BRITISH PHILATELIC

Bulletin

The magazine for collectors of UK stamps

VOLUME 55 NUMBER 1 | SEPTEMBER 2017 | £1.95

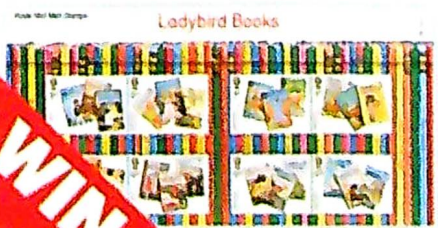
Preview: *Star Wars* Specials
• Autumn UK Stamp Scene



LADYBIRD BOOKS STAMPS

Landing this month: Mail by Air Post & Go

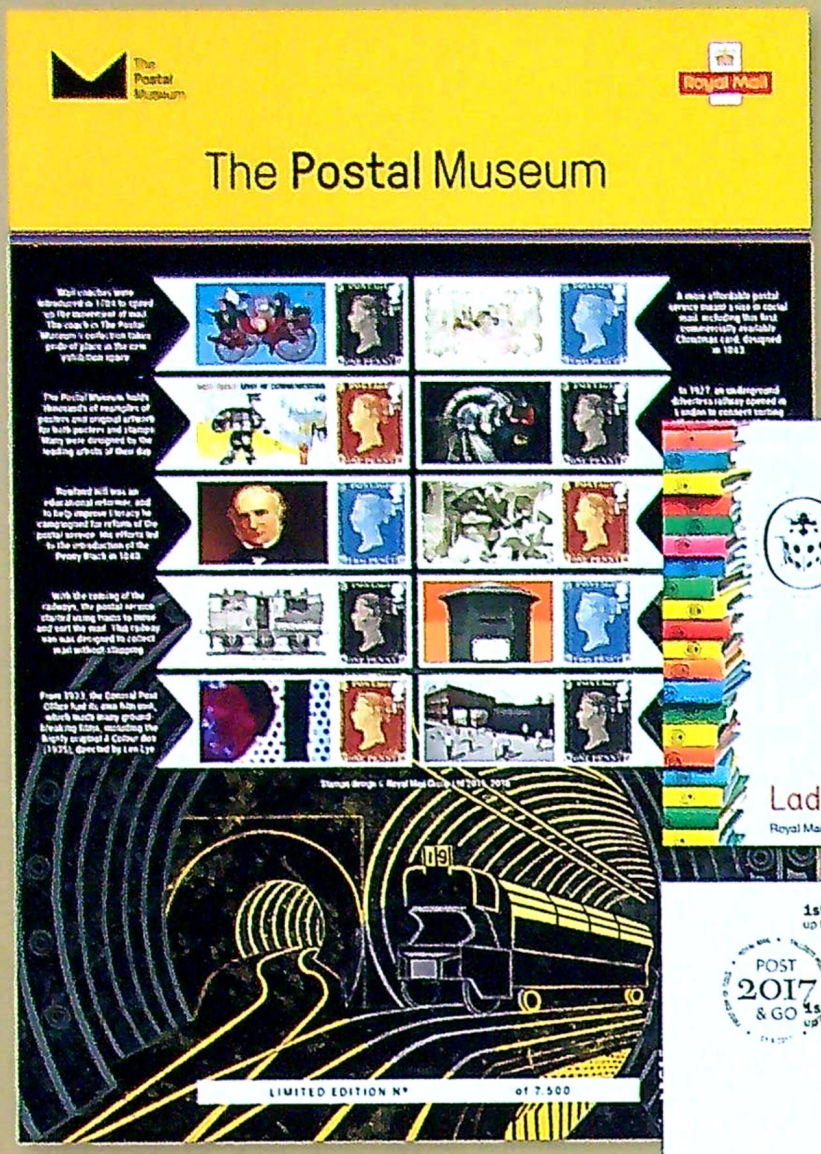




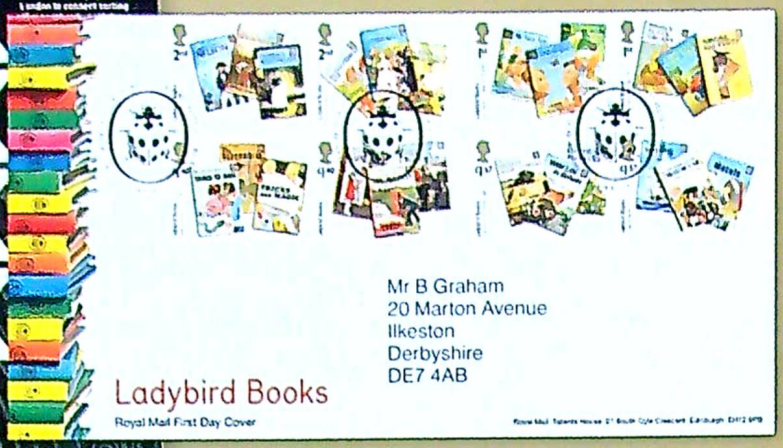
New stamp sets + £50 book tokens to be won – page 30



Find your favourite *Star Wars* robot in a stellar new stamp set, previewed on page 4



From top: Postal Museum Sheet, Ladybird Books First Day Cover and the Post & Go Mail by Air Cover available from the Royal Mail stand at Autumn Stampex this month





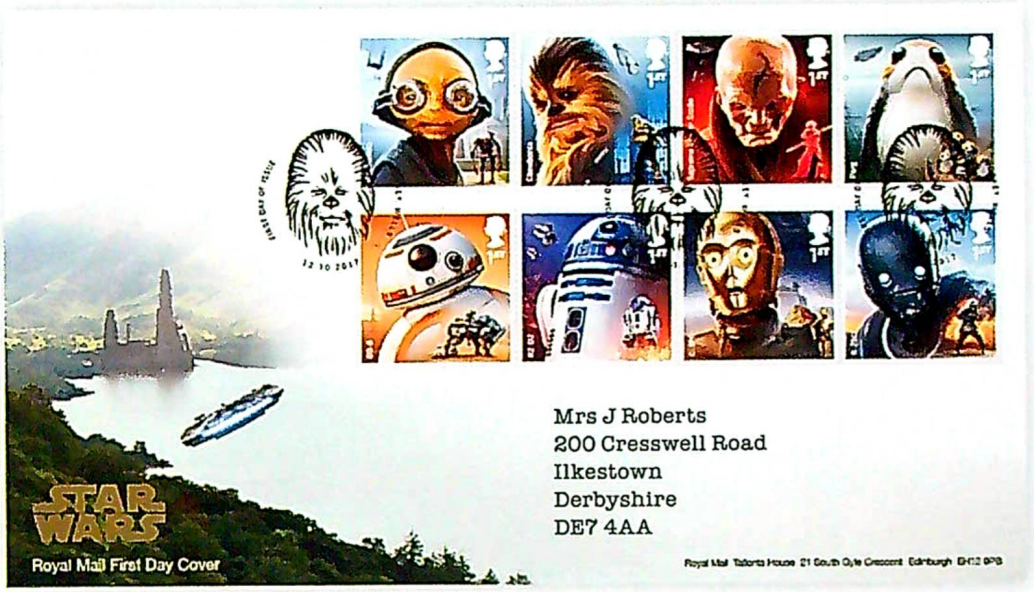
See you at Stampex

Stampex is on at London's Business Design Centre from 13 to 16 September with fantastic new stamp sets on sale!

A fascinating duo of Royal Mail issues is launched at Autumn Stampex. Make your way to the Royal Mail stand for the Mail by Air Post & Go stamps released on 13 September, the first day of Stampex. This set is the second in the series of Royal Mail Heritage: Transport, part of the Royal Mail 500 celebrations (preview on page 359). The charming Ladybird Books issue goes on sale on the following day (preview on page 356 and feature on page 16 in this edition of *Bulletin*). Also available is the Postal Museum Sheet marking the museum's recent opening. You can even pre-order the *Star Wars* set (preview on page 4) ●

For further information and Stampex opening times: www.philatelic-traders-society.co.uk

Contents



Force class delivery The new *Star Wars* set lands on Earth next month from a galaxy far, far away. We take a good Luke at it here **4**

Post & Go Update Peter Sijmons brings you the latest developments in self-service stamps **10**



Diary Dates All the key stamp events for the collector's calendar **12**

Stamp Scene News and reviews to keep you posted on the world of UK philately **13**

From the islands Pictorial issues from offshore bureaux **15**



● **Royal Mail Editor** William Doherty, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB ● **Publishing Editor** Kate Shaw, 26 Throgmorton St, London EC2N 2AN ● Price £1.95 from Post Office Ltd philatelic outlets or by order from Post Office branches ● **Twelve months' subscription** £18.95 UK and Europe, £24.95 rest of world. Subscribe online at www.royalmail.com/bulletin or write to Royal Mail Freepost, Royal Mail Stamps and Collectibles, PO Box 1373, Sunderland SR5 9PG, UK. Overseas subscribers will need to use a stamp, as freepost is for UK only ● **Binders** (to hold 24 issues) £8.68, and storage boxes (about 30 copies) £10.16, are also available by post or online ● Stamp images © Royal Mail. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or parts is prohibited without prior permission of the Editors ● **Printed** in Great Britain by Zenith Print & Packaging Ltd ● **ISSN** 0953 8119 ● Royal Mail is a trading name of Royal Mail Group Ltd. Registered in England and Wales, number 4138203. Registered office: 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HQ.



King of the collectors How King George V established the Royal Philatelic Collection **22**



Postal history, fabulous philately Welcome to Britain's newly opened Postal Museum **24**



Stamps of the year The long-awaited results of the Readers' Favourite Stamp Poll **26**

Top of the spots As the Ladybird Books Special Stamp issue is released this month members of the *Bulletin* team fondly remember their favourite book in the legendary series **16**



Stamp books Browse our gallery of stamps showing classic children's literature **18**

Cover stories Royal Mail Editor William Doherty's pick of the covers and sheets **29**

Win £50 book tokens Crack our anagrams for a novel prize **30**

Issues and Withdrawals Hello Ladybird Books and Mail by Air, cheerio to Agatha Christie's mysteries **32**

Star turn The second Royal Mail *Star Wars* Special Stamp issue touches down on Planet Earth this month and it is out of this world









ROYAL MAIL'S STELLAR NEW ISSUE is a force to be reckoned with as it celebrates the latest *Star Wars* movie. Eight out-of-this-world stamps will feature favourite characters from the first eight blockbuster films – including *The Last Jedi* hitting cinemas in December. The set also pays tribute to British film industry talent as it continues to make a huge contribution to the *Star Wars* series, which launched in 1977. Production for *The Last Jedi* was based in the UK and used British crew as well as home-grown digital special effects wizards. Accompanying the issue, out on 12 October, is a Presentation Pack, Stamp Souvenir, two Collectors' Sheets, a pair of Medal Covers, two Retail Stamp Books and Stamp Cards. Two PSBs and four more Medal Covers are released on 14 December. This is the second *Star Wars* stamp set, the first one being released in 2015.

Stamp by stamp All stamps in the *Star Wars* set are First Class and each one features the main alien or robot character, specific spaceships, and a 'secondary' character or another perspective of the main character.

