BRITISH PHILATELIC

Bulletin

The magazine for collectors of UK stamps

VOLUME 55 NUMBER 3 | NOVEMBER 2017 | £1.95

Poppy Remembrance stamps •
Star Wars Prestige Book revealed



Wedding, 20 November 1947

Platinum Anniversary Special Issue

DIARY DATES SOCIAL PHILATELY • **NEW** ISLAND PICTORIALS • **WIN** PERSONALISED SHEET



A Personalised Smilers® Sheet will put a grin on the face of friends and family at Christmas time or any time, so is the perfect gift to celebrate great occasions with loved ones. Photos from your local philatelic association are a nice touch for communications with stamp collecting chums – or you might simply want to show off your brilliant new look on all your mail!

Since November is 'Movember', when guys grow moustaches to raise money for men's health, why not personalise your Sheet with your wonderful new whiskers? You even have the chance to win a Smilers® Sheet in our moustache- and beard-based stamp quiz on page 94.
Buy Personalised Smilers® Sheets at www.royalmail.com/smilers

Contents



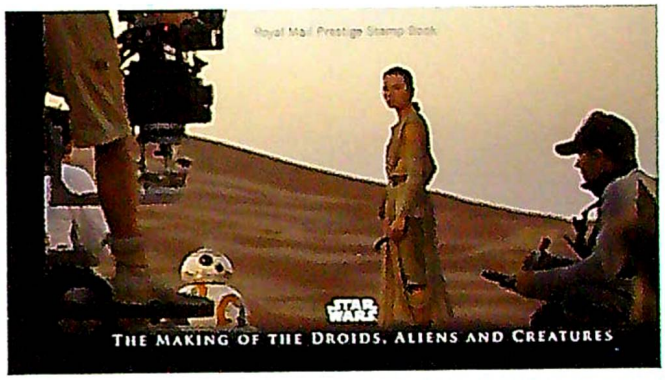
Poppy power Discover the poignant heritage of Royal Mail's Remembrance poppy stamps through the eyes of their designers in our First World War special **86**

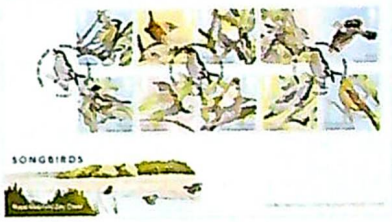


Royal Wedding issue preview Coming this month is a beautiful Miniature Sheet commemorating the platinum anniversary of HM The Queen **68**

Royal Mail Editor William Doherty, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB ● **Publishing Editor** Kate Shaw, 26 Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AN ● 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

Space crafted The stunningly designed new *Star Wars* Prestige Stamp Book will space you out **76**





Stamp Scene Key diary dates and events listings for UK collectors **91**

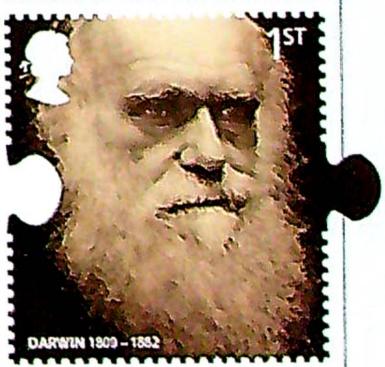
Covers pick William Doherty chooses his favourite Royal Mail covers from 2017 **79**



Platinum celebration The stamp story of our monarch's amazing 70-year marriage **80**

Island news More royal anniversary tributes from the offshore bureaux **84**





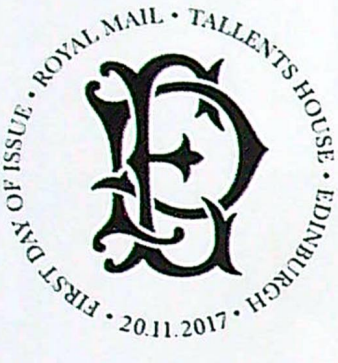
Beard and wonderful To mark the moustache-growing charity month of 'Movember' our brilliant quiz features stamps packed full of fur-covered faces **94**

Issues and Withdrawals Keep track of the latest stamp launches and catch all those classic issues before they disappear... **96**

Congratulations Ma'am! This month The Queen's 70th wedding anniversary is marked by a very Special Stamp set



FD1723-PL



FD1723-TH

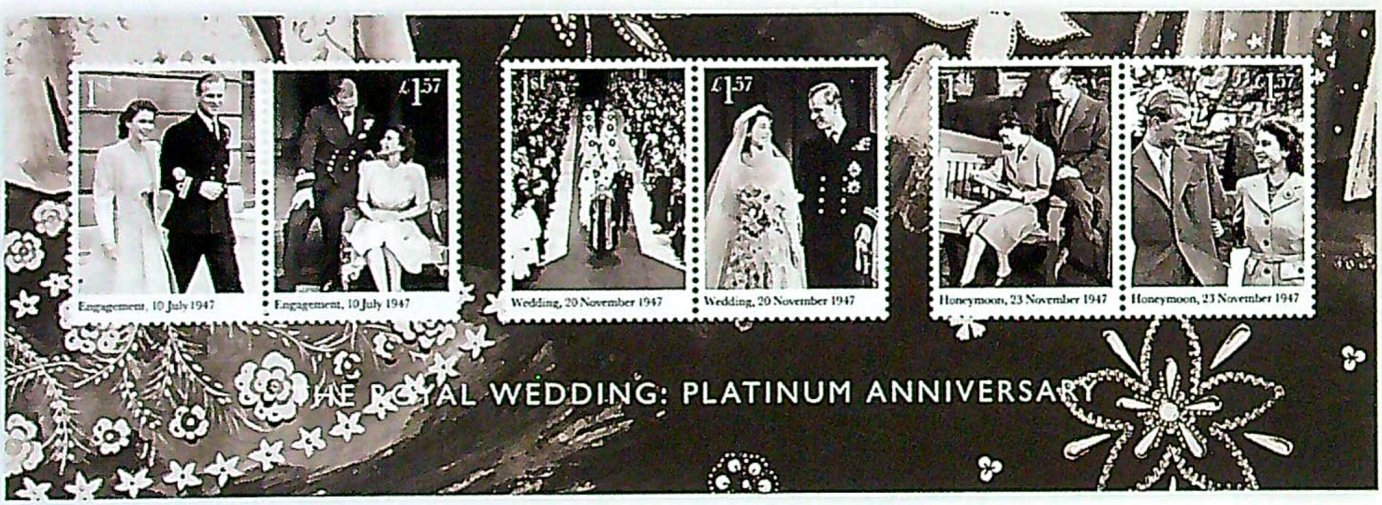
In a lifetime of magnificent milestones The Queen has achieved yet another – the first reigning monarch to celebrate 70 years of marriage. This extraordinary accomplishment is marked by Royal Mail's The Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary Miniature Sheet.

The Sheet is appropriately released on 20 November, the very day in 1947 when the then Princess Elizabeth walked down the aisle of Westminster Abbey in order to wed her prince – Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. It follows the Long to Reign Over Us Miniature Sheet that was released in 2015, which recognised one of The Queen's other great milestones – that of being the longest-reigning monarch in British history.

The new Sheet's six stamps are arranged in three se-tenant pairs – all celebrating the longest marriage in Royal history with black and white photographs taken in that magical year of 1947. As shown below, from left to right, two stamps record the Royal Engagement; two mark the wedding; day; and the final pair illustrate the honeymoon, which the newlyweds spent at Broadlands, the home of Philip's uncle Lord Mountbatten, and at Balmoral. Three stamps are First Class and three are £1.57 values.

Accompanying the Miniature Sheet in the Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary issue is a Presentation Pack, Stamp Sheet Souvenir, Press Sheet, Souvenir Pack, Framed Stamps, Postcards, and four Coin Covers – Brilliant Uncirculated, Silver, Gold and Platinum proof.

Scenes portrayed on the new stamps include the wedding ceremony at Westminster Abbey, attended by 2,000 guests; a detail of Princess Elizabeth's wedding dress, designed by Norman Hartnell; and the happy couple looking at their wedding photographs while on honeymoon. The

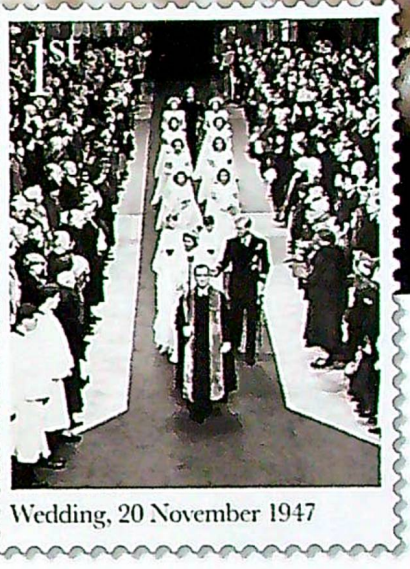




Engagement, 10 July 1947



Engagement, 10 July 1947



Wedding, 20 November 1947



Wedding, 20 November 1947



Honeymoon, 23 November 1947



Honeymoon, 23 November 1947

Above: the six stamps arranged in se-tenant pairs on the Miniature Sheet feature images taken from black and white photographs of the royal couple in 1947 – dated with the day their engagement was announced, their wedding day and honeymoon

beautifully illustrated Presentation Pack (shown overleaf on page 70), which is written by the veteran royal correspondent Robert Hardman, reveals fascinating facts about the glittering union. For example, 200 million people around the world followed the wedding ceremony on the radio. And the wedding bouquet – white orchids with a myrtle sprig from royal residence Osborne House – was laid on the grave of the Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey, following the custom set by Elizabeth's mother.

