The magazine for collectors of UK stamps

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Royal Mail

Philatelic Bulletin

VOLUME 57 NO.7

There's only one Bond



James Bond

however six actors have played the nation's favourite spy

meet them inside

ROYAL MAIL • TALLENTS HOUSE • EDINBURGH • FIRST DAY OF ISSUE • 17.3.2020 • WE'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU.

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE • 17. 3. 2020 • SPY POST, WELLINGTON

NEW MACHIN DEFINITIVES • POSTMARK ADVERTISING • LONDON 2020

Celebrating Britain's rich philatelic history



The London 2020 International Stamp Exhibition Stamp Book

A key theme of the London 2020 show will be the 180th anniversary of the Penny Black which Royal Mail will be marking with a number of special products. The Stamp Book will be issued in advance of the event on 10 March. The book houses six First Class stamps comprising two Penny Black, two Twopenny Blue and two Penny Red stamps which were first issued in 2015/16. It also bears the London 2020 show logo as well as details of the venue and dates on which the exhibition takes place. The book has been printed in gravure by International Security Printers and the stamps are self-adhesive. Royal Mail's London 2020 products will be available to purchase at the show, and can also be bought online at **www.royalmail.com/stamps** or by calling **03457 641 641** (+44 3457 641 641 from overseas).

Royal Mail



Contents

So who is your favourite?

Craig, Brosnan, Dalton, Moore, Lazenby, and Connery are all honoured in the action packed James Bond stamp issue **196**





Postal persuasion Maurice Buxton's historical study of how postmarks have been used for promotional purposes **210**



Stamp Scene Dane Garrod keeps you in the loop regarding the various philatelic events occuring throughout the UK in March **205**

More magnificent Machins Another seven delightful additions to the family of Britain's long-standing iconic definitives **218**



London 2020 Philatelists home and abroad are keenly anticipating the upcoming international exhibition – don't miss out on the classical collectibles celebrating the grand event **208**



New tariffs for the home nations All the new Country Definitives Stamps and FDCs **220**



Scotland's fight for freedom The Declaration of Arbroath Miniature Sheet **222**

How well do you know the under cover hero? **223**

Editor Claudia Lee, Royal Mail, 185 Farringdon Road, Floor MP-03, London EC1A 1AA ● **Design and content creation** Ian Boardman, Adesso Creative Ltd ● Price £2.15 from Post Office Ltd philatelic outlets or by order from Post Office branches ● **12 months' subscriptions** £20.95 UK and Europe; £26.95 rest of the world. Send subscriptions to Royal Mail Stamps and Collectibles, PO Box 1373, Sunderland SR5 9PG, UK or subscribe online at royalmail.com/bulletin ● **Binders** (to hold 24 issues) £8.68 and storage boxes (about 30 copies) £10.16, are also available by post or online ● Copyright and editorial rights are reserved by Royal Mail Group Ltd ● All rights reserved ● Reproduction in whole or parts is prohibited without prior permission of Royal Mail Group Ltd ● **Printed** in Great Britain by Zenith Print & Packaging Ltd ● **ISSN** 2633 2310 ● Royal Mail is a trading name and registered trade mark of Royal Mail Group Ltd. Registered in England and Wales, number 4138203. Registered office: 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HQ ● Stamp images © Royal Mail Group Ltd.

All Bond fans will be in 00 heaven with the new Special Stamp issue saluting the superspy. The six-stamp James Bond set features all the actors who have played him, from Connery to Craig. Out on 17 March, the issue celebrates the release of the 25th Bond film – *No Time to Die* – in cinemas on 3 April. It's accompanied by a Miniature Sheet focusing on some of 007's favourite hardware, including the iconic Aston Martin DB5 and the Lotus Esprit 'submarine' car. The issue also includes a Presentation Pack, Prestige Stamp Book, Stamp Souvenir and six Coin Covers. And here is our own vodka martini toast to all things Bond – a behind-the-scenes look at the gadgets, cars and villains that have shaken and stirred us…

JAMESBOND 007™

James Bond – Stamp Specifications	
Date of issue	17 March
Number of stamps	Six (3 x 1st Class, 3 x £1.60)
Design	Interabang
Stamp format	Landscape
Stamp size	60mm x 30mm
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Perforations	14.5 x 14.5
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA









Casino Royale – *First Class*
Daniel Craig made his debut in the James Bond series in the 2006 film *Casino Royale*. His commitment to playing 007 was palpable when he insisted on performing many of his own stunts



Live and Let Die – *£1.60*
The inimitable Roger Moore added a new dimension to the Bond character with his wit and sense of humour which permeated all of his seven Bond appearances from 1973 through to 1985



GoldenEye – *First Class*
Pierce Brosnan was awarded an OBE from The Queen in 2003 for his 'outstanding contribution to the British film industry.' He played 007 in *GoldenEye* (1995) and three other films thereafter



On Her Majesty's Secret Service – *£1.60*
George Lazenby had the unenviable task of filling the shoes of the legendary Sean Connery. *On Her Majesty's Secret Service* was to be his only James Bond role – despite a memorable performance



The Living Daylights – *First Class*
Welsh actor Timothy Dalton assumed the mantle of 007 with a more ruthless, hard-edged side to the character in his two Bond films: *The Living Daylights* (1987) and *Licence To Kill* (1989)



Goldfinger – *£1.60*
Sean Connery was the first actor to breathe life into Ian Fleming's Bond character on the big screen in *Dr. No* (1962). He also played the role of 007 in five other films including *Goldfinger* (1964)



Miniature Sheet: 2 x First Class and 2 x £1.55 stamps – each with 007 perforation. Hidden features are also revealed under UV light

Premium fighting machine though he is, Bond has always needed a little more than his Walter PPK pistol and comprehensive knowledge of crafty karate chops. Cue – or Q, pardon the pun – the famous gadgets helping 007 track and kill his foes, and even seduce (remember that magnetic undressing watch?). Even by Bond movie standards of far-fetched fantasy, *Thunderball's* pre-credits action scene is surreal. After faking his own death SPECTRE agent Jacques Bouvar returns to his French chateau disguised as his grieving widow. Sean Connery's 007 confronts him in the drawing room, the macho Bouvar looking surprisingly good in black dress, tights and high heels. Bond clamps a poker around Bouvar's throat, strangling him and fleeing to the roof. Does he shin down a drainpipe? Oh, but that's so old school. 007 has stashed a rocket pack there… so whoosh! Off he flies, landing next to his Aston Martin and making a stylish escape. The getaway kit is no Hollywood prop. It's a Bell-Textron Jet Pack, a real-steel piece of experimental hardware rejected by the US Army for being too hazardous: it only had a flight time of 21 seconds before the hydrogen



James Bond – Miniature Sheet Specifications

Date of issue	17 March
Number of stamps	Four (2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.55)
Design	Interabang
Miniature Sheet size	192mm x 74mm
Stamp sizes and perforations	
Lotus Esprit Submarine and Little Nellie (landscape)	60mm x 30mm, (14.5 x 14.5)
Bell-Textron Jet Pack and Aston Martin DB5 (landscape)	40mm x 30mm, (14.5 x 14)
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Phosphor	All over
Gum	PVA



Bell-Textron Jet Pack, Thunderball – *First Class*
Location for this hazardous scene was west of Paris at Chateau d'Anet – stuntman Bill Suitor piloted the Jet Pack



Aston Martin DB5, Skyfall – *First Class*
Quintessentially British, sleek and stylish, the DB5 was the obvious choice for 007 and featured in several Bond films

peroxide fuel ran out. You'll see on the stamp that Bond wears no helmet. This was the original intention – nerdy safety gear is hardly secret agent chic. But the stuntman refused to fly without protective headgear, so the shots with Connery 'flying' were refilmed with him wearing a helmet.

