BRITISH PHILATELIC

Bulletin

The magazine for collectors of UK stamps

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Previews: The Great Fire of London • Agatha Christie



JR HOLMAN STAMP SCENE • **POST & GO** LADYBIRDS • **WIN** LANDSCAPES PRESENTATION PACK



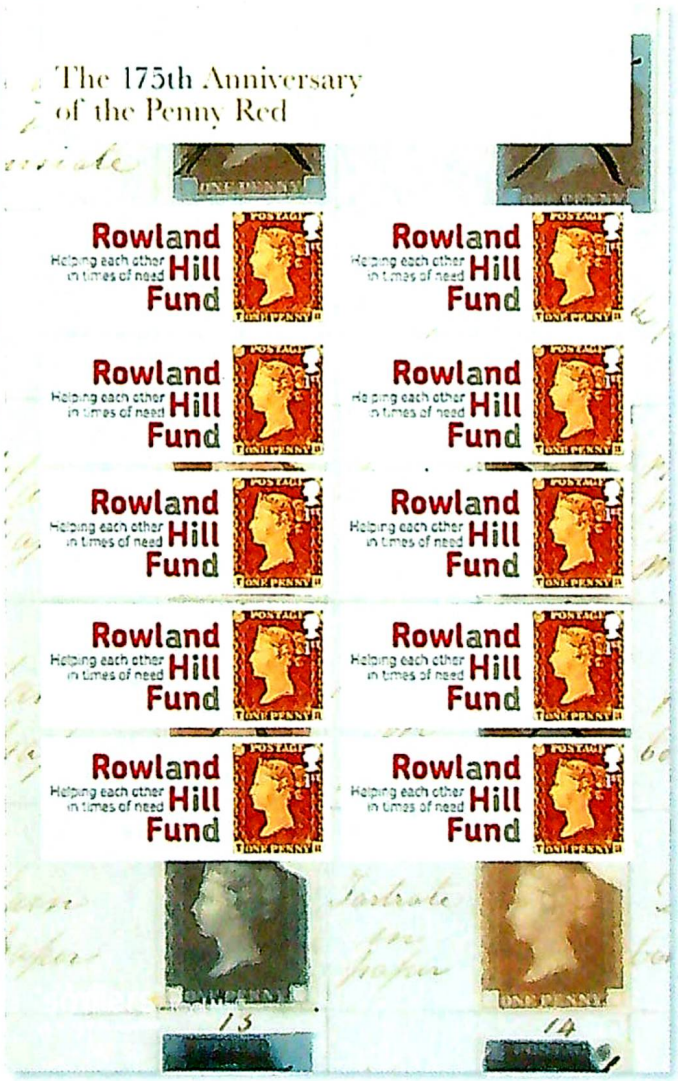
New look padlock book

Collectors have been locked in conversation about the padlock image that recently made its debut on stamp books. We welcome your thoughts on this design innovation at rmbulletin@rocketmail.com

The message is clear on this new 6 x 1st Class stamp book. Its padlock design is part of a wider Royal Mail brand campaign to highlight the concept of security and trust. The stamp book image aligns with similar new messages carried on Royal Mail vehicles and brochures.

Specifications of Stamp Books with Padlock design and 6 x 1st Class	
Issue date	28 July, 2016
Design	M&C Saatchi
Print	International Security Printers
Process	Gravure
Format	6 x 1st Class self-adhesive stamps
Phosphor	Two bars
Perforation	Simulated

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Special reader offer

A unique opportunity to own a limited-edition Penny Red Rowland Hill Smilers® sheet, at a special price for readers **368**

● **Royal Mail Editor** William Doherty, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB ● **Publishing Editor** Kate Shaw ● Price £1.95 from Post Office Ltd philatelic outlets or by order from Post Office branches ● **Annual subscription** £18.95 UK and Europe; £24.95 rest of world. Send subscriptions to Royal Mail Tallents House (address above) ● **Binders** (to hold 24 issues) £8.50, storage boxes (about 30 copies) £9.95, available by post from Royal Mail Tallents House ● Royal Mail publishes online the fortnightly *British Postmark Bulletin*, giving details of forthcoming special handstamps ● 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



It began in Pudding Lane... Your intriguing Preview of The Great Fire of London issue released in September **356**

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Well spotted Post & Go's Your preview of the cute Ladybird stamps available from a self-service machine near you next month **370**



Suspense on stamps An early peek at a thrilling new stamp set celebrating the work of Agatha Christie **374**

Baker's A-Z Early postcards sent abroad from the UK offer a rich source for collectors of postal history **378**

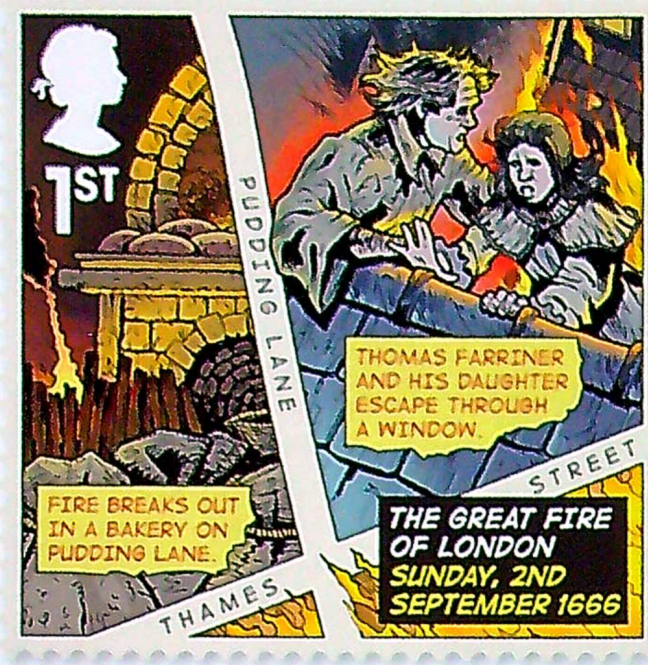


This Month in History John Holman contemplates a selection of distinctive UK landscapes on stamps **380**



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Issues and withdrawals Key first-day-of-issue dates for Royal Mail Special Stamps and your last chance to catch some beauties going off sale **384**





Above and opposite: the six stamps from the Great Fire of London set out next month

Blazing story A vivid new issue tells the tale of the Great Fire of London in a thrilling graphic novel style

It was a devastating event that still burns bright in the nation's consciousness. The Great Fire of London is indeed an integral part of British history. Now a Royal Mail stamp issue marks its importance with a six-stamp issue released 350 years to the day the blaze swept the capital. Using a dramatic graphic novel aesthetic, each stamp vividly portrays key scenes during the disaster – from the moment fire breaks out in Pudding Lane to the completion of Christopher Wren's plans for regenerating the city. Accompanying the issue is a Presentation Pack, Stamp Souvenir, Stamp Cards and Coin Cover.

Stamp by stamp The Great Fire of London issue, available on 2 September, comprises two First Class, two £1.05 and two £1.52 stamps.

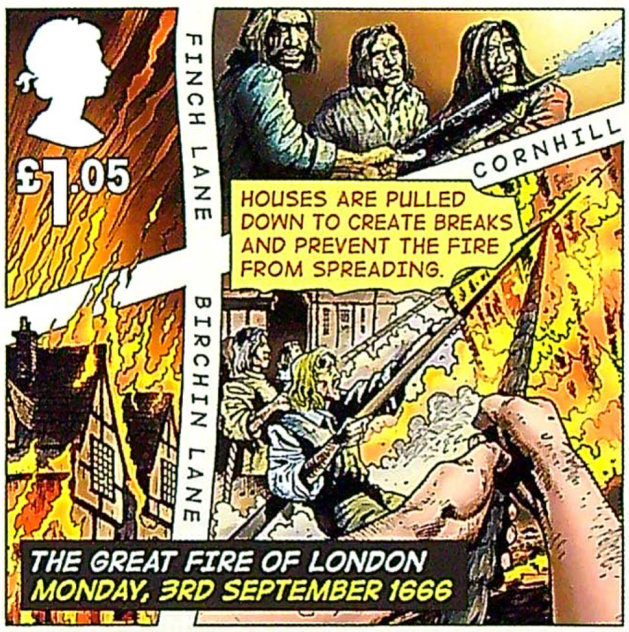


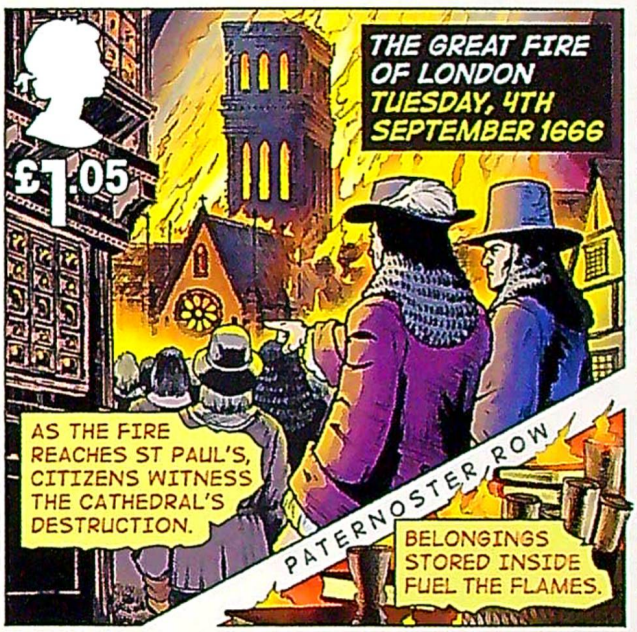
Sunday 2nd September, 1666 In the early hours of the morning, fire breaks out at a bakery in Pudding Lane. As flames leap from the building, the baker Thomas Farriner and his daughter escape through an open window in their living room on the floor above and climb across a neighbour's roof. Their maid is trapped and becomes the first victim of the fire.

As the fire moves towards the River Thames, the warning cry goes up. Many people bundle up a few possessions and flee towards the river to escape the rapidly spreading flames. 2 x First Class

Monday 3rd September, 1666 The fire has spread rapidly westward. Houses are now pulled down to create breaks in its path and so prevent the flames from spreading further. £1.05

Tuesday 4th September, 1666 Horrified citizens line Paternoster Row and look on as St Paul's Cathedral is engulfed in flames. Many rich families have stowed ▸



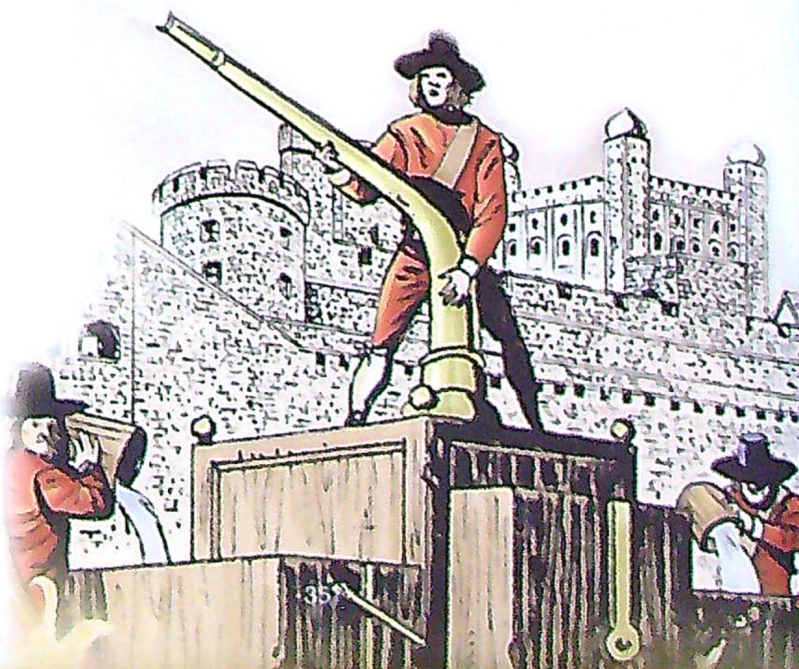






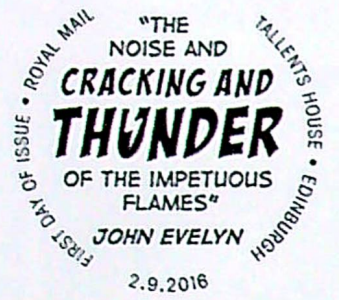
Great Fire of London – Specifications

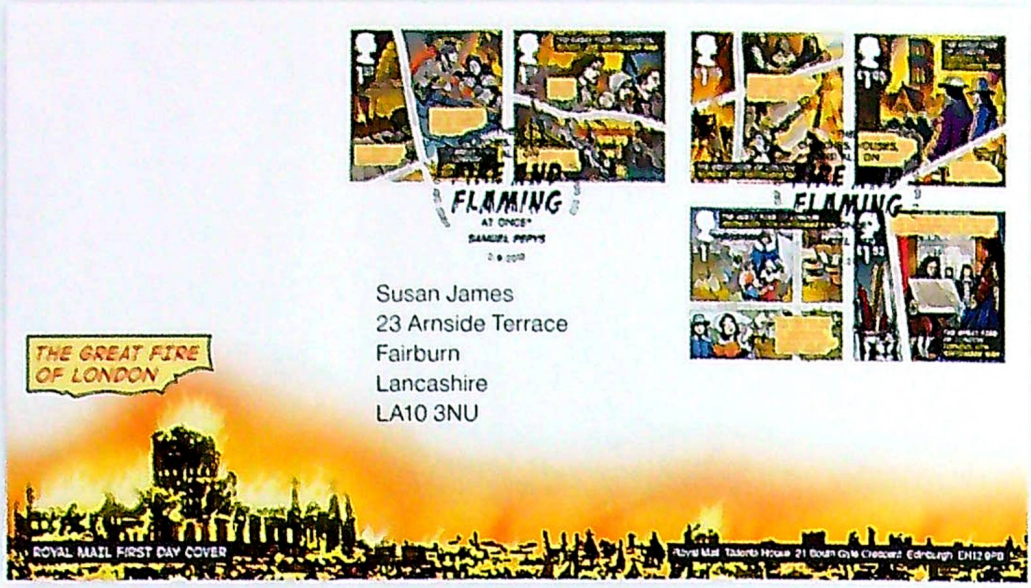
Issue date	2 September
Number of stamps	Six
Stamp design	The Chase
Acknowledgement	John Higgins
Illustration	Leigh Gallagher
Stamp size	35mm x 35mm
Number per sheet	30/60
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Perforations	14.5 x 14.5
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA



