon resort of Torquay, and Evans cultivated his friendship as well.

With these acquaintances, it is not surprising that we find Lt Evans joining the Philatelic Society, London in November 1875. In the following year, he was sent overseas again to the Colony of

Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. This was unexplored territory from a philatelic point of view, and Evans soon took the opportunity to examine the official records of the postal affairs on the island, and collect specimens of the current issues. The first primitive issues had been produced locally and in September 1878 Lt Evans wrote to the Secretary of the London Society saying he had published an article about the stamps in the local newspaper. In this letter he said

'it, of course, contains nothing that is new to advanced collectors, but is an attempt to interest outsiders in the matter'.

At the same time, he had prepared a more detailed review and postal history of all the stamps that had been issued in Mauritius to that date. He wanted this to be published in England, but no suitable philatelic magazine was being produced there at the time, so he sent it to M Moens in Brussels and had it issued in parts in *Le Timbre Poste*. He subsequently consolidated the text into a paper which was presented at the Philatelic Congress in Paris in 1878, and which won him a major award. He rewrote these research notes and had them published in English in 1880 in the *Philatelic Record*. Finally, he updated them to form the Mauritius chapter in the *British Africa, Part II* handbook published by the Philatelic Society, London.

Evans, by now a Captain, began a long period of service in Ireland and, whilst there, compiled a *Catalogue for Collectors*. This was published by Pemberton, Wilson & Co in 1882 and was the first English publication that listed minor varieties of colour, watermark and perforation. In 1885, his final Army posting was to Bermuda and he continued his studies into the issues of that island. He completed his service in 1890, with the rank of Major, and retired to live in Sydenham.

After his active service life ended, Major Evans devoted his energies to philately, and particularly to journalism. He was appointed as the editor

of *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* from its third issue in September 1890 and remained in that role until the magazine ceased publication in 1914 following the outbreak of World War 1 – a total of 257 issues. One of the notable features of this magazine, under his editorship, was the quality of the new issue listings which were models of completeness and accuracy.

In 1891 he was elected to the Council of the (Royal) Philatelic Society, London and remained a Council member until 1900. His wide ranging knowledge of stamps was recognised by the Society and he became the secretary of its newly formed Expert Committee when it was introduced to the philatelic world in 1894.

Also in 1891, he produced a second edition of his catalogue and had this published in the USA by C H McKeel. After his retirement from the Army, Evans sold most of his general collection, and concentrated on issues from the US Confederate States, various Indian Native States and in the fiscal area, on world-wide Telegraph stamps.

He also made a significant collection of the Mulready letter-sheets Great Britain. This latter interest gave rise to a book entitled the *Mulready Envelope and its Caricatures*.

Major Evans was highly respected by all, and often served as a judge at International Exhibitions. He took a great interest in organised philately, and served as chairman of the Permanent Committee of the Philatelic Congress of GB from 1911 to 1919. His efforts were acknowledged when his name was included as one of the signatories on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists upon its inception at the Harrogate Congress in 1921.

In his final years, Major Evans retired to Norfolk. Although suffering from poor health, he supported local collectors and was instrumental in founding the Norwich Philatelic Society. His death came suddenly at his Norfolk home on 21 March 1922, at the age of 75. His passing was mourned by collectors worldwide to whom his name had become a byword through the clarity and accuracy of his writings •

Patrick Pearson One of the UK's most influential collectors talks to Richard West, Editor-at-Large of *Stamp* magazine



Patrick Pearson judging at the Euro-Cuprum exhibition, 2001.

THE WORLD of international philately is not for everyone; nor indeed is exhibiting. Nevertheless, it is imperative that Britain is fully represented internationally, and that the outstanding British collections are noted world-wide for their excellence. Someone who devotes much time to establish the British position, and who has personally achieved much both nationally and internationally, is Patrick Pearson.

Recently honoured by being elected an Honorary Fellow of The Royal Philatelic Society London, Patrick's other honours include signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists. This was back in 1974, and at the time he was the youngest British signatory.