Cars are the daddies when it comes to 007 gadgets, with Aston Martins almost always the star. Movie Bonds have driven the DB5, DBS, Vantage, Volante and Vanquish. In *Spectre*, Daniel Craig piloted a flamethrower-fitted DB10 – a model made by Aston Martin solely for the film; in Craig's ►





Lotus Esprit Submarine, The Spy Who Loved Me – *£1.55*
'Wet Nellie' – the custom-built submarine styled on the Lotus Esprit sports car featured in some of the films most iconic scenes



Little Nellie, You Only Live Twice – *£1.55*
The autogyro – powered by a rear engine, was designed by the real life Wing Commander Ken Wallis in the early 1960s

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FD2003-TH



FD2003-PL





FD2003-NP

2006 *Casino Royale* reboot, his seven-flip roll in the DBS earned a Guinness World Record. Yet the original DB5, debuting in *Goldfinger* and appearing in another 12 movies in the series, will be forever Bond. Fitted with .30 calibre machine guns, passenger ejector seat controlled by a red (of course) button housed in the gearstick, and hubcap-mounted tyre-slashers, it even featured a tracking system that anticipated GPS by three decades. Bond returns to the DB5 in *No Time to Die* – the vintage .30 cals have been replaced by multi-barrelled miniguns, which Bond uses to deadly effect on a surrounding crowd of killers by executing a 360-degree wheelspin. Not all Bond's rides were iconic Astons. Fans still slobber at the memory of Roger Moore's Lotus Esprit supercar-cum-submarine in 1977's *The Spy Who Loved Me*. With Barbara Bach as his passenger, Bond is chased through Sardinia by beanpole vil-

First Day Cover Prestige Stamp Book Pane with Tallents House handstamp. 2 x 2p, 2 x 2nd Class Machin Definitives, 2 x 2nd Class Scottish Saltire Definitives, 2 x 1st Class Union Jack Definitives





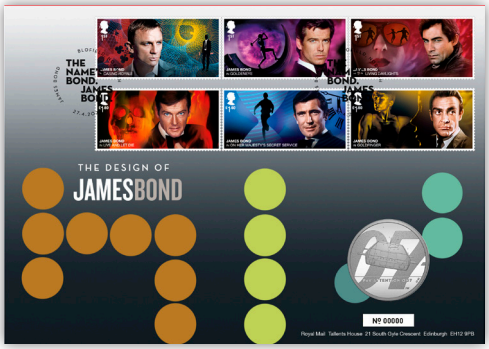
Opposite: First Day Cover with Tallents House handstamp and (left) the Miniature Sheet First Day Cover with the alternative handstamp

lain Jaws (in a Ford Cortina of all things), whom he foils by covering his windscreen with the Esprit's rear-firing cement sprayers. Zooming off a jetty, the car famously transforms into a sub, dispatching a pursuing chopper with a sea-to-air missile. Rog and Babs share the kills underwater, offing enemy divers with rockets and a mine, before rolling onto a tourist beach. Moore, never one to miss a moment of camp, drops a fish from his window before revving away. The stuntman driving the submarine version of the Lotus was an ex-Navy SEAL who insisted a rear view was vital, so the production crew fitted an army surplus mirror taken from a tank. Not all the Esprit's tech is big boys' toys stuff: its supposedly engine-generated bubbles you see in the movie were created using a huge amount of Alka-Seltzer. The car found fame in 2013 when Elon Musk ►





The Retail Stamp Book housing 2 x First Class Special Stamps and 4 x First Class Machin Definitives



The Design of James Bond Brilliant Uncirculated Coin Cover *(note the later issue date: 27.4.20)*



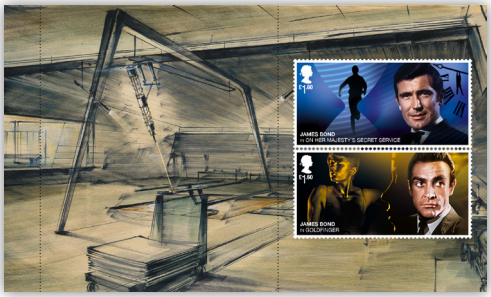
The James Bond Q Branch Brilliant Uncirculated Coin Cover (opposite page) the Presentation Pack





bought it at Sotheby's for almost a million dollars, claiming its sleek lines inspired the design of his Cybertruck launched last year.

Wearable tech is always a wow in Bond movies, especially those watches. Omegas – all Seamaster models – have been Bond's timepieces of choice since *GoldenEye*. In this 1995 adventure, Pierce Brosnan's 007 deploys the laser in his Seamaster Professional Diver to cut through a hatch on super-villain Alec Trevelyan's armoured train and exit just moments before it explodes. In *Spectre* (2015) Daniel Craig uses his explosive-packed Seamaster 300 as a grenade to escape the deadly confines of Blofeld's 'dentist's chair' torture machine. Yet most famously, perhaps, Roger Moore operates the magnetic field generator hidden in his Rolex Submariner to unzip Italian agent Miss Caruso's dress in *Live and Let Die*. In reality the watch was a prop, and the dress only budged with difficulty after about 20 takes, thanks to a costume designer tugging on it and the assistant director pulling a hidden wire attached to the zip.



Prestige Stamp Book pane one: (2 x £1.60)



Pane two: (3 x 1st Class, 1 x £1.60)



Tech helps make Bond Bond, but the movies benefit from the human touch – or inhuman if we're talking about the eccentric villains who populate the plots. Who can forget Auric 'No, Mr Bond, I expect you to die' Goldfinger? Or Donald Pleasence's enduringly eerie Blofeld in *You Only Live Twice*, those mint-blue eyes generating that evil genius stare, seemingly replicated by the equally evil-looking Persian cat ever-present on his lap? (What many don't know is that poor Pleasence was plagued by the puss's frequent toilet accidents – it was so unnerved by explosions on set that it often peed on the actor's lap.) Yet often henchmen stole the show. Jaws, played by 7ft 1.5in Richard Kiel, was so popular in *The Spy Who Loved Me* that his character was reprised for *Moonraker* (1979) as Hugo Drax's bodyguard. His 'steel' teeth were, in fact, made from acrylic by Buckinghamshire dental technician Peter Thomas, who worked around the corner from Pinewood Studios where parts of the movie were being shot. (Thomas had also made monster teeth for Harry H Corbett in ►



Pane three: (2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.55)



Pane four: (2 x 2p, 2 x 2nd Class Machin Definitives, 2 x 2nd Class Scottish Saltire Definitives, 2 x 1st Class Union Jack Definitives)

Carry On Screaming when his detective character is changed into Mr Hyde.) The huge teeth were so uncomfortable that they made Kiel gag after a few minutes' wear, so they were removed between takes and stored in a tupperware box. Big they were but hardly lethal; they certainty weren't strong enough to really bite metal: in the *Moonraker* scene at Sugar Loaf Mountain in Rio, Jaws chomps through a thick cable to disable the cable car Bond is travelling in: the cable is a prop made, endearingly, of soft liquorice. But who cares – it's the action that counts. After his snack break, Jaws is ready to battle Bond in a dizzying fight on top of the cable car – just one of thousands of action scenes that have dazzled millions of fans since the first 007 movie *Dr. No* premiered over 50 years ago ●



Casino Royale Stamp Set



Goldfinger Stamp Set



James Bond Character Stamp Set

James Bond – Prices	
Set of 6 Special Stamps	£6.90
Miniature Sheet	£4.50
Presentation Pack	£12.20
First Day Cover Stamps	£8.90
First Day Cover Miniature Sheet	£6.00
Stamp Souvenir	£8.90
Stamp Sheet Souvenir	£6.00
First Day Envelope	£0.30
Postcards (11 in set)	£4.95
First Day Cover Prestige Stamp Book Pane	£5.25
Prestige Stamp Book	£16.99
Limited Edition Prestige Stamp Book	£64.99
Generic Sheet	£12.60
Stamp Book	£4.20
Press Sheet	£39.99
Framed Stamps	£29.99
Framed Miniature Sheet	£29.99
Framed Generic Sheet	£29.99
James Bond – Design/Q Branch BU Coin Cover	£19.95
James Bond – Design/Q Branch Silver Coin Cover	£85.00
James Bond – Design/Q Branch Gold Coin Cover	£530
Framed Casino Royale Stamp Print	£69.99
Framed Goldfinger Stamp Print	£69.99
Framed GoldenEye Stamp Print	£69.99
Framed The Living Daylights Stamp Print	£69.99
Framed On Her Majesty's Secret Service Stamp Print	£69.99
Framed Live and Let Die Stamp Print	£69.99
Limited Edition Silver Stamps	£199.99
Limited Edition Silver Miniature Sheet	£199.99
Secret Dossier	£29.99
Casino Royale Stamp Set	£4.50
Goldfinger Stamp Set	£9.90
James Bond Character Stamp Set	£7.20
Stamp Sheet Set (Miniature Sheet)	£4.80



Stamp Sheet Set (Miniature Sheet in carrier)

Stamp Scene Dane Garrod keeps you posted on events and activities in the philatelic world



1 March Milton Keynes Stamp Fair, The Irish Centre, Manor Fields, Watling Street, Fenny Stratford, Milton Keynes MK2 2HX, 10am to 3pm.
Enquiries: Simon Shaw, 07534 496845, shawdunton@aol.com.