Right: the First Day Cover with Tallents House postmark quoting diarist Samuel Pepys Below: the Presentation Pack's Filler Card telling the story of the disaster in colourful detail



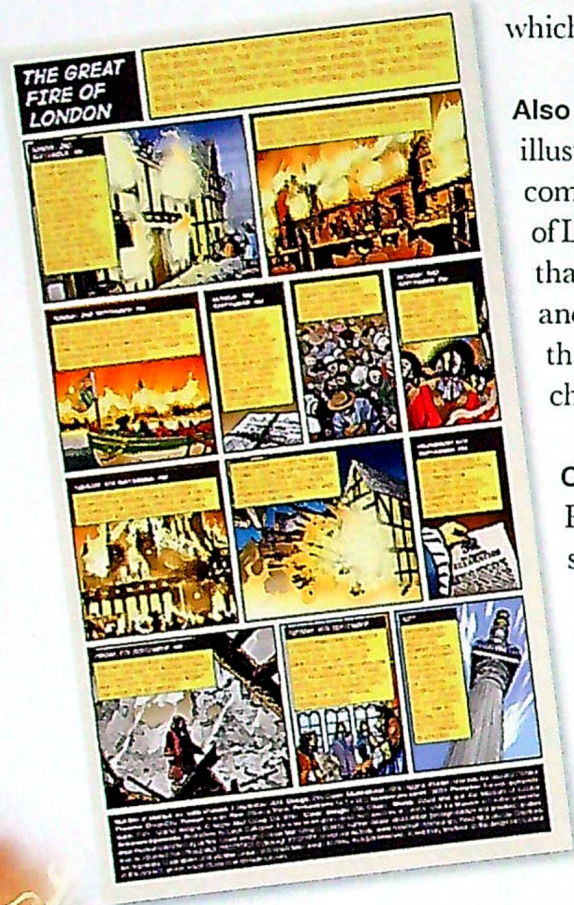




their most valuable possessions inside the Cathedral, and the packed storerooms only serve to fuel the fire. £1.05

Wednesday 5th September 1666 The Great Fire of London has died out and hundreds of families are left hungry and homeless. Many gather at Moorfields. Temporary food markets are set up across the city. £1.52

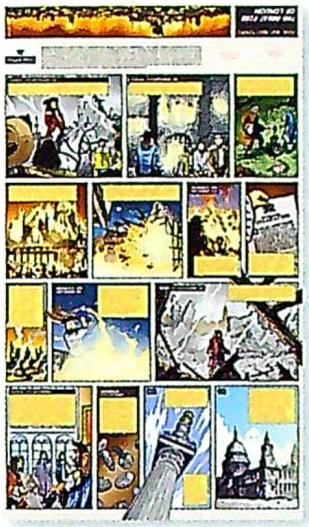
Tuesday 11th September, 1666 Less than a week after the flames have finally died down, Christopher Wren has already begun working on his plans for the regeneration of the city. King Charles II agrees to see them and is keen to begin work quickly on the ruined capital city, a quarter of which was wrecked in the fire. £1.52

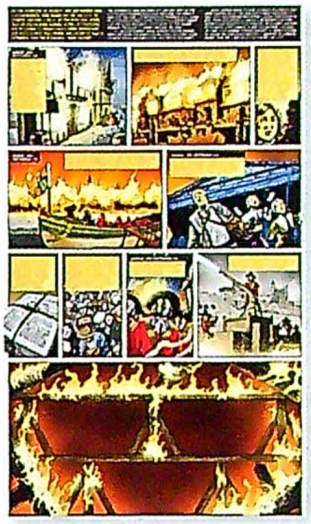


Also in the issue is a colourful Presentation Pack, illustrated in gripping graphic novel format by leading comic book artist Leigh Gallagher, telling the story of London's destruction and rebirth. The Pack explains that King Charles deployed troops to prevent looting and support the firefighting operation. It also reveals that 13,000 houses were burnt to the ground and 87 churches were destroyed.

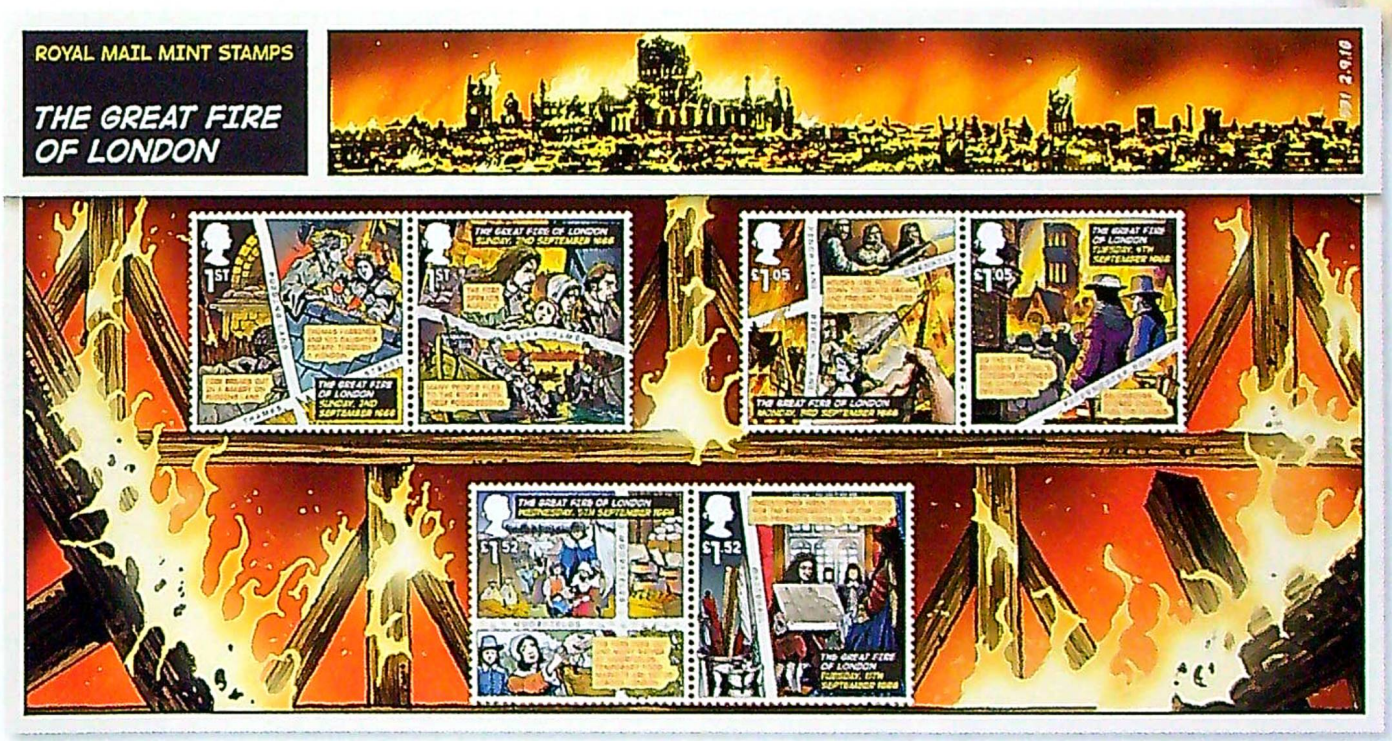
Orders for Serviced First Day Covers must reach Royal Mail by 2 September. Customers may send stamped envelopes on the day of issue to Royal Mail, Tallents House (the address is on page 384 – please quote the *Bulletin* code CDS) for the Tallents House, Edinburgh postmark.

The Tallents House mark has a quotation by John Evelyn, a writer and diarist who witnessed the Great Fire, which says: 'The noise and cracking and thunder of the impetuous flames'.



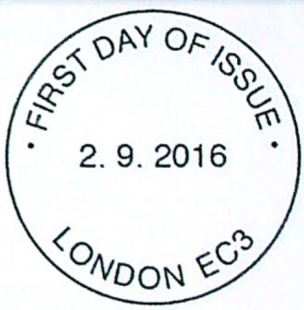


Left and below: the Great Fire of London Presentation Pack tells the fascinating story in cartoon format



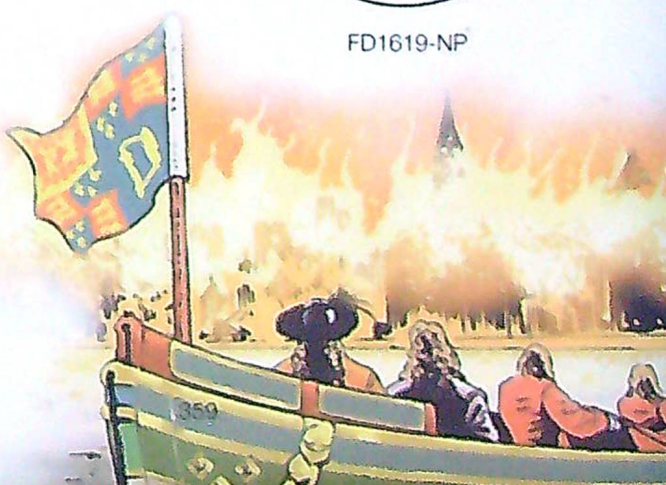
The alternative postmarks show the location London EC3, the origin of the inferno that raged through the capital.

