

BRITISH PHILATELIC

The Royal Mail magazine for stamp collectors

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Bulletin

Societies round-up • Scots in bloom • Birds of Britain artist



PLUS LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC GAMES STAMPS • DEFINITIVES OF 2010

Issues and withdrawals



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10 June

Issue Prince Philip's 90th Birthday
Commemorative Sheet

14 June

Issue Thomas the Tank Engine™ Stamps, Miniature Sheet, Stamp Book, Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards, Medal Cover

14 June

Withdrawal Mammals Stamp Book, 6 x 1st

27 July

Issue *London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games III*
Stamps Commemorative Sheet; Stamp book no 5; Presentation Pack; Stamp Cards; Stamp and Postcard Sets; Countdown Coin Covers

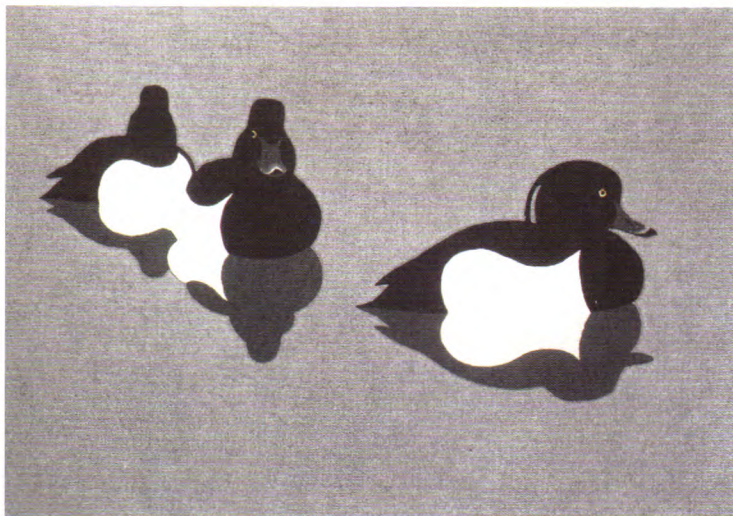
London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games
composite Souvenir Stamp Sheet; Stamp and Pin Packs; Stamp and Coin Packs

London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Sports Cover Collection, Wrestling and Handball

28 July

Issue Philanippion Smilers® Exhibition Sheet

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Postbox and inbox



Wedding tweets

Kathryn Saville reports on recent stamp Twitter.

The ether was a-Twitter with Royal Wedding fever last

month. The sell-out Royal Wedding stamps made the TV news, offering a rare chance to see stamps actually being printed, this time at Walsall Security Printers (go to <http://tiny.cc/u85xr> to see the video, a still of which is shown above). The following countries issued their own versions for the engagement or the big day: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Canada, Cook Islands (including Aitutaki and Penrhyn Island), Gambia, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guernsey, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Isle of Man, Jersey, Liberia, Micronesia, Mozambique, New Zealand, Niue, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, St Kitts and Nevis, St Vincent and the Grenadines (including Canouan, Mustique, Myreau, and Union). Truly an international affair and one that saw a record-breaking number of tweets – around 237 tweets every second were about the royal wedding in the run up to the ceremony.

Beatles memories

I greatly enjoyed Kathryn Saville's recent article about John Lennon and stamps. Back in the early 1960s I was lucky enough to see The Beatles live along with Gerry & The Pacemakers and the big O, the legendary Roy Orbison. At the beginning of this particular tour, Roy was the headline act; by the end of the tour The Beatles were. I emphasize that fact that I 'saw' The Beatles, as I didn't actually hear them. For the whole of their performance the theatre resounded with high pitched screams of frenzied girls. In Kathryn's article there was a picture of a Gibraltar mini sheet showing John and Yoko dressed in white at the airport. It is my favourite Beatle stamp, of which I have several copies. Like many ardent Beatles fans, I secretly like the fact that when you take out the stamp with John's head on it, Yoko is left behind!

Richard Sirot, Kent

Well, it's not a secret any more, Mr Sirot! We believe there are many Beatles fans among our readers – does anyone have any more philatelic anecdotes on a musical theme?



Birds have flown?

My local Post office advertises Birds of Britain stamps but does not sell them. And I think it is a 'Philatelic' Post Office. I cannot get the stamps from Tallents House either. Can you help?

Tim Bernhard, The New Naturalist Collectors Club

The Post & Go Birds of Britain stamps were first issued in September 2010 with subsequent issues in February and May 2011. The final set in the series will be issued in September 2011. The first two sets were each available at 30 selected Post Office Branches for around a two month period,

by which time stocks were sold. The Birds of Britain 3 set is available from the full Post & Go network – a total of 146 offices across the UK. Post & Go stamps are produced on rolls for loading into the machines that print on them one of five tariff options selected by the customer. They are only available with the tariff printed in this way.

Sets of the first three issues of stamps, with the 1st Class tariff are available from Tallents House. Collectors wishing to collect the full range of five tariff printings of the current issue can obtain these from the selected post offices Post & Go Branches.



Letting off steam

Just received my *April Bulletin* today [April 13] – which itself speaks volumes. However, I see Royal Mail have ‘missed a trick’ again with the Royal Wedding stamps. Whilst collectors will buy a miniature sheet, I cannot see sales being widespread among the general public... 1st and 2nd class values sold via all post offices across the country would no doubt have flown off the shelves and brightened up our mail at this celebratory time. A miniature sheet with two 1st class and two £1.10 stamps is useless for practical purposes.

I bet you won't print this in June *Bulletin*.
Paulette Huntington JP. BA. ACP. DipCMus.

We like a wee bet. Yes, April *Bulletin* was distributed later than usual, mainly as a result of our determination to give readers the extra page carrying information on Royal Wedding stamps, which had to be approved and finalised in conjunction with Clarence House, Prince William and Her Majesty The Queen.

Sorry to hear that the format and tariffs are not to your liking. The reason for the miniature sheet is simple: it allows print and

distribution to be achieved in the short time frame that we had to adopt for this issue. And the £1.10 tariff happens to be one of the most used overseas letter rates.

Thus the mini sheet was intended to provide an affordable and usable souvenir keepsake. Indeed this issue has proved hugely popular and looks set to be one of the most sought after of the last ten years. While all Post Offices received at least double their normal stock, some ran out of Royal Wedding stamps due to exceptional demand and there was a re-distribution among Post Offices.



More on Morris

In May *Bulletin* the 1982 15½p ‘Strawberry Thief’ stamp was captioned as ‘the only other Morris-inspired GB stamp prior to last month’s Morris & Co issue. Surely there have been others?’

A Gomez, Rochester



Yes. We should have said ‘Morris-designed’. Three stamps of the 2009 Christmas issue featured stained-glass designed by Edward Burne-Jones

– two 2nd Class ‘Angel’ stamps, from a window in the Church of St James in Staveley, Kendal (Large shown above) and the 90p ‘Wise Man’ at

the Church of St Mary the Virgin in Rye, East Sussex. The 1992 Christmas Stained Glass 18p stamp featured ‘Angel Gabriel’ from the east window at St James the Less, Pangbourne, which was designed by Karl Parsons, who followed the principles of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

Keep the mail coming...

The Editor of the *British Philatelic Bulletin* welcomes your letters and the senders of those published will receive philatelic delights as a thank-you. The sender of the ‘First Class letter’ award will also receive the *Bulletin* binder. Please note that Royal Mail cannot reply to all correspondence and reserves the right to edit for length. Send your letters to: The Editor, *British Philatelic Bulletin*, Royal Mail Stamps & Collectibles, 35-50 Rathbone Place, London WC1 1HQ. Or email bulletin.enquiries@royalmail.com

Right: issued after the Royal Wedding to include superb photographs of the event, the Commemorative Document makes a delightful philatelic memento



What's new? Royal Wedding Commemorative • Olympic and Paralympic Games souvenirs

Royal Wedding Commemorative Document Rushed into production after the Battle of Britain memorial flight formation had soared over Buckingham Palace for the Royal Wedding fly-past, this highly collectable souvenir features exquisite photography from the Royal Wedding day.