Oxford Stamp Fair, Botley W.I. Hall, North Hinksey Lane, off Botley Road, Oxford OX2 0LT, 10am to 1.30pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

Worthing Stamp & Postcard Fair, Heene Community Centre, 122 Heene Road, Worthing BN11 4PL, 9.30am to 3pm. Enquiries: Chris Rapley, 01795 478175.

Wolverhampton Stamp & Postcard Fair, Bradmore Social Club, 60 Church Road, Wolverhampton WV3 7ER, 9.30am to 2.30pm, 8 dealers, Social Club bar available.
Enquiries: John Coaten, 07808 864297.

7 March Inverurie - Grampian Stamp & Postcard Fair, Garioch Heritage Centre, Loco Works Road, Inverurie AB51 4FY, 10am to 4pm.
Enquiries: Chad Neighbor, 01674 832823, chad@cneighbor.plus.com.

Leicester Stamp Fair, Derby Room, Holiday Inn, 129 St. Nicholas Circle, Leicester LE1 5LX, 9.30am to 3.30pm. Enquiries: John Suschitzky, 0116 235 0441.

Weston-super-Mare - Michael Hale Collectors' Fair, Victoria Methodist Church Hall, Station Road, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1XU, 10am to 4pm.
Enquiries: Michael Hale, 01749 677669.

Charing Cross Market, 1 Embankment Place, Villiers Street, London WC2N 6RH, 7am to 3pm. Enquiries: Bridget Petticrew, 07540 144433, bridget@charingcrossmarket.com.

Beckenham Stamp & Postcard Fair, Azelia Hall, 258 Croydon Road, Beckenham BR3 4DA, 9am to 3pm, 12 dealers, refreshments available. Enquiries: Ray McQuade, 0208 395 9285.

Launceston Stamp & Postcard Fair, Central Methodist Hall, Castle Street, Launceston PL15 8BA, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Evelyn Sandercock, 01566 772846.

8 March Chelmsford Stamp & Postcard Fair, Old Chelmsfordians Club, Roxwell Road, Chelmsford CM1 2LY, 9.30am to 3pm, 7 dealers, tea and coffee available.
Enquiries: Steve Burnell, 01708 229763.

Wokingham Stamp Fair, St. Crispin's Centre, London Road, Wokingham RG40 1SR, 9am to 3pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

11 March Cheltenham Stamp & Cover Fair, St. Andrew's United Reformed Church, Montpellier Street, Cheltenham GL50 1SP, 10am to 4pm.
Enquiries: Mark Grimsley, 0117 962 3203, mark_grimsley-stamps@hotmail.co.uk.

14 March North Wales Stamp & Postcard Fair, Ysgol Eirias, Eirias Road, Colwyn Bay LL29 7SP, 9.30am to 3pm, 12 dealers, refreshments available.
Enquiries: Steve Chapman, 01745 826434, northwalesstampfairs@gmail.com.

Upminster Stamp Fair, St. Laurence Church Hall, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster RM14 2AJ, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Simon Shaw, 07534 496845, shawdunton@aol.com.

Laindon Stamp Fair, Methodist Church Hall, High Road, Langdon Hills SS16 6EX, 9.30am to 3pm, 8 dealers, refreshments available. Enquiries: David Church, 01268 543371.

Charing Cross Market, (as entry above)

The Machin Collectors' Club annual meeting each March takes place on Sunday 22 March 2020 at the usual venue of the Sportsfield & Village Hall in Rugby Road, Dunchurch CV22 6PN. From 9am to 3pm, there will be specialist dealers in Machin stamps, as well as refreshments available. The organiser is Melvyn Philpott, 01406 350896, melvynphilpott@gmail.com. All are welcome to attend.

The Great Britain Philatelic Society will meet at 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW, from 11am on Saturday 21 March for two events. Ray Simpson FRPSL and Karl Louis FRPSL will present on 'Queen Victoria Mixed Franking Covers' at 11am, and after lunch, members' displays will commence at 2.15pm. A second meeting in this review period will be at Billingham Bowling Club, John Whitehead Park, Billingham TS23 3DD from 11am on Saturday 4 April, when the society's North East Group Regional Meeting will have differing members' displays. Prospective new members are welcome to attend these events.

The National Philatelic Society meetings at the Phoenix Centre, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL are from 2.15pm. On Saturday 14 March Simon Richards FRPSL will show 'Dominica', and on Saturday 4 April, 'Hanover 1715 to 1850' will be covered by Frank Simpson. If you haven't attended a meeting of this society yet, you are most welcome to do so.

Margate Collectors' Fair, Union Church, Union Crescent, Margate CT9 1NR, 10am to 3pm, 20 dealers, refreshments available. Enquiries: Clive Baker, 01843 862707, info@clivebaker.co.uk.

15 March Knowle Stamp Fair, Knowle Village Hall, St. John's Close, Knowle, Solihull B93 0NH, 9.30am to 2.30pm, 10 dealers, tea, coffee and light refreshments available. Enquiries: Andrew Vaughan, 01827 63367, sales@stampsgb.co.uk.

21 March Wanstead Stamp Fair, Our Lady of Lourdes Church Pastoral Centre, 51 Cambridge Park, Wanstead E11 2PR, 10am to 3pm.
Enquiries: Simon Shaw, 07534 496845, shawdunton@aol.com.

Charing Cross Market, (as entry on page 205)

Eastbourne Stamp & Postcard Fair, St. Mary's Church Hall, Decoy Drive, Eastbourne BN22 9PP, 9.30am to 3pm. Enquiries: Chris Rapley, 01795 478175.

Bridgwater - Michael Hale Stamp Fair, Westfield United Reformed Church Hall, West Street, Bridgwater TA6 7EU, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Michael Hale, 01749 677669.

Redruth Stamp & Postcard Fair, Methodist Church, Wesley Street, Redruth TR15 2EG, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Doug Luxford, 01736 786284.

Falmouth Stamp & Postcard Fair, St. Francis School, Longfield, Falmouth TR11 4SU, 10am to 4pm, 6 dealers, refreshments available. Enquiries: John Draper, 01326 372991.

28 March Broughty Ferry Stamp & Postcard Fair, St. Aidan's Centre, 408 Brook Street, Broughty Ferry, Dundee DD5 2EY, 10am to 3pm.
Enquiries: Chad Neighbor, 01674 832823, chad@cneighbor.plus.com.

Great Barr Stamp Fair, Collingwood Centre, Collingwood Drive, Great Barr, Birmingham B43 7NF, 10am to 4pm, 14 dealers, full refreshments available.
Enquiries: Dave Burnett, 07765 792998.

Sutton Bridge Stamp & Postcard Fair, Curlew Centre, Bridge Road, Sutton Bridge PE12 9SA, 10am to 3.30pm. Enquiries: Melvyn Philpott, 01406 350896.

Northampton Stamp Fair, The Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury NN4 0RZ, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

Ealing Stamp Fair, Ealing Parish Church, St. Mary's Road, Ealing W5 5EU, 9am to 1pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

Charing Cross Market, (as entry on page 205)

Orpington Stamp & Postcard Fair, Christ Lutheran Church, 227 Poverest Road, Petts Wood, Orpington BR5 1RD, 10am to 4pm, 20 dealers, refreshments available.
Enquiries: Keith Jupp, 01689 827086, kjstampspts@btconnect.com.