The alternative pictorial version features a quotation by Samuel Pepys, a naval administrator and, of course, the legendary diarist who witnessed the Great Fire of London and recorded its immense destructive power. The quotation says: 'The churches, houses, and all on fire and flaming at once'. ▸

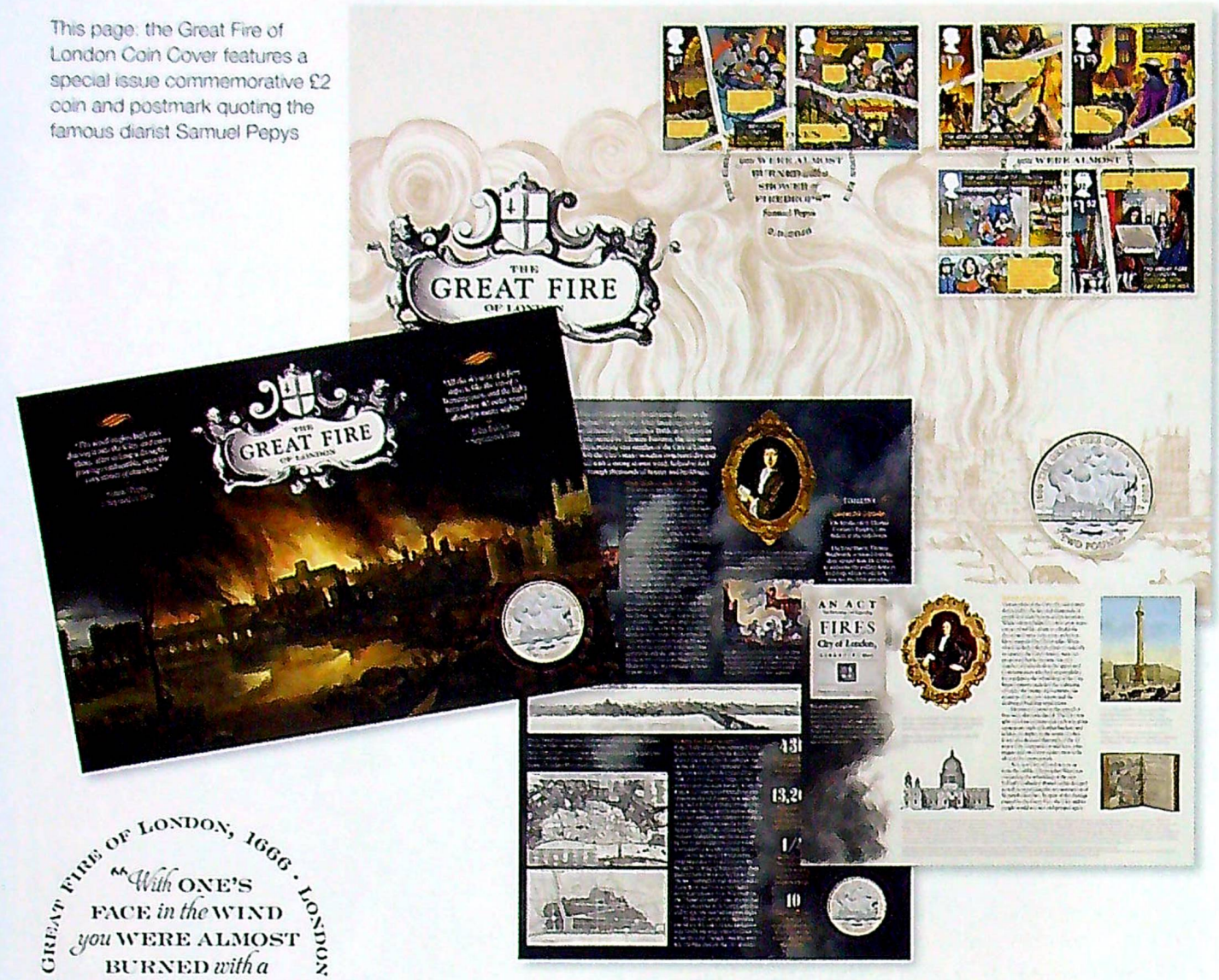


FD1619-NP

The Great Fire of London – Prices	
Stamp Set (3 se-tenant horizontal strips of 2)	£6.42
First Day Cover	£8.12
First Day Envelope	30p
Stamp Souvenir	£8.12
Presentation Pack	£6.95
Stamp Cards (6 in set)	£2.70
Coin Cover	£17.50



This page: the Great Fire of London Coin Cover features a special issue commemorative £2 coin and postmark quoting the famous diarist Samuel Pepys



Great Fire of London Coin Cover

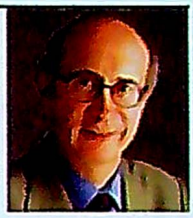
Designed by Paul Felton Design, a limited edition Coin Cover carries The Great Fire of London stamps alongside the Royal Mint's special issue commemorative £2 coin. The full-colour insert reveals the story behind the origins of the Great Fire, the factors leading to its rapid spread, the response of London's citizens, 17th century firefighting methods and the rebirth of the city in the aftermath of the blaze. The editorial content is complemented by an array of relevant paintings, illustrations and graphics.

The Great Fire of London Coin Cover is cancelled with a unique handstamp tying the product to the EC3 district of London, where the Great Fire started at Thomas Farriner's bakery on Pudding Lane •



Great Fire of London Coin Cover – Specifications

Feature	*Detail*
Denomination	£2
Diameter	28.40mm
Weight	12g
Alloys	Cupro-nickel inner; nickel-brass outer



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

UK diary dates



6 August Cornwall Philatelic Federation Newquex, Trevisker St. Eval Community Centre, Orion Drive, St Eval, Wadebridge PL27 7TU, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: 01288 355918, see www.cornwallphilatelic.co.uk/whatson.php

12 August Strand Stamp Fair, Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0DG, 9am-4pm. Admission free. Details: Kate Puleston 020 8946 4489.

14 August Moving the Mail event at Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Quainton near Aylesbury. From 10.30am. See below for details.

9 September Strand Stamp Fair, see 12 August for details.

10 September Poolepex annual fair, Upton Community Centre, Poole BH24 5JA, 10am to 4pm

14-17 September Autumn Stampex, Business Design Centre, Upper Street, London N1. Open Wed. 11.30am to 7pm; Thurs & Fri 10am to 6pm, Sat 10am to 5pm. Admission free. Enquiries: 01342 830225, info@thepts.net

16-18 September Cinderella Stamp Congress, hosted by Cinderella Stamp Club, at Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY. Cinderella & Revenue stamp displays, dealers, auction. Enquiries: J Aitchison 01279 870488, or see www.cinderellastampclub.org.uk

24 September Kent Federation of Philatelic Societies Autumn Rally, Mick Jagger Centre, Shepherds Lane, Dartford DA1 2JZ ●

Future exhibitions

Autumn Stampex will be at the Business Design Centre, London N1, 14 to 17 September. It includes the ABPS National Exhibition in all classes including Open Philately and Picture Postcards, and specialist displays of George VI and cinderella material. All British exhibitions are now open to non-competitive entries which may be wholly philatelic or made-up of non-traditional material (see www.abps.org.uk/Exhibiting or contact exhibiting@abps.org.uk).



Over 100 dealers and postal administrations will have stands including Royal Mail which will issue Agatha Christie and Ladybirds (Post & Go) stamps during the exhibition.

The GB Philatelic Society's meeting at Stampex (17 September, 2.15pm) will include a display of Suffolk Postal History by Tom Slemons. More Stampex details next month.

The popular Scotex event takes place at the Dewars Centre, Perth on 14 to 15 October, and Stampa (Irish national stamp exhibition) at Griffith Conference Centre, Dublin 8 on 14 to 16 October. The next major international of 2016 will be held in Tapei, Taiwan, 21 to 26 October. Looking ahead to 2017, internationals will be held in Melbourne, Australia (30 March to 2 April), and Tampere, Finland (24 to 28 May) to mark the centenary of independence of the Republic of Finland. See finlandia207.fi for further information ●

▸

The Postal Museum News



The Postal Museum (TPM, formerly British Postal Museum & Archive), located at Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1, near the famous Mount Pleasant sorting office, is open Tuesday to Friday 10am to 5pm (Thursdays until 7pm) and on the second Saturday of each month (10am to 5pm).

TPM will be moving to new premises nearby in 2017 – for more about the new Museum see interview with the Director, Adrian Steel, in February 2016 *Bulletin* (pp. 179-181). As well as displays at Freeling House, TPM arranges exhibitions elsewhere such as the long-running 'Post Office in the Community' exhibition at the Blists Hill Victorian Town, Leggs Way, Telford TF7 5DU (see *Bulletin* May 2012, www.ironbridge.org.uk, or call 01952 884391). On-line exhibitions, on TPM website, include Aerial Post, regional stamps, Machins, David Gentleman, postal vehicles and letter boxes.

The popular 'Pillar to Post: GPO Walking Tour' takes place on 28 August, 26 September, 23 October, and 26 November, starting at Farringdon station at 11am. The tours last about two hours, fee payable. For details of all events see the TPM website or contact the TPM on 020 7239 2570, or e-mail info@postalheritage.org.uk, for a copy of its 'Events' guide or to book for tours or talks. TPM's online shop offers a wide range of cards, DVDs & CDs, gift sets, homeware, maps, postcards, posters, prints, publications, and stationery.

The Friends of TPM organise visits to stamp printers, other museums and places of interest, as well as publishing the well-produced Cross Postmagazine containing well-written, and superbly illustrated feature articles on subjects to appeal to both philatelists and postal historians. For details about the Friends see http://postalmuseum.org/friends, or write to: Friends of TPM, The Postal Museum, Freeling House, Phoenix Place, London WC1X 0DL ●

Stamp-related exhibitions

Stamps commemorating The Queen's 90th birthday were issued in April. The 'Fashioning a Reign: 90 years of style from The Queen's Wardrobe' exhibition is on show at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh until 16 October, at Buckingham Palace until 2 October, and at Windsor Castle from 17 September to 8 January 2017. A 'Shakespeare and the Royal Library' display is on show at Windsor Castle until 1 January 2017. See the Royal Collection Trust website for details- www.royalcollection.org.uk or call 0303 123 7326.

Stamps marking First World War centenaries went on sale on 21 June. An exhibition 'Real to Reel: A Century of War Movies' marking the centenary of the iconic film 'The Battle of the Somme' is on view at the Imperial War Museum in London until 8 January 2017.

Stamps marking the 150th anniversary of the birth of Beatrix Potter went on sale on 28 July. An exhibition 'Romance & Realism' is on show at the Beatrix Potter Gallery, Hawkshead until 30 October (daily 11am to 4.30pm); it includes original watercolours by Beatrix Potter. Visit lakesculture.co.uk for more information.

Stamps featuring Landscape Gardens will be issued on 16 August, marking the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, the most famous landscape gardener of them all. Events include 40 exhibitions by the Embroiders' Guild. For details of venues and other anniversary events see www.capabilitybrown.org Special stamps on 2 September will mark the

350th anniversary of the Great Fire of London. The 'Fire! Fire!' exhibition can be seen at the Museum of London until April 2017. Visit www.museumoflondon.org for further information and to book tickets ●

50 years of the Bureau in Edinburgh

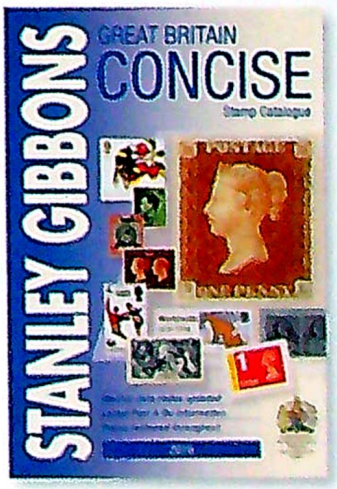
The Philatelic Bureau was set up near the Post Office Headquarters in London in May 1963 and this *Bulletin* started as its newsletter four months later. At the time the government was keen to move government departments and civil servants away from London and consideration was given to moving the Bureau to Lancashire or to Scotland. Edinburgh won the day and the August 1966 Bulletin gave details of the transfer from London to Edinburgh. First day covers for the Battle of Hastings stamps on 14 October would be dealt with at Edinburgh and all orders should be sent there. All mail orders for stamps would be handled from Edinburgh from 20 September onwards and deposit accounts from November when a new numerical rather than alphabetical indexing system would be introduced. The Bureau then had 10,000 account customers.

The new Bureau was located in Edinburgh's Head Post Office in Waterloo Place at the eastern end of Princes Street. An article on the history of the building was published in the *Bulletin* in December 1966. Since then the Bureau has moved within Edinburgh, to Lothian Road in 1974, to Brandon Street in 1981, and to its present location at Tallents House, South Gyle Crescent in 2000.

Following the closure of the Bureau in London, a Philatelic Sales Counter was opened in the London Chief Post Office and remained there until the office closed in 1994. The London Bureau had been housed in the old Central Telegraph Office building and involved climbing many stairs to reach the Bureau. The March 1967 *Bulletin* announced that the building was to be demolished 'because it is unsafe'. Perhaps just as well we philatelists didn't know this at the time! ●

New publications

Stanley Gibbons has recently published the 2016 edition to its *GB Concise Catalogue* reviewed below, plus a new tenth edition of its Australia catalogue (£32.95) All SG catalogues are available from the SG shop at 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX and by mail order – see below.



Jeffery Booth has published a new book *Letters in the Air: the 1911 First Official UK Aerial Post* – a popular subject with aerophilatelists. Royal Mail issued a miniature sheet in 2011 to mark the centenary of the 1911 flights from Hendon to Windsor. Mr Booth's 148-page book is available from: First Day Publishing, PO Box 11, Arundel BN18 9SS, price £35. E-mail jhbfdc@gmail.com for further information.

The Stanley Gibbons *Great Britain Concise Stamp Catalogue* is now 30 years old, the first edition being published in May 1986. The 2016 edition runs to 512 pages covering all issues from the Penny Black and Twopence Blue to the new £1.05 definitive and country stamps issued in March 2016 and the Shakespeare stamps of 5 April 2016. The complicated Machin definitive stamps are listed in a separate section which makes it easier to find specific stamps although it can still be a time-consuming business given the vast ▸

number of Machin values and variations. There is also a separate section for the Post & Go issues with useful notes on the various types and machines. For specialist Post & Go collectors, the exhibition issues are listed giving details of inscription, date code, date and duration of the event, and catalogue number of stamp issue without inscription or closest match. Similar details, in tabular format, are given for Post & Go stamps available at Royal Mail Enquiry Offices.