Princess Elizabeth then travelled with her new husband to their honeymoon at Lord Mountbatten's Hampshire estate with her favourite corgi Susan hidden away in her luggage. ▸

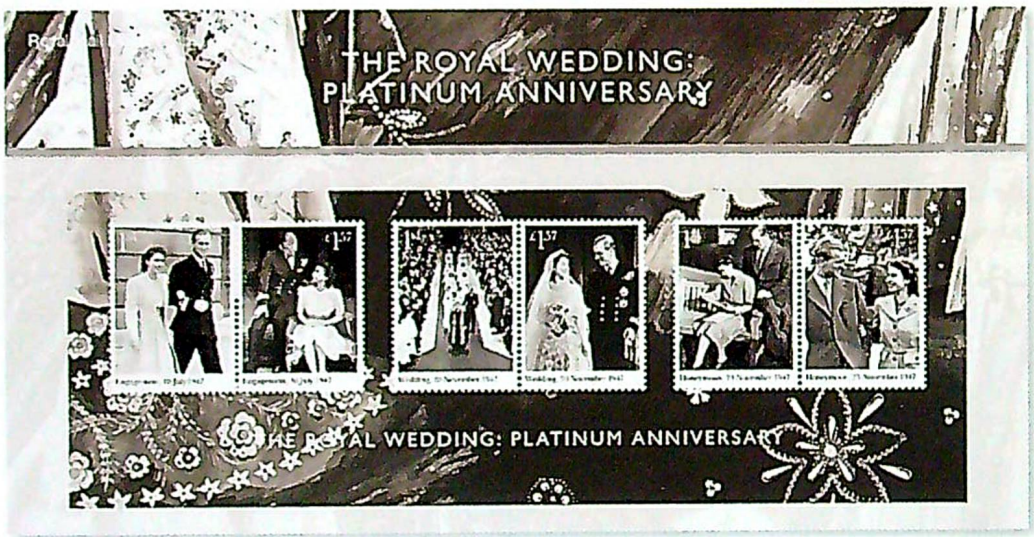
The Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary – Specifications

Date of issue	20 November
Number of stamps	Six (3 x 1st Class, 3 x £1.57)
Stamp design	Mytton Williams
Stamp format	Portrait
Stamp size	27mm x 37mm
Miniature Sheet size	190mm x 67mm
Printer	International Security Printers
Print process	Lithography
Perforations	14 x 14
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA



Above: the Presentation Pack opens to reveals Robert Hardman's illustrated account of the historic wedding day

Right: the Royal Wedding Platinum Anniversary Presentation Pack displays the Miniature Sheet against a platinum background decorated with romantic lace





FD1723-NP

Orders for Serviced (ie stamped and postmarked) First Day Covers must reach Royal Mail by 20 November. 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 Tallents House postmark. Please quote the *Bulletin* media code 17BUL11. The Tallents House postmark features the initials



THE ROYAL WEDDING: PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY



The Royal Engagement

On 9 July 1947, the following announcement was issued from Buckingham Palace: "It is with the greatest pleasure that the King and Queen announce the betrothal of their dearly beloved daughter The Princess Elizabeth to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten RN." A friendship forged during the Second World War had, in peacetime, blossomed into courtship. Earlier in the year, on her 21st birthday, the Princess had pledged "the whole of my life" to be future subjects. Now she and the 26-year-old former Prince of Greece and Denmark would be making similar pledges to each other.



The Royal Wedding

The wedding was arranged for 20 November at Westminster Abbey, where the bride's parents had also married. With Britain still on wartime rations, both the King and the Government were keen to avoid any charge of extravagance. Yet the public was hoping for something to cheer about. In the months between the engagement and the marriage, British rule would come to an end in India, the King would cease to be Emperor and an economic crisis would halt the conversion of the pound on the foreign exchanges. The nation was ready to have something to celebrate.

On the day before the wedding, the King appointed his future son-in-law a Knight of the Garter. On the day itself, it was announced that the King had also granted him the titles of Baron Greenwich, Earl of Merioneth and Duke of Edinburgh. He would be His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and, following the wedding, his bride would be the Duchess.

More than 200 million listeners followed the service by radio. For the first time, newsreel cameras were admitted into the Abbey to film part of the proceedings – and cameras were packed for weeks.



The Royal Honeymoon

After the wedding breakfast and an appearance on the Palace balcony, the newly-weds departed by carriage for Waterloo station – with the Princess's beloved corgi, Susan, consigned to the luggage. They travelled to Broadlands, Hampshire – home of Prince Philip's uncle Lord Mountbatten. Huge crowds followed them to Sunday morning church at Romsey Abbey. There would be more privacy on the second leg of the honeymoon, at Birkhall on the Balmoral estate, deep in Highland snow.

Number of stamps: six **Date of issue:** 20 November 2017 **Design:** Mytton Williams **Acknowledgements:** two engagement photographs of Princess Elizabeth and Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten and Princess Elizabeth and The Duke of Edinburgh on honeymoon at Broadlands © PA/PA Archive/PA Images; Princess Elizabeth and The Duke of Edinburgh after their wedding service at Westminster Abbey and looking at photographs of their wedding during their honeymoon © AP Photo; Princess Elizabeth and The Duke of Edinburgh on their wedding day, photographed by Baron (Sterling Henry Nahum), Royal Collection Trust/© Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2017; detail of Princess Elizabeth's wedding dress © Illustrated London News/Mary Evans Picture Library **Printer:** International Security Printers **Process:** lithography **Sheet size:** 160mm x 97mm **Format:** portrait **Size:** 37mm x 37mm **Perforations:** 14 x 14 **Phosphor:** bars as appropriate **Gum:** PVA Stamp designs © Royal Mail Group Ltd 2017 **Cover design:** Mytton Williams **Words:** Robert Hardman **Acknowledgements:** all images © Getty Images, except detail of Princess Elizabeth's wedding dress (background) © Illustrated London News/Mary Evans Picture Library and colouration of the image on the envelope by Lorna Clark. Cover design © Royal Mail Group Ltd 2017. Further details about British postage stamps and philatelic facilities may be obtained from: Royal Mail, FREEPOST, Edinburgh EH12 9PE or visit our website: www.royalmail.com/stamps. Royal Mail and the Cruciform are registered Trade Marks of Royal Mail Group Ltd © Royal Mail Group Ltd 2017. All rights reserved. To send any feedback on the design and content of this product, please email: stamp.team@royalmail.com

'E' and 'P' entwined. Two alternative postmarks have the location 'London SW1', which takes in Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace. The pictorial version of the postmark highlights the 1947 wedding date, which is encased inside the illustration of an engagement ring. The Stamp Sheet Souvenir is a non-personalised version of the alternative First Day Cover which, unlike the latter, will not have the customer's name and address printed on the front. This is available for sale for three months after the issue date. ▷

Above: the Royal Mail First Day Cover and its insert card. The alternative pictorial first-day handstamp forms the circle of an engagement ring with the wedding date positioned at its centre



Above: the new Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary Souvenir Pack is issued in a limited edition of 5,000

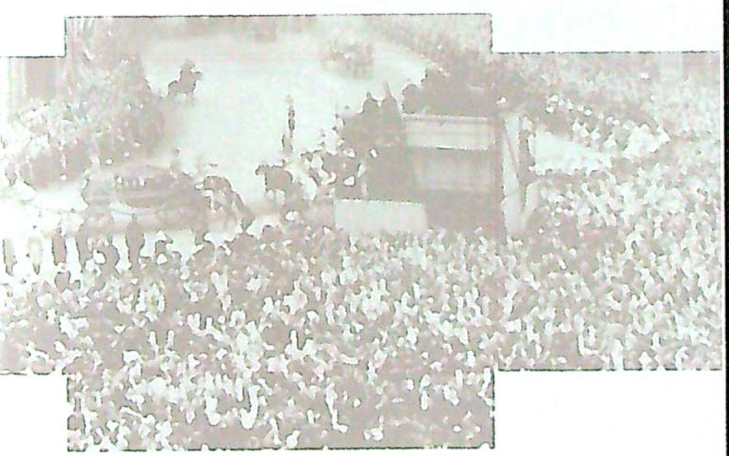
The Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary – Prices	
Miniature Sheet	£6.66
First Day Cover	£8.41
First Day Envelope	£0.30
Stamp Sheet Souvenir	£8.41
Souvenir Pack	£14.99
Presentation Pack	£7.20
Press Sheet	£102.56
Postcards (7 in set)	£3.15
Coin Cover – Brilliant Uncirculated	£19.95
Coin Cover – Silver Proof	£82.50
Coin Cover – Gold Proof	£1,975
Coin Cover – Platinum Proof	£4,950
Framed Stamps	£19.99
Limited Edition Framed Print and Stamps	£119.99

An elegant limited edition Souvenir Pack is also included in this Special Stamp issue. The 'platinum' pack opens to reveal three display cards, each with one of the se-tenant pairs of Special Stamps, a fitting background illustration and an appropriate special handstamp (which does not cancel the mint stamps).