Maz Kanata On the fringes of the galaxy lies a secret castle hideaway presided over by wise, boisterous Maz Kanata. She holds court within the

Above and opposite page: the eight *Star Wars* Special Stamps out on 12 October

***Star Wars* Stamps – Specifications**	
Date of issue	12 October 2017
Number of stamps	Eight
Stamp design	© Royal Mail Group Ltd 2017
Presentation Pack writer	Simon Beecroft
Stamp format	Square
Stamp size	35mm x 35mm
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Number per sheet	24/48
Perforations	14.5 x 14.5
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA



galaxy's underworld: smugglers, bounty hunters and thieves. Maz has also been a friend to Jedi, and her castle contains secrets that tell of one Luke Skywalker. *Location: Takodana / Maz's castle exterior; ships: Kylo Ren's command shuttle / First Order TIE fighters; secondary character: HURID-32*

Chewbacca Faithful co-pilot and companion to Han Solo for many years, Chewbacca was a hero of the Rebellion. After years of freelance adventuring, Chewbacca witnesses the death of Han. All he has left is the *Millennium Falcon* and a new companion, a Force-attuned loner named Rey. *Location: Starkiller Base; ship: Millennium Falcon; secondary character: Chewbacca*

Supreme Leader Snoke The shadowy commander of the First Order, Snoke trained Kylo Ren in the dark side of the Force. He orders the creation of a giant planet-sized superweapon called Starkiller to destroy the New Republic government. *Film: The Last Jedi; ships: Star Destroyer / First Order TIE fighters; secondary character: Praetorian Guard*

Porg Small, flightless birds called porgs are native to the remote planet Ahch-To, where Luke Skywalker lives in exile. But the birds are ill-prepared for the arrival of Rey and Chewbacca when they land on the planet, which is also home ▸

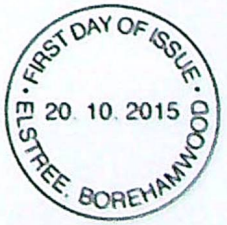
Below: the *Star Wars* First Day Cover; the Tallents House and alternative pictorial and non-pictorial postmarks featuring K-2SO, Chewbacca and the location Elstree – the home of the '*Star Wars* studio'



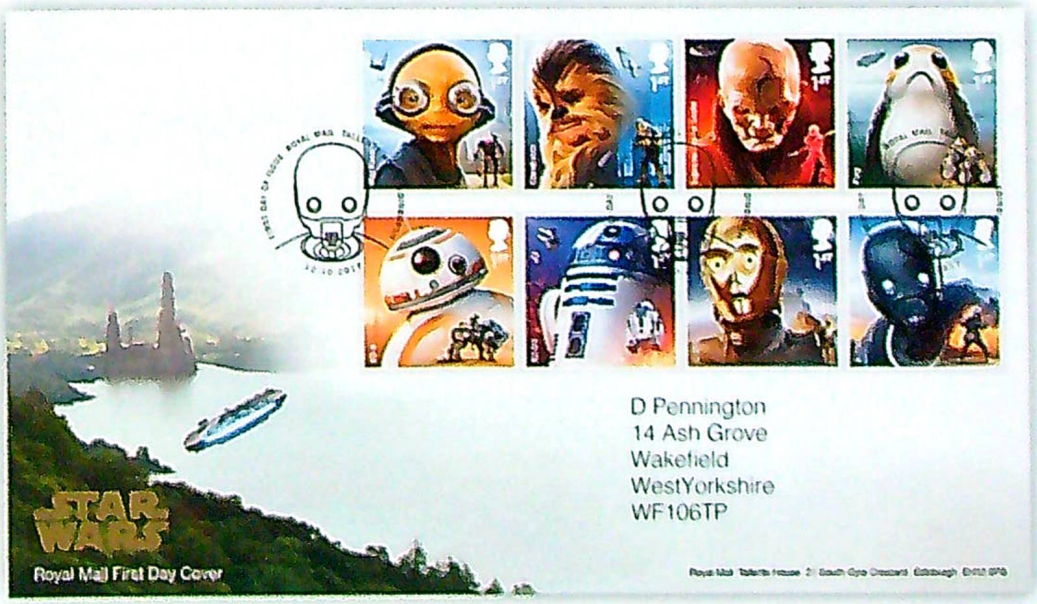
FD1721-TH



FD1721-PL



FD1721-NP



to the first Jedi temple. *Location: Ahch-To; ship: Millennium Falcon; secondary character: Beaks*

BB-8 A plucky companion to Resistance fighter Poe Dameron in the struggle against the First Order, BB-8 provides flight assistance to Poe when piloting an X-wing fighter, but is separated from his master in a battle. He then runs into Rey and renegade stormtrooper Finn. *Location: Jakku; ships: First Order TIE fighters; secondary characters: Luggabeast / Teedo / BB-8*

R2-D2 The trusty droid has had an adventurous life, in the Clone Wars alongside Anakin Skywalker, and with Luke Skywalker in the fight against



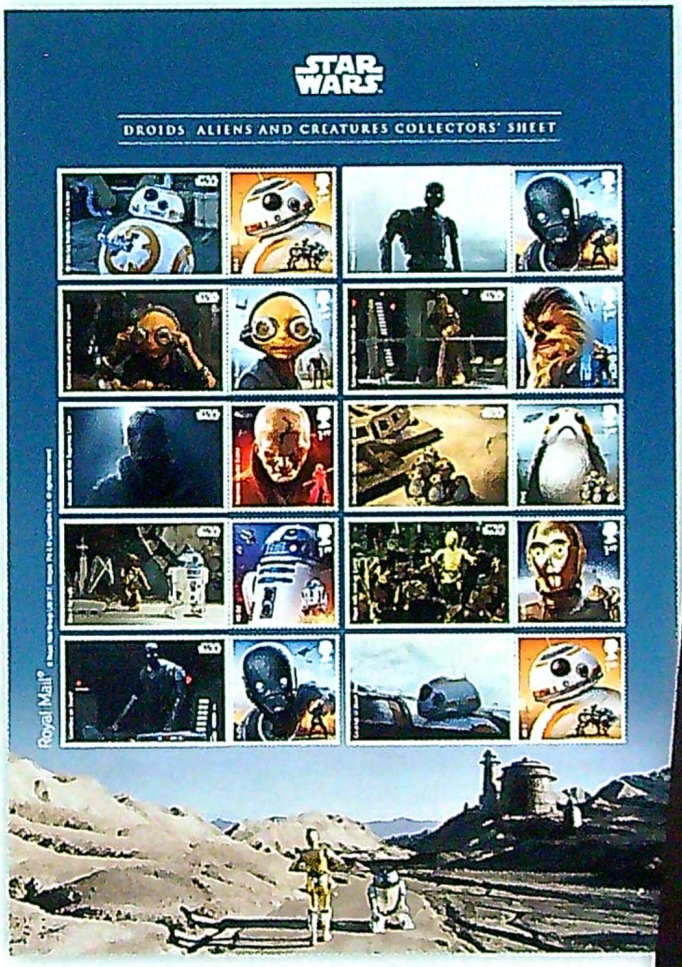
Right and below: views of the *Star Wars* Presentation Pack

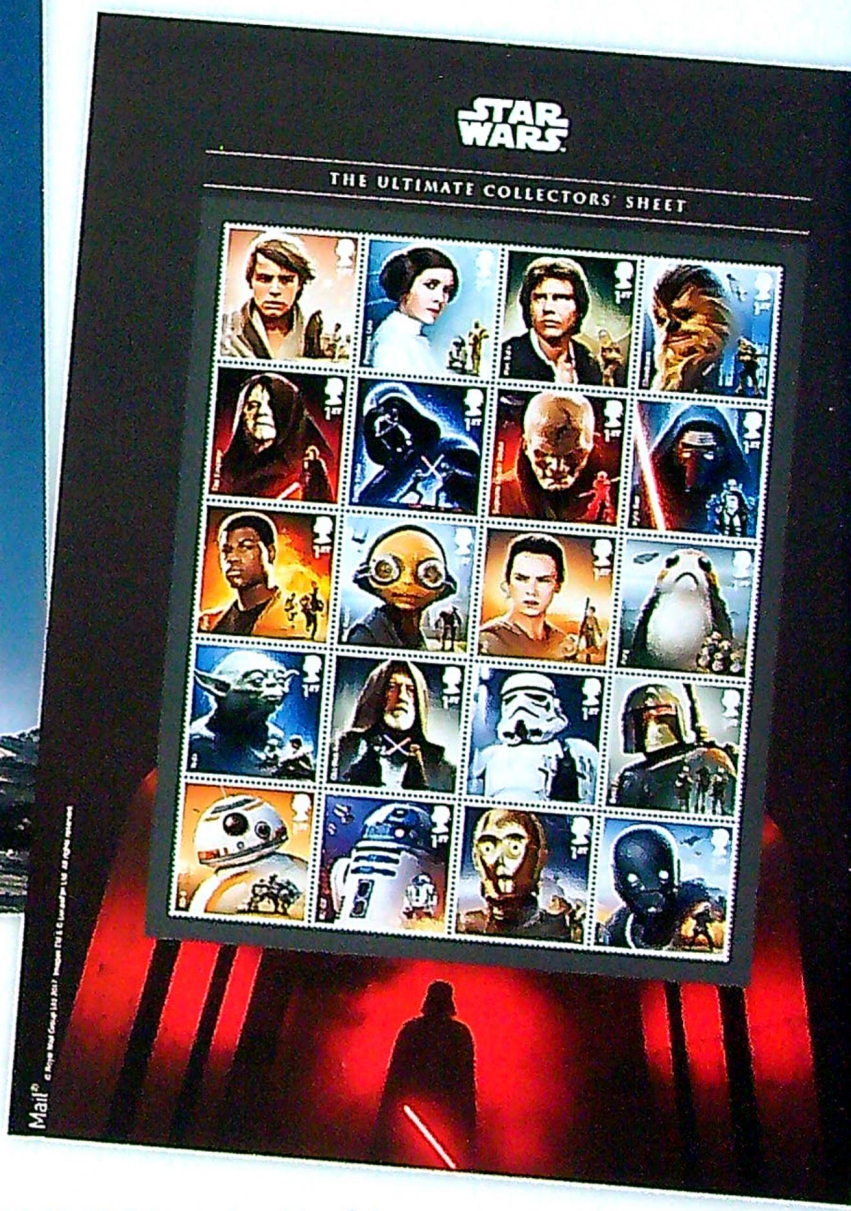


the Empire. Now in semi-retirement, he secretly holds the only map pinpointing the whereabouts of Luke Skywalker. *Location: Coruscant / Grievous's flagship interior; ships: Jedi starfighters; secondary character: R2-D2*

C-3PO As a boy on Tatooine, Anakin Skywalker built a protocol droid as a helper for his mother. C-3PO became an expert in diplomatic affairs, but he was not equipped for a life of danger.