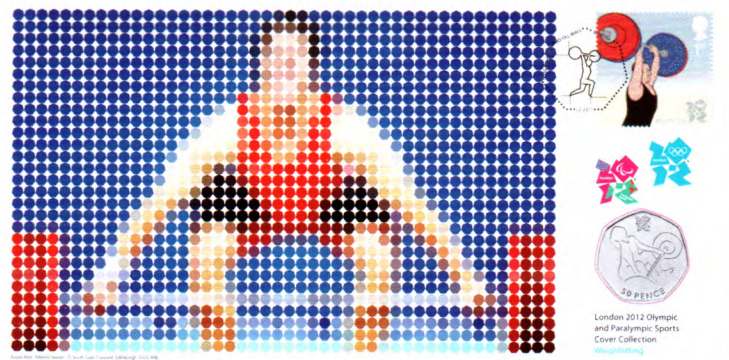
The limited-edition document is presented in a luxurious full-colour pack and includes a beautiful portrait of the HRH Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, as well as a fascinating fold-out landscape image of the royal family line-up on the balcony of Buckingham Palace – capturing national history in the making and the very moment of the royal couple's kiss, alongside the Royal Wedding Commemorative Miniature stamp sheet, postmarked 29 April 2011. Price £9.99 plus p&p •

LONDON 2012 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES SPORTS STAMP AND COIN COLLECTION



Olympic and Paralympic Games official collectibles To accompany the three-stage Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps issue which completes next month (see preview page 296), Royal Mail is also producing a range of official philatelic souvenirs. Now available are the first 8 of 30 in the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Sports Stamp and Coin Collection. Each pack features a single special stamp mounted beneath a corresponding coin, specially struck by the Royal Mint, and each bears an illustration of iconic buildings of London in a different colour for each of the sports represented: Athletics, Cycling, Football, Boccia, Weightlifting (shown left), Hockey, Shooting and Goalball. The packs are pocket-sized and, at £4.99 each, make an affordable gift for all ages.

In a similarly neat format, London 2012 Olympics and Paralympics Sports Stamp and Pin packs cost £7.99 each and



Left: this striking Weightlifting design is one of a collection of 30 special coin covers. Below: Athletics is the first issue in the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Stamp and Pin Badge Collection

carry a special issue stamp and matching pin badge. The sports featured so far are Judo, Athletics (pictured right), Equestrian, Badminton, Archery, Canoe Slalom, Weightlifting, Basketball and Boccia. These stamp and pin badge sets make a striking collection and the pin badges can of course be worn to celebrate a favourite sport in the Games •

London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Sports Cover Collection Issued in collaboration with the Royal Mint is a series of 30 striking covers featuring an original illustration of a single Olympic or Paralympic sport, together with a specially struck coin and the relevant stamp cancelled with a pictorial postmark portraying the same sport. Numbers 1 to 10 in this series are already available and feature the following sports: Athletics, Cycling, Football, Boccia, Weightlifting (shown above) Hockey, Goalball, Shooting, Boxing and Taekwondo •



Last chance Coming off sale on 14 June is the Mammals Stamp Book, featuring Otter (*Lutra lutra*) Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*), part of the popular Mammals special issue of last year •



Left: this month we wave a fond farewell to the Otter and Hedgehog in the Mammals Stamp Book



One year to go! The final set of London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps – ‘Get Ready for 2012’ – is issued next month

IN THE THREE YEARS LEADING up to the 30th Olympiad and London 2012 Paralympic Games, Royal Mail has commissioned 30 artists to take part in a project that has seen the creation of 30 stamps, issued in three sets of ten. The third and final set in the series, subtitled ‘Get Ready for 2012’, is issued next month on 27 July, exactly one year before the Opening Ceremony of

the London 2012 Olympic Games. Each of the 30 stamps portrays a different Olympic or Paralympic sport, and the forthcoming set of ten, shown above, champions Paralympic Games – Sailing, Athletics – Field, Volleyball, Wheelchair Rugby, Wrestling, Wheelchair Tennis, Fencing, Gymnastics, Triathlon and Handball. The stamps are printed on two se-tenant sheets, so that each individual design is available in vertical strips of five.

A unique composite stamp sheet is also available, featuring all 30 stamps for all three of the Olympic and Paralympic Games issues on a single stamp sheet. Never before has there been a Royal Mail sheet featuring so many different designs or showing the work of so many leading contemporary artists (see July *Bulletin* for full details). All the stamp products will be available by mail order from Tallents House.

As part of this special issue, Royal Mail is also

Olympic and Paralympic Games 3 Get Ready For 2012 Stamps Specifications

Issue date	27 July
Number of stamps	Ten
Stamp design	Studio David Hillman
Illustration	Sailing by Lara Harwood; Athletics – Field by Anthony Pike; Volleyball by Ben Dalling; Wheelchair Rugby by Matthew Hollings; Wrestling by Daniel Stolle; Wheelchair Tennis by David McConochie; Fencing by Lyndon Hayes; Gymnastics by Kathy Wyatt; Triathlon by Adam Simpson; Handball by David Cutter
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



Left: 'Get Ready for 2012' stamp set, issued next month.
Below: Presentation Pack.
Bottom: Stamp and Card set



producing a Presentation Pack (shown above), First Day Cover, Commemorative Sheet, Stamp Book, Stamp Cards, and Stamp and Postcard Sets. Additional souvenir products include Stamp and Coin Sets, Stamp and Pin Badge sets, an Olympic and Paralympic Sports Cover Collection (see page 294 for details) and limited-edition Countdown Coin Covers.

First Day Facilities Unstamped Royal Mail First Day Cover envelopes (price 30p) are available from main post offices and philatelic outlets approximately one week before the stamps go on sale. Serviced (i.e. stamped and postmarked) Royal Mail First Day Covers are available by Mail Order from Royal Mail, Tallents House (address, page 290) priced £6 UK, including VAT, or £5 overseas (no VAT). The stamps will be cancelled with a first day of issue postmark of the Tallents House, Edinburgh or the alternative RUGBY, WARKS postmark, as required.

Orders for Serviced First Day Covers have to reach the Royal Mail by 27 July 2011. Customers may also send stamped envelopes to Tallents House on the day of issue for the Tallents ►



House, Edinburgh postmark. If you hand in or post stamped Royal Mail First Day Envelopes at main Post Offices® on the day of issue, they will receive the pictorial RUGBY, WARKS first day postmark •

Right: the fifth in the series of six themed stamp booklets contains four 1st Class Machin definitives and the Wheelchair Rugby and Paralympics Sailing stamps. The stamps in the booklet are printed in gravure and are self-adhesive, unlike the lithography printed gummed stamps in the stamp issue. See July Bulletin for details of the other stamps



Olympic and Paralympic Games Retail Stamp Book 5

Number of stamps	4 x 1st Machin 1 x 1st Wheelchair Rugby 1 x 1st Paralympic Sailing
Design	Studio David Hillman
Special Stamp Format	35mm x 35mm
Printer	Walsall Security Printing
Print process	Gravure
Gum	Self-adhesive

Olympic and Paralympic Games 3 Get Ready For 2012 Prices

Set of stamps	£4.60
Composite Stamp Sheet of 30 stamps	£13.80
Presentation Pack	£5.10
Stamp Book	£2.76
Stamp Cards (10 in set)	£4.50
First Day Envelope	30p
First Day Cover	£6.00
Countdown Coin Cover	£17.50
Commemorative Sheet	£13.95
Stamp and Postcard Sets	£7.50

Below: alternative postmark featuring a stopwatch design with RUGBY, WARKS. Bottom: Talents House first-day cancellation for the Get Ready for 2012 issue

Below: Olympic Countdown to London 2012 Coin Cover, issued in collaboration with the Royal Mint in a numbered, limited edition of 15,000



Stamp Scene News from John Holman



Main event The 93rd Philatelic Congress of Great Britain is held this month at the Queens Hotel in Southsea, on 16-19 June. Presentations include Portsmouth Postal History (by Malcolm Montgomery), Antarctic Mail (Graham Booth), Australia & New Zealand Mails (Colin Tarbart), Mail under London (Len Stanway), the Future of Philatelic Federations (Susan Oliver), Railway Mail (Stephen Parkin), and Ballon Monte (Ashley Lawrence). There will also be displays by members of local societies.