For the Coin Covers, the Royal Mint commissioned artist John Bergdahl to create two reverse designs. One shows The Queen and Prince Philip on horseback, and this features on the Brilliant Uncirculated, Silver and Gold Proof Coins. The other reverse design shows Her Majesty's and the Duke of Edinburgh's coat of arms, and this appears on the Platinum Proof. All the Coins feature a special obverse portrait of ▸









Below: the Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary Miniature Sheet is available as a framed product





Above: a limited edition Framed Print and Stamp Set features a cancellation representing the North Transept Rose Window of Westminster Abbey









Coin Cover Handstamp



Above: John Bergdahl's reverse design of The Queen and Prince Philip on horseback is on the Brilliant Uncirculated, Silver and Gold Proof Coins

The Queen and Prince Philip created by the sculptor Etienne Millner. The Coin Covers combine the Precious Metal Coins with the Royal Wedding Platinum Anniversary Miniature Sheet. The Stamp Sheet is affixed and cancelled on the First Day of Issue with a specially designed handstamp that has the bride and groom in profile. Inside every Cover is an illustrated information card with images of the couple from the past 70 years, accompanied by text focusing on their interests and life together. The Platinum Proof Coin Cover is issued in a strict limited edition of just 20 •



The Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary

1 of 20



PLATINUM PROOF COIN







GOLD PROOF COIN



SILVER PROOF COIN

THE ROYAL WEDDING:
PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY
No 0101

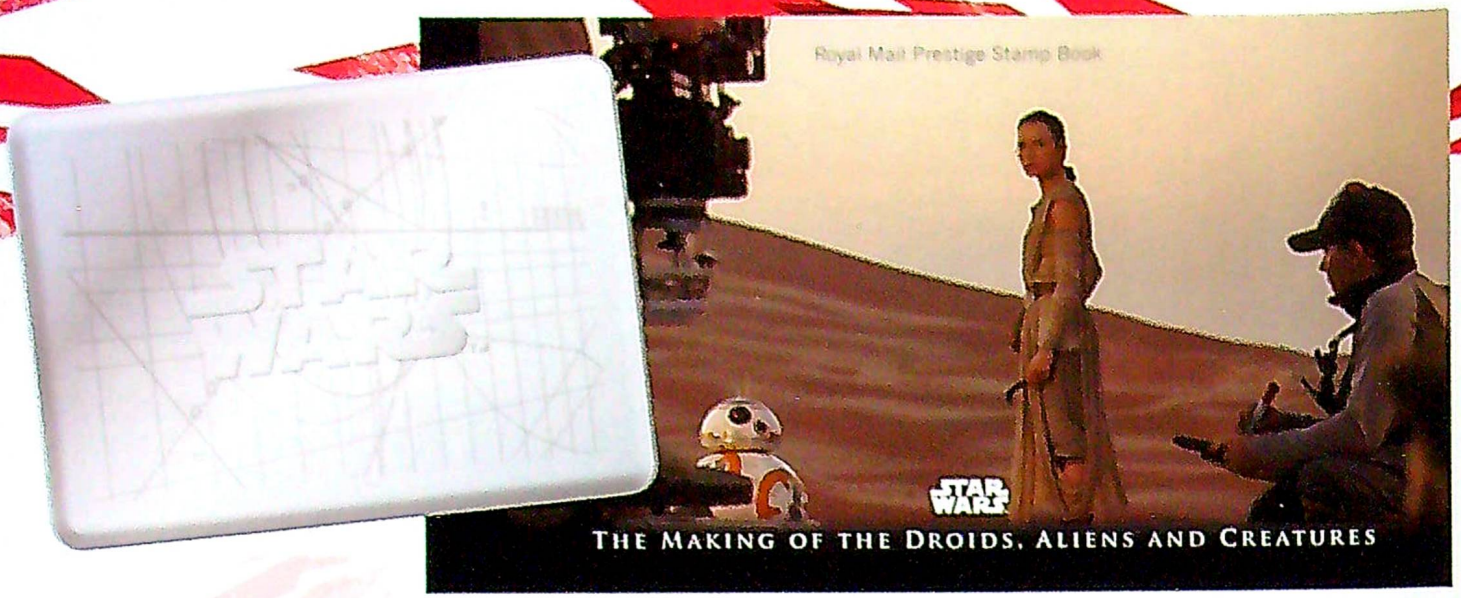


Above: the obverse design of the Coins was created by Etienne Millner

Right: the Coin Covers' information card includes images of Special Stamps issued by Royal Mail to mark previous wedding anniversaries



THE ROYAL WEDDING
PLATINUM ANNIVERSARY
No 0100





Droids, Aliens and Creatures PSB Your first glimpse of the stunning *Star Wars* Prestige Stamp Book and Medal Covers launching next month

Above: the embossed silver metal box for the Limited Edition PSB; PSB front page and first pane of stamps, set in an image showing Neal Scanlan and friends in The Creature Shop at Pinewood Studios

We all love Luke, Leia, Han and the gang but the new *Star Wars* Prestige Stamp Book pays tribute to the non-human heroes and villains who have thrilled and chilled us over the years. The Making of the Droids, Aliens and Creatures Prestige Stamp Book (PSB) reveals how brilliant special effects experts designed and built memorable characters, from old favourite Chewbacca the Wookiee to adorable new droid BB-8.

Accompanying the PSB issue are four Limited Edition Medal Covers – two featuring C-3PO, and one each featuring R2-D2 and BB-8. The Covers and the PSB are out on 14 December, to coincide with the day of the UK release of new *Star Wars* movie *The Last Jedi*.

Prestige Stamp Book All eight stamps from this year's *Star Wars* issue (which was released on 12 October), four from the 2015 issue and a brace of Definitives feature in the PSB's four colourful panes. Also in the 26-page booklet, an interview

***Star Wars* Prestige Stamp Book and Medal Covers – Prices**	
Prestige Stamp Book	£15.99
Prestige Stamp Book Limited Edition 1977	£75.00
First Day Cover – Prestige Stamp Book	£8.24
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

For full Star Wars 2017 price list see page 8 of September Bulletin



with veteran *Star Wars* effects technician Neal Scanlan reveals a string of anecdotes about his team's work at Pinewood Studios in Buckinghamshire, unofficial home of *Star Wars* productions.

A Limited Edition version of this beautifully produced Prestige Stamp Book has a run of just 1,977 copies – representing the year that the first *Star Wars* film was released. It comes with a hardback cover design featuring silver foiling, and is packaged in an embossed silver metal clamshell case with the *Star Wars* logo etched on it.

Pane 1: 2 x Second Class, 4 x First Class, 2 x £1.40 Definitives. On the spread accompanying the pane is special effects guru Neal Scanlan sitting among the creations of the *Star Wars* 'Creature Shop' at Pinewood Studios.

Pane 2: 1 x Han Solo, 1 x Princess Leia stamp from the 2015 issue (both First Class), 1 x C-3PO, 1 x R2-D2 (both First Class) from the 2017 issue. The pane spread shows a Chewbacca mask and C-3PO actor Anthony Daniels getting into his droid suit.

Pane 3: 1 x Chewbacca, 1 x K-2SO, 1 x Porg, 1 x BB-8 stamp (all First Class) from the 2017 issue. The pane spread features K-2SO actor Alan Tudyk with a model of the security droid he plays in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, and a puppeteer manoeuvring the BB-8 model on set. ▶





Above: panes 2, 3 and 4 of the Making of the Droids, Aliens and Creatures Prestige Stamp Book. Pane 1 is on the PSB First Day Cover, cancelled with one of the alternative postmarks shown here



FD1724

Pane 4: 1 x Maz Kanata, 1 x Supreme Leader Snoke stamp from the 2017 issue (both First Class), 1 x Rey, 1 x Yoda stamp (both First Class) from the 2015 issue. On the pages accompanying the pane are Maz Kanata actor Lupita Nyong'o and Andy Serkis, who plays Snoke. Both wear 'performance capture' equipment – sensors that perfectly replicate the actors' movements on computer that will be used to animate their digitally created characters.

Four Medal Covers Also issued on 14 December is the series of Limited Edition Medal Covers: a Cupro-nickel C-3PO Medal Cover with a run of 15,000, and three Silver Proof Covers of C-3PO, R2-D2 and BB-8 available in a limited edition of just 750 copies each.

Each Medal Cover has a special first-day handstamp showing at its centre the classification of the robot type for each droid, and beneath that is the location of Star in different regions. The C-3PO mark reads: 'Protocol Droid' with the location Star, Glenrothes; the R2-D2 mark is: 'Astromech Droid' with the location Star, Llanfyrnach; the BB-8 mark is also 'Astromech Droid' and features the location of Star, Winscombe.





Above: C-3PO Cupro-nickel Medal Cover – 1,500 available
Right: C-3PO Silver Proof Medal Cover available in a limited run of 750
Below: BB-8 and R2-D2 Silver Proof Medal Covers, each issued in a limited run of 750





First day covers Orders for Serviced (ie stamped and postmarked) First Day Covers should reach Royal Mail by the day of issue, 14 December. 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 Tallents House postmark. Please quote the *Bulletin* media code 17BUL11 with your online and telephone orders •

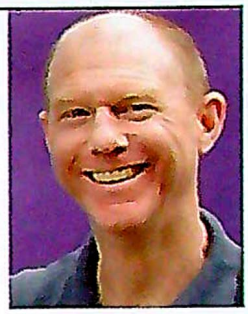


FD1724



FD1724

Star Wars Medal Cover – Specifications	
Diameter	38.45mm
Weight	28.28g
Alloy	Cupro-nickel



Covers pick William Doherty on his three favourite Royal Mail Covers of 2017

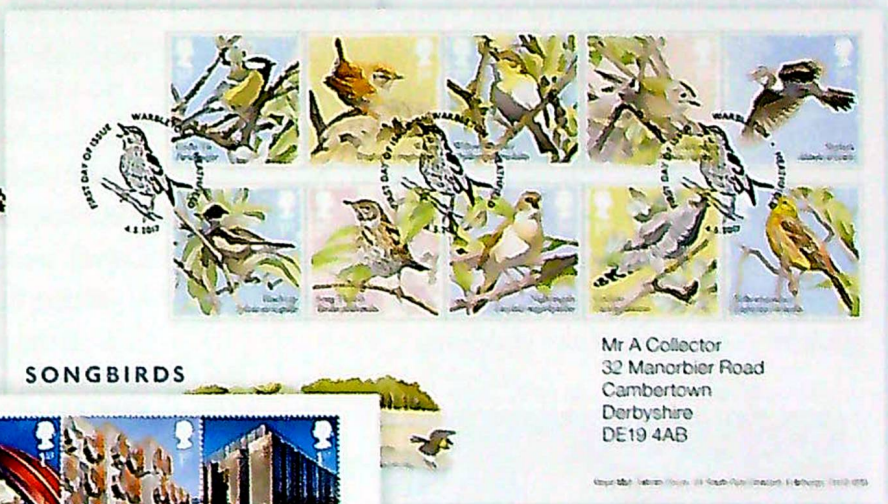
I love the Ancient Britain set for the amazing history it reveals, and for the clever design device of illustrating Ancient Britons interacting with photographed artefacts or environments. Introducing people brings that amazing history to life. My favourite is the stamp showing a woman wearing a gold cape, discovered in Flintshire and believed to be around 4,000 years old.