As with many, collecting came early to Patrick, at the age of six, to keep him quiet during a bout of whooping cough. Fortune played a part in developing his early interests: a friend of his parents

gave him a fine selection of covers from Hong Kong, plus he was asked to help sort through a truck full of Norfolk letters of the late 18th and early 19th centuries – and allowed to keep some for himself!

Mind you, at times there has been conflict between philately and his other passion, sailing. A general collection was sold to pay for a sailing boat, which proved not to be seaworthy. However, he still sails dinghies, and while at Cambridge University rowed for his college.

Leaving university he first worked in the wine trade. He took the examinations to be a Master of Wines – but failed the practical! His main career was with a firm of consulting engineers, staying with them for 28 years until his retirement. While working in London, he would often go to the Wednesday evening stamp bourse which was then held in a pub near Liverpool Street Station. It was there he met a number of the leading collectors of the day, not least Major Adrian Hopkins and Col Francis Webb. It was Col Webb who persuaded Patrick to join the Hong Kong Study Circle, and also the 'Royal' back in 1957.

The Hong Kong collection was developed, with many fine pieces added, leading to its first public showing at the international stamp exhibition held in London in 1960, where it achieved a silver medal. Ten years later, at Philymphia 1970, it was awarded a large gold medal. As it was becoming increasingly difficult to add further significant items to this collection, the Hong Kong was sold in 1972. Also the publication of Col Webb's own authoritative book on Hong Kong made further research far more limited.

The interest in Norfolk postal history continued, with Patrick founding an East Anglia Postal History Society. The collection of Norfolk won a gold medal in 1998. Patrick has formed several other collections: Cape rectangulars, Western Australia, Anglo-French accountancy markings, Straits Settlements, Ceylon, Iraq.

From a very early stage he was involved in the organisational side of the hobby, being asked to help with the security at the 1960 international. In 1964 he was invited to join the Expert Committee of The Royal Philatelic Society (the body

which gives opinions on items submitted), becoming its Chairman in 1993, a position he still holds. He was President of the 'Royal' in 1988 to 1990.

Back in 1968, when British jurors at international exhibitions were few in number, he was invited to be an 'observer' at the exhibition held in Prague, and the following year was a full jury member at Sofia 1969. Since then he has served on over thirty international juries, and was the President of the Jury at the Stamp Show London 90, and Secretary of the Jury at London 1980, The Stamp Show 2000, and more recently at Hafnia in 2001.

His involvement with international judging saw Patrick become involved, from 1974, with the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP): he was a Vice President from 1991 to 2000. He has been a member of both the Traditional Philately and Postal History Commissions of FIP, and is now Chairman of the Forgeries Commission.

Among this considerable involvement, Patrick has found time to write books and numerous articles. He has been the President of the Postal History Society, and is currently a Vice President of the Association Internationale des Experts Philatéliques.

His writing has included the book *Advanced Philatelic Research*, an introduction to specialised collecting published in 1971. He was the joint author with Ted Proud of *The Postal History of Iraq*. Plus he has written over 60 articles.

In addition to his exhibiting and judging roles, he has in more recent times been the FIP co-ordinator for several international stamp exhibitions overseas. It is the co-ordinator's task to ensure that the exhibition organisers have remembered all that is involved in staging such events.

And even in his personal life, he can't keep away from philately: he met his second wife, Julie, through the hobby, and indeed Julie was herself much involved through Royal Mail with the organisation of The Stamp Show 2000. Despite such a long and distinguished career in the hobby Patrick remains as active and enthusiastic as ever, with much to contribute to secure Britain as one of the leading players in world philately ●

Postbag Letters to the Editor

Self-adhesive products I am second to no one in my admiration for Douglas Myall's knowledge of stamps and his ability to write about them. However, I dislike his suggested nomenclature for self-adhesive products in the December *Bulletin*. Myall suggests differentiating between book, sheetlet, and sheet based on the number of panels and stamps. I would prefer that the distinction be made by format rather than by size. In the case of printed reading material, we all know what a book is and what it isn't. A book has front and back covers and some pages in between. If we take a sheet of newspaper and fold it into a convenient size, it does not become a book. I suggest we adopt similar definitions for Post Office products. A book (or, to us Americans, a booklet) should have front and back covers with stamps inside. The book can consist of separate pages sewn together, as in the prestige booklets, or a single sheet with self-adhesive stamps that is folded to enclose all the stamps. Items without covers, such as the recent Christmas products, can be called sheetlets and sheets, depending on the number of stamps. LARRY ROSENBLUM, SUNNYVALE, CALIFORNIA USA •