The Concise listings include a number of the more prominent constant varieties with enlarged illustrations aiding the checking of stamps for these varieties. For the first time two types of Queen's silhouette on English country stamps of 2003-06 are listed and illustrated. This affects the 2nd, 1st, and 44p stamps. One of the two types of the 44p is already priced at £50 mint or used. On Type I the ribbon at the back of the head appears as two separate and distinct strands, whereas it is solid and firmly joined to the head on Type II. The date of issue of the £1.05 English stamp is wrongly stated as 22.1.16, the correct date of 22 March is however given for the Scottish, Welsh, and Northern Irish equivalents. In a work of this size and complexity some minor errors are inevitable.



The front cover bears a montage of issues from Victorian times to the present, including the 1966 World Cup Winners (marking the 50th anniversary of England's success) and an enlarged imperf Penny Red commemorating its 175th anniversary. The basic 1841 1d red-brown (SG 8) is now catalogued at £600 unused, £32 used and £40 used on cover, with scarcer shades and varieties (8a-12) ranging from from £675 to £5250 unused and from £32 to £850 used. Check any copies you have for inverted watermarked, priced at £5000 unused and £400 used. By contrast the 1966 England Winners stamp remains at 30p mint or used as virtually all of the 12 million printed went into philatelic hands rather than used for postage.

It has to be said that the Concise is now becoming a rather weighty (as well as pricey) tome due mainly to the never-ending number of new issues added each edition. The editors (Hugh Jefferies and Vince Cordell) acknowledge in the Preface that: 'the eternal question concerning the position of the dividing line between the various catalogues; which features should appear only in the specualised (catalogue) and which should also be included here? Each year there are suggestions that this feature or that should be added, but they are counterbalanced by the views of other collectors who feel that the lists are rather too complex already'. The editors have probably got the balance about right, but it is clearly a problem that will exercise them more and more as time goes on. Once again a very useful publication, 'the Bible' for many collectors. One of the features I personally use a lot is the 'Commemorative Design Index' to rapidly locate stamps depicting a specific person, place or theme. The *2016 Concise* costs £34.95 from the SG shop in London, or by mail order from SG publications on 0800 611 622 (UK) or ++44 (0)1425 472 363 (from overseas), or see www.stanleygibbons.com ●

ABPS awards

The Association of British Philatelic Societies awarded its 2016 Congeess Medal to Jean P Osborne for her sterling work on behalf of the Falkirk Philatelic Society, Comely Park Primary School Stamp Club, Association of

Scottish Philatelic Societies, Dundee Philatelic Weekend, and the Invalid & Lone Collectors Society. Jean was nominated by the Caledonian Philatelic Society and Largs & District Stamp Club. ABPS Awards of Merit are announced for Rosemary Atkins (Bristol Philatelic Society), Eric Keefe (Scandinavian PS), John Perry (Newport & Gwent PS), and Tony Shaw (Peterfield & District PS) – all having played an important role at a local level ●

Society news

The May 2016 edition of the Newsletter of the Welsh Postal History Society includes interesting articles on the Caldicot Monmouthshire Mobile Post Office, Ty Croes Post Office, Welsh Mailvans, An 1835 Letter to America, and mail sent from Neath to Palestine in 1936, as well as pieces on the stamps and labels on a Railway Express letter sent from Paddington to Swansea in 1949, and cinderella stamps produced by the 'Isle of Anglesey Philatelic Bureau'. There are reports of material shown at society meetings, updates on post office openings and closures in Wales, and three photographs of post offices in north Wales asking if readers can identify the offices. Much of interest for all collectors of Welsh postmarks and postal history. For WPS details contact Membership Secretary Aled Rhys-Jones, 12 St Patrick's Court, Linnet Close, Cyncoed, Cardiff CF23 7HG or see www.wps.wales.org ●

Journals

The June 2016 issue of *Railway Philately*, journal of the Railway Philatelic Group, includes features on London & North Eastern Railway letter and parcel stamps, *Light Railway Review* recording new stamps, covers and cancellations from the UK's heritage railways, reports of new findings and dates for railway station and railway sub office date stamps, and features on railway stamps and related material from other countries. This being the RPG's 50th anniversary year, the journal features the covers of some of its early publications and pictures of members at the 30th and 50th anniversary conventions in 1996 and 2016. For details of the RPG contact Patricia Peters, 81 Kirriemuir Avenue, Glasgow G52 3DP read or see www.railwayphilatelicgroup.co.uk



The Letter Box Study Group's Summer 2016 Newsletter is, as always, a 52-page A4-size magazine packed full of information and colourful photographs of posting boxes – mostly painted red, but some green, blue, and white. Feature articles cover boxes manufactured by Machan Engineering, Dublin GPO and its role in the 1916 Easter Rising, repainting of post boxes to conform to new guidelines about maintenance of boxes, installation of boxes in new housing estates, as well as reports and pictures of dozens of boxes in all parts of the UK and overseas. For those who prefer miniature to full-size boxes, there is a feature on 'Pewter Penfolds', reminding us that 2016 marks the 150th anniversary of the interoduction of this popular design of letter box. The back cover of the magazine features LBSG President Ron Hall with youngest member Thomas Yacott (age 10) posing by a Penfold in Montpelier Walk, Cheltenham. Another photo inside shows Mr Hall and Thomas with a double-aperture box in Cheltenham. Both pictures are from the Hashtag Boxing Day project whereby the public can 'post' photographs of themselves with friends posing by letter boxes on social media such as Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Robert ▸



Cole, the LBSG's Media & Public Affairs Officer, provides a useful guide to the project and to social media and colloquial terms used by young people on such sites. I must say I found this amongst the most interesting reading in the magazine, and not likely to be found in many more staid philatelic and postal history publications! The LBSG will hold its 2016 AGM in Southport on 8 October. For details of the Group contact Val Scott, 38 Leopold Avenue, Birmingham B20 1ES, e-mail membership@lbsg.org

The London Philatelist, journal of the Royal Philatelic Society London, includes many fine, if erudite, articles, but modern GB stamps are rarely covered. It was good to see in the June 2016 issue a piece by Richard Wheatley describing a registered cover sent from Headingley, Leeds to Chile on 23 February 1970. It bears five stamps to make up the 4s 6d airmail postage and registration rate. What makes this cover particularly interesting is that each of the five stamps has a catalogue listed variety – 9d Wilding (broken daffodil stem and broken top frame), 3d and 1s3d Scottish regionals (dot on thistle and broken value bar), and Gandhi 1s6d (retouch on nose). It may be a contrived cover, but still one of appeal. Copies of The London Philatelist cost £3 (annual subscription £30) from: Royal Philatelic Society London, 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY ●

Moving the Mail

This annual event, staged by the Travelling Post Office Group, takes place at the Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Quainton on 14 August 2016, from 10.30am. The focus will be on the Post Office Underground Railway (Mail Ral) which ran beneath London from 1927 to 2003, and will form one of the attractions of the new Postal Museum when it opens next year. The Museum will bring its travelling exhibition about Mail Rail to the Moving the Mail event. The Buckinghamshire Railway Centre's own Mail Rail car (No 803) will also be on show and a member of the TPO Group's team of volunteers will give a presentation including images of construction work preparing this unique railway for its new role. The Railway Centre, on a 25-acre site, includes the reconstructed Rewley Road station, an extensive collection of locomotives and rolling stock, and a miniature railway (small charge for rides). Hot and cold food is available at the Visitor Centre. The Railway Centre is located at Quainton Road Station, Station Road, Quainton, Aylesbury HP22 4BY, close to the A41 road between Aylesbury and Bicester. For further information phone 01296 655720 or see wwww.bucksrailcentre.org ●

News from the Islands

Jersey Post will issue six stamps and a Miniature Sheet entitled The Great War – 100 Years, on 4 August 2016. Illustrated by Chris Wormell, this is third set in a five-part series commemorating the events of World War I.
Links with China – Waterfowl stamps follow on 22 September, and a new set of Post & Go stamps featuring Beetles, will be issued on 14 September. Enquiries: Jersey Philatelic Bureau, Freepost JE793, Jersey Post, Jersey JE1 1AF, website: www.jerseystamps.com.

Guernsey's next issues will be Christmas and Centenary of the First World War on 8 and 11 November respectively. Alderney marks the 950th anniversary of the Battle of Hastings with new stamps that go on sale on

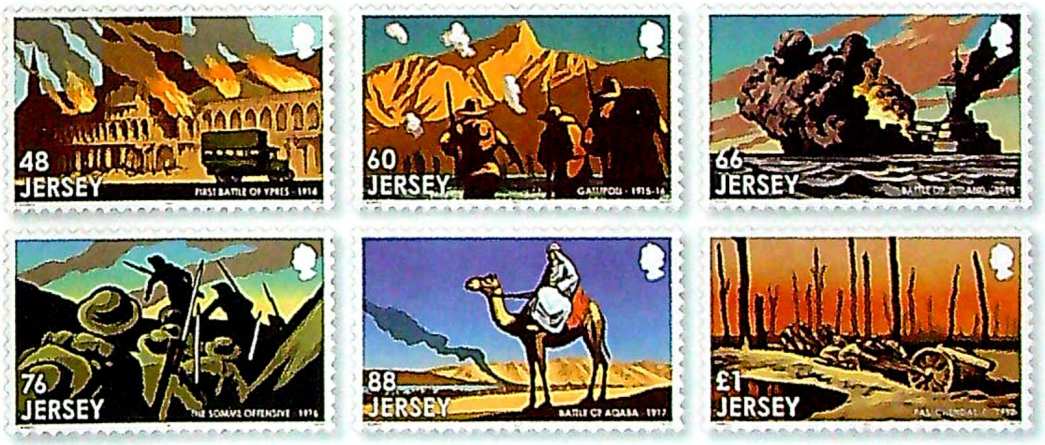
14 September, and a Christmas issue follows on 8 November. Enquiries: www.guernseystamps.com, tel 01481 716486.

Isle of Man Post Office celebrates the fortieth Anniversary of the world famous Academy Award®-winning studio Aardman with new stamps issued on 12 August. An eight-stamp set features a variety of the most loved Aardman animated characters – including Wallace and Gromit, Shaun the Sheep, Morph, Timmy, Trixie and Cuddlepuss. Completing the Aardman collection is a sheetlet with pictorial stamps that show their six most iconic onscreen moments, as hand-picked by Aardman. Enquiries: www.iompost.com/stamps-coins.



Above: Aardman Morph at Laxey railway station on a new Isle of Man 1st Class pictorial stamp

Last month Manx stamps were winging their way to the 2016 Royal International Air Tattoo Show at at RAF Fairford, Gloucestershire. The air show lived up to its reputation as the world's greatest, with a focus on the future of aviation: 'Next Generation: Inspiring Innovation'. Maxine Cannon, General Manager of Isle of Man Stamps & Coins said, 'We were able to showcase our aviation and military stamp collections to enthusiasts, including the 150th anniversary of Royal Aeronautical Society which celebrates innovation in aerospace, the 50th Display Season of the Red Arrows, The Battle of Britain 75th Anniversary and our Tim Peake back to earth special envelope' •



Left: The Great War – 100 Years stamp set, issued by Jersey Post this month



Left: Brad Woodard of Austin, Texas designed this charming July issue for Jersey Post, celebrating 1950s Popular Culture