The ceremony of the signing of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists will be held in Portsmouth Guildhall, this year's signatories are Gavin Fryer (UK), Koichi Sato (Japan), and Raymond Todd (Australia) •

Show season The popular Midpex exhibition is on 2 July at the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, east of Leamington Spa. The Exhibition Centre has more than double the floor area of the previous Midpex venue and free car parking. Specialist societies will have twice the frame space, plus tables and seating on each stand. The Friends of Thematica will hold their competitions. A free shuttle bus will run between Leamington station and the exhibition centre. For further information see www.midpex.co.uk

The next York Stamp & Coin Fair (over 150 dealers) will be held at the Grandstand, York Racecourse on 15 July (11am to 6pm) and 16 July (10am to 5pm). See www.stampshows.net for further details of fairs •

Royal Philatelic Society displays In an excellent display on 24 March Alan Holyoake demonstrated the development of the secured delivery of mail from 1450 to 1862 which led to the system of registration (special delivery) as known today. Alan was giving the Sir Daniel Cooper Lecture: Sir Daniel Cooper was the Society's first President, and the subjects of these annual lectures are confined to philatelic material that Sir Daniel could have collected before the sale of his collection in 1877. The display started with the secure systems devised by the Venetian Merchants about 1400. His incredible material covered the years up to and beyond the introduction of the formal ▶

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

Alan Holyoake with part of his display at the Royal Philatelic Society



Postal History Exhibition

• Blists Hill, Ironbridge

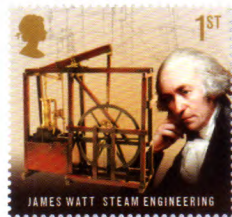
A BPMA permanent exhibition 'The Museum of the Post Office in the Community' is on show at the re-created Victorian Post Office at Blists Hill Victorian Town, Ironbridge, Shropshire. The exhibition explores the role of the Post Office in the community, from the 17th century to the present, and includes postal vehicles, letter boxes, home safes, and an early telegram. For details visit www.blistshill.org or phone 01952 884391.

system for the registration of mail on 6 January 1841, the initial fee being one shilling, a substantial amount in those days. Intriguing items in the display included a King Charles I proclamation of 1632, announcing the appointment of William Frizell and Thomas Witterings to the posts of Foreign Postmasters.

The Society's French fellows and members presented the displays on 14 April. Naturally some had a French connection, such as a study of the 30c Sower and the pneumatic post, the Great Plague of Marseilles 1720-23, and Prefectoral Marking in France. In offering special thanks to all who had displayed, Alan Moorcroft, the Society's President, commented that all had been impressed by the quality and variety of the exhibits •

Stamp-related exhibitions To mark the 90th birthday of HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, an exhibition 'Prince Philip: Celebrating Ninety Years' is on show at the Windsor Castle Drawings Gallery until 22 January 2012. The exhibition reflects many aspects of the Duke's life, including his patronage of 800 organisations, and his interests in sport, wildlife, and the arts. For details of the HRH Prince Philip 90th Birthday Commemorative Sheet, see page 262 of May *Bulletin*.

A new permanent exhibition at the Science Museum in London is 'Watt and our World', an exhibition on the life and work of James Watt, one of the famous engineers of the Industrial Revolution – depicted with the Boulton & Watt Condensing Engine on one of the 1st class stamps in the Pioneers of the Industrial Revolution issue of March 2009 •



2012 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain Hosted by the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies, next year's Congress will be held in Perth from 18 to 20 October 2012. This will be only the fourth time Congress has met in Scotland, previous occasions being Glasgow in 1924, Edinburgh in 1993, and Renfrew in 2006 •

Scottish Philatelic Congress The 82nd Annual Congress of the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies was held in Perth on 15-16 April, hosted by the Glasgow Thematic Society and Strathclyde Postcard Club. The top awards in the National Exhibition were as follows: Aerophilately – Richard Beith for Transcontinental and Transoceanic Airmail Acceptances from the Czech and Slovak Lands 1933-41; Social Philately – Pauline Cheasley, Aden and the Protectorate; General Glass, pre-1900 – Stanley Gray, The Designs for the First Stamps of India 1854; post-1900 Jean Osborne, The Lakto Issues of British New Guinea and Papua; Thematic – William McKinlay, Clouds; Postal History – Dr Rex Clark, Postal History of GB; Manuscript Franks 1652-1715; Literature – Jeffrey Stone, Aberdeen Philatelic Society 1910-2010; and Postcards – Mrs J MacLeod, Postcards of St Kilda. Winners in the Junior Competitions were: up to 8 years Lauren Espie, Run, Rabbit, Run; 9-12 years Lynn Mitchell, Time Flies; 16-17 years Claire Mitchell, Let there be Light. The Tom Rielly Display was given by Margaret Morris on the subject of Astronomy. The display is given

in memory of Tom Rielly, a leading character in Scottish philately, who died in 2001. The Association of Scottish Philatelic Society's Award of Merit for 2011 has been given to Jim Moffat of the Paisley Philatelic Society, well known for his France and Colonies collections, and an active member of a number of philatelic organisations •

Postmark Bulletin turns 40 Our companion magazine, *British Postmark Bulletin*, marks its 40th anniversary this month. The magazine gives details of forthcoming special handstamps, having listed over 16,000 over the past four decades. It is essential reading for collectors of modern GB postmarks and first day covers, enabling readers to contact postmark sponsors for details of official covers or to send their own covers to Royal Mail's Special Handstamp Centres for required postmarks.

The *Postmark Bulletin* is published fortnightly. Annual subscription is £12.25 UK and Europe, £24.95 rest of world. Enquiries to the Tallents House address on page 290 •

Obituary We regret to record the death on 21 April of Andrew Allen Whitworth, age 83, a noted collector and dealer in GB postal stationery. He will long be remembered for his detailed lists of stationery, particularly aerogrammes. Mr Whitworth was also a specialist on varieties on early commemorative stamps, writing about the 1946 Victory and 1949 UPU issues in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* in June 1950 and December 1954 respectively. He was a Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers •

This month in history

Why June 1910 was a busy month for Bertram Mackennal

This month marks the centenary of the Coronation of King George V and the issue of the first British stamps of his reign. Shortly after his accession in May 1910 work started on new designs which it was hoped would be ready for the Coronation on 22 June 1911. Designs for the ½d and 1d values were prepared by Bertram Mackennal after other designs proved unpopular with the King. The design featured a three-quarter profile of the King, based on an image by Court photographers W & D Downey. There were problems in producing the printing plates and the printers, Harrisons, were relatively inexperienced in postage stamp production.

Although the stamps were ready for Coronation Day and issued at post offices open that day, they were not a success in design or production terms and the King is said to have thought that the poor reproduction of his portrait made him look like a stuffed monkey. There was also criticism of the emaciated look of the lion on the 1d stamp. So new dies were made and new printings released in January 1912, but they were still not deemed satisfactory. A new profile image of the King, by Mackennal, was then used for fresh ½d and 1d stamps and all further low value definitives, issued between August 1912 and August 1913. Both 'Downey' and 'Mackennal' heads were shown on the £1 stamp in the George V Accession miniature sheet issued in May 2010 (see page 317).



Bringing Thomas to life

This month's special issue features the famous tank engine. We find out how he sprang from Reverend Awdry's mind to physical reality

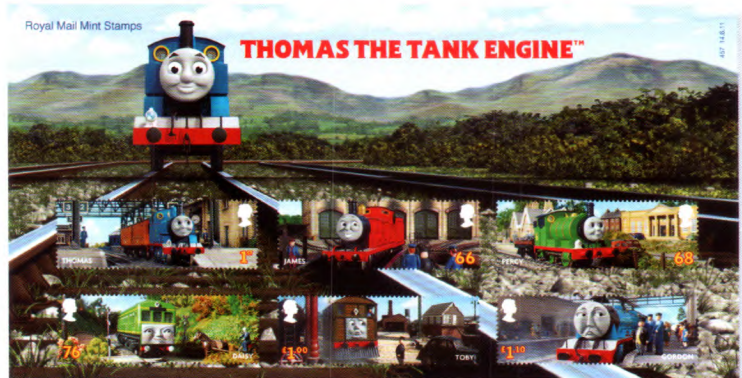


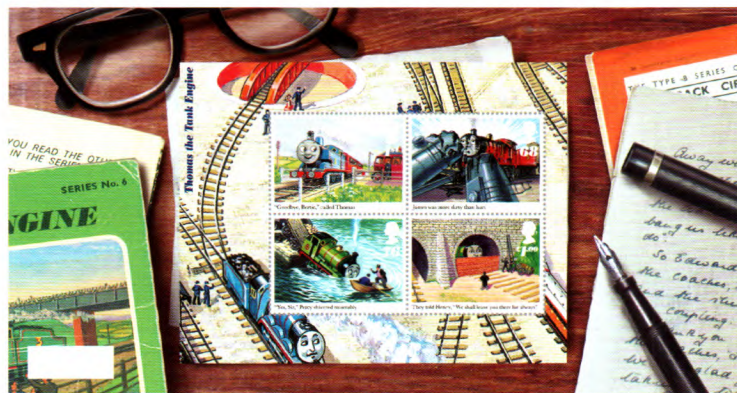
IT ALL STARTED as an attempt to keep a poorly child amused. As Christopher Awdry recounts: 'In the autumn of 1942, I caught measles, and my father tried to enliven my bed-bound quarantine with a rhyme he remembered from his own childhood: "Early in the morning, down by the station. See the little engines all in a row. Along comes the driver, pulls a little lever. Peep, peep, chuff, chuff, off we go." He drew me a picture to illustrate the verse, giving each engine a different facial expression, which prompted me to ask questions about the unhappy-looking engine: "What's his name?" and "Why is he sad?" Explanations were given – the sad-faced engine was called Edward. And so stories incorporating the many facets of the engines began to form, but because each time he told the stories the details would always be that little bit different, I began to criticise the changes. So, my father, perhaps in self-defence, decided to write down the three stories he had created. "That," he may have thought, "might keep the boy quiet!"'