***Star Wars* Stamp Book – Specifications**	
Date of issue	12 October
Book format Droids	4 x Royal Mail Red 1st Class Machin definitives. BB-8 and R2-D2 Special Stamps
Book format Aliens & Creatures	4 x Royal Mail Red 1st Class Machin definitives. Maz Kanata and Chewbacca Special Stamps
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA





Thrust into battles during the Clone Wars and the Rebellion against the Empire, he has nevertheless often helped his friends save the day. *Location: Tatooine / Jabba's Palace exterior; ship: Death Star II; secondary characters: Jabba the Hutt / C-3PO*

K-2SO A reprogrammed Imperial security droid, K-2SO is on the side of the Rebel Alliance in the fight against the Empire. K-2SO's ability to blend in when on reconnaissance work behind Imperial lines is a distinct advantage. ▸



Above the Droids, Aliens and Characters Collectors' Sheet and the Ultimate Collectors' Sheet with stamps from the 2015 and 2017 *Star Wars* stamp issues

Left the Retail Stamp Books showing BB-8, R2-D2, Maz Kanata and Chewbacca

Star Wars Special Issue – Prices

Issued 12 October	
Stamps	£5.20
Presentation Pack	£6.50
R2-D2 Display Set	£15.00
BB-8 Display Set	£10.00
Lightsaber Display Set	£20.00
FDC – Stamps	£6.66
Stamp Souvenir	£6.66
Stamp Cards	£3.60
Stamp Souvenir – Ultimate Edition	£17.50
Medal Cover BB-8 Limited Edition 15,000	£19.99
Medal Cover R2-D2 Limited Edition 15,000	£19.99
Stamp Set – Creatures	£5.50
Stamp Set – Droids	£5.50
Stamp Set – Aliens	£5.50
Collectors' Sheet – Droids, Aliens and Creatures	£7.00
Ultimate Collectors' Sheet	£13.00
Retail Stamp Book – Droids	£3.90
Retail Stamp Book – Aliens	£3.90
Stamp Sheet – Aliens (full sheet)	£31.20
Stamp Sheet – Aliens (half sheet)	£15.60
Stamp Sheet – Droids (full sheet)	£31.20
Stamp Sheet – Droids (half sheet)	£15.60
Framed Stamps – Droids and Aliens	£40.00
Framed Ultimate Collectors' Sheet	£45.00
BB-8 Bundle (Framed Stamps)	£76.00
C-3PO Bundle (Best of 2015 and 2017)	£58.00
R2-D2 Selection (Best of 2017)	£59.00

Issued 14 December	
Prestige Stamp Book (PSB)	£8.24
First Day Cover – Prestige Stamp Book	£15.99
Prestige Stamp Book Limited Edition 1977	£75.00
Medal Cover C-3PO Limited Edition 15,000	£19.99
Medal Cover C-3PO (Silver Proof) Limited Edition 750	£99.99
Medal Cover BB-8 (Silver Proof) Limited Edition 750	£99.99
Medal Cover R2-D2 (Silver Proof) Limited Edition 750	£99.99

From 7 September advance orders on all these items will be accepted at Doxford Park (address on page 32) and online at www.royalmail.com/starwars



He can pilot many types of spaceship and scan and access Imperial communications systems. *Location: Scarif; ships: U-Wing / X-wings; secondary character: Pao*

Also in the issue is a Presentation Pack detailing the huge variety of aliens and droids in the *Star Wars* galaxy. Special items include an R2-D2 Display Set, which can be changed into a model of the droid, and a Lightsaber Display Set that folds out to reveal the latest stamp issue as well as the first *Star Wars* set from 2015. The Stamp Souvenir is a non-personalised version of the alternative First Day Cover which, unlike the Cover, will not have the customer's name and address printed on the front and is on sale for three months.



Orders for Serviced (ie stamped and postmarked) First Day Covers have to reach Royal Mail by 12 October. Customers may also send stamped envelopes on the day of issue – to Royal Mail, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB – for the



Above: R2-D2 Medal Cover, medal mount and insert card
Below: BB-8 Medal Cover, medal mount and insert card. Both medals in cupronickel; silver versions out in December

Tallents House postmark. Please quote the *Bulletin* media code 17BUL09. The Tallents House postmark features a picture of K-2SO. The pictorial alternative postmark honours Chewbacca with the location of Wookey, Wells, and a picture of him. The non-pictorial mark has the location of Elstree, Borehamwood, home to the studios where much *Star Wars* movie production has taken place ●







Above the Medal Cover postmarks

Post & Go update News from the world of self-service stamps – this month's Mail By Air issue and beyond



Post & Go Cover

Autumn 2017 Stampex The new set of Post & Go Mail by Air stamps from Royal Mail take flight on 13 September, celebrating planes of the past century that have carried post all over the world. Six classic aircraft are depicted, from the Blériot plane, which flew the first ever Aerial Post flight in 1911, to an Emraer Bandeirante craft operating the Datapost service in the 1980s. The images on the stamps are described in more detail in the philatelic preview on page 359 of August *Bulletin*.

This issue is the second in the Royal Mail Heritage: Transport series that forms part of the Royal Mail 500 celebrations; the first was Mail by Rail, released in February 2016. All are available in Collector's Packs at the Royal Mail stand at this month's Autumn Stampex in Islington. The Post & Go Mail by Air stamps will be machine-vended with special overprints, as follows: A012 Reel A Mail by Air Reel B Machin 50 (1st Class only); A013 Reel A Mail by Air Reel B Machin 50 (1st Class only); A014 Reel A Mail by Air Reel B Poppy. Overprints: A012 and A013 Reel B Machin 50 'Stampex Autumn 2017'; A014 Reel B Poppy 'WWI Battle of Passchendaele'.

New at the Postal Museum The 'Official Opening' overprint for Post & Go stamps dispensed at the Postal Museum (see page 24) will end on all designs on Tuesday 12 September. It will be replaced with the words 'The Postal Museum' (without the organisation's envelope logo) overprinted across all Post & Go stamps designs on the following day – Wednesday 13 September.

Coinciding with the first day of Stampex, there will also be changes to the designs available from The Postal Museum's A0001 machine. The six



designs of the Royal Mail Heritage: Mail by Air issue, as shown above, replace the Union Flag (all values), which will no longer be available. The following stamps will be on sale from Wednesday 13 September...

Royal Mail Heritage: Mail by Air (six designs – 1st Class only)
Machin 50 Commemoratives (six designs – 1st Class only)
Machin (2nd Class only)
Underground Railway (all values)
Mail Coach (all values)

A Post & Go machine is available at The Postal Museum, 15-20 Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DA, telephone +44 (0)208 183 0065. The Postal Museum's new Post & Go bulletin is available through shop.postalmuseum.org/pages/bulletin, as well as the Mail Rail Launch First Day Cover (£5); Mail Rail Launch Presentation Pack (£16.50); Postal Museum Launch First Day Cover (£8); and the Postal Museum Launch Presentation Pack with all designs (£55).

Celebrating the Royal Navy The Royal Navy's latest carrier is commemorated by two overprints on the A002 kiosk in Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. Union Visitors Centre. The Union Flag stamp has the overprint 'Royal Navy QEII Carrier 2017' and on the Machin 'Royal Navy Queen Elizabeth II Carrier 2017.

The Royal Navy logo on the Machin will be reduced to accommodate the longer wording. The overprints are available until 18 September.

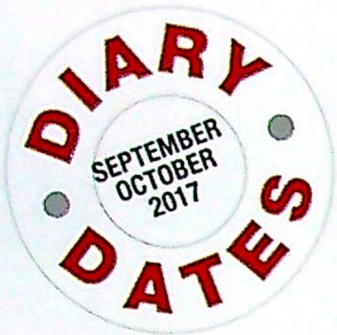
Remembrance poppy stamps coming next month The popular Common Poppy stamp design from the Symbolic Flowers Post & Go set, first issued in 2014, is scheduled for reintroduction on 24 October.

It will be produced on reels of self-service stamps carrying the one single design, to allow Post & Go machines at Post Offices to carry the stamps in the weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday on November 12 •

All Royal Mail Post & Go stamps are previewed in The British Philatelic Bulletin prior to their issue.



Stamp Scene Keeping you posted on news and events in the wide world of UK philately



Many societies begin their season in September and of course we do not have space to mention every single meeting. To have your society's key events included on these diary pages, please email rmbulletin@rocketmail.com.

8 September Strand Stamp Fair, The Galleon Suite, Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0DG, 9am to 4pm. Admission free, 20 to 30 dealers. The nearest underground station is Russell Square. Information: www.stampshows.net. Enquiries: Kate Puleston 020 8946 4489.

8 September National Philatelic Society (NPS) London meeting at The Welsh Centre (left),157-163 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8UE. Birds of the World display by Ralph Bridgeman at 2.45pm. The Members Auction starts at 12.50pm, with viewing from 10.30am. Enquiries: P Mellor, 01582 762284, p.mellor@btinternet.com.


Roberto Herrett / Alamy

13-16 September Autumn Stampex, Business Design Centre, London N1 OQH. Enquiries: 01342 830225. The Great Britain Philatelic Society (GBPS) meets at Stampex, 2.15pm on Saturday: Peter McCann presents Queen Victoria Stamps and Covers.

30 September Portadown and District Philatelic Society Stampex and Collectors Fair, Portadown Town Hall, Edward Street, Portadown, Armagh BT62 3NE, 9.30am to 3.30pm, admission free. Car parking nearby, refreshments, dealers in stamps, postal history, covers and postcards. Enquiries: Mr J. J. Proctor, 15 Dorchester Park Portadown, Co. Armagh BT62 3EA, phone 028 38 334964.

30 September Hampex 2017, Hampshire Philatelic Federation Convention and Fair, Wickham Centre, Mill Lane, Wickham PO17 5AL, 10am to 4.30pm. More than 20 dealers in stamps, Cinderellas and postal history, competitive inter-society exhibition. Enquiries: 01329 845492.


SJ Images / Alamy

6 October The Strand Stamp Fair, as above.

14 October Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies South of England Stamp Fair and Sussex Convention, South of England Showground, Ardingly, Haywards Heath, W. Sussex RH17 6TL. Enquiries: 01273 471897.

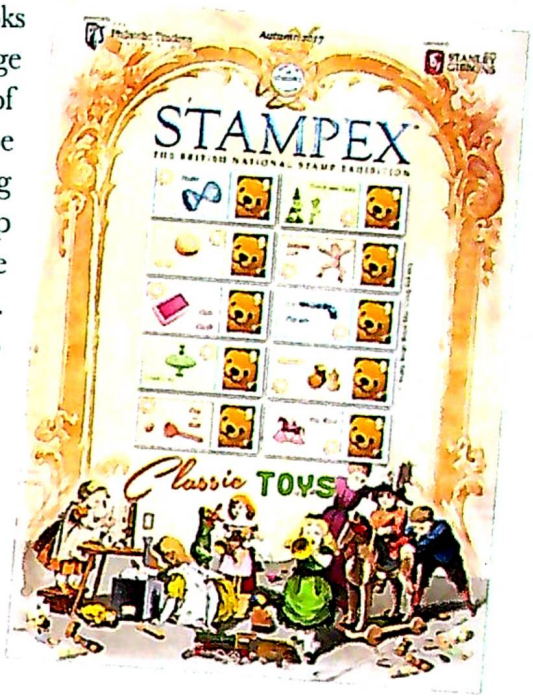
20-21 October The popular Scotex event – the annual Scottish stamp and postcard fair – is held at the Dewars Centre, Glover Street, Perth. PH2 0TH, Friday 11am to 5.30pm and Saturday10am to 3.30pm. About 30 dealers attrend this fair, organised by the Scottish Philatelic Traders Association. Enquiries: 01368 860365.