The Songbirds issue also rates highly for me. The delicate illustrations reflect the beauty of British songbirds and work extremely well at stamp size. The delicate nature of the pictures also suggests the fragility of our bird population, and so the stamps are a useful reminder of the need for conservation.

All that I admire about British architecture is encapsulated in the Landmark Buildings issue. Here is the perfect combination of beauty and functionality cast in stone… and also glass, concrete and steel. My favourite stamp is the Scottish Parliament as it is such a forward-looking building – and I assure you my choice has nothing to do with me being a Scot! •









Above: Ancient Britons FDC 17 January, with stamp illustrations by Rebecca Strickson and design by True North. Songbirds FDC 4 May, with illustrations by Federico Gemma and design by Osborne Ross.

Left: Landmark Buildings FDC 13 July, stamp design GBH

Celebrating The Queen's 70th

Theirs is a long life shared and an enduring love cherished. The romance between The Queen and her prince continues to thrive under the enormous pressure of devoting every waking day to duty and service for more than half a century.

Princess Elizabeth and handsome naval officer Philip Mountbatten were the most famous couple in the world when they married at Westminster Abbey on 20 November 1947: the eyes of the nation were upon them; 200 million people from all quarters of the globe followed the service by wireless. Thus from the very beginning of their journey together the Royal Couple have been under intense scrutiny. Yet they have deftly interwoven their very public life with a

The Royal Wedding

The sheer joy on the faces of the newlyweds shines out on this 20p value from the 1997 Golden Wedding Anniversary set. This official Royal Wedding photograph shows Philip in Royal Navy dress uniform and Princess Elizabeth in a Norman Hartnell-designed dress inspired by Botticelli's painting *Primavera* and studded with 10,000 seed pearls. Such was the enthusiasm for the royal union that thousands of women sent their clothing coupons to the future Queen so she could have the wedding dress of her dreams. (They were politely returned as it was illegal to transfer ownership of the coupons.)



The 20p stamp appearing in the Golden Wedding Anniversary issue that was released in 1997

Family Life

Balmoral

Queen Victoria called it a 'paradise in the Highlands' and The Queen and her husband feel the same: set amid mountains and glens in Royal Deeside, Aberdeenshire, Balmoral Castle is a haven of carefree family life away from the pressures of public duty.

The First Class stamp from the 2007 Diamond Wedding Anniversary issue's Miniature Sheet, showing the Royal Family at the castle in 1972, says it all about Balmoral. The castle is the place for the Royals' summer holiday – as can be seen from the 78p value in the same set, with Charles and Anne and their doting parents. Elizabeth and Philip spend about

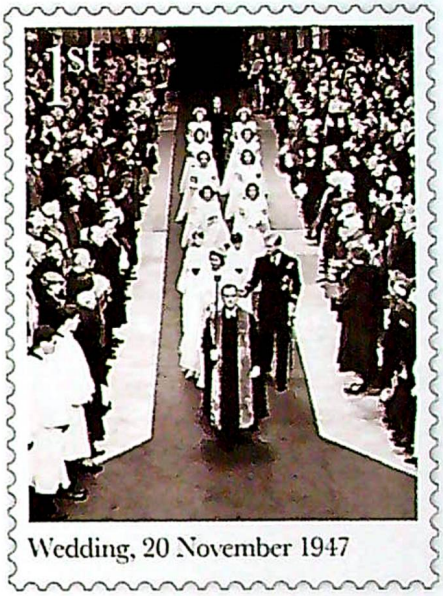


Happy times for the Royal Family colourfully recorded on stamps featuring in the Diamond Wedding Anniversary Miniature Sheet

wedding anniversary

loving marriage that has produced four children, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Together The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have travelled the UK and the world on state visits fulfilling their royal duties. Together they have led a busy yet fulfilling private life nurturing a large and happy family.

And over the years the love the Royal Couple share and the life they lead together has been captured on an extraordinary collection of stamp issues. As Royal Mail releases a new set celebrating their platinum wedding anniversary on 20 November, we present the stamps that tell the love story of The Queen and her prince…



Wedding, 20 November 1947

Above: one of the stamps from the Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary issue (see the entire stamp set on page 68)







Left: Highland fun and games on the 41p Braemar stamp from the 1994 Summertime issue and (above) The Queen and Prince Philip relax on board in the HMY Britannia Commemorative Sheet issued in 2013

two months at Balmoral, where they can behave like a 'normal' couple. Family activities include 'home cinema nights', and country walks; Prince Philip cooks barbecues and The Queen does the washing-up by hand (Margaret Thatcher was so shocked to see Her Majesty cleaning dishes without gloves at Balmoral that she sent her a pair).

Braemar

An official engagement it might be but the annual Braemar Gathering, several miles along the River Dee from Balmoral, is also a fun family day out for the Royal Couple. Sitting together contentedly side by side, they adore watching the Highland games such as caber tossing and putting the weight, as illustrated by the 41p value from the 1994 Summertime issue shown above.

HMY Britannia

'This is where I can truly relax,' The Queen once said of *Her Majesty's Yacht Britannia*, and thus revealed the lighter side to life on the Royal Yacht. For while *Britannia* took The Queen and Prince Philip all over the world on official state business (Britannia sailed a million miles in its 44-year career), it was also an important part of family life. After Cowes Week, the Royal Family would take *Britannia* for a relaxing holiday touring the Western Isles. There they would enjoy picnics on the beach and join with the ship's crew performing in informal concert parties on board. 2013's HMY Britannia Commemorative Sheet revealed a host of fascinating facts about the famous ship. ▸

Family Homes

Windsor Castle

Windsor, the world's oldest continuously occupied castle, is of course a working palace, as a magnificent venue for state occasions, which was made abundantly clear by the majestic images on this year's Windsor Castle issue. But it has long been The Queen and Prince Philip's weekend home and therefore a place in which the couple could relax with their children, highlighted by the charming family photo, on the 69p value in the Diamond Wedding Anniversary issue, taken at Windsor in 1965. Windsor has therefore been the scene of many happy occasions during the couple's long marriage. In 1997 they marked their golden wedding anniversary with a ball at the castle, and last year The Queen celebrated her 90th birthday there with the Duke of Edinburgh by her side.





Buckingham Palace

While Balmoral Castle is a family retreat, Buckingham Palace is the 'business headquarters' of the British monarchy. Here Elizabeth and Philip work together as a husband-and-wife team, receiving visiting heads of state and presiding over receptions and investitures – activities supported by the Palace's 19 State rooms and 92 offices, and the sheer grandeur of the facilities, as seen on these stamps from 2014's Buckingham Palace Miniature Sheet. For example, guests ascend the John Nash-designed Grand Staircase to access the State rooms, and the Blue Drawing Room is the gathering point for visitors to diplomatic receptions. The Palace is also important as a family home, and holds many happy memories for The Queen and the Duke. She gave birth to Prince Charles and Prince Andrew here, and in the Music Room Charles, Andrew, Princess Anne and Prince William were christened. The Palace has also long been a glittering venue for Royal Wedding receptions, including The Queen's own and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge's in 2011.



Top: a First Class stamp from the Windsor Castle set and a 69p value from the Diamond Wedding Anniversary issue

Above: the Buckingham Palace Miniature Sheet











2007 Diamond Wedding Anniversary – 78p: the then Princess Elizabeth and Philip Mountbatten visiting Clydebank, 1947 and The Queen and Prince Philip at the premiere of *The Guns of Navarone*, 27 April 1961; 54p: the Royal Couple at Royal Ascot, 1969 and The Queen and Prince Philip attend the Garter Ceremony at Windsor, 16 June 1980; First Class: The Queen and Prince Philip inspect the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery in Regents Park, 30 April 1997

Royal Duties

Throughout their long marriage The Queen and Prince Philip have committed themselves to unstinting public service. Yet, as our stamp gallery here shows, they have often been at each other's side, supporting each other in their royal duties which they have invariably fulfilled with good humour and a ready smile…



2012 Diamond Jubilee issue – £1.28 Commonwealth Games 1982 and First Class Golden Jubilee 2002

The Royal Wedding by numbers

150,000

The crowds lining London streets cheering the Royal newlyweds as they left Westminster Abbey numbered 150,000.

10,000

The number of seed pearls embroidered on Princess Elizabeth's wedding dress.

2,500

Elizabeth and Philip were married in front of 2,500 VIP guests at Westminster Abbey, including The King and Queen of Denmark and the King and Queen of Yugoslavia.