Building the dream But the Reverend didn't leave it there. As well as writing 26 books in total – including drafts of illustrations for artists to work from – he built his own model version of the railways of Sodor. 'Officially' known as the Ffarquhar Branch, Thomas's Branch Line runs from the fictional towns of Knapford to Ffarquhar via Elsbridge.

Wilbert Awdry made his first proper model of this line in 1955, for display at the 1956 Wisbech Trades Fair, and it was exhibited until 1965. The second version was begun in 1966, and was built in what he called 'the railway room' at his house in Stroud. After the Reverend's death, it was restored by members of the North-Western Area Group of the Talyllyn

Above: Christopher at a book signing with his father (©BBC Cambridgeshire)
 Right: on the Carrier Card of this Thomas the Tank Engine Presentation Pack, Christopher Awdry writes about the life of his father, the Reverend W Awdry.
 Above, right: the Carrier Card recreates the Reverend Awdry's world. For details of the new issue see page 270 in last month's *Bulletin*





Railway Preservation Society and housed in the reconstructed Awdry Study in the Narrow Gauge Railway Museum at Wharf Station in Tywyn. The Reverend Awdry's other model railway, the Mid-Sodor Railway, was until recently located at Cadeby Rectory, the home of the late Reverend Teddy Boston (who appeared as 'The Fat Clergyman' in the Railway Series). It is now in the care of Christopher.

From reality to fantasy Part of the reason for Thomas's enduring appeal is the stories' attention to detail. As Wilbert once said, 'Whatever happened to Thomas, Gordon, Henry and the others had to have actually happened and have a railway-like explanation which fitted.' The Reverend was a train enthusiast and Thomas the Tank Engine™ and his friends are modelled on real trains.

Regarding the trains themselves, this is where the inspiration came from: **Thomas the Tank Engine** (1st Class stamp) is a 0-6-0 tank locomotive, based on the LB&SCR E2 Class, built in 1913. He is painted blue with red lining and is number 1 in the North Western Railway fleet.

James the Red Engine (66p) is a mixed-traffic 2-6-0 tender engine, built in 1915. Painted red with gold stripes and dome, he is number 5 in the North Western Railway fleet.

Percy (68p) the Small Engine is a saddle tank engine of indeterminate origins. He is painted green with red stripes and is number 6 in the North Western Railway fleet.

Daisy (76p) is a unique diesel railcar, painted green with yellow lining, similar to the livery of British Railways DMUs (Diesel Multiple Units) in the 1960s. Daisy's number is D1.

Toby (£1) the Tram Engine is a 0-6-0 steam tram engine of the type built in 1903. He is painted brown and blue and is number 7 in the fleet.

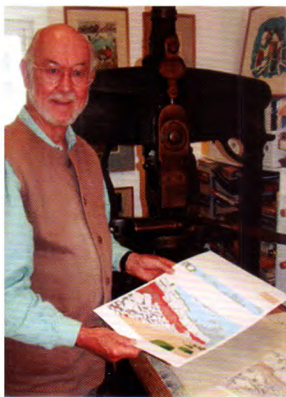
Gordon the Big Express Engine (£1.10) is a 4-6-2 tender engine. He is painted blue with red stripes and is number 4 in the NWR fleet.

Sadly, such interesting trains are rarely seen outside specialist museums these days. But Thomas continues to travel the world on his adventures with his friends – and now will grace envelopes all over the globe ●



Lino to go!

Robert Gillmor, creator of the linocuts for the Birds of Britain stamp series, describes how his love of nature has coloured his life. Interview: Kate Shaw



THE FIRST PICTORIAL ISSUE of Post & Go stamps came as quite a surprise. Stamp fans were just getting used to the look of these 'instant' stamps, automatically priced and franked by a machine, so the idea of their carrying illustrations of such a traditional subject as birds seemed, well, rather arty and graceful for what many philatelists had been initially inclined to dismiss as 'labels'. But the Birds of Britain Post and Go issues have proved a popular, beautifully classic series, thanks to the work of the artist Robert Gillmor. We spoke to him at his home in Cley-next-the-Sea in Norfolk, where he spends most days cutting away in his studio and working at his 1860 Albion press.

'I have been interested in drawing wildlife, particularly birds, since I was a schoolboy,' Gillmor explains. 'For me the two things – drawing and nature – went together. And they still do, 70 years on. It's a way of life: my grandfather was an artist who painted birds among other things, so I grew

up in a house with lots of pictures and fortunately I went to a school where Natural History and Art were treated as serious subjects. It was there I was introduced to lino-cutting – our art teacher was very keen on printing and when the school was given an Albion press I made some little programmes for musical events and Christmas. I also did a lot of painting and, when I was about 11, I entered a national competition – which by some miracle I won. When my grandfather took me up to London to collect the prize, the organisers were rather surprised to see a schoolboy in shorts.'

Was he already a bird-watcher at this stage? 'Well, I wasn't exactly a twitcher. I was involved in a bird group at school that was more about studying the behaviour of birds, as well as straightforward birdwatching, and I became familiar with the processes of trapping, ringing and counting.'

By the age of 15 Gillmor had already embarked on his lifelong career as an illustrator, with drawings for the monthly *British Birds* magazine. And during his time as an art student at Reading University he illustrated the first of over 100 books. In his student days, already with a long-established serious interest in wildlife, he travelled to Iceland and Spitzbergen (nowadays known as Svalbard) to study geese, and started the University's Exploration Society. He also founded the Society of Wildlife Artists, in which he was later elected to two terms as President.

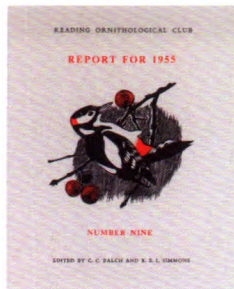
'The Society held its first exhibition in 1964,' Gillmor recalls. 'And so we are approaching our fiftieth in few years' time.'

He has also served on the steering panels of the RSPB, British Ornithologists' Union and the British Trust for Ornithology. And he has done much to promote the work of past artists, notably editing three books about Charles Tunnicliffe, renowned painter of British birds.

The first part of Gillmor's recent commission from art director Kate Stephens for Royal Mail was for the two sets of Post & Go Garden Birds, and those worked so well that it was decided to keep the style for the subsequent two sets, of Waterbirds and Seabirds (the latter to be issued in mid-September). 'Designing the birds for the Royal Mail stamps was a very nice thing to be asked to do,' Gillmor reflects. 'Quite how much work was going to be involved in doing them, I have to say I didn't realise at the beginning of the project: I cut more than 170 lino blocks in all.'

Each stamp image is made by cutting a number of lino blocks, one for each colour in the design. Then the blocks are printed in sequence by hand on the Albion press, using water-based inks. He explains: 'Most of the Birds of Britain stamps have around six or seven colours, but for some of them I needed up to ten colours, which meant cutting ten blocks for one stamp. I worked on all the original bird designs at about A4 size, as it's not easy to work with lino in small sizes. I think they printed very well and have kept most of the detail.'