Plymouth Stamp Fair, Plymstock Community Centre, The Broadway, Plymstock, Plymouth PL9 7AW, 9.30am to 3.30pm. Enquiries: Peter Eagles, 01395 516060.

29 March Hopton Stamp Fair, Village Hall, Station Road, Hopton-on-Sea NR31 9BE, 9.30am to 2pm. Enquiries: Terry Allaker, 01502 563759.

Peterborough Stamp Fair, Holiday Inn, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE3 6SG, 10am to 3pm, 10 dealers. Enquiries: Richard Lewis, 01945 700594, richard@lewis8571.plus.com.

Shifnal Stamp Fair, Shifnal Village Hall, Ashton Street, Shifnal TF11 8DZ, 9.30am to 3pm, 12 dealers, light refreshments available. Enquiries: Dave Burnett, 07765 792998.

Stevenage Stamp Fair, Novotel Hotel, Knebworth Park, Stevenage SG1 2AX, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Simon Shaw, 07534 496845, shawdunton@aol.com.

4 April Lichfield Stamp Fair, Boley Park Community Hall, Ryknild Street, Lichfield WS14 9XU, 9.30am to 3.30pm, 6 dealers, refreshments available.
Enquiries: John & Jane Rice, 01785 259350, stamps@john-rice-stamps.co.uk.

Leicester Stamp Fair, Derby Room, Holiday Inn, 129 St. Nicholas Circle, Leicester LE1 5LX, 9.30am to 3.30pm. Enquiries: John Suschitzky, 0116 235 0441.

Norfolk & Norwich P.S. Stamp & Postcard Fair, Middle School Hall, Hewett Academy, Gate 1, Cecil Road, Norwich NR1 2PL, 10am to 3.30pm, refreshments available.
Enquiries: Tony Hender, 01328 829318.

Charing Cross Market, (as entry on page 205)

Cardiff Stamp & Postcard Fair, Cardiff City Hall, King Edward VII Avenue, Cardiff CF10 3ND, 10am to 4pm, 40 dealers.
Enquiries: Malcolm Harrington, 01792 415293, malcolm.harrington1@hotmail.co.uk.

Beckenham Stamp & Postcard Fair, Azelia Hall, 258 Croydon Road, Beckenham BR3 4DA, 9am to 3pm, 12 dealers, refreshments available. Enquiries: Ray McQuade, 0208 395 9285.

Canterbury Postcard & Collectors' Fair, Westgate Hall, Westgate Road, Canterbury CT1 2BT, 10am to 3.30pm, 3 stamp dealers & 20 postcard dealers, refreshments available.
Enquiries: Clive Baker, 01843 862707, info@clivebaker.co.uk.

5 April Wolverhampton Stamp & Postcard Fair, Bradmore Social Club, 60 Church Road, Wolverhampton WV3 7ER, 9.30am to 2.30pm, 8 dealers, Social Club bar available.
Enquiries: John Coaten, 07808 864297.

Sandy Stamp Fair, Scout Headquarters, Sunderland Road, Sandy SG19 1QY, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Simon Shaw, 07534 496845, shawdunton@aol.com.

Cheltenham Stamp & Cover Fair, The Regency Hotel, Gloucester Road, Cheltenham GL51 0ST, 10am to 4pm.
Enquiries: Mark Grimsley, 0117 962 3203, mark_grimsley-stamps@hotmail.co.uk.

Oxford Stamp Fair, Botley W.I. Hall, North Hinksey Lane, off Botley Road, Oxford OX2 0LT, 10am to 1.30pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

Newhaven Stamp & Postcard Fair, Denton & Mount Pleasant Social Centre, Denton Road, Newhaven BN9 0PX, 10am to 4pm, 7 dealers. Enquiries: Tony Trevis, 07966 151073.

8 April Plymouth Stamp Fair, St. Andrew's Church, Lower Abbey Hall, Catherine Street, Plymouth PL1 2AD, 10am to 2pm.
Enquiries: Mark Grimsley, 0117 962 3203, mark_grimsley-stamps@hotmail.co.uk.

9 April Exeter Stamp & Postal History Fair, Clyst St. George Parish Hall, Woodbury Road, Exeter EX3 0RE, 10am to 3pm.
Enquiries: Mark Grimsley, 0117 962 3203, mark_grimsley-stamps@hotmail.co.uk.

11 April Kenilworth Stamp Fair, Kenilworth School, Leyes Lane, Kenilworth CV8 2DA, 9.30am to 3.30pm, 8 dealers.
Enquiries: John & Jane Rice, 01785 259350, stamps@john-rice-stamps.co.uk.

Telford Stamp & Card Fair, Belmont Community Hall, Tan Bank Car Park, Wellington, Telford TF1 1HJ, 9.30am to 2pm, 15 dealers, home-made refreshments available.
Enquiries: Richard Camp, 01952 405458, mail@richardcamp.co.uk.

Charing Cross Market, (as entry on page 205)

Maidstone Stamp Fair, Grove Green Community Centre, Grove Green Road, Maidstone ME14 5TQ, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Brian Stonestreet, 01622 675784.

The Royal Philatelic Society London meetings at 15 Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 7BW include a PowerPoint display at 5pm on Thursday 5 March by Bob Galland FRPSL entitled 'Evolution of the British Franking System', Lesley Marley FRPSL telling 'A Whale's Tale' from 1pm on Thursday 19 March, and a Regional Display from the society's East Region members from 1pm on Thursday 2 April. Should you wish to attend as a non-member, then please make a telephone call during weekday office hours prior to the meeting day to the Adminstration Manager, Jason Webber, on 020 7486 1044.

Finally, advance notice to you that the London 2020 exhibition is soon with us. The dates are Saturday 2 May to Saturday 9 May, and the place is the Business Design Centre in Islington, London. We'll tell you fully all about this in next month's Stamp Scene.

London's calling

A key theme of the show will be the 180th anniversary of the Penny Black which Royal Mail will be marking with a number of special products. An additional theme of the exhibition will be the 150th anniversary of the British postcard which will be commemorated by Royal Mail with a show exclusive Souvenir Sheet.

Royal Mail will have a stand at the show where all the products will be available to purchase. With the exception of the show exclusive memento, Royal Mail's London 2020 collectibles can also be bought via its website or by calling 03457 641 641 (+44 3457 641 641 from overseas). Included in the range will be the very last Exhibition Sheet to be issued by Royal Mail which will additionally be available to purchase from selected Post Office branches.

Philatelists around the world are eagerly anticipating the London 2020 International Stamp Exhibition which is accredited by the Fédération International de Philatélie. Britain holds a particular appeal for stamp collectors outside the UK because it has the oldest postal service and was the first country to introduce an adhesive postage stamp – the Penny Black. The broad range of philatelic classes on display will include, Traditional, Championship, Open, Picture Postcards, Postal Stationery, Postal History, Thematic, Revenue, Aerophilately, Modern and Youth. The event that runs from 2 May – 9 May will be held at the Business Design Centre in Islington. On Tuesday 5 May frames will be changed in order to accomodate the full spectrum of quality exhibits. For further information about the event, please visit www.london2020.co where you can sign up for the newsletter which will keep you up to speed with all you need to know about this exciting event.