500

The wedding cake – featuring ingredients sent by the Australian Girl Guides – weighed 500 pounds.

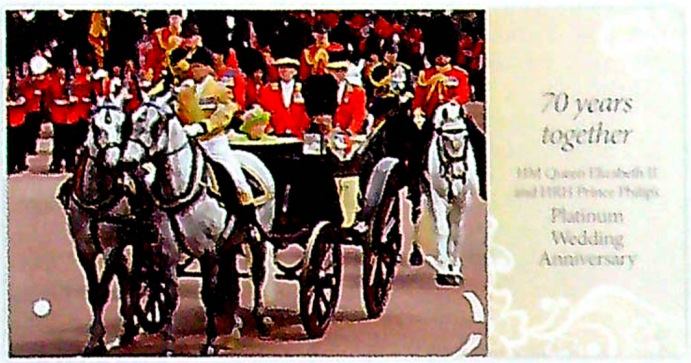
15

Elizabeth's wedding dress had a circular train 15 feet long •



Right: Jersey Post's 70 Years Together pictorial stamp issue. Below: Platinum Wedding Anniversary First Day Cover. Left: Sheetlet with £2 stamp showing Her Majesty The Queen and Prince Philip at







Jersey 70th Wedding Anniversary

It is the biggest love story in British history and this month The Queen and Prince Philip's platinum wedding anniversary is celebrated with a very special stamp set. Jersey Post's six-stamp issue marks Her Majesty's amazing milestone of being the first ever monarch to celebrate 70 years of marriage.

Yet the set rightly focuses on the enduring bond between The Queen and her prince, who as Consort has loyally supported his wife throughout her reign. To this end, each stamp bears the legend: '70 years together'.

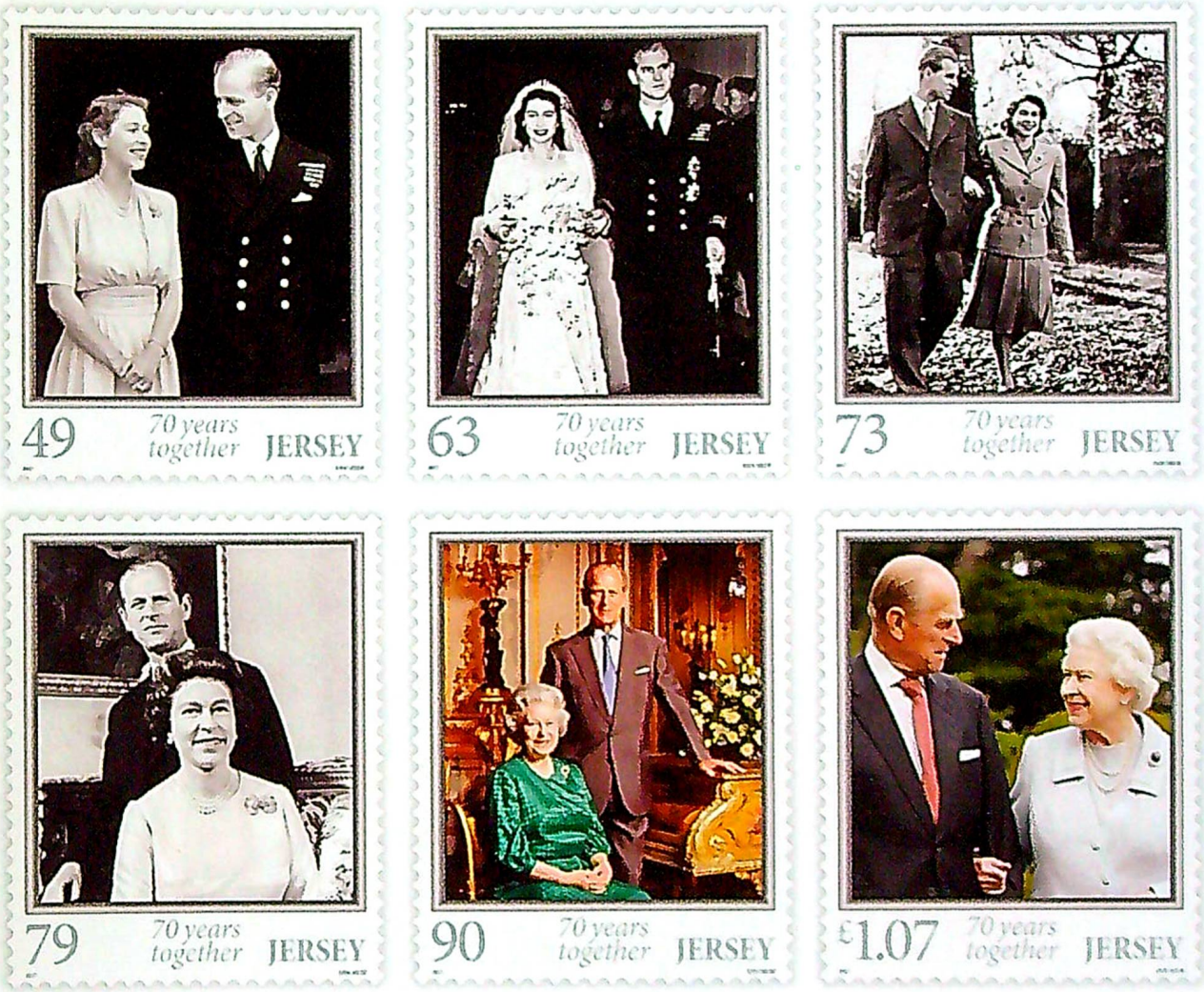
Released on 3 November, the issue is accompanied by a miniature sheet and a souvenir sheetlet.

Stamp by stamp

The Platinum Wedding Anniversary issue is printed in lithography by Joh. Enschede Security Printers in sheets of ten.

The Engagement The engagement of Princess Elizabeth and Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten was announced on 9 July 1947 by her parents, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The young couple greeted well-wishers the following day, with a formal announcement to the press at Buckingham Palace. 49p

The Wedding Day The wedding ceremony was officiated by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Geoffrey Fisher, and the Archbishop of York, Cyril Garbett.



The newly married couple then left Westminster Abbey to appear on the balcony of Buckingham Palace where they waved to the large crowds that had gathered. 63p

The Honeymoon The newly married couple spent their wedding night at Broadlands in Hampshire, the home of Philip's uncle, Earl Mountbatten. They later headed to Birkhall on the Balmoral Estate in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, where they enjoyed the rest of their honeymoon. 73p

Silver Wedding Anniversary The Queen and Prince Philip read messages of congratulations from around the world in Buckingham Palace's Belgian Suite as they celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in 1972. 79p

Golden Wedding Anniversary Pictured here at Buckingham Palace in 1997, The Queen and Prince Philip celebrated 50 years of marriage. 90p

Diamond Wedding Anniversary To mark their diamond wedding anniversary in 2007, The Queen and Prince Philip revisited Broadlands where, 60 years before, they had spent their wedding night. £1.07

On 20 November, the date of the Royal Couple's wedding in 1947, Jersey Post also issues a specially designed cover in a limited edition of 700. It features the £73p and £1.07 values from the issue, with the bureau operational cancel with the date of issue.

Enquiries for Jersey Post's Platinum Wedding Anniversary issue: 00 44 (0)1534 516320 and www.jerseystamps.com •

War artists

The horror of war and the hope of peace have been movingly captured on Royal Mail poppy stamps by some of Britain's best artists, designers and photographers. So as Royal Mail reintroduces two poppy stamps, the Common Poppy from 2014's Post & Go Symbolic Flowers and the Shattered Poppy from this year's First World War 1917 set, we reveal how these creatives uniquely interpreted the meaning of the Remembrance flower in philatelic form



Shattered Poppy Stamp / First World War 1917 issue. Details: Vol 54 p340

John Ross
Photographer

John Ross butchered his poppy just as bullets butchered a generation in the trenches. Ross portrays the delicate flower shattered into tiny fragments, using a poppy frozen by liquid nitrogen and smashed with steel tweezers. 'The poppy is deemed a fragile flower that sanctifies the fields in which it grows. But here it is shattered, when a peaceful land is torn up with war,' says Ross. He photographed the flower in a barn by a poppy field. 'I had to shoot quickly – no more than six seconds – as the poppy thawed so fast. A frozen poppy seems even more fragile, like glass, which is somehow symbolic' •



Poppy Stamp / First World War 1914 issue. Details: Vol 51 p302



Battlefield Poppy Stamp / First World War 1916 issue. Details: Vol 53 p280

Fiona Strickland

Artist

Botanical artist Fiona Strickland transforms the gentle poppy into an eruption of violence. She achieved the effect to show the viciousness of war, after discussing the idea of the poppy as a bursting shell with stamp designer Gareth Howat. 'It had to be flame-like, representing those first explosive shots of the war,' she explains. The fiery effect of shells going off came from mixing colours and building up paint layers to create texture and light, painting the folds of a poppy I'd picked, to resemble a flash of light radiating from the centre of an explosion' •

Giles Revell

Photographer

'I was struck by the desolate environment where soldiers were sent into battle,' says Giles Revell of the emotional effect of working on his poppy image. The desolation of war is indeed reflected in his work, with roiling smoke from bursting bombs simulated by dyes in water. 'The image was made in a water-filled tank, with pigments delivered through catheters as streams of colour,' says Revell. 'I hope my depiction of the poppy conveys the chaos of war, whilst offering a symbol of enduring hope and survival, despite its fragility' •

Howard Hodgkin

Artist

Hodgkin was famously reticent to talk about meaning in his work, exhorting viewers to 'look, just look!' and make up their own mind. And Hodgkin, who died in March, said only of his poppy stamp: 'I used real poppies in Normandy. I used different thicknesses of paint, carborundum printing in vermillion, cadmium and natural, red oil-based inks.' This prosaic explanation prompts us to analyse his searingly bright poppies, and in their sunny hues see signs of hope rising from the misery of war. In his only other stamp design, 'New Worlds' from 1999, a red-orange dawn rises out of the 20th century, the most violent century in history, to offer us hope in the 21st • ▸



Poppies Stamp / First World War 1915 issue. Details Vol 52 p232



Poppy power

Gareth Howat
Designer

Just when you think the poppy is sufficiently symbolic of sacrifice, designer Gareth Howat brilliantly saturates it with still more motifs of suffering and hidden messages of hope.