21 October GBPS at the Royal Philatelic Society, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY.11am Exploring the Postal Use of the Penny Black, Nigel Sudborough; 2:15pm Express Mail, Julian Tweed.

28 October Federation of Surrey Philatelic Societies Stamp fair. Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone KT15 2NJ,10am to 4.30pm. Free admission. The fair includes the annual Surrey Competitions and a regional meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. Enquiries: Peter White, petdor@btinternet.com, phone 01932 844215 •

Autumn exhibitions

Autumn Stampex will be at the Business Design Centre, 52 Upper St, Islington, London N1 from 13 to 17 September. The nearest London Underground station is Angel, Islington. More than a hundred dealers and postal administrations will have stands, including Royal Mail which will issue Ladybird Books Special Stamps and new Post & Go stamps – Royal Mail Heritage Mail by Air – during the exhibition. Also on sale will be the last of the popular Agatha Christie Special Stamps, which are due to be withdrawn from sale during Stampex, on 15 September. Opening times are on page 354 and on page 384 are details of UK stamp issues and withdrawals during the week of the exhibition. The special Stampex Smilers sheet (right) carries a Classic Toys design. And if you fancy seeing your own portrait in a souvenir photo print on personalised Smilers, visit Gallery Bay 16.



The popular Scotex event takes place at the Dewars Centre, Perth on 14 and 15 October (see above), and Stampa (the Irish national stamp exhibition) celebrates its 45th anniversary with a return to the Griffith Conference Centre, Dublin from 14 to 16 October. A major feature of Stampa has always been the competition entries and displays, and it will be interesting to see the new Picture Postcard class which has been added this year. Visit www.stamp.ie for further details •

Overseas

MonacoPhil 2017 takes place on the Terrasses de Fontvieille in Monte Carlo from 29 November to 3 December. An exhibition of '100 iconic stamps and documents' will be held at the Musée des Timbres et des Monnaies (Stamp and Coin Museum, right) with items from 100 world famous collections including the Royal Philatelic Collection. An exhibition focusing on Ferrari de La Renotière (Philipp von Ferrary) will enable visitors to gain a first glimpse of the many collections once owned by the 'King of Stamps'.



President of the Club de Monte Carlo is Patrick Maselis from Belgium, who has recently been elected President of the Royal Philatelic Society, London. As the first 'overseas' President, his election acknowledges that fact that more than half of the RPSL's membership (some 2,250) live outside the UK •

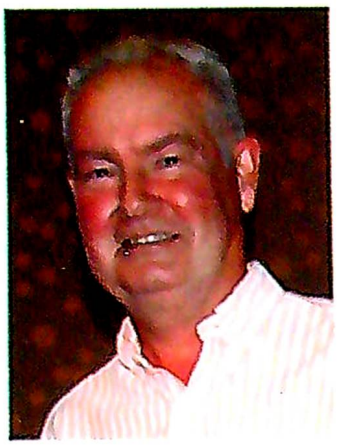
Ladybird Books First Day Cover

Eagle-eyed readers, of whom *Bulletin* has many, may notice that the first day covers of the Ladybird Books issue have cancellations in a slightly different position from those shown on our Preview pages (Volume 54, p365 and p366). The correct positioning is shown below. Read more about these Special Stamps on page 16 •





John Davies reviews



MIDPEX 2017 was hailed a success, with good attendance and positive feedback. This prestigious biennial exhibition, attended by stamp collectors from across the UK, is the largest stamp event in the Midlands and the showcase for the best of philately. July's event included postcard dealers as well as stamps, thematics and postal history. Over 50 dealers and 40 Specialist Societies supported the Show with many holding their regional meetings at the event including BPS & The Forces Postal History Society, TPO, Meter Mail, Malta, Opal, Pacific Islands, Revenue and Iran Study Groups.

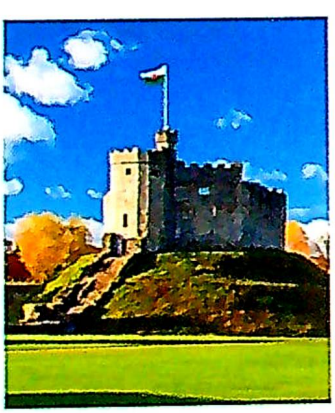
John Gledhill, Chairman of the Midpex Committee, said 'We were delighted to get a wide range of comments from both dealers and collectors on the quality of the venue, organisation and displays. Although some would like us to hold the show every year or extend it to two days, we are sticking with what we believe is a successful formula and are have already booked the next show for July 6 2019.'

John Enfield wrote in the *BPS Society News* 'Midpex is a well-organised event at a spacious venue with ample parking and good catering facilities. I would urge any members who have not previously attended to come along in 2019' •

The 2017 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain was held in Cardiff in July, hosted by Cardiff Philatelic Society and organised as always by the Association of British Philatelic Societies (ABPS). A wide variety of talks and displays was enjoyed in good company and the unpredictable weather did not prevent delegates from exploring Cardiff.

The busy Congress programme was opened by Ray Simpson on Cardiff Postal Services. – the Impact of Economic and Social Development. Still on Welsh subjects, John Sussex presented Modern Welsh Postal History. He used the type of modern covers that are quite easy to find at stamp fairs and on internet sites – all brought together in the focussed, informative and exceptionally entertaining manner typical of John Sussex. Gerald Marriner's fact-packed standing display focused on Pembrokeshire, as an example of how satisfying it can be to 'collect a county'– with so many counties to choose from, he probably inspired many collectors to have ago. And the Brigend Philatelic Society gave us another unusual approach, with Reg Lyon on the postal history of Lyon– in placenames, in the tea brand, and as part of the Queen Mother's Bowes-Lyon family name.

Friday saw the annual Kay Goodman lecture on 'The Future of the ABPS' given a thought-provoking twist by Graham Winters, who feels that, while the ABPS does far more thank it is often given credit for, the association needs to be ready and willing to respond to rapidly changing situations in our hobby at local and national level. He said a lot more too; if you missed Congress, his intriguing lecture is well worth a look, on the ABPS website.



Speaking about writing up her collections and of the encouragement she receives from young people, Eren Grieve was, as always, inspiring – the excellent work she carries out with schoolchildren nationwide continues to amaze.

The Stanley Gibbons Cup was awarded to Dane Garrod for his enthralling presentation of his 'Edwinsford– a Carmarthenshire Social and Postal History' – the fascinatingly evidenced story of a Welsh mansion, from high-society goings-on in its 1880s heyday to the ruined building recently purchased for restoration •

Meet the Cardiff signees of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists in a future Bulletin.

New from the islands

Jersey This Channel Island's extraordinary zoological connection to Asia is revealed in Jersey Post's six-stamp set Links with China – Butterflies. The issue, released on 1 September, features species found in both locations, which are at either end of the same ecological zone, the Palearctic. The Jersey Fruits and Berries Post & Go set debuts at Autumn Stampex on 13 September, at Jersey Post's JE01 kiosk. Also on offer are Jersey flag stamps marking Prince Philip's retirement from public duties, with a special exhibition overprint that reads: HRH Prince Philip 65 Years of Service. On 22 September an eight-stamp issue and miniature sheet pays tribute to celebrated Jersey-born actress Lillie Langtry, who famously had an affair with the Prince of Wales. Enquiries: 00 44 (0)1534 516320 and www.jerseystamps.com •





Guernsey The 25th anniversary of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment is celebrated with six stamps released on 1 September. The issue is accompanied by a miniature sheet depicting Diana, Princess of Wales, who was Colonel-in-Chief of the unit from 1992 to 1997. Out on the same day are two five-stamp sets illustrating the beauty of Guernsey's coastlines. One issue of local-rate stamps covers the west coast of Guernsey; the other set of stamps, for posting to the UK, focuses on the island's east coast. Enquiries: Guernsey Philatelic Bureau on 00 44 (0) 1481 716486 or www.guernseystamps.com •









Children's literature on stamps

Top of the spots

New Special Stamps celebrate the long history of the Ladybird imprint, established in 1915 and still a firm favourite with children and adults alike

FOR MILLIONS OF BRITONS they are as much a part of childhood as Mum and Dad, skipping in the playground and football in the park. With their utopian view of Britain, Ladybird books imbued our youth with a cosy glow that allowed us to explore the world with a magical mix of hope and happiness.

We learned to read with Peter and Jane in Ladybird's Key Words Reading Scheme titles – over 100 million of which have been printed since the series began in 1964. We studied nature with Ladybird books on volcanoes, butterflies, endangered species, hedgerows and the weather. We discovered science and technology with the likes of *The Story of Nuclear Power*, *The Story of Plastics*, *Levers, Pulleys and Engines*, *Exploring Space* and *How It Works: The Computer*. Through Ladybird, history came alive with stories about Nelson and Nightingale, great British kings and queens, ancient Rome, Aztecs, Marco Polo and Marie Curie.



Ladybird books accompanied each of us on our journey of childhood discovery for perhaps a decade at most. But their influence has spanned generations since they were first published in the early years of the Second World War by Wills & Hepworth of Loughborough, Leicestershire. The firm had printed the first two Ladybird titles – *Going by Train* and *Tales of the Train* – when the Ladybird imprint was established in 1915. Wills & Hepworth launched the series in order to provide 'wholesome and healthy literature for children'.



However, the books' classic 'mini-hardback' format was born out of wartime paper rationing in the early 1940s. Then, Wills & Hepworth created a method of producing a 56-page book from a single piece of paper measuring 40 inches by 30 inches. When the text and illustrations had been printed, the paper would be cut up into pages and bound into book by the publisher's editorial director Douglas Keen.

LADYBIRD: A BRIEF HISTORY

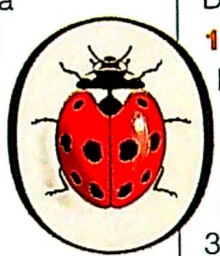
1915
The brand name 'Ladybird' is registered.

1940
Bunnikin's Picnic Party becomes the first book published in Ladybird's iconic hardback format.



1953
Ladybird's Nature series of books launches with the publication of *British Birds and Their Nests*.

1961
Ladybird's new logo is based on a real ladybird chosen from specimens at the Natural History Museum



1964
Peter and Jane make their debut in the book *Play with Us* – the first in the 36-book Ladybird Key Words Reading Scheme.



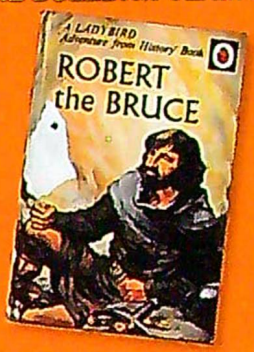


form. This tightly efficient use of paper helped keep costs down, and allowed Ladybird books to be sold for just 2s 6d for close to 30 years. The first book published in the iconic hardback format was 1940's *Bunnikin's Picnic Party*. Of course, Ladybird's enduring place in our individual and collective memory has been ensured in no small part by its use of inspiring illustration. Ladybird established what was then a groundbreaking reputation for realism in its artwork, thanks to the contributions of top-notch artists such as Martin Aitchison and Charles Tunnicliffe. Ladybird books feature a total of over 7,000 images.

Over the years this British success story has literally translated into a global phenomenon. Ladybird books have been published in two-thirds of the world's countries, and in some 70 languages from Afrikaans to Zulu, and including Japanese, Malay and Welsh.