Above: the Stamp Book of six First Class stamps includes two Penny Black, two Twopenny Blue and two Penny Red stamps first issued in 2015/16. It also bears the London 2020 show logo as well as details of the venue and dates on which the exhibition takes place. The book to be issued on 10 March has been printed in gravure by International Security Printers – the stamps are self-adhesive



Right: 180th Anniversary of the Penny Black Stamp Sheet. Comprises 25 First Class stamps (gummed) marking the anniversary of the first adhesive postage stamp. Instructions on the original Penny Black sheets are paraphrased on the left hand margin. The sheet is 121mm x 140mm (portrait)



Souvenir Sheet with 8 First Class stamps comprising two Penny Black, 3 x Twopenny Blue and 3 x Penny Red (as first issued in 2015/16). In the centre of the stamp pane is a label featuring the old original die of Queen Victoria's image. The sheets are individually numbered – limited edition of 15,000. The size is 162mm x 96mm (landscape) and the stamps are gummed



Show Exclusive Souvenir Sheet (stamps as above) to mark a dual celebration – the 180th anniversary of the Penny Black and the 150th anniversary of the British postcard. The label in the centre of the stamp pane is a reproduction of the Half Penny stamp design that appeared on the first postcard produced in this country. The sheets are individually numbered – limited edition 7,500 and are only available for purchase at the show. The size is 162mm x 96mm (landscape) and the stamps are gummed



London 2020 Exhibition Sheet. This is the last Exhibition Sheet that Royal Mail will produce. It comprises 20 First Class 'Hello' stamps with adjoining labels featuring images of Mail Rail, the Post Office Underground Railway

ADVERTISING?
THIS SPACE COULD REACH
MILLIONS
TEL: 071-250-2555

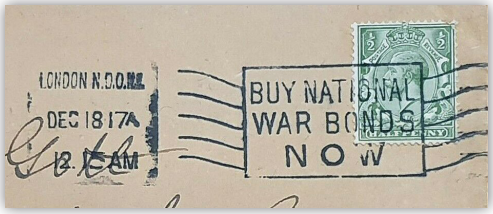
Machine cancellation advertising

In the article on commercial advertising in stamp books (January issue), machine cancellations were mentioned in passing as another venue in which commercial advertisements had been accepted by the Post Office. If you suspected that meant that an article on this topic would be forthcoming, you were absolutely right, and this month's piece focuses on it.

Introduction Commercially produced stamp cancelling machines (mostly of American or Norwegian origin) were rolled out countrywide in the UK during the Edwardian era. The postmarks they produced consisted of two sections – the 'dater' with town name and date of posting, and the 'canceller' intended to prevent reuse of the stamp. The standard pattern for the latter was a set of wavy bars; however, from 1893 several countries hit upon the idea of advertising major events by replacing this with text as a 'slogan postmark'. UK businesses were well able to see the potential of this, and it's possible that the precedent of allowing advertising in stamp books may have encouraged them – offers received included ones from Pears Soap and Selfridges, and an eyebrow-raising proposal from advertising agent Jeremiah MacVeagh of £1 million for exclusive rights to postmark advertising for 20 years. In 1912 a mining concern in Newport, Mon., suggested a slogan for the opening of the 'World's Longest Lock' in the local docks – the first but not the last such idea from this town. However, the Post Office clearly regarded this as a potential minefield and refused them all, citing the problem of deciding which adverts could be accepted, the chance of objections from other businesses and the public, and the cost of making slogan dies for some 300 machines. There was also a question of whether the Post Office even had the legal authority to do such a thing. This latter point was however not a factor with the UK's first machine slogans in December 1917, when they reluctantly agreed to assist with the Government's War Savings Campaign with slogans reading 'Buy National War Bonds Now'.

Brussels Exposition slogan, 1910



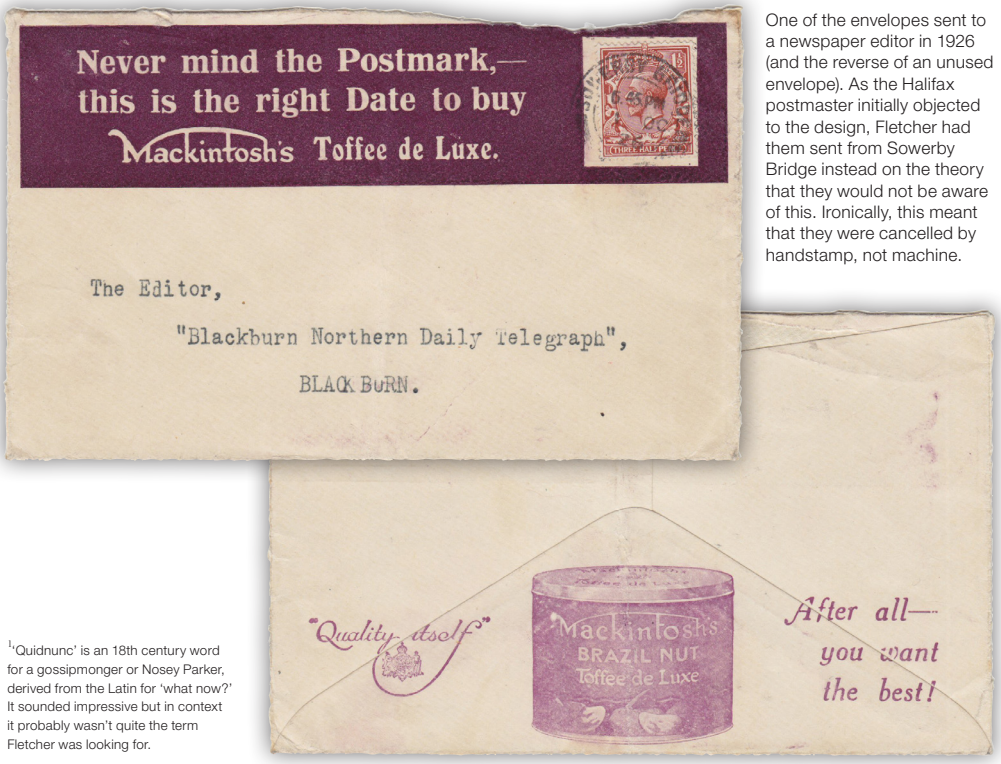


Early War Bonds slogan, 18 December 1917

Unsuccessful Proposal, 1926 A precedent having been set, in the early 1920s a number of slogans were used for postal purposes or national events such as the British Empire Exhibition, and new Conservative Postmaster-General Sir William Mitchell-Thomson (in office 1924-29) proposed that commercial advertising be accepted. A contract was agreed with an advertising agency, and the legal question dealt with by inserting the following clause into the 'Economy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1926' passed on 16 June (a lengthy Act that covered a wide range of topics): *'17. For the purpose of removing doubts it is hereby declared that the marks to be used by the Postmaster-General for the purpose of cancelling stamps used for the payment of the postage chargeable on postal packets may consist of such words or devices as the Postmaster-General may in his discretion think proper, including words or devices constituting advertisements in respect of the use of which as postmarks payment is made by any*

persons to the Postmaster-General.' Postmasters were given instructions about the forthcoming changes in a circular of 4 August 1926: *'Date-stamp Advertisements: It has been decided to use the obliterating dies of letter stamping machines of the Hey-Dolphin and Universal types as a medium for commercial adverts, and a contract has recently been placed with Messrs Frank Mason and Co. Ltd, of 3 Clements Inn, LONDON WC2 giving that firm the exclusive rights to obtain orders for such advertisements…'* Unfortunately for the success of this plan, the earlier misgivings about public reaction proved to have been well founded. It was not generally practical to segregate mail by origin, so any advertising slogan would appear perforce on all mail run through the cancelling machine, including that from trade rivals of the advertiser.

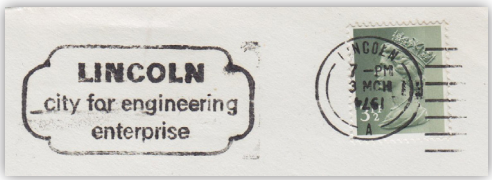
Well-known confectioners John Mackintosh & Sons of Halifax took objection to this idea, and their Controller of Sales and Advertising E L Fletcher came up with an ingenious way to protest. The firm created an envelope with a dark coloured band along the top that would hide a postmark, together with a pointed slogan of their own, and Fletcher sent a lengthy letter to 'about a hundred of the leading newspapers and business journals' outlining his argument that 'Everyone, except the quidnuncs[1] of the P.O. can see the objection to trade advertisements'. The result was Post Office backpedalling, leaving Mitchell-Thomson to respond to a question asked in Parliament with the face-saving reply that 'inquiries have shown that the revenue would be quite small. It is therefore not proposed to put it into operation'. ►



One of the envelopes sent to a newspaper editor in 1926 (and the reverse of an unused envelope). As the Halifax postmaster initially objected to the design, Fletcher had them sent from Sowerby Bridge instead on the theory that they would not be aware of this. Ironically, this meant that they were cancelled by handstamp, not machine.