Rowland Hill Fund
Helping each other in times of need

Give a helping hand with Rowland Hill

This Penny Red Smilers® Sheet is offered exclusively to *Bulletin* readers

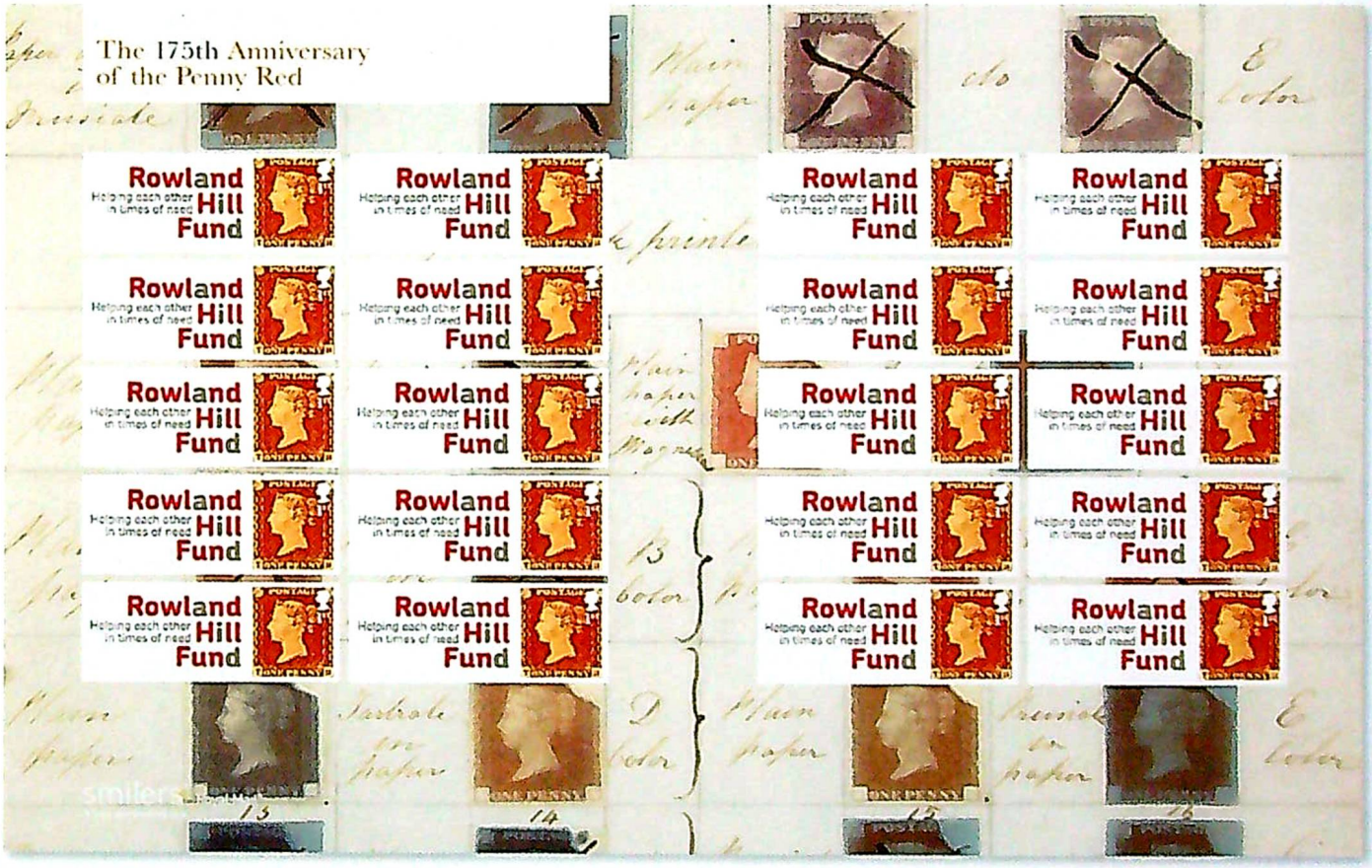
Following the great demand for the Rowland Hill Penny Black Smilers® Sheet in January – it sold out within a couple of days – we think *Bulletin* readers will appreciate another unique opportunity. This time a Penny Red Smilers® Sheet (20 stamps), celebrates the strong traditions of philanthropy in our postal service inspired by Sir Rowland Hill over a century ago. The issue is limited to 150 sheets with 20 sheets signed by Moya Greene, CEO of Royal Mail Group.

Three sheets are reserved for auction and competition prizes, and the remaining 147 are available to readers at £50 each, with a limit of two 20-stamps sheet per purchaser, subject to availability. The 20 signed sheets by Royal Mail CEO Moya Greene are available at the special price of £70. All proceeds will be used by the Rowland Hill Fund to support Royal Mail and Post Office employees, pensioners and their dependants who are struggling financially.



Sir Rowland Hill (1795-1879) was the English teacher, inventor and social reformer who successfully campaigned for reform of the postal system based on the Uniform Penny Post. As the originator of today's postal service and the inventor of the postage stamp, it is fitting that his name should inspire the Royal Mail supported charity

Why support the Fund Active since 1882, the Fund has helped people in challenging financial situations for a variety of reasons – illness, mental ill-health issues, bereavement and mobility aids.



How to order For this exclusive offer from the Rowland Hill Fund, the 20-stamp Penny Red Smilers® Sheet bears the Rowland Hill Fund logo and costs £50 unsigned or £70 signed by Moya Greene.

Orderlines open 17 August. To make a payment, or for more details, call 020 7239 2043 or email rhfpromotions@royalmail.com with your name, address, telephone number and how many sheets you wish to order. Please use the reference Penny Red CDL on payments.

To find out more Explore the Fund at www.rowlandhillfund.org, on Facebook and at www.twitter.com/rowlandhillfund. The charity can be contacted on a 24-hour year-round confidential helpline – just phone 0800 688 8777 and choose option 1 then option 4. General donations to the Rowland Hill Fund can be made online at www.charitycheckout.co.uk/207479/Donate ●



This Royal Mail stamp featuring Sir Rowland Hill was issued in 1979, marking the centenary of his death







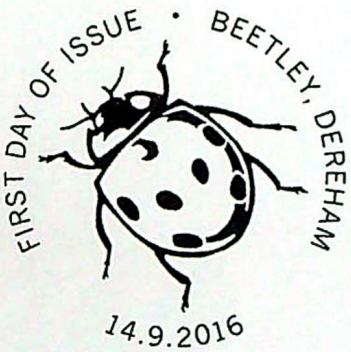
Six little ladybirds scuttle into view on new Post & Go stamps on 14 September. You thought they were all red with black spots? Then look again, at these delightful illustrations by Chris Wormell with crisp design by Osborne Ross



This natural beauty takes the top spot for being Britain's best-loved insect. Cute and colourful with its trademark red and black livery, the ladybird is an icon of our countryside and gardens. Now the insect is celebrated in the Ladybirds Post & Go issue. Yet the set emphasises the sheer variety of the 47 species found in Britain. Beyond the classic black-spots-on-red species, the stamps show ladybirds sporting yellow and orange bodies and square rather than circular markings. The set's Carrier Card also reminds us that the ladybird is the gardener's and farmer's friend, feeding on pests that damage flowers and crops. The Pack stamps are First Class, while all rates are available from Post & Go machines.

Seven-spot Ladybird One of the most common ladybird species in the UK, this iconic bright-red beetle can be seen throughout the spring and summer searching for aphids on nettles and other







Above: Post & Go Covers with alternative First Day postmarks for the Ladybirds issued on 14 September

herbaceous plants. In the winter it seeks shelter under leaves and becomes dormant, emerging in the spring ready to mate.

Fourteen-spot Ladybird With its characteristic square black spots on a yellow background, this ladybird can often be found alongside Seven-spot Ladybirds feeding on the aphids that infest a range of herbaceous plants. At the grub-like larval stage it has long legs and, like many other ladybird larvae, also feeds on aphids.

Orange Ladybird This ladybird has white splotches on an orange background and feeds on the powdery white mildews that grow on the leaves of deciduous trees, particularly ash and sycamore. It breeds later in the year than other ladybirds, and its larvae take longer to develop than those of predatory species.

Heather Ladybird The delicate red markings on this small black ladybird appear as a transverse line of red spots across the wing cases, but they are actually two red spots broken into a dotted line. The Heather Ladybird is so named because it is often found on heather heathland, where it feeds on scale insects.

Striped Ladybird Found on mature Scots pine ▸

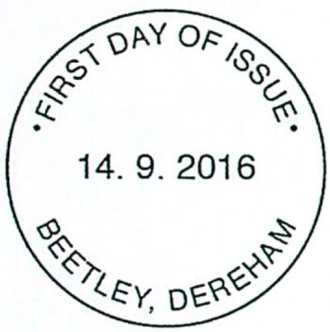
British Humanitarians Stamps – Specifications

Date of issue	14 September
Number of stamps	Six
Stamp design	Osborne Ross
Stamp illustration	Chris Wormell
Stamp format	Landscape
Stamp size	56mm x 25mm
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Gravure
Perforations	Die-cut simulated
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	Self-adhesive



trees, this ladybird is the most specialised of all the aphid-eating ladybirds in the UK and is the second largest ladybird in the country. Chestnut-brown, with pale cream stripes rather than spots, it is very well camouflaged against the buds of Scots pines.

Water Ladybird This ladybird, which is more elongated than most species, undergoes a dramatic transformation as an adult. In the winter, while tucked between dead reed leaves, it employs buff-coloured camouflage. But in the spring, when it goes in search of aphids, the Water Ladybird becomes brightly coloured, warning potential predators that it tastes unpleasant.



Above: Post & Go Ladybirds First Day postmark with the appropriate location of Beetley

Orders for Serviced First Day Covers must reach Royal Mail by 14 September. Customers may send stamped envelopes on the day of issue to Royal Mail, Tallents House (the address is on page 384 – please quote the Bulletin code CDS) for the Tallents House, Edinburgh postmark. The alternative postmarks have the location Beetley, Dereham for its insect pun. The pictorial version has a drawing of a ladybird •





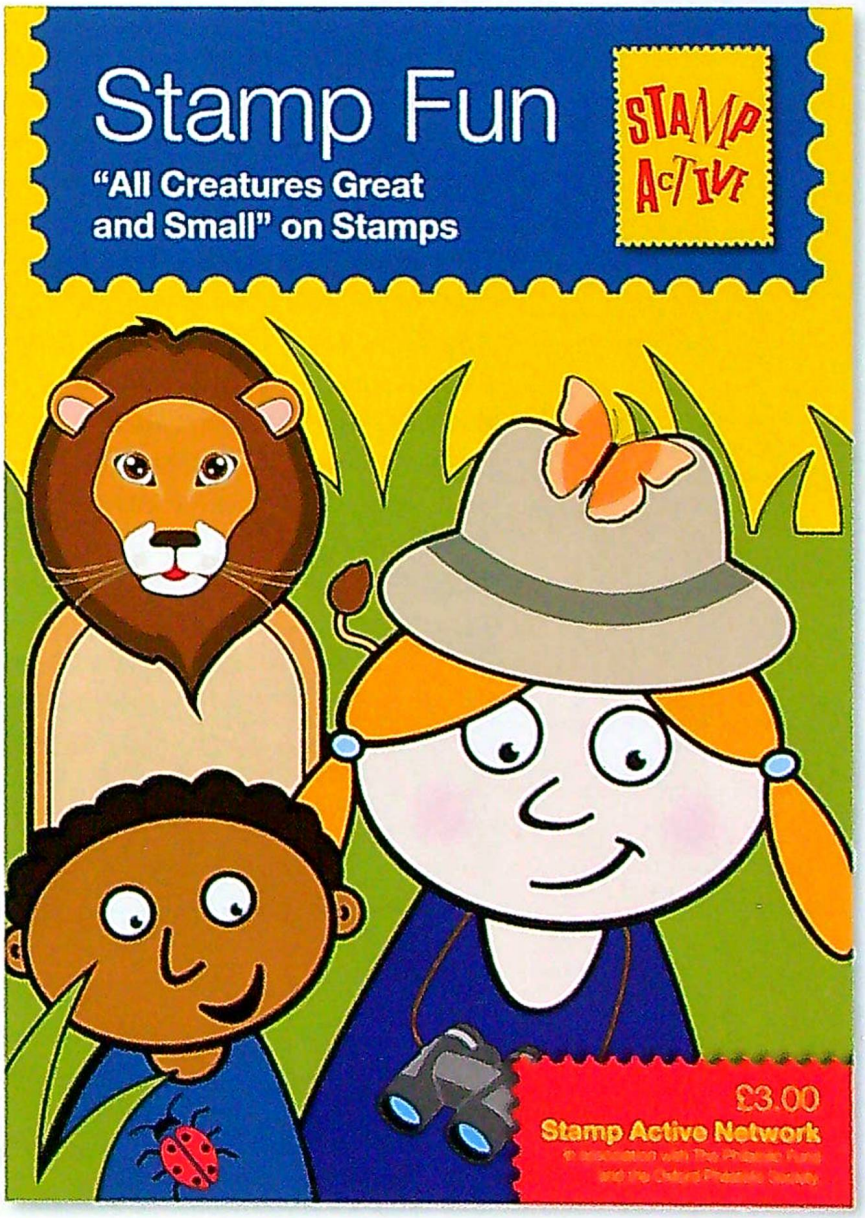
ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

Stamp Active, the voluntary group that promotes stamp collecting to children has launched their latest STAMP FUN activity book on the subject of Animals. The new 16-page booklet contains quizzes, pages to assemble stamps from around the world, a word search and much more.

The new booklet follows on from Stamp Active's other popular Stamp Fun activity books, which have included *Sport on Stamps*, *All at Sea* and *Brilliant Britain*.*

Commenting on the booklet's launch, Chairman, John Davies said, 'We are delighted that our Sponsors and Dealer Patrons continue to support us to enable Stamp Active to publish these popular introductions to our hobby. We are particularly grateful for generous support from The Oxford Philatelic Society and The Philatelic Fund'.