In all, 63 series have been produced, comprising over 650 titles. Today Ladybird, now under the auspices of Penguin, still publishes about 70 new titles annually, proving that the Ladybird legend lives on ●

THE BULLETIN TEAM'S CHILDHOOD FAVOURITES

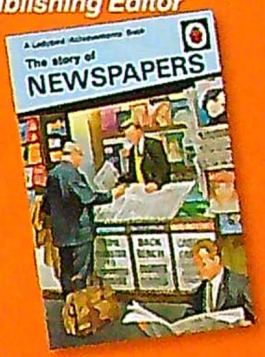


▲ This story really gripped me. It had everything: abject misery, complete failure, and a spider. If at first you don't succeed try, try and try again – a story of hope triumphing over adversity. A great tale for an 11-year-old struggling to find a way to talk to girls. *William Doherty, Royal Mail Editor*

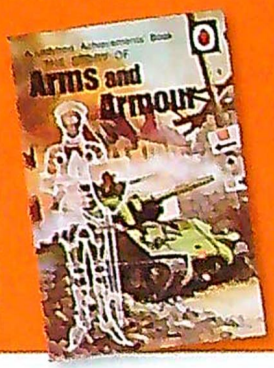


▲ This was a very engaging story for me as a child and a profound one on reflection as an adult. Despite its fanciful beginning, it highlights the real-life dangers of complacency, arrogance and being seduced into misplaced trust. *Ian Boardman, Bulletin Online*

▼ As a trainee journalist on my first visit to see 'new' web-offset printers in Watford, I was excited by the promise of colour printing in newspapers – having read all about it on page 50. *Kate Shaw, Publishing Editor*

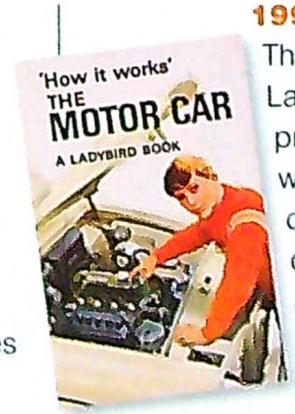


▼ As a boy, I was thrilled by the pages packed with pictures of weapons. But the final page warned nuclear war would take us back to the stone age, and showed a family begging for entry into a cave whose owners wave them off with rifles, as an atom bomb explodes in the distance. It taught me that war is not an adventure. *Andrew Neish, Deputy Editor*





1965 *The Motor Car* – the debut title in the Ladybird 'How It Works' series – is published.



1999 The Ladybird print works close down after almost 85



years of operations in Loughborough, Leicestershire – HQ of Ladybird publisher Wills & Hepworth.

2000 Penguin acquires the Ladybird book rights.

2015 The Key Words Reading Scheme books achieve the publishing milestone of over 100 million copies sold.



Children's literature on stamps

Testaments of youth

From classic to quirky, funny to frightening, magical to modern-day: the story of British children's literature in all its amazing variety is writ large on Royal Mail stamps over six decades. So we were inspired by the release of the new issue on Ladybird books to showcase a selection of stamps celebrating stories that have inspired the childhood of millions of youngsters all over the world – Winnie-the-Pooh, Peter Rabbit, Alice in Wonderland, Just William, Thomas the Tank Engine, Harry Potter, Mr. Men and many more. Which is your favourite?

The Year of the Child 1979
(1) 9p The Tale of Peter Rabbit; (2) 10½p The Wind in the Willows; (3) 11p Winnie-the-Pooh; (4) 13p Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.
'Smiles' 1990
(5) 1st Class Cheshire Cat.
Giving 1993
All 1st Class: (6) Long John Silver and Parrot – Treasure Island; (7) Mole and Toad – The Wind in the Willows; (8) Peter Rabbit and Mrs Rabbit – The Tale of Peter Rabbit; (9) Snowman and Father Christmas – The Snowman and Father Christmas; (10) Tweedledum and Tweedledee – Alice Through the Looking-Glass; (11) William – Just William.
Messages 1994
All 1st Class: (12) Alice; (13) Biggles; (14) Orlando the Marmalade Cat; (15) Paddington Bear on Station; (16) Peter Rabbit posting Letter; (17) Red Riding Hood and Wolf; (18) Rupert Bear; (19) The Three Bears.
Children's Fantasy Novels 1998
(20) 20p The Hobbit; (21) 26p The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe; (22) 37p The Phoenix and the Carpet; (23) 43p The Borrowers; (24) 63p Through The Looking Glass.
Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories 2002
All 1st Class: (25) How the Camel got his Hump; (26) How the Leopard got his Spots; (27) How the Whale got his Throat; (28) The Beginning of the Armadillos; (39) The Butterfly that Stamped; (30) The Cat that walked by Himself; (31) The Crab that played with the Sea; (32) The Elephant's Child; (33) The Sing-Song of Old Man Kangaroo; (34) How the Rhinoceros got his Skin.
Peter Pan 2002
(35) 2nd Class Tinkerbell; (36) 1st Class Wendy, John and Michael Darling in front of Big Ben; (37) E Crocodile and Alarm Clock; (38) 47p Captain Hook; (39) 68p Peter Pan.
Animal Tales 2006
(40) 2nd Class The Tale of Jeremy Fisher; (41) 2nd Class Kipper; (42) 1st Class Paddington Bear; (43) 1st Class The Enormous Crocodile; (44) 42p White Rabbit; (45) 42p Comic Adventures of Boots; (46) 68p Maisy's ABC; (47) 68p The Very Hungry Caterpillar; (48) 68p The Very Hungry Caterpillar (holes).
Harry Potter 2007
All 1st Class: (49) Prisoner of Azkaban; (50) Half-Blood Prince; (51) Chamber of Secrets; (52) Deathly Hallows; (53) Goblet of Fire; (54) Order of the Phoenix; (55) Philosopher's Stone.
Winnie-the-Pooh 2010
(56) 1st Class Christopher Robin; (57) 58p Piglet; (58) 60p Rabbit; (59) 67p Eeyore; (60) 88p Friends; (61) 97p Tigger



































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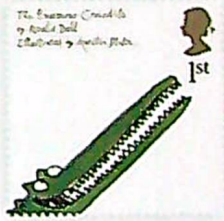
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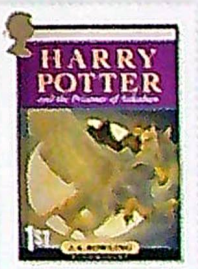
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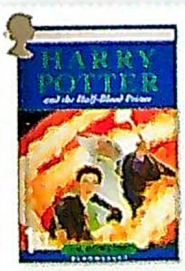
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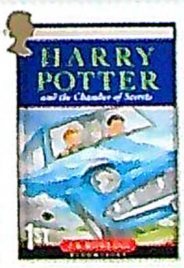
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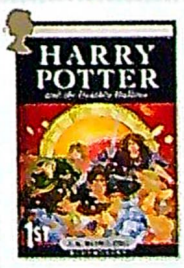
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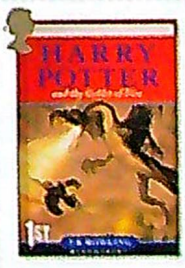
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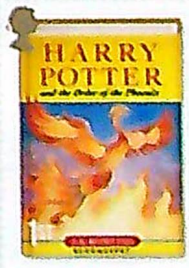
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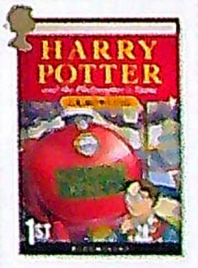
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Children's literature on stamps

Magical Realms 2011
(62) 1st Class Dumbledore; (63) 1st Class Voldemort; (64) 97p Aslan; (65) 97p The White Witch

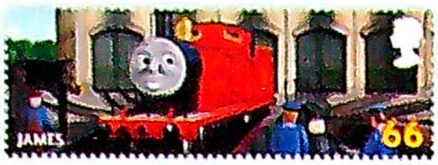
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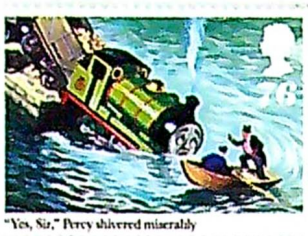
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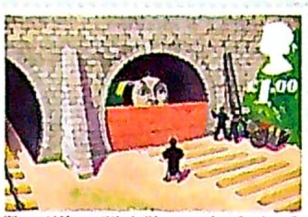
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72 
"Goodbye, Bertie," called Thomas

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James was more dirty than hurt

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"Yes, Sir," Percy shivered miserably

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They told Henry, "We shall leave you there for always"

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Thomas the Tank Engine 2011
(66) 1st Class Thomas; (67) 66p James; (68) 68p Percy; (69) 76p Daisy; (70) £1.00 Toby; (71) £1.10 Gordon; (72); 1st Class Thomas and Bertie the Bus; (73) 68p James; (74) 76p Percy; (75) £1.00 Henry.

Roald Dahl 2012
(76) 1st Class Charlie and the Chocolate Factory; (77) 66p Fantastic Mr Fox; (78) 68p James and the Giant Peach; (79) 76p Matilda; (80) £1.00 The Twits; (81) £1.10 The Witches.

Alice in Wonderland 2015
(82) 2nd Class Down The Rabbit Hole; (83) 2nd Class The White Rabbit; (84) 1st Class Drink Me; (85) 1st Class The White Rabbit's House; (86) 81p A Mad Tea-Party; (87) 81p The Cheshire-Cat; (88) £1.28 The Game of Croquet; (89) £1.28 The Queen of Hearts; (90) £1.47 A Pack of Cards; (91) £1.47 Alice's Evidence

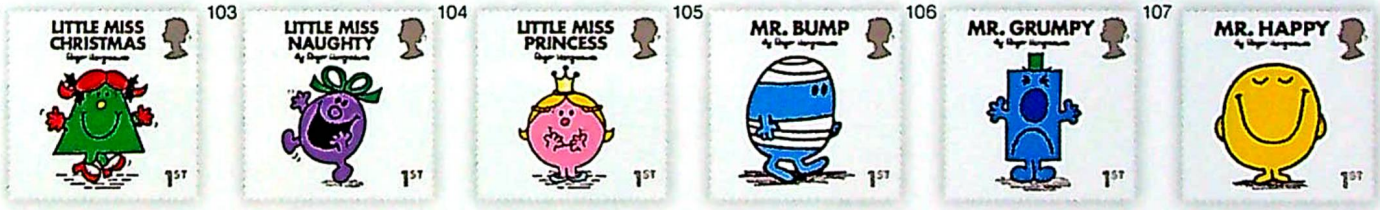
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97 98 99 100 101



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Mr. Men Little Miss 2016
All 1st Class: (102) Little Miss Christmas; (103) Little Miss Naughty; (104) Little Miss Princess; (105) Mr. Bump; (106) Mr. Grumpy; (107) Mr. Happy; (108) Mr. Messy; (109) Mr.Strong; (110) Mr. Tickle; (111) Little Miss Sunshine