Edward VII and family May I reply to your correspondent, Maurice Sokel (December). It was in a paragraph about George V stamps (July *Bulletin*) that I referred to the Duke of Connaught, brother of Edward VII, as 'the King's uncle'. JEAN MATHESON, HUNTLY •

Smilers sheets I have now examined the latest Smilers sheet containing the Cartoons stamps, which went on sale in December. As single stamps they are readily distinguishable from those in books (1996) as they do not have elliptical perforations on the vertical sides. Other differences include: a whiter paper and vignetted phosphor bands for the Smilers printing, also differences in shade of The Queen's head and 1st indicator. The bright mauve head (More! and The Cheque in the Post) and vermilion head (Don't Ring and I'm writing to you) appear brighter on the new

printing, whereas the blue-green and new blue heads (Sincerely and My day starts, and Human Condition and Dear lottery prize winner) appear slightly paler. The bright violet head (Mental Floss and Fetch This) seems to be well-matched between the two printings. The black colour (cartoons) seems darker on the Smilers sheet, most noticeable on the spots on the man's pyjamas on the Mental Floss stamp.

I hope these observations will be of interest to fellow collectors. These Smilers sheets are making an interesting collection and study in their own right; I only wish I found more used examples on my mail and in kiloware. KEN MARKS, PORTSMOUTH •

Christmas stamps The self-adhesive feature was a great help, particularly when a large number of letters/cards are being serviced. However, the convenience was somewhat spoiled by having both straight-line separators between the stamps and simulated perforations. Surely the latter was quite superfluous. In the past, perforations served a vital purpose, but now that simpler, straight line separation is possible, there is no case whatsoever for the mock perforations. I found it easier to peel off the whole square, perforations and all, and affix this to a letter. HEINZ VOGEL, WEYBRIDGE •

Mounting self-adhesive stamps I am having some difficulty in mounting the increasing number of self-adhesive stamp issues. Mounting them directly onto an album page or in transparent mounts is of course easy, but moving them and re-mounting them at a later date is the problem. At present, I leave the stamps attached to their original backing paper and cut round them with scissors to leave small margins all round, which is hardly ideal. Have your readers any better suggestions I wonder?

Also, it would be interesting to know when a self-adhesive stamp is regarded as 'mint' – still attached to its original backing paper perhaps? D SLATER, CONGLETON •

Posting boxes 210

THIS MONTH'S photographs are of two boxes in museums. The first, sent in by E Benham of Littlehampton, is of a box awaiting restoration at the Amberley Working Museum in West Sussex. He tells us that in the Shire Album 303 on Telephone Boxes it is described as a no 4 Kiosk, 24 hour post office as it contained a telephone, stamp machine and letter box. Only 50 were ordered in the 1930s as they proved difficult to site owing to size and the need for access to both ends. Another problem was the noise when in use.

The second photograph, submitted by Lynn Hurton of Downham Market, Norfolk, is of the oldest working post box in Lincolnshire, at the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Lincoln. It formerly stood at the Gosborton Bank near Spalding. The box remains in use, with a daily collection except Sunday •



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.

Special draw £10 high value pack to be won

WE HAVE TEN packs of the now obsolete £10 Britannia stamp for this month's draw. Simply write your name and address on the back of a postcard and send it to: £10 Stamp Draw, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ to arrive by 29 March •



Competition Sponsored by Omniphil and Universal Philatelic Auctions



Win a QV 1880 2s brown, SG cat £1700, or receive a guaranteed £60 catalogue 1841 2d blue if you request home viewing service.