In this poignant stamp triptych, peace in poppy form blooms from the barbs of war; troops advance under the fiery 'sky' of a poppy petal; life grows fresh as a green-stemmed poppy bearing the face of the fallen.

The semi-concealed imagery, deftly woven into the fabric of the flowers, encourages you to stop and contemplate the nature of war and the importance of remembrance.

'From a design perspective, we wanted to give each image a graphical twist – you look, see a beautiful flower, but then discover a hidden visual message,' says Howat. 'This is about getting people to look again, more closely, to stop and remember.'

These Lest We Forget stamps, now considered classics by collectors and design experts alike, were released one at a time from 2006 to 2008 and commemorate the 90th anniversary of major events of the First World War.

The barbed wire stamp of 2006 commemorates the Somme, the advancing soldiers Passchendaele, and the face-in-the-poppy stamp from 2008 remembers the Armistice.

Yet Howat, creative director of design agency Hat-trick, which also produced the First World War sets, had originally been briefed to do a one-off stamp as part of a single country stamp miniature sheet.

'The brief from Royal Mail was very open – they wanted something to commemorate peace,' recalls Howat. 'We tried lots of ideas, from doves to poems, but also poppies as they are such a universal symbol of commemoration.

'I was playing with this photo of poppies by a Japanese photographer, in a backlit style called a photogram, and the stems seemed to tangle around each other like barbed wire. And then I had the idea of the stems actually being barbed wire, and worked up an image.

'So just as poppies – new life – grew from earth on the battlefield churned up by artillery, so something good and hopeful comes from the horror of war, as represented by the soft and gentle poppy emerging from the sharp wire.'

The rest is philatelic history – the barbed wire stamp was so well received on its release that Royal Mail wanted a series. And the series became a classic, each stamp giving up their own poignant message on second glance, yet seamlessly bound to each other visually with the blood-red palette splashed across a stark white background.

For the second stamp, Howat took a still frame from a contemporary film of troops going 'over the top', used his Mac to 'pinch' it so the figures

were closer together and digitally darkened the group so they formed the black *trompe-l'oeil* centre of the flower. But look still closer, and naturally radiating lines on the petals look like shell fragments soaring skywards...

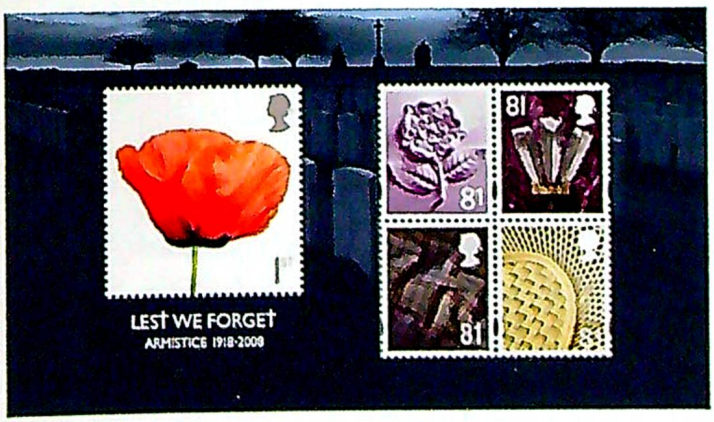
For many, Howat's third stamp is the one. 'We wanted this stamp to be very personal, to show the face of a soldier whose sacrifice was followed by the peace of the Armistice,' explains Howat.

Ghosted into the poppy by the finesse of Howat and his Mac, floating pallidly in the billowing petals, is the face of infantry captain James Cooke, gassed to death near Ypres on 14 April 1918. He was 23. Howat selected Cooke from around 30 images of war dead sent to him by the Imperial War Museum. 'I was struck by his haunted stare,' says Howat, 'but to be honest it was simply important to show someone real who was a victim of war.

'We wanted just one person because you read so much about the millions who died, and the casualty figures are so huge that they almost distance us from the tragedy.

'Yet by presenting just one face, just one man, we are reminding people that when you see a field of poppies, each one of them represents someone who gave their life' •







The three miniature sheets in the Lest We Forget series commemorate the fallen at the Battle of the Somme and Passchendaele, and the Armistice. Each carries a poppy stamp and four Country Definitives. All poppy stamps shown in this feature are available from www.royalmail.com/stamps. Stamp images © Royal Mail Group Ltd

Post & Go remember them

The Common Poppy stamp from the 2014 Symbolic Flowers Post & Go issue has been reintroduced as Remembrance Day approaches. The Common Poppy is available on reels of self-service stamps with just the one design, so Post Office Post & Go machines could carry them in the run-up to Remembrance Sunday on 12 November •



New wave The first of our two British Forces Philatelic Service covers greets a new support ship now entering service with the Royal Navy

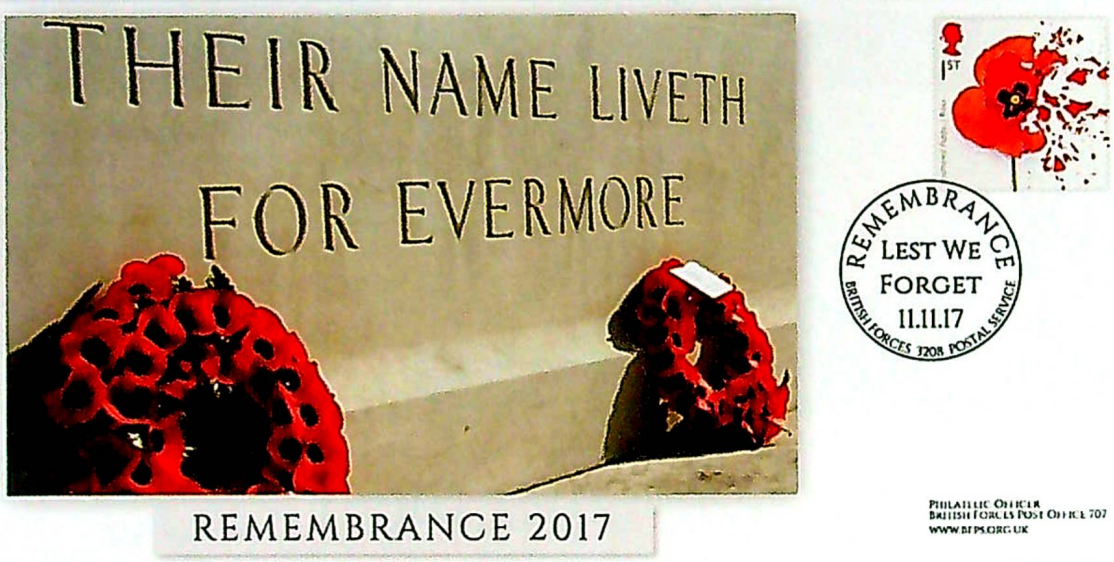
BFPS
The Old Post Office
Links Place
Elie
Fife
KY9 1AX
www.bfps.org.uk/shop

Hers is a vital task supporting the Royal Navy on worldwide operations. Now the sterling work of tanker *RFA Tidespring* is stylishly acknowledged on this handsome cover. *Tidespring* is the first of four MARS Tide Class fast fleet tankers now entering service to assist new aircraft carriers *HMS Queen Elizabeth* and *HMS Prince of Wales*, among other ships. The cover is issued on 27 November in conjunction with the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Association. The image is from the ship's 'delivery voyage' across the Pacific.

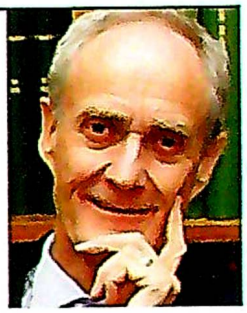


The Smilers® stamp has a photo taken when *Tidespring* visited Hawaii. It is cancelled by handstamp BFPS 3210 showing the ship's badge. Price: £8; £15 signed by Royal Fleet Auxiliary officers (UK/BFPO p&p free). Buy at www.bfps.org.uk/shop or send a cheque payable to 'BFPS CIC' to the address on the left •

Lest we forget This thought-provoking cover makes a moving memorial to Britain's war dead



This evocative Armistice cover pays poignant tribute to the fallen of the First World War. Aptly released on 11 November – the day in 1918 when the guns fell silent, it shows a 'stone of Remembrance' at a Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery. The stamp, the 'Shattered Poppy' design from the 2017 First World War set, is cancelled by the BFPS 3208 'Lest we forget' handstamp. Price: £6 (UK/BFPO p&p free). Buy at www.bfps.org.uk/shop or send a cheque payable to 'BFPS CIC' to the address above •



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

3-4 November Stafford Stamp Show, Staffordshire County Showground, Ingestre Suite, Weston Road, Stafford ST18 0BD, Friday 10am to 5pm, Saturday 10am to 4pm. Free admission and parking. Enquiries: John and Jane Rice, 01785 259350, stamps@john-rice-stamps.co.uk.

