

STAMP

Journal



NUMBER
21



DISC WORLD DEFINITIVES



It's always nerve wracking bringing out a new stamp.

What we feel comfortable with is not always so well received by the collector and of course visa versa. So we are bracing ourselves for the launch of this year's definitives.

Following a great deal of consultation, discussion, and a little help from some collectors themselves, we have plumped for an overall design concept that moves the 'time line' forward and yet keeps those all important iconic images which are the backbone of the collection.

Mind you, even these have been subtly updated. The Patrician is now older than he was, so the hair is greyer and the chin less taut, and Morporkia has also had a few subtle changes wrought by the artist's hand.

Add to that some splendid new graphic decoration and we hope that this year's stamps will be as good as any our studio has produced

~ but only time, and you, will really tell.

It's all in the detail.

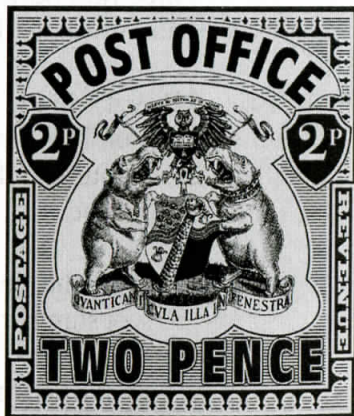


I used this stamp
as a base concept



And drew up this

Then an old friend wandered into the workshop, saw the drawings on the screen and suggested the overall balance of the design would be improved if I lowered the side shields just a fraction.



This I did - muttering oaths as you can imagine, but he knows his stamps, so -

And low and behold - a better design, even Ian was impressed. Hence this is now known as the stamp with a bit of 'Heart' in it!

In this issue:

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~ Plus ~

COMPETITION RESULTS. A SPOT THE DIFFERENCE COMPETITION AND OTHER SUNDRY OFFERINGS

We would like to thank all those who have contributed to this issue with a special 'mentioned in despatches' for Gavin Arnold whose Auction Price Guide must have taken hours to compile and Helen Hill who once again has laboured long and hard to produce our annual Bible. ~ THANK YOU ALL

In the Pipe-Line for The Year of The Happy Goose

I hope you're impressed at how quick off the mark we've been this year with the Guild of Musicians' stamp issued on 8th January, followed by a special cover on the 18th. Not only that, Ian produced an Album Cover stamp to decorate our outgoing mail. A nice link between the AM Guild of Musicians and the Royal Mail issue of Album cover stamps.



In March, the Royal Mail is issuing a special series of stamps celebrating the 150th anniversary of The Battersea Dogs and Cats Home. On the basis that we have enough cats at number 41 to qualify as a cat home, we certainly shan't miss this opportunity to shine.

In addition to retiring the Pensive Hare definitives, we've said goodbye to the Klatch 10 and 50 wol stamp together with the Bonk 100 and 120 bizot. There will be new stamps for Klatch and Bonk produced later in the year. Meanwhile the new AM definitives are in production and will be issued in early February. Year of The Happy Goose Consulate envelopes for these new stamps will be available during February, as will archive proof sheets for the year of The Pensive Hare.



THE GODDESS PETULIA

A rather special production is under way for St. Valentine's day this year or, as we prefer to call it, the Feast of St Petulia

You will recall that Petulia is the Goddess of Negotiable Affection and thus beloved of the Guild of Seamstress. We are producing a very special cover that you can order from us and have delivered to your Valentine, special friend, partner, associate, significant other etc. Terry's instruction to Bernard was that the envelope should bear an image which could shock but would still get delivered by The Royal Mail.

Ian has been spotted peering at the top-shelf offerings of our local Co-op. Goodness knows!

Anyway the plan is that we will get the item

franked at Wincanton Post Office and sent to whoever you wish to name. Because the 14th happens to be a Sunday this year, we'll post items to arrive on the Saturday. More details of how this will work will be on the web site, make sure you are signed up to receive our news letters.

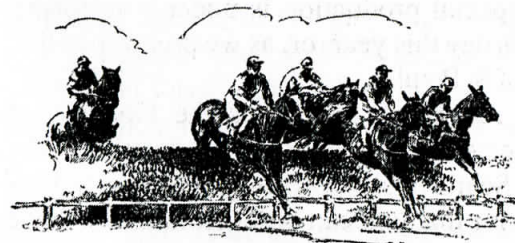
A stamp for Llamados will be issued in late February, and there will be a re-issue of the Cabbage Field 50p stamp in March

The Mob Film Company's production of Going Postal is to be screened over Easter. Details of this appear in another section of this journal, but we feel that it would be an opportunity missed if we didn't produce a special penny patrician with the profile of Charles Dance to celebrate this bit of screen history. We might even celebrate the occasion with a special LBE.