Most of us live too far away from the nearest stamp shop. Because shops have high overheads, Omniphil provide a postal-only Home Viewing Service, enabling them to pass on the savings to you, with their 'every approval request is a winner' of a good quality genuine £60 cat 1841 2d blue. This is why Omniphil can afford to reward you to view a selection with no purchase necessary and no obligation to continue. Obviously they hope you will find stamps missing from your collection and become long-term clients. To entice you further they offer good quality British stamps at substantial discounts off SG plus an additional 33% value loyalty bonus if you can spend as little as £12 or more: you can take an extra 33% value free.

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To enter the competition answer the questions below and send, with your name and address, on a postcard or back of an envelope to: Sponsored Competition, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ to arrive by 12 April. Entries must be posted separately; multiple entries in one envelope will be disregarded.

- 1 Who is Royal Mail's Stamp Programme Director?
- 2 Name two of the four new members of the Stamp Advisory Committee.
- 3 Whose collection of Norfolk postal history won a gold medal in 1998?

The answers will be found in this *Bulletin*. The competition is not open to employees, families or agents of Royal Mail or Omniphil •

First prize GB QV 1880 2s brown, letters G-E, a good sound used by usual heavier cancel example, wing margin. One of the rarest and most difficult of the QV high values to find. SG 121 cat value £1700.

Second prize GB QV 1883-84 10s ultramarine, letters H-B, fine to very fine used 1889 London cds pmk example, beautifully centred and very good colour. SG 183 cat £375 + 50% premium.

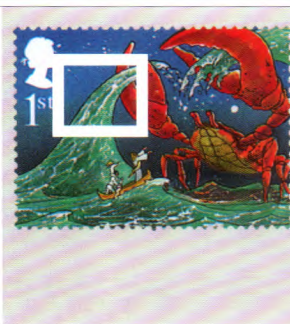
Third prize Guernsey QEII 1970 10s Alderney Harbour, scarce perf 13, superb used with 1976 BPA certificate. SG 27a cat £40.

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



December identify The detail is from the Crab stamp in the Kipling Just So set. The winner was P Russell of Norfolk.

December knowledge The answers: 1) David Hockney; 2) People & Place; 3) Stanley Gibbons Ltd. The winner was Mrs J Williams of Herts.

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 March *Identify* Competition. Secondly, test your philatelic knowledge by answering the questions below. Send your answer to March *Knowledge* Competition.

- 1 Who designed the 1983 British Gardens stamps?
- 2 Which set of Millennium stamps featured the chapter house ceiling of York Minster?
- 3 In which year did the Humber Bridge appear on a stamp?

Send your answer (addressed to either the March *Identify* competition or March *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 12 April will each receive £100. Ten runner-up prizes of presentation packs or first day covers will be awarded in each competition.

The Competitions are not open to Royal Mail employees •

Events

27 February - 3 March Spring Stampex at Business Design Centre, Upper Street, London N1. **Enquiries** 020 7490 1005.

28 February - 2 March Philatex at Royal Horticultural Halls, London SW1.

2 March GB Philatelic Society meeting at Spring Stampex, 14.30 – visit and displays by members of the GB Collectors Club of Germany. **Enquiries** A Lajer, 0118 934 4151.

16 March GB Philatelic Society meeting at British Philatelic Centre, 107 Charterhouse Street, London EC1, 11.00. Displays: 'Postal History – the Last 100 Years', 'Mostly Line-Engraved'; also mini-auction at 12.45. **Enquiries** A Lajer, 0118 934 4151.

16 March Worcester & District Philatelic & Post Card

Society stamp and postcard fair at Powick Parish Hall, 10.00-16.30.

19 March Rowland Hill Awards Ceremony at Drapers Hall, London EC2. Admission by invitation only.

23 March Association of Essex Phil Socs Spring Rally at Mill Hall, Rayleigh.

24 March - 19 April Stamp Lincs 2002 at Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Road, Lincoln, 10.00-17.30 (Sunday 14.00-17.30). Stamp Fair & Family Fun Day on 13 April. **Enquiries** Rev Terry Nowell, 01522 525064.