4 November Middlewich Stamp Fair, Community Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich CW10 9BX, 10am to 3.30pm. Free admission and parking. Enquiries: Fred O'Reilly, 01226 765069.

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

4 November Rawreth Stamp Fair, Rawreth Parish Hall, Church Road, Rawreth SS11 8SH, 10am to 4pm. 10 dealers, refreshments, free parking. Enquiries: Steve Search, 01702 323682, stevesearch@hotmail.com.

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

5 November Milton Keynes Stamp Fair, Novotel, Saxon Street, Leybourne Court, Milton Keynes MK13 7RA, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Graham O'Hara, 07710 683122.

5 November Oxford Stamp Fair, Botley W.I. Hall, North Hinksey Lane, Oxford OX2 0JS, 9am to 1pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

10 November Strand Stamp Fair, Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0DG, 9am to 4pm. Admission free. Enquiries: Kate Puleston, 020 8946 4489.

11 November Bilsborrow Stamp Fair, Bilsborrow Village Hall, Bilsborrow PR3 0RE, 10am to 3.30pm, up to 17 dealers, hot and cold food all day. Enquiries: Fred O'Reilly, 01226 765069.

11 November Upminster Stamp Fair, St. Lawrence Church Hall, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster RM14 2AJ, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Graham O'Hara, 07710 683122.

11 November Maidstone and Mid-Kent PS Stamp Fair, Grove Green Community Centre, Grove Green, Maidstone ME14 5TQ, 10am to 3pm, 12 dealers, refreshments. Enquiries: Tony Davies, 01622 757599.

12 November Chelmsford Stamp and Postcard Fair, Old Chelmsfordian Club, Roxwell Road, Chelmsford CM1 2LY, 9am to 3pm, free parking. Enquiries: Steve Burnell, 01708 229763.

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

17-18 November Leeds 27th Annual Stamp Fair, Pudsey Civic Hall, Pudsey LS28 5TA, Friday 10.30am to 5pm, Saturday 10am to 4pm, free admission, car parking, over 30 dealers, café area. Enquiries: Derek Baron, 01943 465236.

18 November Preston Stamp Fair, Barton Village Hall, Garstang Road, Preston PR3 5AA, 10am to 4pm, car parking, 12 dealers, refreshments. ▸

Enquiries: John Roberts, 07943 174958, john.roberts591@virginmedia.com.

18 November Chester Stamp Fair, Hoole United Reformed Church, Hoole Road, Chester CH2 3AU, 10am to 3.30pm, free parking and admission. Enquiries: Fred O'Reilly, 01226 765069.

19 November Norwich Stamp Fair, Brook Hotel, Barnard Road, Bowthorpe, Norwich NR5 9JB, 10am to 3pm, 10 dealers, refreshments. Enquiries: Tony Hender, 01328 829318.

19 November Amersham Stamp Fair, Jubilee Scout Hall, Rectory Hill, Amersham HP7 0BT, 10am to 4.30pm. Enquiries: David Milton, 01895 637283, david.milton139@gmail.com.

25 November Northampton Stamp Fair, The Abbey Centre, East Hunsbury, Northampton NN4 0RZ, 9am to 3pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

25 November Stamp Essex 2017, Hampton's Sport and Leisure Ltd., Tydemans, off Beehive Lane, Chelmsford CM2 2FH, 10am to 4pm, free admission and parking, dealers' tables, displays and refreshments. Enquiries: John Dickenson, 01279 722297.

25 November Wanstead Stamp Fair, Wanstead Library, Spratt Hall Road, Wanstead E11 2RQ, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Graham O'Hara, 07710 683122.

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



26 November Peterborough Stamp Fair, Holiday Inn, Thorpe Wood, Peterborough PE3 6SG, 10am to 3pm, 10 dealers, free parking. Enquiries: Richard Lewis, 01945 700594.

26 November Rugby Stamp and Postcard Fair, Benn Hall, Newbold Road, Rugby CV21 2LN, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Simon Hemmings, 01455 642248, stamps@midphil.com.

26 November Stevenage Stamp Fair, Novotel, Knebworth Park, Stevenage SG1 2AX, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Graham O'Hara, 07710 683122.

26 November Bracknell Stamp Fair, Red Cross Centre, Bracknell RG12 9EN, 9am to 1pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

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

2 December Liverpool Stamp Fair, St. Columbia Church Hall, Hillfoot Road, Hunts Cross, Liverpool L25 0ND, 10am to 3.30pm. Enquiries: Fred O'Reilly, 01226 765069.

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

2 December Redbourne Stamp Fair, Redbourne Village Hall, 63 High Street, Redbourne AL3 7LW, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Graham O'Hara, 07710 683122.

2 December Rawreth Stamp Fair, Rawreth Parish Hall, Church Road, Rawreth SS11 8SH, 10am to 4pm. 10 dealers, refreshments, free parking. Enquiries: Steve Search, 01702 323682, stevesearch@hotmail.com.

3 December Hopton Stamp Fair, Hopton Village Hall, Station Road, Hopton NR31 9BE, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Terry Allaker, 01502 563759.

3 December Bedford Stamp Fair, St. Mark's Church Hall, Calder Rise,

DIARY DATES NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2017

Bedford MK41 7UY, 10am to 4pm, 11 dealers, free parking. Enquiries: Paul Harris, 01623 621143.



3 December Braintree Stamp Fair, The Bocking Arts Centre, 15 Bocking Road, Braintree CM7 9AE, 9.30am to 3.30pm, 8 dealers, free parking. Enquiries: Lorne Webb, 01424 751518.

3 December Oxford Stamp Fair, Botley W.I. Hall, North Hinksey Lane, Oxford OX2 0JS, 9am to 1pm. Enquiries: Tristan Brittain, 07957 158299.

3 December Taplow Stamp Fair, Taplow and Hitcham W.I. Hall, Institute Road, Taplow SL6 0NS, 10am to 4.30pm. Enquiries: David Milton, 01895 637283, david.milton139@gmail.com.

8 December Strand Stamp Fair, Royal National Hotel, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0DG, 9am to 4pm. Admission free. Enquiries: Kate Puleston, 020 8946 4489.

9 December Preston Stamp Fair, Barton Village Hall, Garstang Road, Preston PR3 5AA, 10am to 4pm, 12 dealers, refreshments, free parking. Enquiries: John Roberts, 07943 174958, john.roberts591@virginmedia.com.

9 December Middlewich Stamp Fair, Community Centre, Civic Way, Middlewich, CW10 9BX, 10am to 3.30pm, free admission and parking. Enquiries: Fred O'Reilly, 01226 765069.

9 December King's Lynn Stamp Fair, Gaywood Church Rooms, Gayton Road, Gaywood, King's Lynn PE30 4DZ, 10am to 3pm. Enquiries: Tony Hender, 01328 829318.



9 December Cardiff Stamp, Postcards and Collectors' Fair, Cardiff City Hall, Cardiff CF10 3ND, 10am to 4pm, 40 dealers. Enquiries: Malcolm Harrington, 01792 415293, malcolm.harrington@hotmail.co.uk.

10 December Chelmsford Stamp and Postcard Fair, Old Chelmsfordian Club, Roxwell Road, Chelmsford CM1 2LY, 9am to 3pm. Enquiries: Steve Burnell, 01708 229763.

10 December Bexley Stamp Fair, Freemantle Hall, Bexley High Street, Bexley DA5 1AA, 9.30am to 3pm, 7 dealers. Enquiries: Lorne Webb, 01424 751518.

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

17 December Slip End Stamp Fair, Village Hall, Markyate Road, Slip End, Luton LU1 4BU, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Graham O'Hara, 07710 683122.

23 December Addlestone Stamp Fair, Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone KT15 2NJ, 10am to 4.30pm. Enquiries: David Milton, 01895 637283, davidmilton139@gmail.com.

27 December Aylesbury Stamp Fair, Holiday Inn, Aston Clinton Road, Aylesbury HP22 5AA, 10am to 4pm. Enquiries: Graham O'Hara, 07710 683122 •

2017 UK events

14-17 February Spring Stampex, Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 0QH.

15-16 April 89th Annual Scottish Philatelic Congress, The Dewars Centre, Glover Street, Perth PH2 0TH.

26-29 July 100th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, Jurys Inn, Gateshead NE83AE.

Watch out for further details of these prestigious events nearer the time •



1



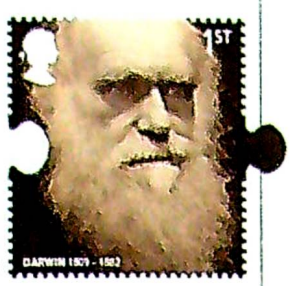
2



3

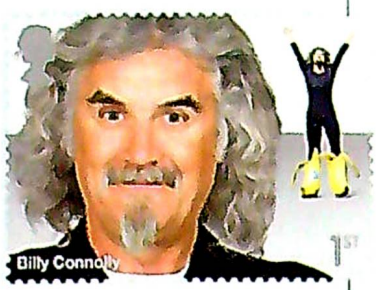


4



5

Hairy quiz



6

As this month is 'Movember', when chaps grow moustaches to raise charity cash for men's health issues, our quiz and Name That Stamp puzzle are all about stamps starring men with hairy faces. If you win – by a whisker perhaps? – you will receive a Royal Mail Presentation Pack and personalised Smilers® Sheet – why not make it a special 'Mo' sheet with a snap of you sporting your charity tache!