'The original brief was for one bird per stamp, but in the case of the magpies I said we had to have two because of the familiar rhyme: "One ►



Above: one of Gillmor's first published linocuts, for the Reading Ornithological Club in 1955

Facing page: of his 'Following the Harrow' print of 2004, Gillmor says, 'I knew it would be difficult to capture the snowstorm of white and grey as gulls following a tractor. In the end this was one of the most enjoyable prints I have tackled'

◀ The brief was for one bird per stamp, but in one case I wanted to show a pair ▶

Below: the flowerheads on the Goldfinch stamp involved the most detailed lino-cutting of the stamp set
Far left: Gillmor at home with his Albion press

1st Class
up to 100g

002010 9 51840 01



Right: 'Lapwing Sheltering Chicks' (1964) was first sketched on a damp day in Minsmere. Page 291: 'Tufted Ducks' is an elimination lino-cut, one of Gillmor's first two editions, printed for the Exhibition of Contemporary Bird Painters in 1960



for sorrow, two for joy, three for a girl and four for a boy..." I had to think about the best way to render the backgrounds too, to keep them true to the birds' habitats. For all the stamp backgrounds I looked for relevant vegetation that also provided a variety and balance of colour across the stamp sets. Having the goldfinch perched on a thistle, for example, involved very detailed lino-cutting to achieve the texture of the flowerhead, but I was determined to make it work – it's such a typical sighting of the goldfinch.'

‘The birds you see along the Norfolk coast lend themselves well to my work’

Since 1998 Robert Gillmor has lived in Norfolk, not far from the Cley Marshes Nature Reserve, one of the best bird reserves in the UK: ‘Before moving here I lived in Reading for most

of my life, then, when the children had ‘fledged’, my wife and I came to live in the area of Norfolk where we had taken family holiday for 18 years. In Reading I was busy illustrating books but now I am happy to be able to do printing almost exclusively, and the birds you see along the coast here – waterbirds such as lapwings, avocets and oystercatchers lend themselves well to my work.’

We hope he will lend his eye to more stamp designs in the future. Talking with Robert Gillmor is a pleasant experience because he so evidently is doing what he was born to enjoy. When I asked him if he had a favourite stamp in the Post & Go Birds of Britain set, he chuckled. ‘No, I don’t have a favourite... but I do rather like the blackbird’ • *Illustrations courtesy of Langford Press, from ‘Cutting Away; The Linocuts of Robert Gillmor’.*

Details of Post & Go Birds of Britain issues 1 to 3 are on pages 26, 135 and 330 of this volume of Bulletin.

1st Class
up to 100g



002011 1 51840 02

Scots in bloom

In time for a spate of flower shows north of the border, Adrian Keppel recounts the development of botany through Scottish innovators, whose discoveries have graced stamps worldwide

DURING THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES – a time when botany underwent major changes – many Scots played a part in the development of this particular strand of science. Until that time botany was very much linked to the medical world. Many botanic gardens were based on the cultivation and study of medicinal herbs and plants. The Scot James Sutherland (1639–1719) was a key botanic figure of that era. He was gardener of the Physic Garden in Edinburgh and subsequently catalogued its 2,000 plants in his *Hortus Medicus Edinburgensis*. In appreciation of his work, Edinburgh University created a special Chair of Botany for him.

Another important Scot involved in the birth of botany was Sir Robert Sibbald, born in Edinburgh in 1641. The *Sibbaldia purpurea* (see the Bhutan stamp on page 291) was named after Sir Sibbald by Linnaeus. He was physician to King James VII and was closely involved in the foundation of the Royal College of Physicians in Edinburgh, but in this context he is important because he, together with Sir Andrew Balfour, founded Edinburgh's first botanic garden.

It was this scientific interest in nature and gardens that eventually led to a greater interest in individual plants and their systematic classification. The famous Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus was among the first trailblazers in 1750 to categorise all known plants in his *Species Plantarum*.

Still very much rooted in the medicinal side of botany was Charles Alston, born in Lanarkshire in 1685 (overleaf is a stamp showing the latex of the *Alstonia angustiloba*, or pulai tree, named after Alston). Alston, a doctor of medicine, became the King's Botanist. His work on plant physiology was very advanced for its time, and he was eventually appointed Professor of Biology and *Materia Medica* at Edinburgh College. Progressive though he may have been on the subject of pharmacology, he did not believe that the way forward for botany was where Linnaeus was taking it, and Alston consequently never supported Linnaeus' classification system.

The Linnean way Though Alston sometimes got the better of Linnaeus, he was fighting a lost cause and not able to stop the way botany was progressing. The Scot William Aiton, born in Lanarkshire in 1731, was, like Alston, educated primarily in medicine, and was asked to come to Kew to lay out a nine-acre medicinal garden. He also chose not to follow Linnaeus' footsteps in methods of plant classification and, while he was Keeper of Kew Gardens, published his *Hortus Kewensis*, a compilation and description of some 5,600 foreign plants cultivated in ▶



Above: the turkey flower or *Sutherlandia frutescens* shown on the 1987 Lesotho stamp. It is named in honour of Sutherland, the first Superintendent of the Edinburgh Botanic Garden



Below: 1988 stamp marking the bicentenary of Linnaeus Society



Clockwise from top left:
1999 Malaysian stamp, one of a trees set, showing *Alstonia angustiloba*, named after Charles Alston, one of the 1999 Trees of Malaysia set.

1981 Monaco stamp, celebrating the genus *Hoya*, named after Thomas Hoy, which has more than 200 species, including this *Hoya bella*.

1994 Canadian stamp showing the Douglas maple, one of the many coniferous trees introduced by Douglas.

1981 Regional Flowers stamp from Madeira has Loudon's name attached because he modified the original description by Linnaeus.

1990 Brazil stamp, showing *D Don*: David Don, Librarian to the Linnean Society, described many plants, including the *rhododendron* (see below), which now bear the botanic abbreviation *Don*.

1990 Flora set from Vanuatu features *Hoya australis*.

1972 Poland stamp showing the *rhododendron*.

1968 Romanian stamp, one of a set showing pelargoniums, among the flowers William Aiton described in his *Hortus Kewensis*

these gardens. The image of the Romania stamp shown above left features one of these flowers – a *pelargonium* that bear his abbreviation *Ait*.

In 1788, the Linnean Society of London was founded, and again we find a number of Scots at the helm. The cultivator Thomas Hoy (born in Selkirkshire, 1734) was involved in the formation of the Society of which he became a Fellow. Because of his status as cultivator, his name was given to the *Hoya* plants. David Don, born at Forfar in 1800, became Librarian to the Society in 1822. As librarian, he was responsible for the description of many plants, which still bear his botanic author abbreviation *D Don*.

Changing tastes This increasing interest in botany meant that botanic gardens, too, changed drastically. No longer solely created for medicinal benefits, the beauty of individual plants and their place in the garden became more important. The changes in botany also coincided with a change in European society: the era heralded the end of absolute monarchy and saw the birth of enlightened ideas, leaning more towards the rights of the individual. This philosophical questioning had an interesting effect on the perception of gardens. The baroque style of garden design, with all axes geared towards one central point – a visual centre of power and arguably a symbol of absolute monarchy – became outdated, with gardens losing their formal functions and becoming more geared towards the pursuit of leisure. In Britain, the baroque style had never really found that much favour, so gardens here already tended to be less formal. It is therefore no wonder that Britain was among the first countries where the 'gardenesque' movement could flourish.

The movement was spearheaded by John Loudon (born in Glasgow, 1783). He started out as a landscape planner in agriculture, but soon moved on to city planning, publishing his *Hints for Breathing Places for Metropolis*. He believed that gardens should mimic nature and that individual plants should be given the best place in a garden to fulfil their potential. These



general principles are now referred to as the Gardenesque Design theory, and marked the beginnings of the discipline which by the 20th century had become known as landscape architecture. Loudon was also a prolific writer and editor of various botanic publications.

A Bruce bonus The shift of focus from botany to horticulture meant that the time was ripe for a British horticultural society, and in 1804 seven men came together in a bookshop in Piccadilly with the aim of forming such a society. This was basically the beginning of the Royal Horticultural Society, founded that same year. One of the seven men was William Forsyth (yes, the great grandfather of Bruce), born in Aberdeenshire in 1737 and gardener to King George III. The *forsythia* was named in his honour.

Increasingly, the beauty of individual plants became the main focus of gardens and consequently there was a growing demand for new and ever more exotic plant species. As these developments coincided with the emergence of a nouveau riche, many important botanic gardeners, such as Veitch, Hackney and Loddiges, and those of Kew Gardens, were able to obtain finances for collecting and distributing plants and for plant expeditions around the world. Again, among these plant explorers are a number of significant Scots who have been commemorated in plant names and stamps.