2 April Display 'Kent Postal History' by M Porter at Redhill Phil Soc, Parish Hall, St Matthews Church, Station Rd, Redhill, 19.30. **Enquiries** D White, 01737 246106 •

Late news

Stamp designers at Stampex Kate Stephens, the designer of the Golden Jubilee stamps, will be on the Heritage Services, Consignia display area between noon and 15.00 on 28 February to talk to visitors about the development of the stamps. Next day (same times) Jeffery Matthews will be on hand to explain the rationale behind his work on proposed new definitive stamps in the 1980s – see February *Bulletin*, page 187 •

Cavendish Golden Jubilee auction The special 50th anniversary auction on 23-24 January was one of the best sales for many years. GB Line-engraved stamps were the highlight of the sale, attracting fierce bidding in the room, on the phone and on the book. Twenty lots went for over £1000, including £1840 each for a used block of six 1d red plate 177 imperf and perforation samples of the 1d red probably sent to South Australia with the 1867 perforation machine (estimates £300 and £400). In the postal history section an entire letter from an officer injured at Waterloo made the top price of £5060, closely followed by a Henry Cole letter of 1840 at £4830. A group of letters (no postal marks) from Col James Gardiner, killed at the Battle of Prestonpans in 1745, made £300, and a Newcastle ship letter with possibly unique oval handstamp, 1813-14, made an impressive £2185 (est £1000). The next auction on 6 March will include the Vivien Sussex 'Valuables by Post' collection, followed by All-World sales on 7 March and 11 April and a specialised Australasia sale in May. Enquiries: Cavendish Philatelic Auctions, 153-157 London Road, Derby DE1 2SY. Telephone 01332 250970 •

Golden Jubilee coin cover Royal Mail announces that the issue date of the coin cover, scheduled for 6 February, has been postponed to 1 June. We regret any disappointment caused •

Handstamp Centre move The Scotland & Northern Ireland Special Handstamp Centre has recently moved to Rutherglen Delivery Office, Duchess Road, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 1BT •

Rowland Hill Award nominations The finalists for the 2001 Rowland Hill Awards are as follows. The winners and runners-up will be announced at the Awards Ceremony on 19 March. Please note that the Rowland Hill Awards ceremony is for invited guests only.

ROYAL MAIL INNOVATION AWARDS

Stamp Innovation: Enschedé Security Printers; HGV Design

Journalistic Excellence, Broadcast Media: Charlie Bunce; Jim Davies; Richard Porter

Journalistic Excellence, Philatelic Writing: Gerald Davis; the late Robert Samuel; Richard West

Post Office Excellence: to be announced

BRITISH PHILATELIC TRUST INITIATIVE AWARDS

Youth Worker: to be announced

Young Collector: Martin Ferguson; Catherine Marshall; Rebecca Marshall

Authorship/Research: the late Robson Lowe and Carl Walske; Graham Mark; the late Francesca Rapkin

Community/Teamwork: Dundee Philatelic Weekend; Midpex; Nations Cup team of exhibitors

New Horizons: Eurothema; Gavin Fryer; Nations Cup – ABPS; BPT International Committee

PHILATELIC TRADERS' SOCIETY ENTERPRISE AWARDS

Business Enterprise & Development: Stuart Murray Babbington; Brian Bayford

Personal Contribution: to be announced •

Book news Royal Mail and The British Library will co-publish a special book to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee for the Jubilee Weekend this June. *Queen Elizabeth 11: a Jubilee Portrait in Stamps* explores the stamp issues that have featured Her Majesty from the Wilding definitives to the latest special issue. The book is written by Fay Sweet, author of the Special Stamps yearbooks 1996-8, as well as the recently issued *A Gracious Accession* PSB. More information will be revealed in the May issue of the *Bulletin* •

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GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMEMORATIVE COVER

Stamp, Coin & Banknote



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A Royal Golden Jubilee is a rare occasion, and has previously been celebrated by only four other monarchs: King Edward III, King Henry III, King George III and Queen Victoria. 2002 commemorates HM The Queen's Golden Jubilee and it's being celebrated in regal fashion with a range of stamp products that are bound to become favourites with collectors, including a brand new Banknote cover. The magnificent, individually numbered Golden Jubilee Banknote Cover fea-

tures a £5 banknote bearing a special cipher, a £5 coin and two 1952 reissued Wilding stamps in a special limited edition of 10,000. So place your order now to ensure you don't miss this unique opportunity.

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