[1] 'Quidnunc' is an 18th century word for a gossipmonger or Nosey Parker, derived from the Latin for 'what now?' It sounded impressive but in context it probably wasn't quite the term Fletcher was looking for.

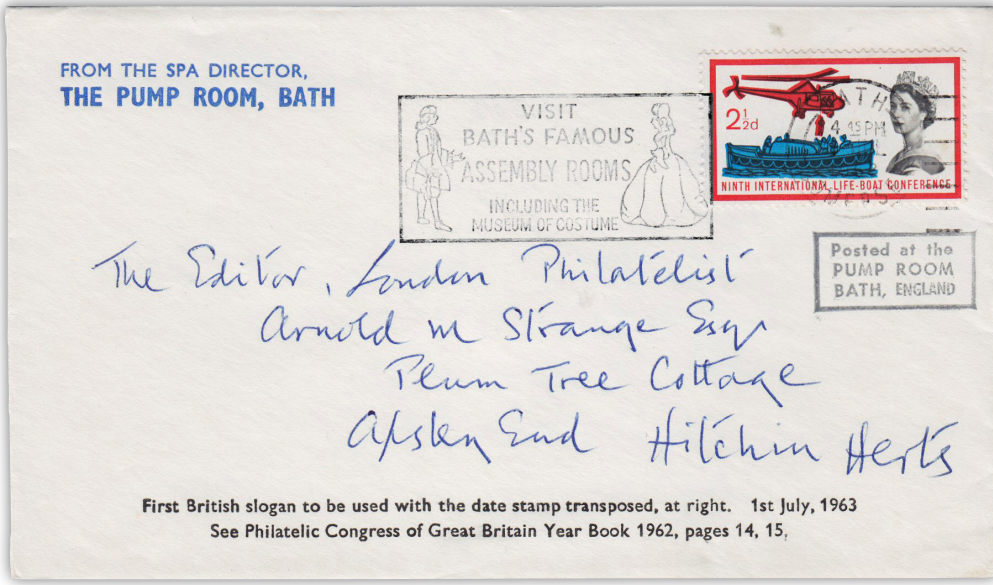






Many slogans simply touted the general merits of the town, although some were more specific about the kind of business they were trying to attract, and a few were in effect general advertisements for the predominant local trade

Local Publicity Slogans From this point until well after World War II, slogans were reserved for postal and Governmental notices and important public events. However, from 1956 they were occasionally allowed for local anniversaries and events, and on 1 April 1963 'Local Publicity Slogans' were officially introduced to allow local events to be advertised more easily. The slogans shown here illustrate another change that occurred at this time. The standard layout for machine dies had been with the canceller part on the right (where the stamps normally were), and the dater on the left where it would fall on the envelope and so (hopefully) be readable. Philatelists seeking nicely cancelled stamps had often urged that this arrangement be reversed, but what tipped the scales was pressure from potential slogan sponsors, who were concerned that designs would be unclear with a stamp in the background, and much preferred them to appear against a plain envelope. The first such 'transposed' slogan was used in Bath on 1 July 1963, but it became standard practice in the heyday for slogans in the 1960s and 1970s.

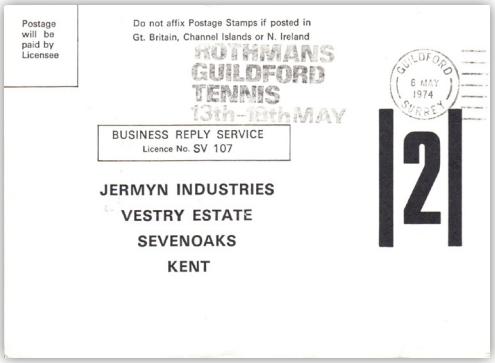


First British slogan to be used with the date stamp transposed, at right. 1st July, 1963
See Philatelic Congress of Great Britain Year Book 1962, pages 14, 15.

Pushing the Boundaries Although commercial advertising was generally still impermissible, the use of slogans to commemorate anniversaries and events created a loophole – if a company happened to be celebrating an important milestone, or sponsoring an exhibition, they could get their name before the public on a slogan postmark. As with some of the booklet innovations, the first company to cotton on to this idea was from the stamp trade, with Stanley Gibbons celebrating their centenary in 1965. Auctioneers Christies followed in 1966.[2] The number of such slogans was relatively small, although examples included text that certainly skirted the line between commemoration and tagline. ▶



Gibbons Centenary Stamp Show, February 1965









An inquiry from slogan cataloguer Colin Peachey about the Brintons Carpets slogan of 1983 resulted in a Post Office reply that a request for a slogan from their competitors would be welcomed! Others such as the local slogan for the opening of the Sunderland Nissan plant included company logos

Slogans advertising sponsored events were another way of getting the name of a company onto a postmark. For that matter, the many slogans of the 1960s and 1970s giving the dates of forthcoming horse racing meetings effectively constituted advertisements for the privately owned racetracks



[2] In both cases the rumour was that their competitors were, if not actually disgruntled, far from being gruntled.

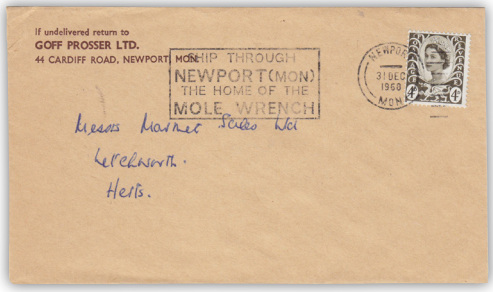
The 'Mole Wrench' The most famous example of a slogan advertising a commercial product was, however, one that simply slipped through the cracks. On 1 February 1968, Newport Post Office began using a slogan reading 'Ship Through Newport (Mon) The Home of the Mole Wrench'. The wrench in question is a type of 'locking pliers' which can be set to grip an object independently of hand pressure based on a toggle in the handle, released only by the touch of a lever. It had been patented in 1955 by Thomas Coughtrie, managing director of M. K. Mole and Son, a firm that had moved to Newport from Birmingham in 1960. The slogan was the idea of his wife, who felt that it could not fail to arouse interest and curiosity. In this she was very right.

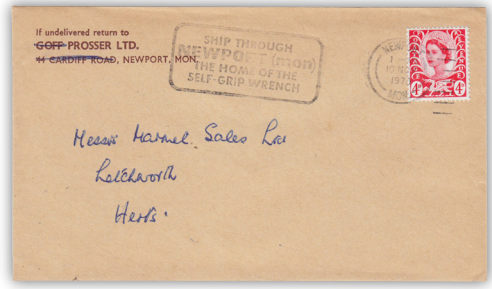
If the name is unfamiliar to you, you are in good company, as it mystified many people in 1968 when they received mail bearing the slogan. Stories began to appear in the national press as reporters investigated what it was all about, as did humour riffing off the fact that it sounded rather like a form of animal cruelty. Patrick Campbell in the Sunday Times wrote an extended flight of fancy describing *'an obscenely Welsh ceremony, carried out at dead of night on the far side of some bestial slag heap'*, which doubtless endeared him to readers west of the Severn.

The problem, of course, was that 'Mole Wrench' actually referred to a commercial product, and so the application should never have been allowed. Apparently permission was granted as the people at the GPO responsible for approving new slogans had no idea what it was! Once the publicity started it became apparent that they had blundered, but very sportingly the slogan was allowed to run until the end of March 1969, by which time it had appeared on some 15 million items of mail. It was replaced by a more generic version 'Ship Through Newport (Mon.) The Home of the Self-Grip Wrench'. Ironically, 'Mole grip' has itself become a generic term in the UK, as with 'Hoover' or 'Sellotape'.