Beatrix Potter 2016
(92) 1st Class The Tale of Mrs. Tiggy-Winkle; (93) 1st Class The Tale of Peter Rabbit; (94) £1.33 The Tale of Jemima Puddle-Duck; (95) £1.33 The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin; (96) £1.52 The Tale of Benjamin Bunny; (97) £1.52 The Tale of Tom Kitten; (98) 1st Class The Tale of Peter Rabbit – One; (99) 1st Class The Tale of Peter Rabbit – Two; (100) £1.33 The Tale of Peter Rabbit – Three; (101) £1.33 The Tale of Peter Rabbit – Four

(112) Ladybird Books 2017
Issued on 14 September. For more details see previous pages and the philatelic preview on page 356 of the August edition of the *British Philatelic Bulletin* ●



Why children's literature on stamps speaks volumes about our culture

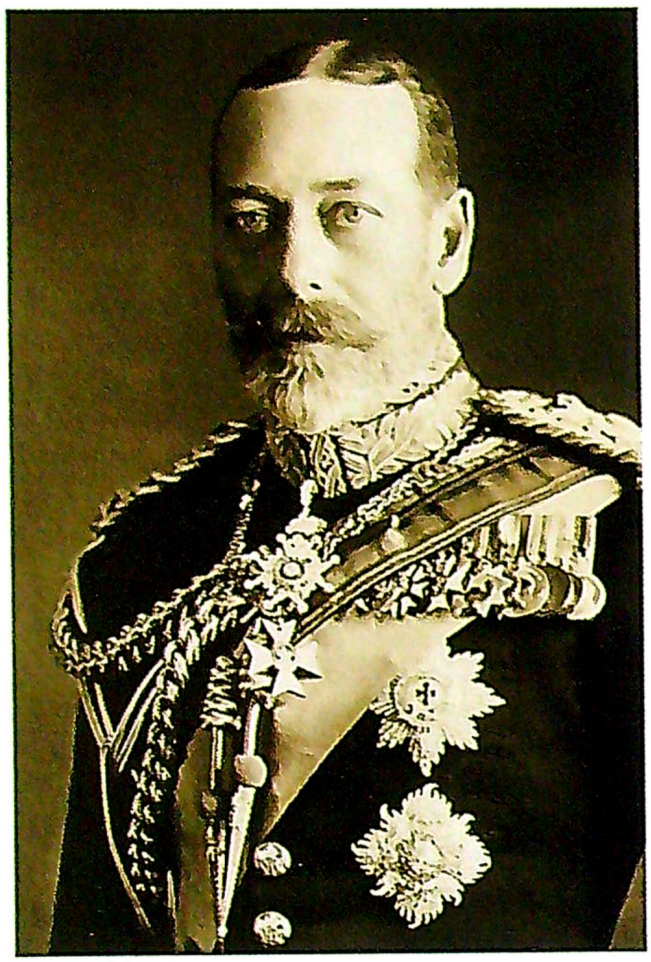
We asked Royal Mail Head of Stamp Strategy Philip Parker why children's books are such a popular subject for Special Stamps. This was his response…

In 2003 the BBC ran a poll to find the nation's favourite books. Children's books comprised five places in the top ten, including *Winnie-the-Pooh*, *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe* and *Harry Potter*. These titles, and many other children's classics, always appear in such polls. Britain's love affair with children's books has often been reflected by Royal Mail stamps, which have featured many classics and popular children's titles. Significantly, the most loved children's books (and those on the stamps) are virtually all works of fantasy or feature creatures taking on aspects of human behaviour. Perhaps this reflects a British taste (after all, the UK has a rich heritage of myths and legends). The books are often rooted in, and celebrate, a distinct landscape, from Winnie-the-Pooh's Hundred Acre Wood to Harry Potter's Hogwarts school in the Scottish Highlands. Perhaps this combination of fantasy rooted in a recognisable landscape gives these books their special character and a timeless appeal across successive generations ●



King of collectors... George V

George V was a leading influence in the development of British philately and found relief from the burden of royal duties by poring over his magnificent collection. Dane Garrod tells the story of 'the philatelist king'



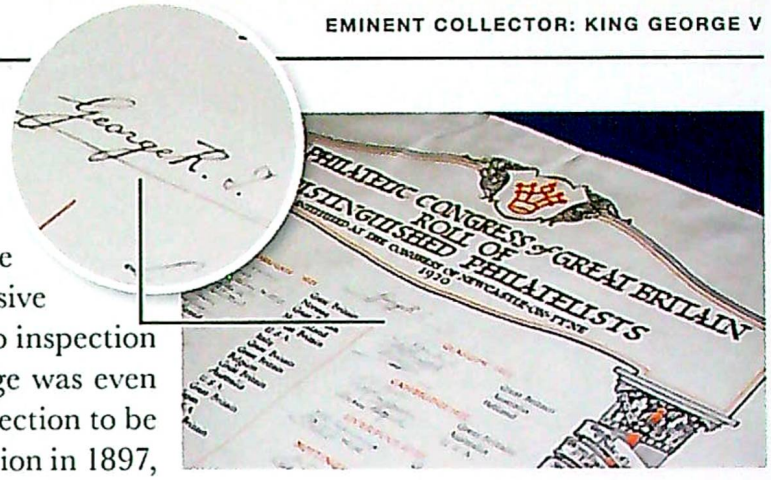
As a reigning monarch King George V was in a sense the father of the nation but we could also view him as the father of GB philately. The mass of stamps he gathered over the years was to become the Royal Philatelic Collection, which is now personally owned by The Queen.

It is a collection with a stratospheric pedigree that makes George, 'the philatelist king', a major figure in the history of British stamp collecting. In fact, The Queen's grandfather began his interest long before he succeeded to the throne, when he followed in the philatelic footsteps of his royal relatives. What prompted members of the British Royal Family, over a century ago, to take up stamp collecting as a hobby is now not known. However, shortly before his death in 1900, Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, sold his stamp collection to his elder brother, the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII), who presented it to his son George, at that time Duke of York.

George's uncle Alfred had been involved with stamps for some years as a member of the Philatelic Society, London (now the Royal Philatelic Society London), and as its first Honorary President for the last ten years of his life. Meanwhile, George had become President in 1896, and held this post until he acceded to the throne in 1910 as George V.

Early years George's interest in stamps was first revealed in 1890 when Alfred, speaking at a philatelic function on the day his naval nephew was setting off from Chatham in command of *HMS Thrush*, remarked: 'He is also a stamp collector and I hope that he will return with a goodly number of additions from North America and the West Indies.' Even at that time, George's collection must have attained some size, for there exists an 1891 edition of a Stanley Gibbons catalogue in which he had personally ticked in red all the stamps he possessed.

Showing to others In 1893, George, as Duke of York, exhibited some fine Trinidad and Turks Islands stamps, as well as those of Bermuda and British

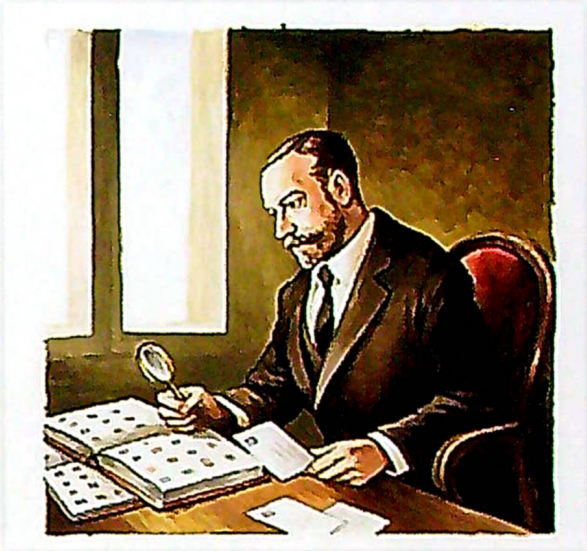


Guiana, at an exhibition of the Philatelic Society, London.

In the following year, he allowed 800 imperforate stamps of Great Britain to be displayed at a society exhibition; so extensive was this specific collection that it was open to inspection for two days prior to the main event. George was even willing to allow sections from his unique collection to be shown publicly – at the International Exhibition in 1897, for example, where he contributed a selection of rare essays and proofs of stamps.

Purchases of note Through the 1920s and into the 1930s, The King continued to add rare stamps to his collection, as and when they could be bought at auctions or by private purchase. An earlier example of a rare purchase was in 1904, when he acquired a blue 2d 'Post Office' Mauritius stamp. The collection, already large as it was, became larger still as new issues, embellished with essays, colour trials and proofs, were added to it.

This Royal Philatelic Collection continues to be in the personal ownership of the reigning monarch, and is currently overseen and managed at St James's Palace by Michael Sefi LVO, RDP, FRPSL. He works under the title 'Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection'.





Roll of Distinguished Philatelists In 1921, George V put his name to the newly instituted Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, as its first signatory. This Roll is added to each year with further signatories of eminent philatelists, and is the highest honour awarded within the hobby.

The King, who signed as 'George R.I.' ('rex imperator'), had been invited to sign because of his ability and research, his involvement with organised philately when Duke of York, and his continuation with the ever-expanding and unique Royal Philatelic Collection. At that time, his stamp collection amounted to 350 volumes.

Top: King George's signature on the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

Above: The King in his stamp cave – artwork for a 2010 stamp issue from the Gibraltar Philatelic Bureau, celebrating the centenary of his accession to the throne

Qualities and legacy Gifted with a first-class memory and a remarkable ability to recall details, George speedily became an authority on stamps of the British Empire, and his expertise was readily available to fellow philatelists he met. As the early 1930s progressed, affairs of state pressed heavily upon His Majesty, leaving him little time for stamp collecting and research.

In his final years before his death in January 1936, George used to tell his friends what relaxation it gave him to spend some of his leisure moments amid the treasures and quietness of his stamp room at Buckingham Palace.

George V's great legacy to philately is, of course, the Royal Philatelic Collection, parts of which are shown in the UK and abroad from time to time, and are without parallel •



Dane Garrod FRPSL is a social historian and philatelist

A new era of postal history

The impressive Postal Museum premises opened in time for the school holidays and with the promise of Mail Rail to follow soon

The Postal Museum

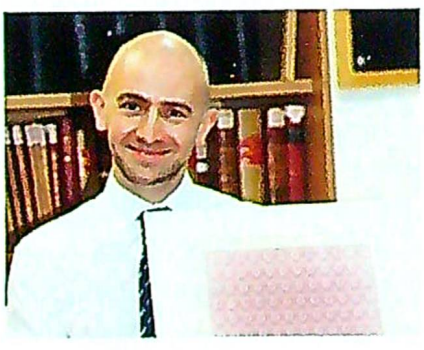
The unveiling of the multi-million pound premises and the imminent launch of the Mail Rail attraction has given The Postal Museum revitalised status as a national treasure and tourist attraction. Visitors will have the chance to see rare philatelic items including the central London museum's unique sheets of Penny Black stamps, Edward VIII essays and artwork for David Gentleman's much-loved Battle of Britain and Churchill stamps.

The museum's opening day at the end of July saw the public viewing a 19th century mail coach, the plaster cast of Queen Elizabeth II's head by Arnold Machin, a five-wheeled Victorian postman's bicycle, and a 1930s postal van. Also of interest for children and families was a design-your-own-stamp facility.

Five exhibition zones tell the story of the 'King's Mail' before the arrival of the Penny Black, the postal revolution led by Rowland Hill, Arnold Machin and the development of his eponymous stamp, the Special Stamp Programme, and the work of the Post Office in times of conflict.