The famous Douglas Fir is named after David Douglas, but it is its Latin name, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, that reveals the true discoverer of this tree, Archibald Menzies. Menzies (born in Peeblesshire, 1754) had been interested in botany from an early age, and when he was 24, he had already amassed a wonderful collection of rare Scottish plants. He trained as a surgeon and in that capacity was able to go on sea voyages during which he could collect plants, at first for the famous plant collector Sir Joseph Banks and later for Kew Gardens. He was the first plant explorer to explore the Pacific North West. During a second voyage to America, Menzies discovered lots of new ►

Clockwise from top left: the 1997 Canadian stamp, showing the Latin name for the Douglas fir on the sheet margin.

2003 Iceland stamp with *Phlox drummondii*, one of the hundreds of plant species collected by Thomas Drummond.

1995 stamp set of Norfolk Island includes the Norfolk Island Hibiscus, or *Lagunaria patersonia*, named after William Paterson (who collected mainly in South Africa).

1960 Israel stamp, showing evening primrose or *Oenothera drummondii*, after Drummond.

1962 Swiss stamp, one of the many featuring the forsythia, named after Forsyth.

1985 stamp from Guyana using a reproduction of Walter Hood Fitch's plates for the *Reichenbachia* book on orchids.

The set issued for the 11th International Botanical Congress in Seattle has a stamp of the Douglas fir with the proper Latin name included.



From top: Robert Jameson's claim to fame is the introduction of the gerbera daisy, which he allegedly discovered in South Africa, and which has since become a popular flower worldwide



Above: Robert Fortune introduced many new species, such as the *Rhododendron fortunei*, shown here on stamps from *Rhododendron* sets issued in China (1991) and Bhutan (1976)

species, but after falling out with the captain (who reportedly found it necessary to lock him in his cabin for most of the voyage) Menzies was unfortunately not able to introduce those species, the Douglas Fir among them, to the British Isles. It was David Douglas who later introduced the fir tree, but he named it *menziesii* in acknowledgment of Menzies' discovery.

The coming of the conifers David Douglas (born in Perthshire, 1798) was one of the first to be able to go on plant expeditions financed privately by rich plant collectors or gardeners. He was a plant collector for the Royal Horticultural Society, which was keen to gain status as frontrunner in the introduction of new species. In 1823 the Society sent Douglas on his first expedition, to New England. Between 1824 and 1927 he went on various expeditions to the Pacific Northwest. Then, in 1829, he left for the West Coast of America, where he discovered over 200 plant species. When one considers that Great Britain only has three indigenous types of coniferous trees (the yew, the Scottish pine and the common juniper) and that every other type of coniferous tree we see today was introduced by Douglas, one gets an idea of the scale and importance of his work.

Another Scot who explored the Americas was Thomas Drummond (1790-1835). He collected plant species for William Jackson Hooker of the Glasgow Botanic Garden. Drummond introduced some 700 species from North America and Texas. Not all explorations were geared towards the Americas, though. The African continent held great allure too, and the favourite plant-searching territory for William Paterson (born in Angus, 1755). Thomas was a soldier whose main claim to fame was as Lieutenant-Governor of Tasmania, and acting Governor of New South Wales in the early 19th century. But his first love was botany. Mary Bowes, the rich Countess of Strathmore, sent him to the Cape in 1777 to collect plants for her. He stayed there for four years, making four plant-finding trips inland, before he returned. He was later elected a Fellow of the Royal Society.

Robert Jameson (Kilmarnock, 1832), Professor in Natural History, was the person who introduced Charles Darwin to geology. Jameson is credited with discovering the *gerbera* daisies in the Barberton district of the Transvaal in 1884. He certainly sent specimens to the Durban Botanic Gardens, and these were eventually sent to Kew in Great Britain, along with the suggestion to name them after Jameson, hence *Gerbera jamesonii*.

A lasting legacy With the signing of the Treaty of Nanking in 1842, trade routes to Asia were restored and provided new expedition routes for plant explorers. Robert Fortune (born in Berwickshire, 1812) was the first to take advantage of these circumstances. His expeditions were organised and funded by the likes of the Horticultural Society, the East India Company and the US government. Although perhaps best known for bringing tea from China to Darjeeling, Fortune's plant expeditions to China, Japan and the Himalayas added a wide range of popular species to botanic gardens.

As the medicinal gardens of the past developed into the leisure gardens of today, the stamps on these pages show how the work of this group of influential Scottish botanists has sown seeds across the globe ●

New directions – John Baron reports on a selection of innovative initiatives from philatelic groups around the UK



I AM DELIGHTED TO REPORT that some philatelic societies appear to be enjoying the challenges to our hobby as expressed in the February edition of the *Bulletin* in the article 'The View from the Crossroads'. It seems that many collectors see a need to be proactive in sustaining and growing the hobby – and are doing something about it.

Facing up to the future There's an increasing understanding that for philately to grow there's a need to think outside normal conventions, and to develop the hobby in the 'outside world' instead of keeping it within the confines of club meetings and stamp fairs. After all, we have a lot to share. A number of collectors have always been prepared to give stamp-related presentations to non-philatelic groups such as Rotary clubs, Women's Institutes, church groups and others. But there is a growing awareness that the hobby needs to 'meet' the public at every opportunity. Ideally, this would be through standing displays that remain in place for at least a month.

For example, Woking Society has arranged for a display at The Lighthouse, a local museum. It shows the history of the post in the town from the 1770s up to the present day. It includes items that represent the earliest known copies of various Woking postmarks and one or two can justifiably be claimed to be unique. This creates a great opportunity for local people to see different ►

Below: the Preston Philatelic Society organised a stamp-collecting exhibition at the Ribble Steam Museum



types of stamp collecting and to help them relate to the subject by linking it to wider aspects of postal and local history.

Similarly, the Preston Society has made an agreement with the Ribble Steam Railway Museum to show philatelic railway material, including postcards, amongst the Museum's displays of industrial railway engines. The development of the railways and the postal service are, of course, intrinsically linked. The first carriage of mail took place on Thursday 11 November 1830 between Manchester and Liverpool, and by the following year over 25 mail routes were in operation throughout the UK; you can see the development of the whole story in the Museum. Both of these initiatives are helping to promote philately locally, and membership of societies in the region has increased as a result.

ideal
HOME SHOW
at Christmas
16TH–20TH NOVEMBER 2011
EARLS COURT LONDON

Bringing it home The National Philatelic Society has decided to invest in exhibiting the hobby at the Ideal Home Show at Christmas, at Earls Court, London from 16 to 20 November. This enlightened departure will introduce the hobby to a very wide audience. The stand will offer visitors the chance to rediscover stamps and the stories behind them. They can enter philately-based competitions, purchase limited collections and covers, and take away a souvenirs of their visit to the show, including a series of sponsored postcards. Leaflets on Social Philately, Thematic Collecting and Postal History, and General Stamp Fact Sheets will all be available to hundreds of people who otherwise might not have been aware of their existence.



Mentoring matters A major concern for philatelists for many years has been how to retain the interest generated by the success of school stamp clubs and to maintain or revive young people's interest in the hobby in the post-teen years. One solution currently being developed is the formation of a Philatelic Youth Mentoring Programme, which will help collectors under the age of 30 to understand the history and contemporary importance of philately and its contribution to the economic, commercial, political and social development in countries worldwide.

This Programme will introduce a large number of young people to the hobby and, one hopes, in

some cases spark a lifelong passion for and involvement in organised philately. It will encourage young people to pursue their special interests through stamps and to take the lead in developing philately in the UK and abroad. There is a significant interest from many of the country's leading philatelists in supporting this initiative.

The Programme leaders will be working closely with local societies in the UK and also with the American Philatelic Society (APS). A long-term aim is to develop online courses in philately that allows the whole world to use APS and UK resources for virtual study.

Web and wisdom In my ABPS role I travel all over the UK, so I am able to listen to a lot of different views on all aspects of philately. I recently visited the Dumfries Society, who had invited neighbouring Kirkcudbright to a discussion evening on the roles of Societies in developing the hobby. It was a challenging evening with many views being expressed, especially over the use of computers and web services. A common thread was that while the younger collectors are more computer literate – it's second nature for them – online philately is not so easy for some of the more mature collectors. It was felt that online services should be an addition to traditional philately and not the whole story. Nobody wants to forget the individuals who have been the bedrock of the hobby over the years. (Although there is always the possibility that seniors can seek out mentors among younger members if they wish to learn more about online research and cataloguing systems.)