Copies of *All Creatures Great and Small* can be obtained from Stamp Active by sending a cheque for £3 plus an A4 stamp-addressed envelope to: Stamp Active, 3 Longfellow Road, Banbury, OX16 9LB



The activity book will be available at Autumn Stampex and is given out free to young collectors. Stamp Active will, once again, have a Kids Zone at this popular twice-yearly national Stamp Show. Held at the Design Centre, Islington, from 14 to 17 September 2016, the Kids Zone will provide free activities and goodie bag.

There will also be the free youngsters' auction on Saturday at 2pm, where young collectors can use the points they win from completing the activities to bid for exciting prizes. The theme of the activities will be sport. At the end of the auction, all the kids taking part will be entered into a free prize draw for a Penny Black. Any adult who brings a child to Stampex will also be entered into a free prize draw.

Information about the Stamp Active Network can be found on their website www.stampactive.co.uk.

Donations of stamps, particularly of animal stamps or other thematic subjects would be welcomed by the organisers to the address above •

**Previous Stamp Fun activity books can all be downloaded from*

Murder in miniature The world's best detective stories are told in tiny, intriguing detail in the Agatha Christie set – and the stamps contain hidden clues

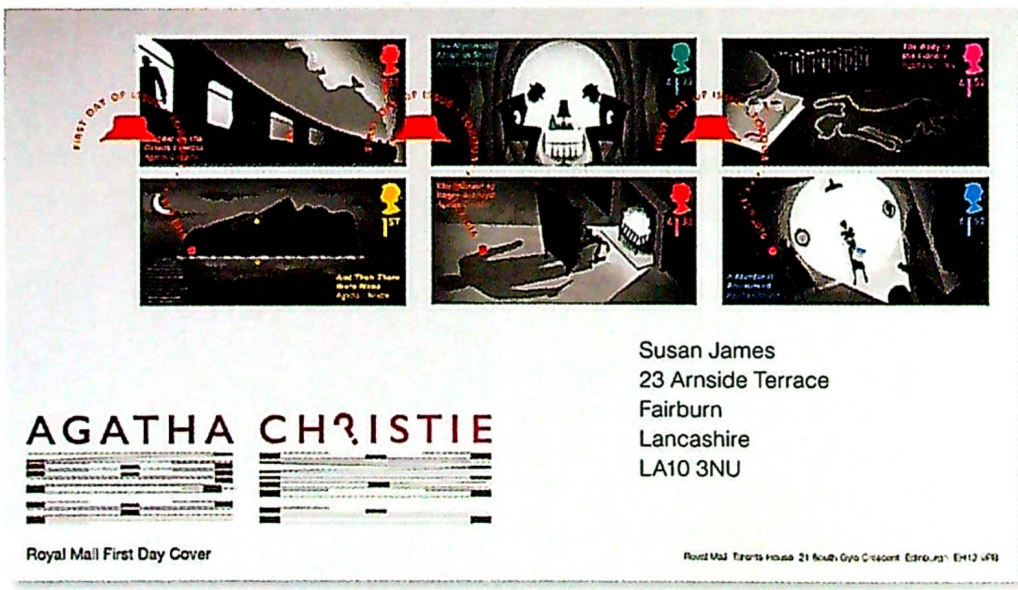
It would be a crime to ignore this tribute to the world's greatest detective fiction writer. For the Agatha Christie issue salutes some of the best mysteries by the creator of Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple, including *Murder on the Orient Express* and *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*. The six-stamp set, out on 15 September, marks the 40th anniversary of the writer's death and the centenary of the publication of her first crime novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*. Fittingly the stamps feature hidden visual 'clues', which create a sense of intrigue the Queen of Crime would have loved. Some, you will see, are clear to the naked eye. Others only appear in microtext or via examination under UV light. The issue is accompanied by a Presentation Pack, Stamp Souvenir and Stamp Cards.

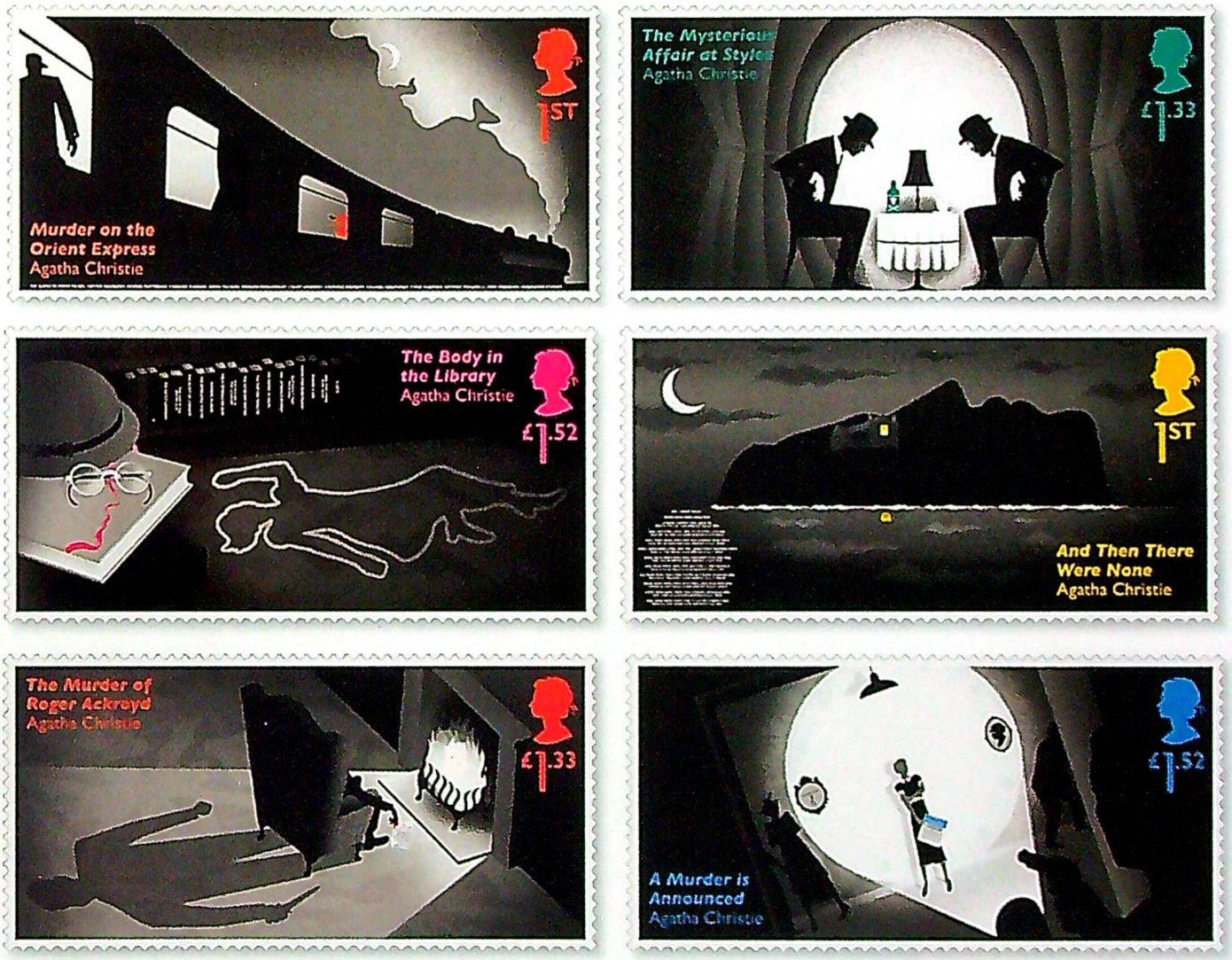
Stamp by stamp The Agatha Christie issue comes in a mixture of values – two each of First Class, £1.33 and £1.52. They feature UV and thermochromic inks that reveal secret elements worked into the design.

Murder on the Orient Express While travelling from Istanbul on the Orient Express, Belgian detective Hercule Poirot finds himself embroiled in an intriguing mystery after a fellow passenger is found murdered. During the course of the investigation, Poirot's 'little grey cells' are put to the test as he sidesteps several red herrings and pieces together the unusual chain of events that led to the crime. First Class

And Then There Were None Invited to a mansion on a remote island off the Devon coast by a mysterious host, ten people endure a rude awakening as shocking secrets from their pasts are revealed by an anonymous and judgemental source. After one of the guests dies unexpectedly from cyanide poisoning, it becomes clear to the remaining nine that their lives are in terrible danger. First Class

The Mysterious Affair at Styles Styles Court, a grand country residence near





Above: the Agatha Christie set features her classic stories and contains intriguing clues

Opposite: the First Day Cover with Miss Marple postmark

the Essex village of Styles St Mary, provides the setting for Agatha Christie's debut crime novel. Arthur Hastings has returned to England on sick leave from the First World War and while he recuperates in the home of Mrs Emily Inglethorpe, a suspicious death occurs that requires the canny detection skills of Monsieur Hercule Poirot. £1.33

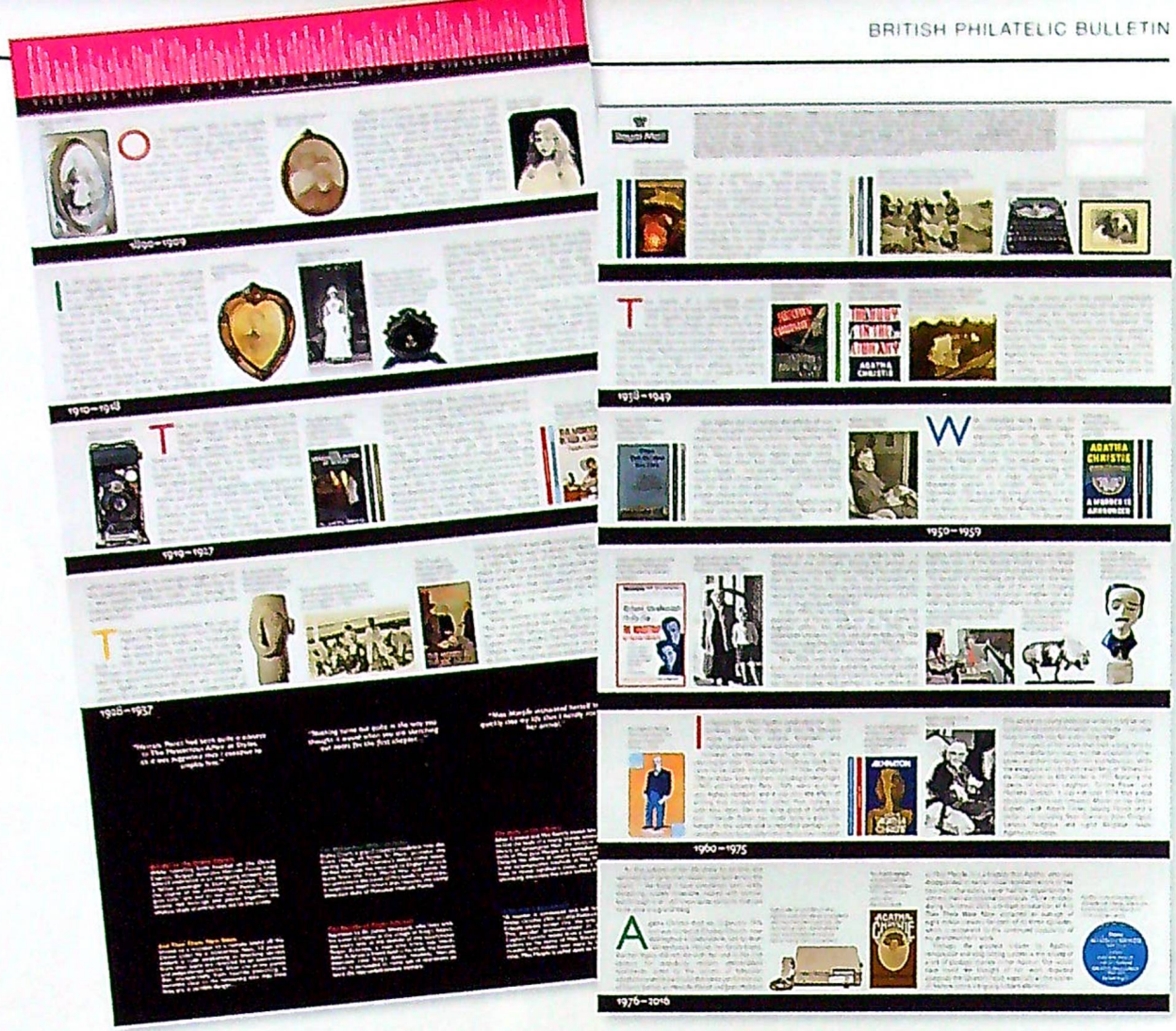
The Murder of Roger Ackroyd Narrated by Dr James Sheppard, who lives with his sister Caroline in the village of King's Abbot, the story tells of the demise of the eponymous Roger Ackroyd, a man who knew too much. After Ackroyd is found dead in his study, the famous detective (and King's Abbot resident) Hercule Poirot is persuaded to come out of retirement to solve the near-unfathomable mystery. £1.33 ▸