A SOURCE OF CELEBRATION
perrier
90TH
ANNIVERSARY

CANTERBURY
7 PM
9 JAN
1985

A Change of Policy Attitudes at Royal Mail shifted in the mid-1980s. The number of new slogan campaigns had dropped off quite considerably, and so marketing efforts made it known that the inclusion of company names would be welcomed. Uptake was relatively slow at first, with only a few slogans from major brands in the first few years. The appeal was made explicit from 1991 with a slogan stating 'Advertising? – This Space Could Reach Millions', used countrywide as a 'filler' when no other slogan was in use. From this point the number of slogans that constituted out and out advertisements, unconnected to any pretext, grew rapidly. There were campaigns for nationally known brand names featuring familiar logos and taglines, simple ads with a 'call this number now' theme, and even some slogans promoting much more local concerns. One type that spanned national and local was a series of targeted slogans for the opening of new branches of Safeway. ▶





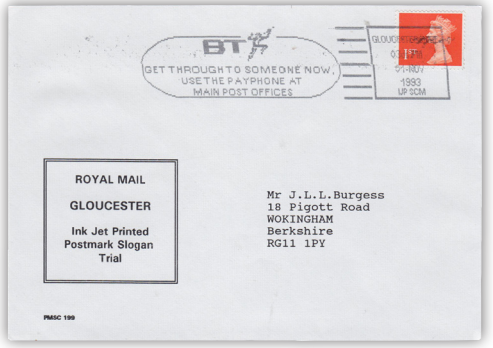




Macdonalds in red, Britannia Video in blue, Channel 4 in green



Gloucester experimental slogan of 1993 and an example of the national 'Quality Street' campaign of 1997



Coloured Inks Precedent for the use of colours other than black was set in 1989, when green was used for the 'We ♥ Lead Free' campaign, followed by the general use of red in 1990 as part of the Penny Black 150th anniversary commemorations. Some slogan sponsors in the 1990s successfully requested the use of coloured inks – green was used for the Channel 4 slogan in 1992, others appearing in red or blue with rather mixed results, especially when the slogan fell on a stamp of the same colour!

Ink-Jet Slogans One disadvantage of slogan advertising can be seen from the illustrations in this article – its effectiveness is strongly dependent on the quality of the postmark impression! Designs with fine detail worked poorly, and the problem was exacerbated by the new high-speed CFC machines introduced in the early 1990s, which often produced smeared and illegible postmarks. This was hardly calculated to encourage sponsors to pay for the manufacture of the dies required.

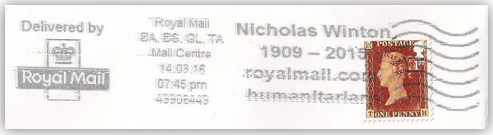
However, another development promised to solve this problem – the use of inkjet cancellations (working on the same principle as desktop inkjet printers). Trials were conducted from 1993 and were part of the live rollout of Integrated Mail Processor machines from 1996. The designs here are set in software, and can thus be changed quickly and cheaply, which seemed to offer tremendous potential for postal advertising campaigns heading into the new millennium. Unfortunately, the output quality of the chosen model of printer was relatively poor, and the results have a rather crude look reminiscent of a 1980s dot-matrix printer.

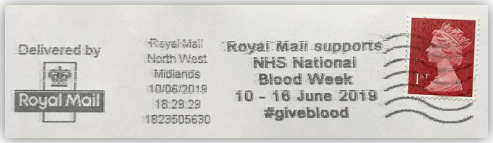




Current Slogans The printing quality problem might have been addressed given suitable incentivisation from paying customers wishing to advertise, but as it happened the widespread use of 'pure advertising' slogans had produced a backlash from firms whose mail was carrying plugs for their competitors. Royal Mail's response to this in December 1998 was to choose the nuclear option of completely ceasing the use of non-postal slogans. Since then, the situation has been reminiscent of a half-century earlier. In addition to the usual exhortations to use the postcode and so on, Royal Mail has made increasing use of the ability to easily change inkjet slogans in order to promote postal services and new stamp issues, support national campaigns, mark notable anniversaries and events, and jump on bandwag… er, I mean offer congratulations where recent developments merit them.







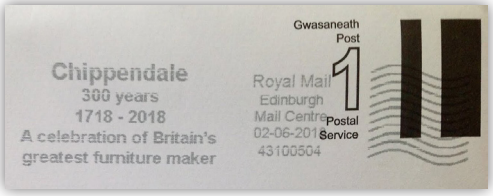


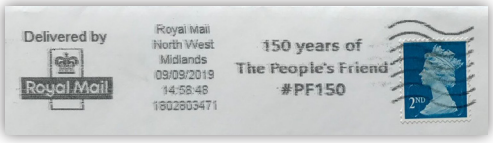












Images on this page courtesy of Ian Billings of Norvic Philatelics www.norvic-philatelics.co.uk

Royal Mail is now, of course, a private company not a public service, so in principle could make a purely commercial decision to accept postmark advertising again in the way it was done in the 1990s[3]. Certainly there are still examples of 'borderline' slogans that commemorate the anniversaries of companies and commercial publications – so watch the space at the top right of your envelopes, you never can tell what might appear!

[3]As far as I can see from the Postal Services Act 2011, more or less anything is OK as long as OFCOM agrees to it, but I'm not a lawyer so will welcome comment from those who are! Given the number of commercial properties from popular culture that have appeared on stamps, it doesn't seem as major a step as it would once have been.

*By Maurice Buxton a long-term collector, and webmaster for the Great Britain Philatelic Society – **www.gbps.org.uk**.*

The new decade welcomes seven Machin Definitives



FD2004-TH



FD2004-PL



FD2004-NP

Royal Mail introduce new postal rates on 23 March and in readiness for this, seven beautiful Machin Definitives will be issued on 17 March in order to facilitate the new charges. The various new tariffs which pertain to Royal Mail International Standard Letters and Large Letters are explained below.

Garnet Red *£1.42* – weight up to and including 20g Royal Mail International Standard Letter Europe, and World Zone 1 and 2 up to 10g.

Sunset Red *£1.63* – weight up to and including 20g Royal Mail International Standard Letter World Zone 1 and 2.



Tarragon Green *£1.68* – weight up to and including 100g Royal Mail International Standard Letter Europe.

Purple Heather *£2.42* – weight up to and including 100g World Zone 1 and 2.

Rose Pink *£2.97* – weight up to and including 100g Royal Mail International Large Letter Europe.

Machin Definitives 2020 – Stamp Specifications	
Date of issue	17 March
Number of stamps	Seven
Design	The stamp features the bas-relief portrait by Arnold Machin OBE, RA, with typography by Jeffery Matthews MBE, FCSD, FRSA
Stamp size	20mm x 24mm
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Gravure
Perforations	15 x 14
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	Self-adhesive
Number per sheet	25



First Day Cover with Tallents House handstamp



Harvest Gold *£3.66* – weight up to and including 100g Royal Mail International Large Letter World Zone 1.

Holly Green *£3.82* – weight up to and including 100g Royal Mail International Large Letter World Zone 2.

For further information of prices, letter and parcel specifications visit www.royalmail.com/price-finder. Information defining the geographical zones can be found at www.royalmail.com/international-zones. All Royal Mail Stamps and Collectibles can be purchased at www.royalmail.com/stamps.



The Presentation Pack houses all seven new tariff Machin Definitives. The Presentation Pack Inner and Outer explain the background history of the iconic Machin stamps



Country Definitives

the new £1.42 and £1.63 tariffs

England stamps – designed by Sedley Place: the English oak and the English Tudor Rose were sculpted by David Dathan with photography by Chris Ridley





Scotland stamps – designed by Tayburn: the thistle was sculpted by Tim Chalk and the tartan was supplied by Kinloch Anderson with photography by Julyan Rawlings





Wales stamps – designed by Tutssels Enterprise IG: daffodil was created in Welsh slate by Ieuan Rees and The Prince of Wales Feathers were crafted from Welsh gold and silver by Rhiannon Evans./Dyluniwyd stampiau Cymru gan Tutssels Enterprise IG: crëwyd y genhinen Bedr o lechen Gymreig gan Ieuan Rees a saernïwyd Plu Tywysog Cymru o arian ac aur Cymreig gan Rhiannon Evans



Country Definitives – Stamp Specifications	
Date of issue	17 March
Number of stamps	Eight
Stamp size	20mm x 24mm
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Perforations	15 x 14
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA
Number per sheet	25