Virtual philately It has been interesting to hear about a number of philatelic groups being formed on the web, where the members don't actually meet face to face, yet are in regular contact. The advantage of these 'online societies' is that they may in some ways be able to make their members feel more welcome than physical groups do, and they can offer new collectors the opportunity to ask the most basic and the most difficult questions and get them answered without any embarrassment!

Shared interests The University of the Third Age (U3A) is a large 'target market' for the hobby, not least because many retired people do have the time necessary to develop an interest in collecting. In Sleaford, Lincolnshire, a group of philatelists has got together to form the Sleaford U3A Society and they hold regular meetings.

A further significant point raised at Kirkcudbright was the possibility of philatelists looking further afield to give talks and publish articles. For example, one member has already written philatelic articles in gardening magazines, the *Nursing Times* and *Chemistry World*.

This year sees the ABPS taking an exhibition and show to Sheffield as part of the continuing tour of the UK. The venture is designed to give collectors an opportunity to see quality material, enter competitions and buy from dealers. Alongside this, a new initiative was initiated at the 2011 Philatelic Congress in Portsmouth – the re-introduction of competitions, whose organisers are looking for new entrants into the single-frame competitions and hoping to entice more entries with a reduced entry fee.

Another enterprising Society in Surrey has started a mid-morning meeting for local members of other local Societies. With the cost of room hire from local authorities being so high this does enable them to have the use of an upstairs room at no cost, providing they partake of the pub's food and drink at 'halftime'. In many ways this is what the hobby of stamp-collecting is about, and indeed what most hobbies are about: even the most solitudinous of pastimes is enhanced by a good helping of friendly discussion, perhaps a little buying and selling, a development away from tradition and the creation of a positive social network where all benefit ●



Positively Postal A lively website with a fresh and enthusiastic approach to philately



Who is the website for? www.positivelypostal.co.uk, run by Scott Thomson, is for those fascinated by the postal system, and aims to promote postal culture and its benefits worldwide. It provides a lively resource for collectors who are attracted by the variety that modern GB stamps can offer and for anyone looking for an alternative, creative and funky take on the world of post and philately in general.

What's the site's heritage? Positively Postal launched in September 2005 and was revamped to its current format three years ago. Its owner is now working diligently to expand and refine the site as an ongoing work in progress.

How is it organised? The site has nine main sections, including world and UK maps, a postal history timeline, a large gallery and competition page, plus the home page, 'contact us', news and links sections – all clearly highlighted in a navigation bar at the top.

What are the best bits? A new 'artistamp' is featured every day. These take inspiration from a wide range of topics such as Easter and including the slightly more esoteric such as 'Pineapple upside-down-cake day'. At the time of this review, the most recent GB stamp issues are showcased alongside a very informative feature on the Royal Wedding and a look back at previous issues in the area. Positively Postal also runs great competitions – for instance, linked to the above item were chances to win one of ten Royal Wedding presentation packs, as well as Classic Locomotive goodies and a pen and letter opener set. Letters and cards sent to Positively Postal are displayed on the 'Around The World In Letters' map, along with links to more information about each piece and there is a handy Twitter feed on the home page (follow P/P @positivelypost).

What could be improved? The site would benefit from having an online shop (which, according to the owner, is on the way and an eBay link was set up last month to sell Royal Wedding stamps). The information and images could be updated more regularly, particularly in the news section.

In conclusion Definitely a stamp site with a difference and a lot of great ideas, some of which depend on visitors for their development. With a little trimming back and more consistent updating, this site has real potential for 'keeping you posted' as it proudly writes on its home page. A refreshing look at the wider postal picture that inspires participation ●

Checklist of 2010 definitives To complete your records we bring you a full list of the definitives issued last year



Please note We quote Royal Mail order numbers (prefixed DS, YB etc) as given on Tallents House stock lists • Key to printers: C = Cartor, D = De La Rue, E = Enschedé, W = Walsall • Printing process: G = gravure, L = litho, I = intaglio • Unless otherwise stated, definitive and country stamps are self adhesive, have a perforation gauge of 15 x 14 (with ellipses at lower left and right sides) and two phosphor bands (2nd class standard size one band) • The dates quoted are those on which the stamps were first available from Tallents House; in some instances they may have been available at Post Offices earlier to meet postal needs •

Machin definitives

30 March 60p, Emerald Green (DS600); 67p, Rhododendron (DS670); 88p, Shocking Pink (DS880); 97p, Mauve (DS970); £1.46, Dark Turquoise (DS146). All D, G, PVA.

6 May 1st Class Accession of King George V. C, L, PVA.

26 October Special Delivery up to 100g (FS505); Special Delivery up to 500g (FS550). All D, G.



Country definitives

England

30 March 60p, Oak (ES600); 97p, Tudor Rose (ES970). All D, G, PVA.

Northern Ireland

30 March 60p, Linen (IS600); 97p, Parian China (IS970). All D, G, PVA.

Scotland

30 March 60p, Thistle (SS600); 97p, Tartan (SS970). All D, G, PVA.

Wales

30 March 60p, Daffodil (WS600); 97p, Prince of Wales Feathers (WS970). All D, G, PVA.

Stamp Coils

13 May 2010 2nd NVI, x 500 (DC117); 1st NVI, x 500 (DC116); 2nd NVI, x 1000 (DC118); 1st NVI, x 1000. All with security features (DC119). All D, G, PVA.

Mixed Value Panes from Prestige Books

7 January 4 x 20p, 2 x 54p, 2 x 62p + Label; 5 x 10p, 2 x 22p & 2 x 5p. All from Classic Album Covers Prestige Book, C, L, PVA.

25 February 4 x 54p, 4 x 22p + Label. From The Royal Society Prestige Book, C, L, PVA.

8 May 3 x £1 & 3 x 1st Accession of King George V, C, L, PVA. 4 x 1st, 2 x 2nd, 2 x 50p + Label, W, G. 2 x £1 The King's Stamps, E, I, PVA. 4 x 1st The King's Stamps, E, I, PVA. All four panes from King George V PSB.

13 May 4 x 5p, 2 x 10p, 2 x 60p + label. From Britain Alone Prestige Book, C, L, PVA.

Miniature Sheets 2010

26 January Smilers[®] (MZ061), C, L.

6 May Accession of King George (MZ064) V, C, L, PVA.



Once Upon a Time in the West
Called 'The White Album' for the
digital culture' by Peter Smith, the
cover of Neil's second album was
designed to reflect the most hallowed
digital safe. Released on CD and
download only, the artwork provoked
much debate in the music industry.



Think Tank
Street art and comic art have been
major influences on album design
in recent years and never more so than
in the case of Think Tank, which
features cover and liner paintings by
renowned street artist Banksy. Five
years later, the original cover artwork
sold at Bonhams for £62,000.



BRITPOP / SPACE ROCK

From far left: country definitives, panes 2
and 3 of the Festival of Stamps Prestige
Stamp Book, and panes from the Britain
Alone, the Royal Society, and the Album
Art Prestige Stamp Books

8 May The King's Stamps (MZ065), E, I, PVA; London
2010 Exhibition Sheet (MZ066), C, L, PVA.

Stamp Books

7 January Classic Album Covers Prestige Book, C, L;
Olympics & Paralympic Games No 1 Retail Book, W, G.

26 January 6 x 1st with text change to website
address, W, G.

25 February The Royal Society Prestige Book, C, L;
Olympics & Paralympic Games No 2 Retail Book, W, G.

30 March London 2010 Festival of Stamps Retail
Book, 4 x Europe 20g Retail Book, 4 x Worldwide 20g
Retail Book. All W, G.