Above: the Postal Museum entrance
Far left to right: GR Air Mail post box; mail coach guard's uniform; Director Adrian Steel with rare Tyrian Plums; Mail Rail; Princess Anne at the recent ceremonial opening



MUSEUM TEAM WORK

The future of The Postal Museum looks rosy indeed and its success is partly due to the enduring relationship it enjoys with Royal Mail.

The museum is of course the reincarnation of the British Postal Museum & Archive (BPMA). The BPMA was established in 2004 to look after the unique collections of the Royal Mail Archive and the former National Postal Museum, and rebranded last year.

Royal Mail has continued to support the organisation. For example, in June the Royal Mail Group and The Postal Museum signed a five-year sponsorship agreement in which Royal Mail will support the running of the Mail Rail attraction.

And in 2012, along with Post Office Ltd, Royal Mail provided a £6 million long-term, low-interest loan towards the transformation of Calthorpe House into the museum building, located on its Mount Pleasant site, and on a 999-year nominal-rent lease to museum chiefs.

Royal Mail and Post Office Ltd also gave the museum an initial grant of £500,000.

The £26 million museum is located at Phoenix Place, close to the former BPMA's Freeling House headquarters on the Camden-Islington borders. Just across the road is the Mail Rail attraction, which officially opens to the public on 4 September and is heavily booked during the week of Stampex. This 20-minute ride in specially designed carriages takes visitors on a tour through the tunnels of the Post Office Underground Railway – dubbed 'Mail Rail'. The network operated from 1927 to 2003, and ran between Paddington District Sorting Office in west London and the Eastern District Sorting Office at Whitechapel. It once carried around four million letters and parcels a day under the streets of the capital. The Mail Rail trains are based on original 1987 designs, but now feature sunken floors so visitors can travel in unhunched comfort through tunnels that are only seven feet high.

Museum chiefs expect close to 200,000 visitors a year but in June they had a very special visitor – The Princess Royal. Then, Princess Anne was guest of honour at the ceremonial opening of the museum, and was joined on a tour of the displays by Museum Director Adrian Steel •







TREASURE TROVE

Philatelic treasures and gems of postal history became TV stars when BBC News visited The Postal Museum on its opening day. Museum Head of Communications and Marketing Harry Huskisson took journalist Tim Muffett on a guided tour of the displays, and among the artefacts was a huge boot which caught Tim's eye.

Harry explained to the reporter: 'This is one of the oldest objects we have on display – a postboy's boot from the mid-18th century.'

Harry also showed Tim a priceless sheet of Penny Blacks, an early post box in original green paint, a London-Bristol mail coach, a coach guard's uniform and guns, and a 1930s telegram messenger's motorcycle.

Results of favourite stamp poll

First our thanks to every reader who took time to vote for their favourite Royal Mail Special Stamps of 2016 – by mail, by email and online. History and royalty were the philatelic favourites of the year with the Poppy stamp from the First World War issue taking first place in the poll. Members of the Royal Family appeared on four stamps in the top ten – The Queen on three stamps and Prince George on the fourth. Unsurprisingly, philately is high on readers' agenda and your votes for the stamp celebrating the 175th anniversary of the Penny Red put it into third place in the rankings.

But Her Majesty undoubtedly took the crown in your votes. From the HM The Queen's 90th Birthday issue, the First Class stamps showing her portrait and the sovereign as a girl with her father George VI took fifth and tenth place respectively. A stamp in the issue's Miniature Sheet, with The Queen in a pale blue dress, was voted into seventh place. From the same Miniature Sheet came the stamp of a cutely grinning Prince George which came second in the poll •

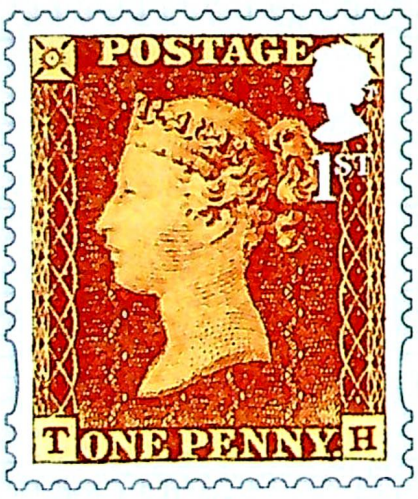
1



2



3



4



5



TOP TEN FAVOURITE STAMPS 2016

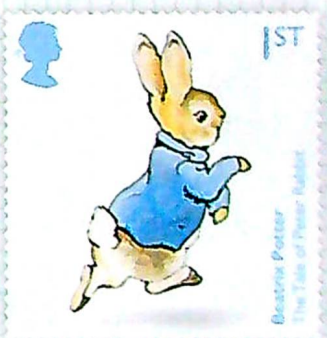
1)	**First World War 1914** Poppy	506
2)	**HM The Queen's 90th Birthday** Prince George	429
3)	**The 175th Anniversary of the Penny Red**	360
4)	**Landscape Gardens** Blenheim Palace	235
5)	**HM The Queen's 90th Birthday** HM The Queen	227
6)	**Shackleton and the *Endurance*** *Endurance* frozen	174
7)	**HM The Queen's 90th Birthday** HM The Queen	168
8)	**Beatrix Potter** The Tale of Peter Rabbit	154
9)	**Beatrix Potter** The Tale of Squirrel Nutkin	141
10)	**HM The Queen's 90th Birthday** Princess Elizabeth with her father George VI	129



6



7



8



9

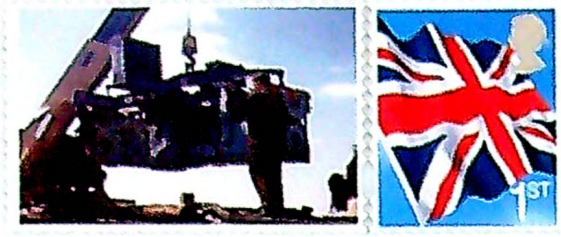


10

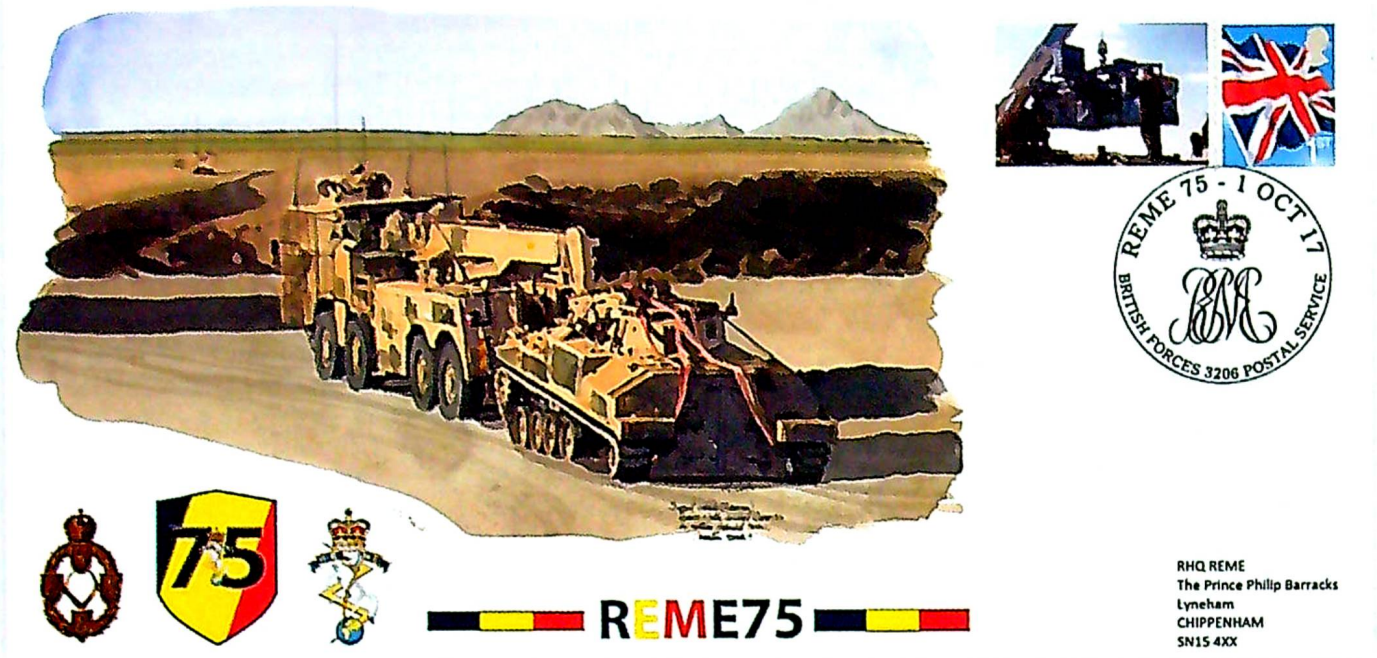
Individual stamp favourites since 1996

1996 – Wildfowl & Wetlands 19p (right). 1997 – Great Tudors, Henry VIII 26p. 1998 – Endangered Species 20p. 1999 – Scientists' Tale 64p. 2000 – Above & Beyond 19p. 2001 – Flags, Union Jack. 2002 – London Bridges 1st. 2003 – Coronation 1st (Cecil Beaton Coronation portrait). 2004 – Woodland Animals, Red Squirrel 1st. 2005 – Trooping the Colour 1st. 2006, 2007 and 2008 – Lest We Forget Poppy stamp. 2009 – Design Classics, Concorde. 2010 – Mammals, Dormouse. 2011 – Royal Wedding 1st. 2012 – Lest we Forget, Poppy. 2013 – Royal Portraits, Pietro Annigoni. 2014 – First World War, Poppy. 2015 – Bees, Great Yellow Bumblebee 1st •









Fighting fit This striking cover salutes the engineers who keep the British Army's tanks and vehicles combat-ready and recover and repair them after a battle or a breakdown

BFPS
The Old Post Office
Links Place
Elie
Fife
KY9 1AX
www.bfps.org.uk/shop

The British Army's mechanical engineers are honoured in this special cover from the British Forces Philatelic Service. The Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. REME was formed in 1942 because the War Cabinet realised an expert unit was needed to tackle the technical challenges posed by modern military vehicles and gear, and one of its first missions was the battle of El Alamein.

This colourful cover shows a damaged Warrior armoured personnel carrier being towed by a REME recovery vehicle, from a painting by leading war artist Matthew Cook. The cover has one First Class Union Flag Smiler® stamp with a label showing an engine pack being removed from equipment. The Smiler® stamp is cancelled using a unique British Forces Postal Service special handstamp (No. 3206) that shows the REME cipher.