1 Who is the tweedy explorer in this 3p value from 1973?
a David Livingstone
b Ken Livingstone
c Blarney Stone

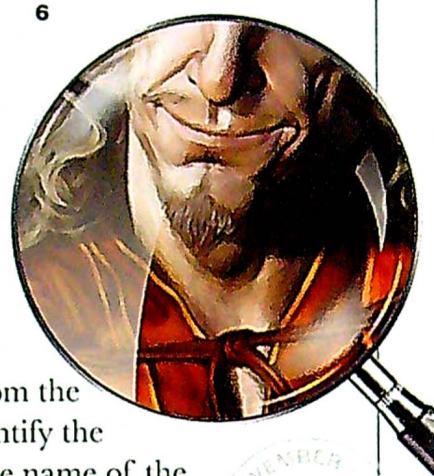
2 A furry-lipped funnyman appeared in the British Films issue of 1985. Who took the photo?
a Bill Bryson
b Bill Clinton
c Bill Brandt

3 Which heroic organisation does the commanding figure represent in this 1986 stamp?
a The RAC
b The RAF
c The AA

4 What is the name of the moustachioed fellow appearing in a stamp from the 1993 Sherlock Holmes set?
a Inspector Clouseau
b Inspector Clueless
c Inspector Lestrade

5 Abundantly bearded Charles Darwin stars on this stamp in the 2009 issue celebrating his work as a pioneer of evolution. Name the ship that took him on his famous voyage of scientific discovery...
a *HMS Beagle*
b *HMS Bugle*
c *HMS Google*

6 Hairy, hilarious Billy Connolly appears on a this stamp in 2015's Comedy Greats. What is he also known as?
a The Big Yin
b The Big Bin
c The Big Chin



Name That Stamp From the detail on the right, identify the owner of the beard, the name of the issue and the year it was released

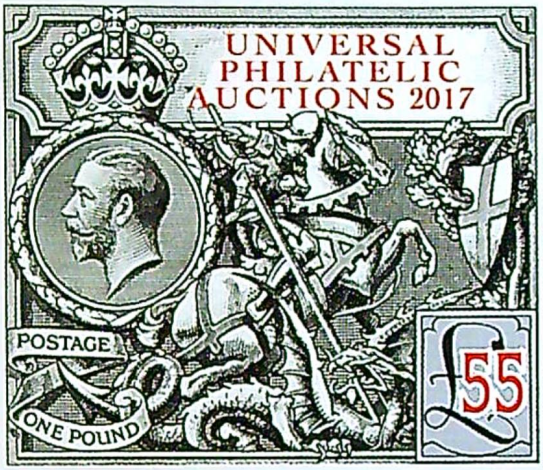
How to enter Send your answers, along with your contact address or phone number, marked 'Bulletin Hairy Quiz', to Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB.
Closing date 6 December 2017.
Prizes Senders of the first five entries drawn from the postbag in each section after the closing date win a *Star Wars* Presentation Pack. Two first prize winners will be invited to choose their image for a complementary personalised Smilers® Sheet.

September Child's Play solution and winners *Solution* 1e, 2b, 3f, 4d, 5a, 6c, 7h, 8g. *Winner* E Remnant. *Runners-up* I Bennett, G Coates, W Ellingham, P McCartan, *Name That Stamp Solution* Ladybird Books 14 September 2017. *Winner* S Hogg. *Runners-up* A Ashdown, P Boots, D Bowcock, S Langston.

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. 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.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER FOR BULLETIN SUBSCRIBERS

RESIDING IN THE UK, USA, WEST EUROPE, AUSTRALIA, CANADA & NZ.



Put Your 1st £55 FREE towards a high value !

ATTENTION BULLETIN SUBSCRIBERS:

Is Your Collection complete? Are You Missing Earlier GB Stamps?

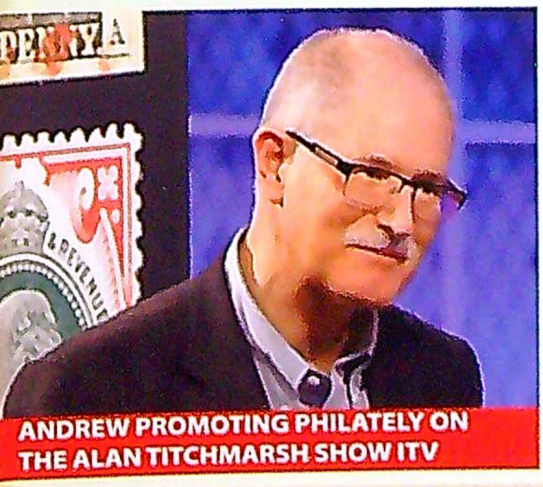
3,000+/- LOTS GB TO CHOOSE FROM !



Contrary to popular opinion earlier GB Stamps like these don't have to cost a fortune if you win them at my Universal Philatelic Auctions...

Which is why, If You Want to add affordable earlier GB Stamps missing from your collection, I'll give you your 1st GBP£55 Auction Winnings FREE so you can test my Auction.

All You Have to do is...Simply Request Your Next FREE Catalogue Now and I'll send you my FREE Tips of The Trade PLUS Your FREE Complimentary pair of Tweezers which are exactly the same as we professionals use in the office -


ANDREW PROMOTING PHILATELY ON THE ALAN TITCHMARSH SHOW ITV


Yours FREE Prinz 903 Tweezers



JUST REQUEST YOUR FREE CATALOGUE NOW while you're thinking about it and we'll send your tweezers immediately –

Contact my Team: ***www.upastampauctions.co.uk*** – go to auctions or call us on:

+44 (0)1451 861111 Fax: +44 (0)1451 861297

– e-mail: ***info@upastampauctions.co.uk*** quoting 'Bulletin Tweezer Mail: UPA, (BulletinTCat Offer)

4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, GL54 3HE, England

Royal Mail stamp Issues and Withdrawals





7 November — **Issue** Christmas 2017. Stamps from Royal Mail Children's Design Competition (1 x 2nd Class, 1 x 2nd Class Large, 1 x 1st Class, 1 x 1st Class Large), Madonna & Child Miniature Sheet (1 x 2nd Class, 1 x 1st Class, 1 x 76p, 1 x 98p, 1 x £1.17, 1 x £1.40, 1 x £1.57, 1 x £2.27), Presentation Pack, Stamp Souvenir, Stamp Sheet Souvenir, Postcards (13 in set), Stamp Book (6 x 1st Class Madonna & Child, 6 x 1st Class Design Competition), Stamp Book (6 x 2nd Class Madonna & Child, 6 x 2nd Class Design Competition), Stamp Book (12 x 1st Class Madonna & Child), Stamp Book (12 x 2nd Class Madonna & Child), Madonna & Child Smilers® Generic Sheet (8 x 2nd Class, 8 x 1st Class, 1 x £1.17, 1 x £1.40, 1 x £1.57, 1 x £2.27), Design Competition Smilers® Generic Sheet (10 x 2nd Class, 10 x 1st Class).

8 November — **Withdrawal** Christmas 2016 Special Stamps, Stamp Books, Generic Sheet, 50 Years of Christmas Stamps Generic Sheet.

13 November — **Reintroduction** of 2014 Post & Go Winter Greenery: Stamps (2 x 2nd Class, 2 x 1st Class). POL SSK offices and selected sites. POL only. Details: Volume 52, page 39; feature: Volume 52, page 115.



14 November — **Withdrawal** Post & Go Hibernating Animals: Stamps (1 x 2nd Class, 1 x 2nd Class Large, 1 x 1st Class, 1 x 1st Class Large). Details: Volume 54, page 36

16 November — **Issue** Lunar New Year – Year of the Dog: Smilers® Generic Sheet (20 x 1st Class).

20 November — **Issue** 2017 Annual Collections: Yearbook, Leatherbound Yearbook, Yearpack, Year of Miniature Sheets, Year of Presentation Packs. Details: page 37.

20 November — **Issue** The Royal Wedding: Platinum Anniversary: Miniature Sheet (3 x 1st Class, 3 x £1.57), Miniature Sheet First Day Cover, Stamp Sheet Souvenir, Presentation Pack, Postcards (7 in set), Press Sheet (14 x Miniature Sheet), Brilliant Uncirculated Coin Cover, Silver Proof Coin Cover, Gold Proof Coin Cover, Platinum Proof Coin Cover, Bespoke Souvenir Pack, Framed Miniature Sheet, Limited Edition Framed Print, Framed Stamps. Preview: page 68.



14 December — **Issue** *Star Wars* – The Making of the Droids, Aliens and Creatures: Prestige Stamp Book (pane 1 has 2 x 2nd Class, 4 x 1st Class, 2 x £1.40; panes 2, 3 and 4 all have 4 x 1st Class Special Stamps). Prestige Stamp Book First Day Cover (with pane 1), Limited Edition Prestige Stamp Book (limited edition of 1,977), Medal Cover: C-3PO in limited edition of 15,000, Silver Proof Medal Cover 1: C-3P0, Silver Proof Medal Cover 2: BB-8, Silver Proof Medal Cover 3: R2-D2 (all Silver Proofs in limited edition of 750). Details: pages 4, 36, 45, 76.

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 17BUL11, the *Bulletin* media code. Selected items are available at Post Office branches and philatelic outlets at main post offices.

FSC MIX FSC® C019670

Information about Royal Mail products is the latest available at the time of going to press. Royal Mail is not responsible for opinions and information provided by independent writers in this publication.

Royal Mail

The cruciform and the colour red are registered trade marks of Royal Mail Group Ltd, © Royal Mail Group Ltd 2017, all rights reserved. All stamp images © Royal Mail Group Ltd.
Any use of stamp images must be cleared with the Royal Mail Intellectual Property department – see www.royalmail.com/intellectual-property.