Agatha Christie – Prices

Stamp Set (3 vertical se-tenant pairs)	£6.98
Presentation Pack	£7.50
First Day Envelope	30p
First Day Cover	£8.80
Stamp Souvenir	£8.80
Stamp Cards (6 in set)	£2.70

Agatha Christie – Specifications

Issue date	15 September
Number of stamps	Six
Stamp design	Studio Sutherl&
Stamp format	Landscape
Stamp size	60mm x 30mm
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Perforations	14.5 x 14.5
Phosphor	Bars
Gum	PVA

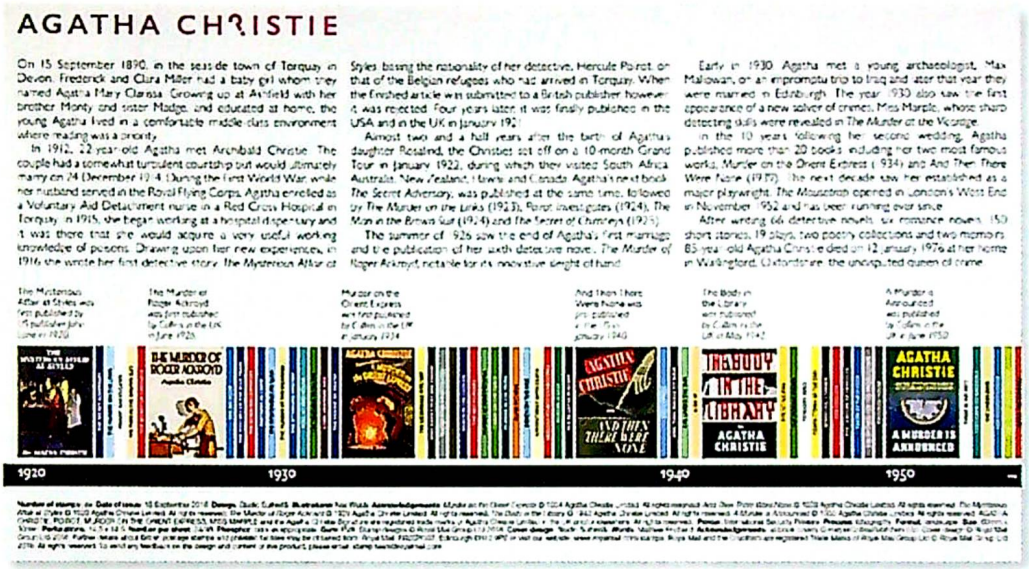


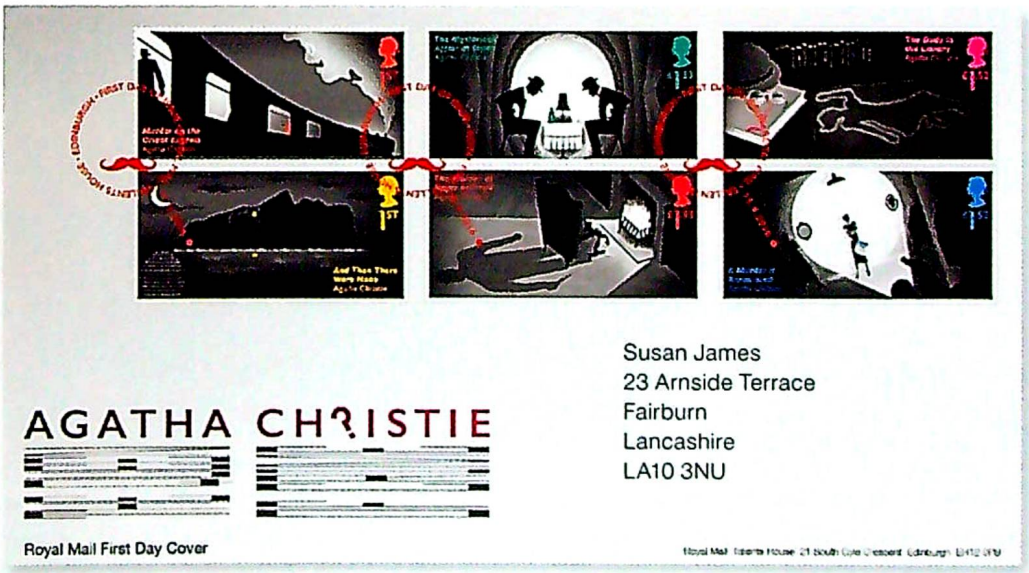
Above and right: the Presentation Pack written by Agatha Christie's grandson

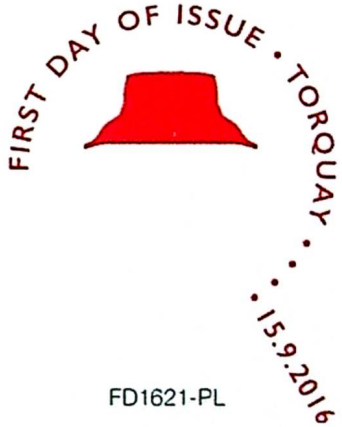


The Body in the Library After Colonel and Mrs Bantry awake one morning to find the body of a young blonde woman in their library at Gossington Hall, the intuitive detection skills of Miss Jane Marple are immediately sought. Despite the efforts of several police detectives, it is the inconspicuous methods of Miss Marple that help to reveal significant clues, and it is she who ultimately discovers the truth behind the crime. £1.52

A Murder is Announced "A murder is announced and will take place on Friday, October 29th, at Little Paddocks at 6.30 pm. Friends please accept this, the only intimation." This peculiar pronouncement in the *Chipping Cleghorn Gazette* would draw a number of curious visitors to the home of Miss Blacklock. After the murder does indeed take place at the appointed time, Miss Marple is called upon to investigate. £1.52



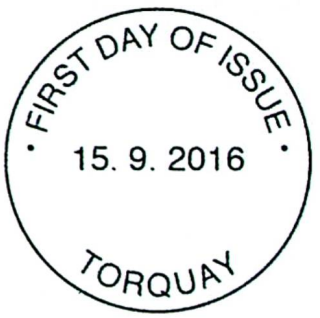




FD1621-PL



FD1621-TH



FD1621-NP

Above: all three Agatha Christie postmarks, First Day Cover featuring the Tallents House mark, and Filler Card

Also in the issue is an insightful Presentation Pack written by Christie's grandson Mathew Prichard, who charts the writer's literary and personal life and presents her reflections on the Poirot character she created.

Orders for Serviced First Day Covers must reach Royal Mail by 15 September. Customers may send stamped envelopes on the day of issue to Royal Mail, Tallents House (the address is on page xxx – please quote the *Bulletin* code CDS) for the Tallents House, Edinburgh postmark. The mark is in the shape of a magnifying class, inside which is an illustration of a moustache in honour of Hercule Poirot, the little Belgian detective who starred in Christie's first published novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*. The alternative postmarks bear the location Torquay, the writer's birthplace and childhood home. The pictorial version is in the shape of a question mark, which 'hangs' on the hat synonymous with Miss Marple, the other legendary sleuth that Agatha Christie created •

Agatha Christie issue designer Jim Sutherland will speak at a special event celebrating Christie's life and the launch of the stamps on 15 September. *See page 383.*

P ... is for postcards to foreign countries

Send your postcard to India via Italy or the tip of South Africa? Deciding on your route was one of many choices affecting postal rates

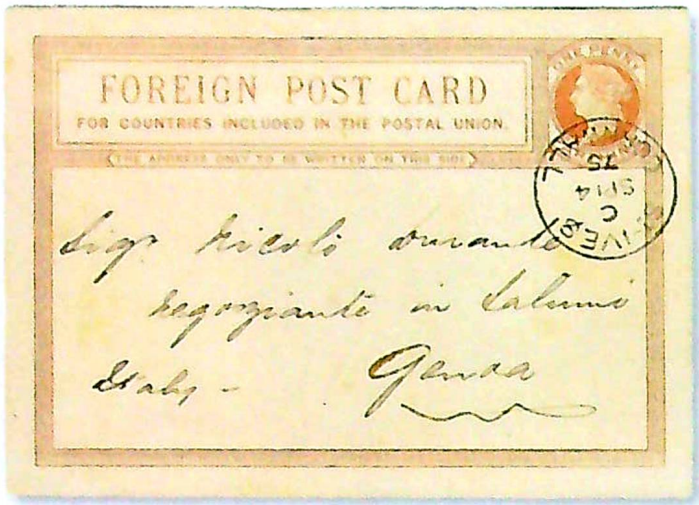


Fig 1



Fig 2

When postcards were first introduced in 1870 they were for inland use only. They could not be sent overseas until 1875, after the creation in 1874 of the General Post Union (GPU – now the Universal Postal Union UPU). The rate for postcards was set at half the basic foreign letter rate for each country that was a member of the GPU. For Great Britain that meant a half of the 2½d rate, making the postcard rate 1¼d; it was the only time that the British Post Office used the farthing (¼d) in its postage rates. Soon, as more countries joined the GPU, there was a need for the foreign postcard rate to change. In 1883 three new postcards were issued carrying 1d, 1½d and 2d stamps, the cost depending mainly on the distance the card travelled from Britain to its destination.

Sometimes, however, the route that the card took also affected the price. For example, the quickest and most expensive route to India and the Far East was via Brindisi in Italy and across the Mediterranean to the Indian Ocean. Otherwise it was the long haul around the tip of South Africa. At about the same time, reply paid postcards were also made available. Even though these carried a British postage stamp, they were valid when sent back to Britain. The same was true of other countries' reply paid postcards, which could be returned from anywhere in the British Isles to the country of origin.

An even higher rate was applied to postcards sent to Australia and beyond, resulting in a 3d postcard being issued in 1889. Every stamp that had been issued in Britain up to that point had shown Queen Victoria as she was when she

Fig 1 The first foreign rate postcard used to Italy in 1875

Fig 2 A 1883 1d postcard sent to Brussels in Belgium

Fig 3 A 1883 1½d postcard uprated and sent to India

Fig 4 The Australasia 3d postcard intended for Australia and beyond



Fig 3

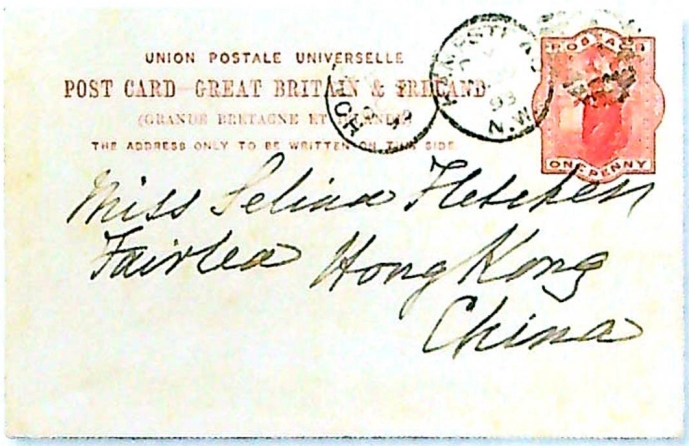


Fig 5

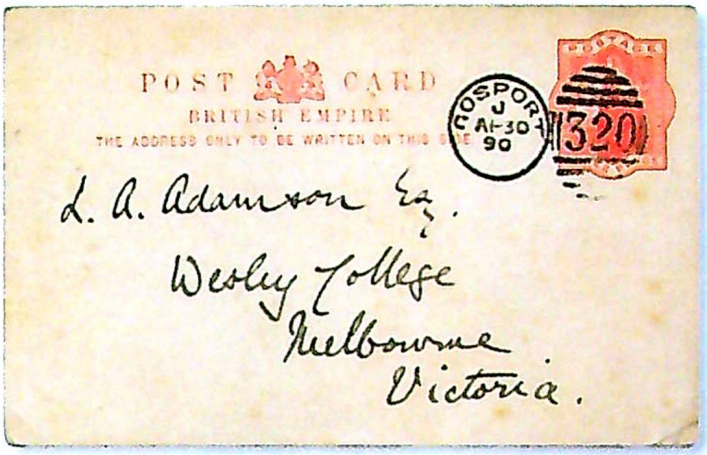


Fig 4



Fig 6



Fig 7

ascended the throne in 1837. But the new postcard used an engraving based on a recent portrait of the Queen, painted by Heinrich von Angeli. It showed a full-length image of The Queen and was repeated for later 1d postcards, also intended for overseas destinations. However, this portrait was never used for British adhesive stamps, making these postal stationery postcards unique.