8 May King George V Prestige Book C, L, PVA, E, I,
PVA, W, G.

13 May Britain Alone Prestige Book, C, L, PVA.

15 June Mammals Retail Book, W, G.

27 July Olympic & Paralympic Games No 3 Retail
Book, W, G.

19 August 12 x 2nd + 6 x 1st, printer's name removed.
Both W, G.

15 September British Design Classics No 5 Retail
Book, W, G.

12 October Olympics & Paralympic Games No 4 Retail
Book, W, G.

Pictorial (Smilers[®]) Definitives

26 January 'For All Occasions' 2 Smilers[®] 2010, L, C.

1 March Castle of Wales 20 x 1st National Flag of Wales.

8 May 'Keep Smiling' 4 x Cake, 3 x Union Flag,
1 x Robin, 4 x Presents, 1 x Love, 1 x Thank You,
1 x Fireworks, 1 x Balloons, 2 x Hello Europe, 2 x Hello
Worldwide, London 2010 (20 x Hello) ●

Compiled by Melvyn Philpott of the Machin Collectors Club

Covers

Orders and enquiries

Buckingham Covers

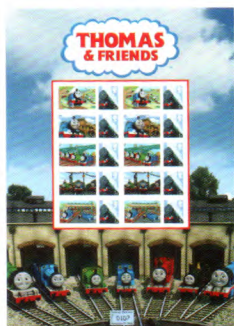
Warren House
Shearway Road
Folkestone
Kent CT19 4BF
www.buckinghamcovers.com
Phone 01303 278137

The Civil Defence Association

The Secretary
CDA
24 Paxton Close
Matlock
Derbyshire
DE4 3TD
www.civildefenceassociation.org.uk
Cheques payable to The Civil Defence Association

M Tanner

180 Whitehorse Road,
West Croydon,
Surrey
CR0 2LA
Extra 'We will Rock You'
postcards, 60p. Similar items
available, including maximum
cards and stamps shown.
Credit/debit cards accepted on
tel/fax 020 8684 9757. Please
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written enquiries.

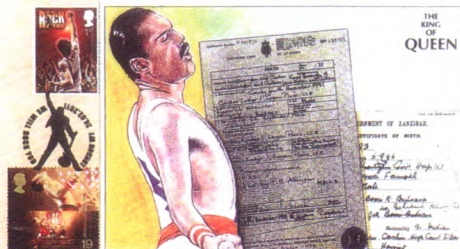


Musicals/'We Will Rock You'

Postmarked 24.2.2011, with tiller
postcard and limited to 50
copies, this M Tanner cover
celebrates the music of Queen
and Freddie Mercury, who died
in November 1991. **Price** £18.99
plus £1.50 p&p worldwide ●

Thomas the Tank Engine™ Stamp Sheet Presentation

Pack Marking the centenary of the birth of Reverend Awdry, the creator of Thomas the Tank Engine™, this stamp sheet features ten attractive labels. **Price** £28.95. Also available signed by Ben Small, who is the current voice of Thomas, at £39.95. Insurance and p&p £1.95. Also available from Buckingham and produced with Gloucester Warwickshire Railway is an official Thomas the Tank Engine cover, also available with celebrity signatures ●



10th Anniversary of the CD Memorial



The Civil Defence Memorial (London) was Dedicated & Opened on 16 June 2001
The Unveiling was performed by Sir Ian St. Oswald Thompson



The Civil Defence Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum

was dedicated and unveiled on 16 June 2001 and this cover commemorates the tenth anniversary of that event. The special 16 June 2011 NMA postmark cancels the CDA-badged Smilers® Union Flag stamps. An explanatory insert is included. **Price** £11 each including p&p ●

The Civil Defence Association has

produced a double dated cover, with insert describing the Bedenham Incident, to commemorate the Adoption of Sub-Officer George Henderson of the Gibraltar Dockyard Fire Brigade as one of their 12 George Cross recipients – whose names appear on plaque to be unveiled by Jim Beaton GC in Gibraltar on 18 June. **Price** £12.50 each including UK p&p ●



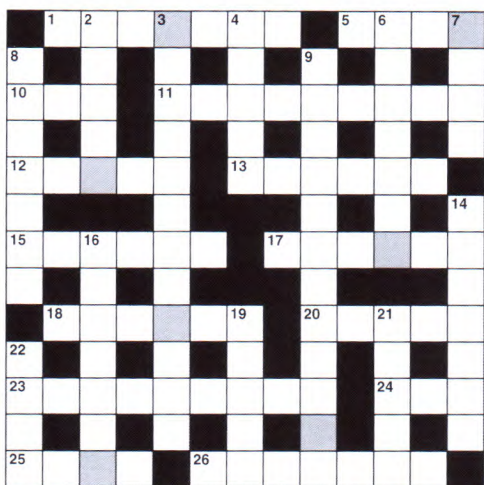
Cover producers wishing to announce a recent or forthcoming cover should submit copy of up to 75 words and an image of the cover. Announcements are published on a first-come-first-served basis or around a theme, at the discretion of the editor. Please send submissions for September Bulletin to the address on page 261 to arrive by 29 July 2011.

Prize draw rules and regulations

1 The closing date is 1 July 2011. 2 Promotions are open to all readers aged 18 and over, except employees of Royal Mail Group Ltd, their business associates and immediate families. 3 Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries which are incomplete, damaged or not received for any reason. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt. Prizes must be accepted as offered; they are not transferable and there are no cash alternatives. 4 Winners are notified within 28 days of closing date. 5 For prize draws where readers must answer a question or solve a crossword, winners will be the senders of the first correct entries drawn at random by an independent service 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 Melanie Williams, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail 1st Floor, 35-50 Rathbone Place, London W1T 1HQ. The promoter is Royal Mail Group Ltd, 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4V 0HQ.

Prize draws A cryptic crossword and two stamp teasers

CROSSWORD Complete the puzzle below, then rearrange the letters in the grey squares to form a stamp-related word. Send that word, with your name and address and marked 'June Crossword', to the address below. The first correct entry drawn after 1 July wins items from the new 'Thomas the Tank Engine' issue.



CLUES

Across

- 1 Two points for the police to put into effect (7)
- 5 People are crazy when they run it (4)
- 10 And in France get a hundred – and the rest (abbrev) (3)
- 11 Hand over drink when going to bed (7,2)

- 12 Demonstration in prison, initially, on top of building (5)
- 13 Road sign working with point and method (3-3)
- 15 Plenty are in revolutionary dress (6)
- 17 Prepared for publication – it is indeed corrected (6)
- 18 Horse's home unlikely to collapse? (6)
- 20 Take the lid off a French hat (5)
- 23 Active by night, prisoner sent back, to divert Capone (9)
- 24 Some bless the French (3)
- 25 Flower first noted in Lower Egypt (4)
- 26 Hear sherpa becoming nervous (7)

Down

- 2 Spinach ordinarily covers Mexican snack (5)
- 3 Unexpectedly used up turquoise? (3,2,3,4)
- 4 Goods carried from vehicle on drive (5)
- 6 Settler – unusually grim worker (7)
- 7 Partially darken town in English county (4)
- 8 Regard sceptre that's damaged (7)
- 9 Large blended drinks for tennis match? (5,7)
- 14 Fatty is a dope, unfortunately (7)
- 16 Sort of illusion could be topical (7)
- 19 Wise Premium Bond selector (5)
- 21 Pass on, or stop mid-sentence (5)
- 22 Soon you won't know who wrote this (4)

Identify and Knowledge

- 1 *Identify* the stamp from the detail, right, with its name and year of issue.
- 2 Test your *Knowledge*:
- a) How old was the Penny Black last month?
- b) Name the fictitious island home of Thomas the Tank Engine?
- c) In what year was the RDP inaugurated?

Send your answers, marked 'June Identify' and/ or 'June Knowledge', to Bulletin Draw, 1st Floor, 35-50 Rathbone Place, London W1T 1HQ.

Closing date: 1 July 2011. The first correct entries drawn after the closing date win the Royal Wedding Commemorative Pack. See facing page for rules and regulations ●



April results

Identify: Bluebells, 1979
British Nature Week.

Winner J Allport,
Guisborough.

Knowledge: a) The first
GB stamps to celebrate
Shakespeare were issued in 1964.

b) Edward Burne-Jones was the

designer of the stained-glass on the £1.10 Morris & Co stamp.

c) Twelve is the number of Post & Go Birds of Britain stamps available by April 2011. **Winner** L Bowater, Enville.

Crossword Across: 1 Suggest 5 Oman 10 Fat 11 Merchants
12 Peels 13 War cry 15 Annual 17 Thrash 18 Purser
20 Aesop 23 Permitted 24 Emu 25 Eels 26 Asinine.

Down 2 Untie 3 Gamesmanship 4 Shrew 6 Minorca 7 Nose
8 Off-peak 9 Churchwarden 14 Shape up 16 Neutral 19 Rates
21 Sheen 22 Epee. *Solution:* handstamp.

Winner J Cherrington, Tipton.





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- Each badge is individually hand-enamelled and measures 21mm x 24mm.
- In five classic stamp designs – 1p Maroon, 2p Dark Green, 5p Ash Pink, 2nd Class Bright Blue and 1st Class Flame.
- The reverse of the badge shows the original issue date of the stamp in its current form.
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