To order your cover, from 17 September, visit www.bfps.org.uk/shop. The price is £7.50 (UK/BFPO p&p free). You can also order the cover by post by sending a cheque payable to 'BFPS CIC' to the address shown on the left •

Museums, machines and books William Doherty makes a seasonal selection of covers

Open door Mark The Postal Museum's opening with this limited edition cover. It sports a first-class Machin (colour randomly selected), second-class Machin, a first-class Union Flag, a first-class Mail Coach and a first-class Mail Rail stamp. The cover has a run of just 400. Price: £6 plus £3 p&p •



The Postal Museum
Phoenix Place
London WC1X 0DA
www.postalmuseum.org



Childhood memories This delightful Buckingham cover will bring back your youth in a flash with its eight Ladybird Books stamps and vintage postman illustration. The stamps are cancelled with Buckingham's official 'reading bookworm' postmark. Price: £19.95 plus £2.45 p&p. Code: BC565 •

Buckingham Covers
Warren House
Shearway Road
Folkestone
Kent CT19 4BF
01303 278 137
www.buckinghamcovers.com

Doing the double You could call this BFDC cover a double celebration – of The Postal Museum opening and of 500 years of the Royal Mail. Costing £39, it features a timeline of postal service history and the stamps appearing on a new Postal Museum Commemorative Sheet. The cover and Sheet are both out on 13 September •



BFDC
3 Link Road
Stoneygate
Leicester LE2 3RA
www.bfdc.co.uk



Children's literature on stamps

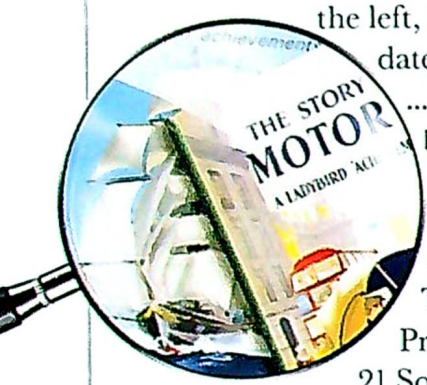
WIN Ladybird Books Stamp Set + £50 book tokens!



Child's play puzzle Match the anagrams below with stamps a to h above. For example, if you think the first anagram refers to d, write the answer as 1d.

1 It will jam us
2 Neat prep
3 Tartan scoff mix
4 Insulated rears
5 He bit both
6 When it is wet downhill
7 I pelt abbot thereafter
8 It's unsightly metal

Name That Stamp From the detail shown on the left, identify the name and date of the Special Stamp set.



How to enter Send your answers, marked 'September Child's Play and/or 'September Name That Stamp' to: Bulletin Prize Draws, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, or email rmbulletin@rocketmail.com.

Closing date 20 October 2017.

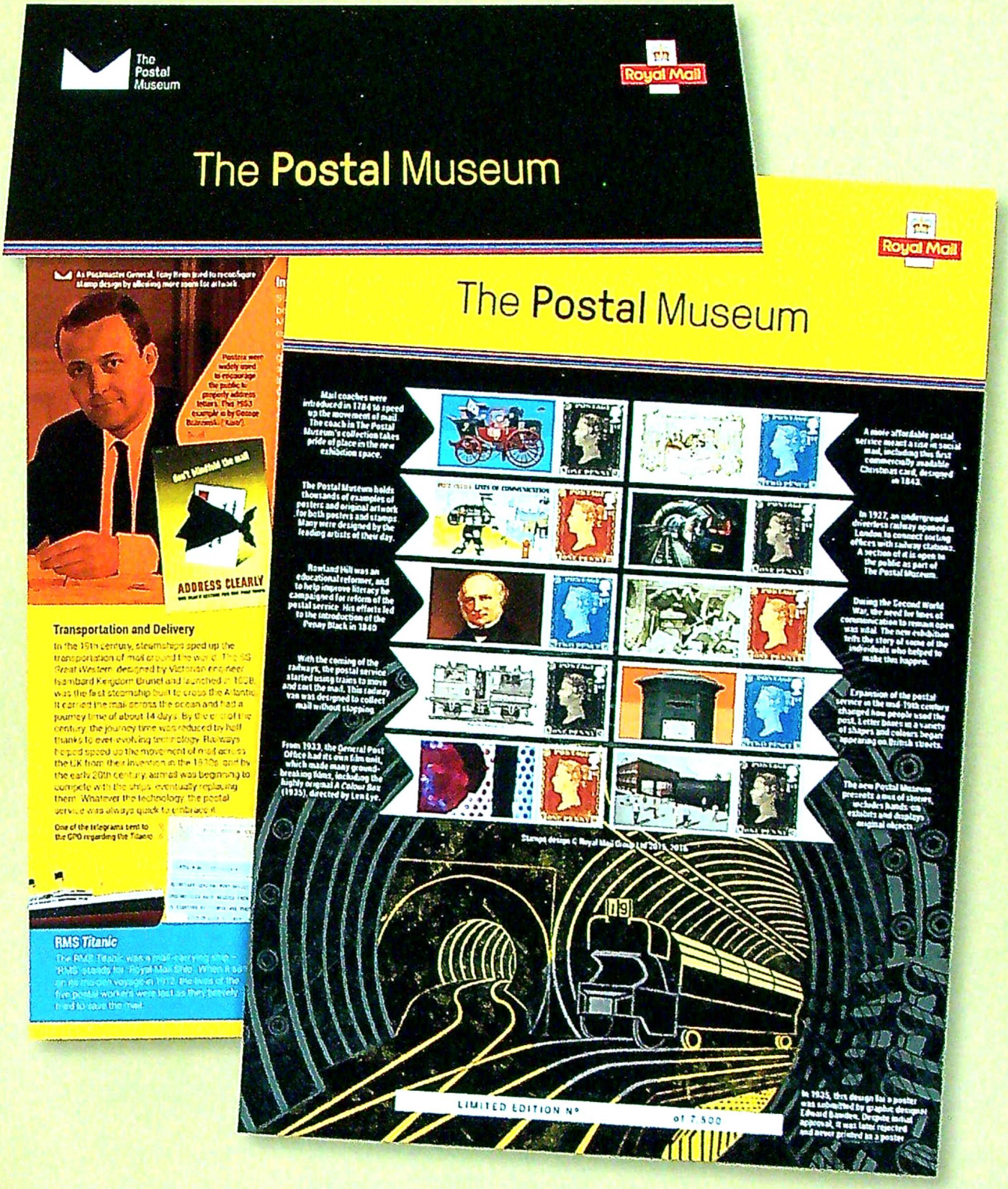
Prizes The senders of the first correct entry in each section, drawn from the postbag after the closing date, win the new Ladybird Books Presentation Pack and a book token to the value of £50. Four runners-up in each section will receive the Ladybird Books Stamp Set.

Solutions and winners

Doxford Draw Solutions 1b, 2a, 3c, 4a. *Winners* A Aldcock, Northants; E Andersen, Leics; A Bridgeman, Notts; E Emery, Hants; C T Gennep, The Netherlands; G J Mills, Essex • *Ancient Britain Solutions* 1a, 2c, 3b, 4b, 5c, 6a. *Winners* T Dungate, Dorset; E Emery, Hants; E Gilbert, Essex • *Windsor Castle Solutions* 1b, 2b, 3b, 4a. *Winners* D Ward, Suffolk; T Browne, Suffolk; R Witt, Glouc. *Name That Stamp Solution* £1.33 St George's Chapel Roof Boss, 15.2.17. *Winners* M Phillips, Wilts; E Paton, Derbys; A Bridgeman, Notts; R Hanson, Malaga; E Gilbert, Derbys • *Museum Quiz Solutions* 1b, 2a, 3a, 4b, 5a. *Winners* A Aldcock, Northants; M C Brown, Norfolk; E Gilbert, Essex; C T Gennep, The Netherlands; D Ward, Suffolk •

Prize draw rules and regulations 1 Promotions are open to all readers aged 18 and over, except employees of Royal Mail Group Ltd, their business associates and immediate families. 2 Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries which are incomplete, damaged or not received for any reason. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt. 3 Prizes must be accepted as offered; they are not transferable and there are no cash alternatives. The cost of transport to and from a prize venue, where applicable, is not included. 4 Winners are notified within 28 days of closing date stated. 5 For prize draws where readers must answer a question, winners will be the senders of the first correct entries drawn at random by an independent person after the closing date. 6 Promoter's decision on any aspect of the promotions is final. No correspondence will be entered into. 7 Entry implies acceptance of these rules. 8 Prizes are subject to suitability and availability. The promoter reserves the right to a) substitute a prize of equal or greater value if circumstances so demand and b) 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 The Editor, British Philatelic Bulletin, Royal Mail, Tallents House,21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. The promoter is Royal Mail Group Ltd, 100 Victoria Embankment, London EC4Y 0HQ.

Stamp images: © Royal Mail Group Ltd



Celebrate the opening of The Postal Museum and the Mail Rail attraction with this Royal Mail Commemorative Sheet out on 13 September.

It comprises ten stamps with labels, one of which shows the Post Office Underground Railway – later dubbed 'Mail Rail' – that ferried post between sorting offices under the streets of the capital from 1927 to 2003.

A line drawing of Mail Rail forms a backdrop to the ten Smilers®, all with First Class pictorial definitive designs – four Penny Blacks, three Penny Reds and three Twopenny Blues.

The Postal Museum opened in July and the Mail Rail attraction is set to launch in early September. The Sheet costs £15.95 and you can buy or pre-order it at www.royalmail.com/stamps.

Royal Mail stamp Issues and Withdrawals

3 September **Withdrawal** The Great Fire of London: Stamps (3 x horizontal se-tenant strips of two – 2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.05, 2 x £1.52), Presentation Pack, Coin Cover, Stamp Cards (6 in set), Stamp Souvenir. Details: Volume 53, page 356.



13 September **Issue** Post & Go Royal Mail Heritage: Mail by Air (6 designs overprinted), Collectors Pack. Preview: Volume 54, page 359.

13 September **Issue** Postal Museum Commemorative Sheet. Details: Volume 54, page 188.

14 September **Issue** Ladybird Books: Stamps (2 x 2nd Class, 2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.40, 2 x £1.57, printed in horizontal se-tenant pairs), Presentation Pack, Stamp Souvenir, Postcards (8 in set), Framed Stamp Set. Preview: Volume 54, page 356; page 16.



15 September **Withdrawal** Post & Go: Ladybirds (6 designs overprinted), Collectors Pack. Details: Volume 53, page 359.

16 September **Withdrawal** Agatha Christie: Stamps (2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.33, 2 x £1.52), Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards (6 in set), Stamp Souvenir. Details: Volume 53, page 374.



12 October **Issue** *Star Wars*: Stamps (8 x 1st Class), Presentation Pack, 3 x Display Stamp Sets, Stamp Souvenir, Postcards, Stamp Souvenir Ultimate Edition, 2 x Medal Covers, 3 x Stamp Sets (Creatures, Droids and Aliens), Collectors' Sheet, Ultimate Collectors' Sheet, 2 x Retail Stamp Books, 2 x Full Stamp Sheets (Aliens and Droids), 2 x Half Stamp Sheets (Aliens and Droids), Framed Droids and Aliens Stamps, Framed Ultimate Collectors' Sheet, 2 x Bundles (BB-8 and C-3PO), R2-D2 Selection. See page 4.

24 October **Reintroduction** of Poppy stamps: 1st Class definitive-size Lest We Forget Poppy, in self-adhesive sheets of 50. Post & Go 1st Class Symbolic Flowers Poppy. At Post Offices and selected sites.

Order all philatelic items, including the stamp products listed above, at **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.) Telephone order line (08.30 to 17.00 Monday to Friday): 03457 641 641. From overseas: +44 131 316 7483. Minimum handling charge UK £1.45, Europe £1.55, rest of world (airmail) £2.15. Please quote **17BUL09** the *Bulletin* media code. Selected items are available at Post Office branches and philatelic outlets at main post offices.

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Royal Mail

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