Northern Ireland stamps – designed by Rodney Miller Associates: the linen slip case is courtesy of the Irish Linen Centre and Lisburn Museum with photography by David Pauley; Parian china is courtesy of the Ulster Museum, Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland with photography by Tiff Hunter





FD2005-PL



FD2005-NP

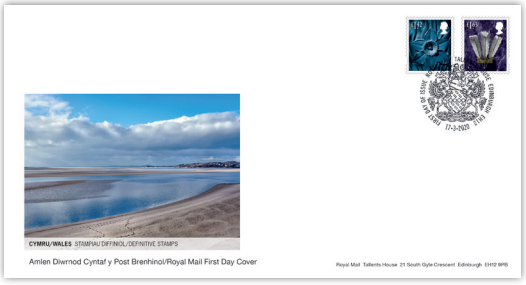




FD2006-PL



FD2006-NP





FD2007-PL



FD2007-NP





FD2008-PL



FD2008-NP

The four Country Definitive First Day Covers with the Tallents House handstamp. To the right are the handstamp options

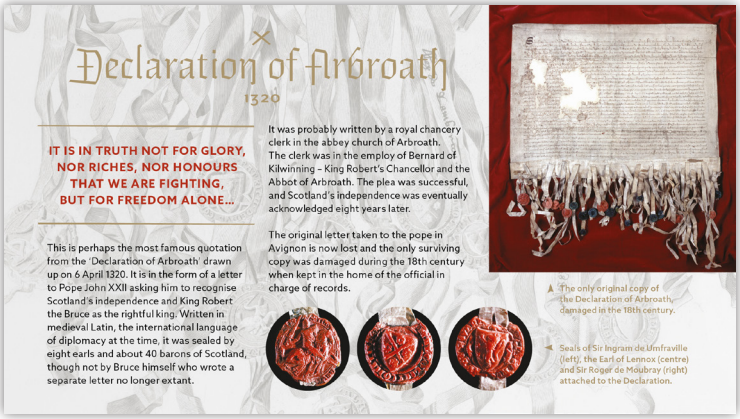
To commemorate the 700th anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, on 6 April Royal Mail will issue a special commemorative Miniature Sheet with all four Scottish Country Definitive stamps for 2020 – Saltire Flag 2nd Class, Scottish Lion 1st Class, Thistle £1.42, Tartan £1.63



The Declaration of Arbroath Commemorative Cover features the brand new commemorative Miniature Sheet, postmarked with a special handstamp marking the 700th anniversary date; 6 April 2020. The handstamp and envelope are inspired by the most famous extract from the declaration itself

ROYAL MAIL × ARBROATH
...for Freedom alone...
6.4.2020





JAMES BOND 007

Quiz

1 In what year did Royal Mail release the set of James Bond themed stamps shown here?
a) 2007 b) 2008 c) 2009

2 Who starred as the Bond girl in *The Spy Who Loved Me*?
a) Honor Blackman b) Ursula Andress c) Barbara Bach

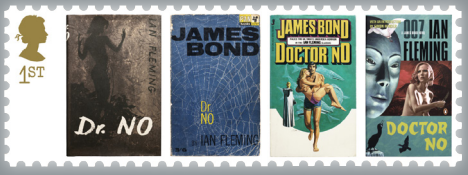
3 Which Bond car is fitted with a flamethrower?
a) DB5 b) DB10 c) DBS

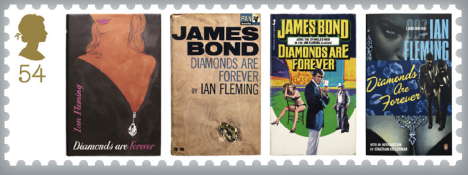
4 Who was the first actor to play Bond?
a) Roger Moore b) George Lazenby c) Sean Connery

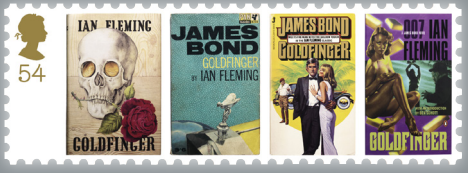
5 Which brand of watch has Bond worn since *GoldenEye*?
a) Omega b) Rolex c) Seiko

6 In what year was the first Bond film released?
a) 1961 b) 1962 c) 1963

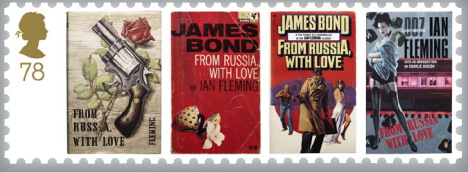












How to enter Please send your answers, with your contact address or phone number, marked '007 Quiz', to: Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. Or by email to claudia.lee@royalmail.com.

Prizes The first five correct entries drawn after the closing date win the James Bond Presentation Pack.

Closing Date 15 April 2020.

December solutions – Star Wars Quiz
1)a 2)b 3)b 4)c 5)c

Winners Mr T J L Browne, Bury St Edmunds; Mrs S Cherrington, Tipton; Sam Bowater, Yarhampton; P F Welburn, Scarborough; Allan Stone, Somerset.

Terms and conditions Promotions are open to any reader aged 18 or over, except employees of Royal Mail Group Ltd, their business associates and immediate families. Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries which are incomplete, damaged or not received. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt. Prizes must be accepted as offered; they are not transferable and there are no cash alternatives. Winners are notified within 28 days of closing date stated. For prize draws where readers must answer a question, winners will be the senders of the first correct entries drawn at random by an independent person after the closing date. Royal Mail's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. Entry implies acceptance of these rules. Prizes are subject to 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. The winners' names are available 28 days after closing date. To receive this please send an SAE to The Editor.

New Issues and Withdrawals

17 March

Issue James Bond: Stamps (3 x 1st Class, 3 x £1.60 – 2 x horizontal se-tenant strips). Miniature Sheet (2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.55). Presentation Pack. Stamp Souvenir. Stamp Sheet Souvenir. First Day Envelope. First Day Cover. First Day Cover Miniature Sheet. First Day Cover Prestige Stamp Book pane. Prestige Stamp Book (pane one: 2 x £1.60, pane two: 3 x 1st Class, 1 x £1.60, pane three: 2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.55, pane four: 2 x 2p, 2 x 2nd Class Machin Definitives, 2 x 2nd Class Scottish Saltire Definitives, 2 x 1st Class Union Jack Definitives. Limited Edition Prestige Stamp Book. Stamp Book (4 x 1st Class Machin Definitives, 2 x 1st Class Special Stamps). Press sheet. Generic Sheet (5 x 1st Class, 5 x £1.60 Special Stamps). Character Stamp Sets. Postcards (11 in set). Framed Stamps. Framed Miniature Sheet. Framed Collector Sheet. Framed Prints (various). Q Branch Coin Cover (BU, Silver, Gold). James Bond Coin Cover (BU, Silver, Gold).



Issue Machin Definitives: Stamps (£1.42, £1.63, £1.68, £2.42, £2.97, £3.66, £3.82). First Day Cover. Presentation Pack.



Issue Country Definitives: Stamps (£1.42, £1.63 for each country – England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland). First Day Cover. Presentation Pack. *(The new Scottish Country Definitives will also be on the Declaration of Arbroath Miniature Sheet to be issued on 6 April.)*

31 March

Withdrawal Lunar New Year: Year of the Pig Generic Sheet.

7 April

Issue Romantic Poets: Stamps (10 x 1st Class – 2 x horizontal se-tenant strips). Presentation Pack. Stamp Souvenir. First Day Envelope. First Day Cover. Postcards (10 in set). BU Coin Cover. Silver Coin Cover.

See page 2 and pages 208-209 for information relating to Royal Mail's London 2020 International Stamp Exhibition products.

You can order any of the Royal Mail stamp products listed above, by visiting **www.royalmail.com/stamps** or from Royal Mail Stamps and Collectibles PO Box 1373, Sunderland SR5 9PG, UK. (Overseas subscribers will need to use a stamp.) Or use the Royal Mail telephone order service on 03457 641 641 (08.30 – 17.00 Monday to Friday). For overseas customers: +44 3457 641 641. Minimum handling charge UK £1.45, Europe £1.55, rest of world (airmail) £2.15.

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