By 1891 the UPU agreed that the postcard rate between nearly all member states would be 1d. That rate held for more than 25 years until the financial burden of the First World War forced an increase to 1½d in 1921. The rate did fall to 1d again in 1935, but only between countries in the British Empire, the USA and Egypt.

The stationery trade had successfully argued a case for being given the opportunity to compete with the Post Office over the sale of inland postcards. However, the selling price of postcards for foreign destinations was a different matter. The members of the UPU agreed from the outset that all postcards in this category should be sold at their face value, with no premium for the cost of the card, printing and so on. It was not until 1917 that the selling price of all British overseas postcards included a premium for the cost of their production ●

Colin Baker welcomes your enquiries by email at pss.secretary@gmail.com

Fig 5 The 1892 1d postcard valid to most countries

Fig 6 A 1½d postcard that dates from the end of George V's reign

Fig 7 A 1½d postcard to Germany uprated by 1d to the 'all up' airmail rate



This Month in History

New Special Stamps have sent John Holman on a stamp stroll through some famous British Gardens, spotting a 1960s rose en route

Above: this postcard produced in 1983 by the National Postal Museum carries a reproduction of a 1964 stamp. Of the 14,000 printed, many were used with the British Gardens stamps

This month Royal Mail issues Landscape Gardens stamps marking the 300th anniversary of the birth of Lancelot Brown, always known as 'Capability Brown', probably the best-known of all landscape gardeners. He got his moniker by telling clients that their gardens had 'capabilities'. His most famous gardens include Blenheim Palace, Kew, Stowe, and Warwick Castle.

Stamps were issued on 24 August 1983 to mark the bicentenary of his death. The set, entitled British Gardens, featured, in reverse order gardens from the 17th to 20th centuries: Pitmedden (Scotland), Blenheim (Oxfordshire), Biddulph Grange (Staffordshire), and Sissinghurst (Kent). An interesting feature on the four gardens, by Suzanne Wolstenhome, was published in the August 1983 issue of the *Bulletin*. The stamps were previewed the previous month, and some unused designs were shown in the *Bulletin* of January 1985.

The stamps were designed by Liz Butler (her only set of stamps) and printed in litho by John Waddington (the second of three commemorative sets they produced) on phosphorised paper using five colours – greenish yellow, bright purple, new blue, black, and bright green, plus silver for The Queen's silhouette which was positioned at top right. The value was positioned at the bottom of each design with the name of the garden and the century in which it was created.



Above: the 1983 British Gardens set and just a few of the 16 special handstamps it inspired

The alternative First Day of Issue postmark was for Oxford and no fewer than 16 special handstamps were sponsored for the gardens featured on the stamps, Brown's birthplace Kirkharle near Newcastle upon Tyne, and Fenstanton, his resting place, along with other locations relating to gardens. Also popular with collectors are FDCs with ordinary datestamps of post offices at Biddulph, Kew Gardens, Sissinghurst, and Woodstock, the nearest town to Blenheim Palace. The presentation pack, sold at £1.15, was designed by David Driver. Stamp cards (PHQ cards) were produced for each of the four stamps, price 13p each. A private pack containing this issue was produced by the Bournemouth Pleasure Gardens in an edition of 1,000. It is listed in *British Presentation Packs (2014)* with a price of £20.

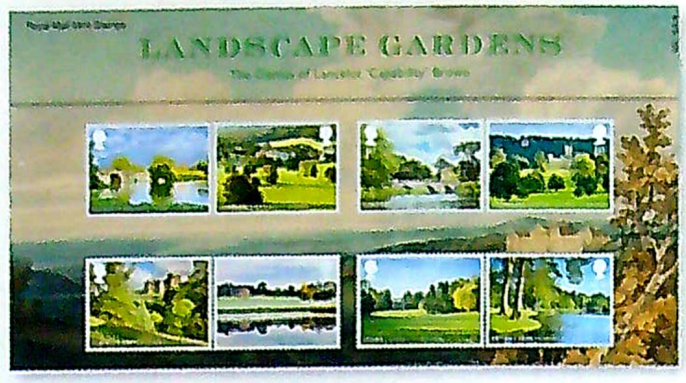
No major printing errors are recorded in the main catalogues. As usual the stamps were on philatelic sale for one year. Quantities sold ranged from 6.7 million of the 31p value to 40.6m of the 16p, then the basic UK first-class letter rate. Some 190,000 sets of stamp cards were produced.

To coincide with the issue the National Postal Museum mounted an exhibition entitled 'Roses – a thematic display' and issued a postcard (number 17 in its Special Series) reproducing the 6d stamp of the 1964 Botanical Congress issue. The card can be found with Gardens stamp(s) affixed and cancelled by the NPM handstamp or other relevant postmarks. The NPM card had a print-run of 14,000 ●

WIN: A LANDSCAPE GARDEN PRESENTATION PACK

Some of the most breathtaking landscapes in Britain have been beautifully captured within the tiny dimensions of Special Stamps. And this month's Landscape Gardens issue transports us to some of awesome vistas created by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown.

Ten of the elegant Royal Mail Landscape Gardens Presentation Packs are waiting for the lucky winners of this quiz. Just contemplate the stamp scenes shown here and match them with the four statements below.



1 The family home of Ralph Percy, 12th Duke of Northumberland, whose ancestors commissioned Brown to create its Arcadian landscapes.

2 Much of the hit TV series 'Downton Abbey' has been filmed at this Jacobethan House near Newbury.

3 Over five miles of box hedging and some 40,000 plants make these gardens a Scottish national treasure.

4 The Duke of Blenheim enticed Capability Brown to Oxfordshire in 1763 to begin work on the grounds of this palace.



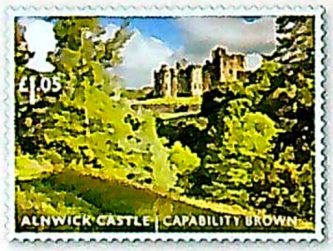
a



b



c



d



How to enter Match statements 1 to 4 with images a to d. Send your answers, with a contact number or email address, to rmbulletin@rocketmail.com or 'August Landscapes', Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH129PB. **Closing date** 16 September, 2016.

Rules and regulations 1 Promotions are open to all readers aged 18 and over, except employees of Royal Mail Group Ltd, their business associates and immediate families. 2 Responsibility cannot be accepted for entries which are incomplete, damaged or not received for any reason. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt. 3 Prizes must be accepted as offered; they are not transferable and there are no cash alternatives. The cost of transport to and from a prize venue, where applicable, is not included. 4 Winners are notified within 28 days of closing date stated. 5 For prize draws where readers must answer a question, winners will be the senders of the first correct entries drawn at random by an independent person after the closing date. 6 Promoter's decision on any aspect of the promotions is final. No correspondence will be entered into. 7 Entry implies acceptance of these rules. 8 Prizes are subject to suitability and availability. The promoter reserves the right to a) substitute a prize of equal or greater value if circumstances so demand and b) to suspend or cancel or hold void any of the competitions or prize draws at any time without notice. 9 Winners' names are available 28 days after closing date; send an SAE to 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.

Photograph: Nick Briggs

Agatha Christie®

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

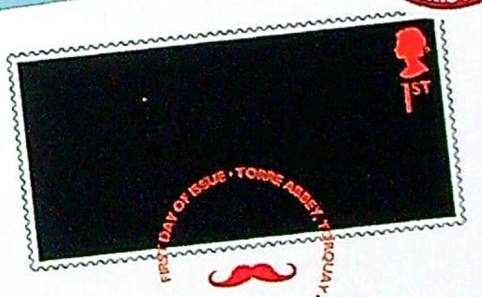
Marking 100 years of creativity

Thursday 15th September

Spanish Barn, Torre Abbey, Kings Drive, Torquay, TQ2 5JE

THE INTERNATIONAL Agatha Christie AGATHA CHRISTIE FESTIVAL

INVITE



What's On:

2.30pm: The Witness for the Prosecution:
Agatha Christie's grandson Mathew Prichard reads the short story of 'The Witness for the Prosecution', shortly to be adapted for a new BBC drama.

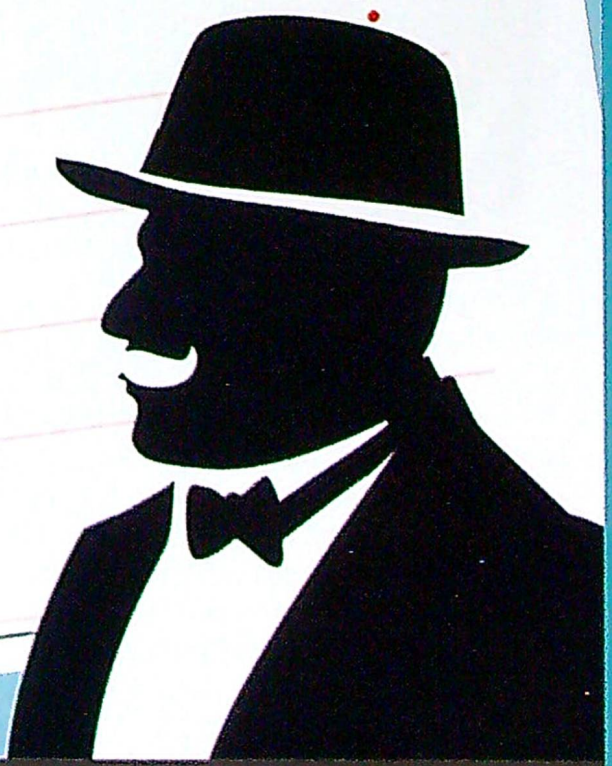
3.45pm: Closed Casket:
Author Sophie Hannah discusses her new Hercule Poirot adventure, and why she loves the Queen of Crime

5.00pm: Indulge in a traditional cream tea

6.00pm: Royal Mail and Agatha Christie:
An exclusive event with Royal Mail as they release six Special Stamps to mark 100 years since Christie wrote her first novel.

7.15pm: Raise a birthday glass to Agatha Christie

Plus: Book signings and Royal Mail Special Stamps shop



To book tickets call 01803 293593 or visit

www.agathachristiefestival.com

Royal Mail stamp issues and withdrawals

16 August **Issue** Landscape Gardens: Stamps (4 x horizontal se-tenant strips of two – 2 x 2nd Class, 2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.05, 2 x £1.33), Stamp Book (2 x 1st Class Special Stamps, 4 x 1st Class Definitives), Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards (8 in set), Stamp Souvenir.

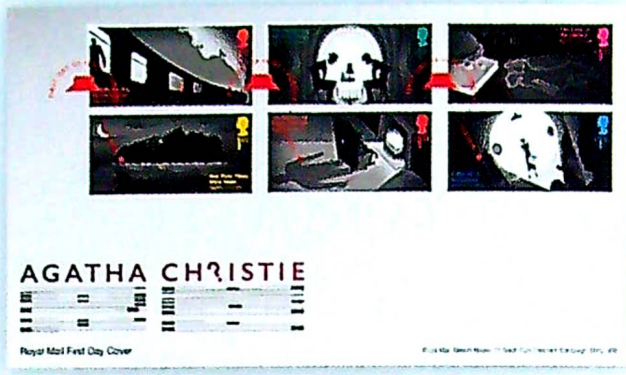


2 September **Issue** The Great Fire of London: Stamps (3 x horizontal se-tenent strips of two – 2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.05, 2 x £1.52), Presentation Pack, Coin Cover, Stamp Cards (6 in set), Stamp Souvenir.



14 September **Issue** Lady Birds: Post & Go Stamps, six designs. Available in Collectors Pack of six, overprinted.

15 September **Issue** Agatha Christie: Stamps (3 x vertical se-tenant pairs – 2 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.33, 2 x £1.52), Presentation Pack, Stamp Cards (6 in set), Stamp Souvenir.



20 October **Issue** We are pleased to announce that our October Special Stamp issue will be Mr. Men Little Miss, celebrating the work of its creator Roger Hargreaves. Products will be available to pre-order from 6 October.

Order philatelic items, including all the stamp products listed above, at www.royalmail.com/stamps or from Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB. Telephone order line (08.30 to 17.00 Monday to Friday): 03457 641 641. From overseas: +44 131 316 7483. We would advise you to quote **CDR**, the *Bulletin* media code. Minimum handling charge UK £1.45, Europe £1.55, rest of world (airmail) £2.15.

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FSC MIX FSC® C019670

Information about Royal Mail products is the latest available at time of going to press. Issue dates shown in advance may be subject to change. Stamps are not shown to scale. Stamp sizes are listed on Royal Mail Preview pages.

Royal Mail

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