Last year, Steve James suggested an interesting idea for a new Unseen University stamp issue. His theory is that the random magic associated with the UU and its environs could easily cause stamps to morph into different images on the sheet. This concept has taken root in the fertile mind of young Mitchell who has a cunning plan for the production of a special limited edition sheet for release in March/April.

In addition to the above there will undoubtedly be a few unscheduled items putting in an appearance over the next three months.

And then of course in early May we are holding our Spring Event in Wincanton with a theme of Lords and Ladies there is even a wedding.



First Past the Post

by Darren Hill

Wincanton is known worldwide for two things, Discworld and horse racing. And the ties between the sport of kings and the king of collecting hobbies goes well beyond that. Just as the horse carried Moist on his famous Ride to Sto Lat, they have been depicted on several stamp issues in the UK and beyond.

The first UK issue on the subject was in July 1978, for an issue simply named "Horses". Designed by Patrick Oxenham, they marked the centenary of the English Shire Horse Society. The four stamps featured the whole scale of horse breeds, from the tiny Shetland Pony to the mighty Shire Horse, by way of the Welsh Pony and of course the Thoroughbred so useful for rides around the track and across the plains.

Indeed the sport of kings was swift in returning, as exactly twelve months later the July 1979 issue commemorated another anniversary, the 200th of the first running of the Derby. It was first run on 4th May 1780 on Epsom Downs and still run to this day on the beautiful Surrey downs. The issue itself though featured four different races, the Grand National, the first Spring Meeting at Newmarket, racing at Dorset Ferry and of course the Derby itself.

Of course the most deep link between the mail and the equine world is the famous and swift mailcoach. The bicentenary of the mailcoach run from Bath and Bristol to London was commemorated in the July (again!) 1984 issue. The coach run first took place on 2nd August 1784, and was the brainchild of local theatre manager John Palmer - certainly an ancestor of von Lipwig. The service lasted for almost one hundred years before being superceded and replaced by the faster railway service.

The most recent UK issue on the subject was back in July 1997, entitled "All the Queen's Horses". This marked the formation of the British Horse Society by the amalgamation of the Institute of the Horse and Pony Club and the National Horse Association of Great Britain. The four stamps themselves feature cavalry horses led by four differently uniformed soldiers of different Guards regiments. Further afield the horse has been commemorated on stamps in a number of roles, from sport to war to simple riding and portrait images.

The countries issuing cover the globe, from Algeria and Afghanistan to Uruguay and Benin. One of the most prolific sources of horses on stamps though is somewhat closer to home, being the Isle of Lundy. With their unusual unit of "currency", namely the puffin, these lovely stamps from the island just off the North Devon coast are somewhat tongue-in-cheek at times, but nonetheless are fine works of art that merit a look.

So next time you're in Wincanton, pay some thought to its other claim to fame. And who knows what cunning plans may be afoot to make the links even stronger...

A DAY AT THE RACES.

Thursday is Race day in merry Wincanton.

When Race day is on, the town buzzes. It comes alive, the pubs are full and all the shop keepers wear happy faces. Its a bit like one of our events, but without the costumes.

So granny and I decided to take a Thursday off and have a day at the races.

We each had our little bag of shillings and we took a hip flask for dear old grannies 'medicinal' brandy it keeps out the cold you know.

The thing about Wincanton Races is that they are a Steeplechase, that is all the horses jump over a sort of fence thing, its all very exciting and adds another dimension to the odds.

Now I have to make a bit of a confession, in my younger days I was just a bit into betting on the nags. It runs in the family. My Granddad was a one for the horses and my hero Uncle Bob was a real gentleman of the turf.

He once met me from school in a bloody great Rolls then took me home to our council house set on a huge council estate in East London. No one had cars in those days, certainly not where we lived. To rock up in a big shiny Roly-Poly as uncle Bob called it had the curtains twitching for miles. Oh boy did that man have style. He looked a bit like Ronald Coleman, had enough charm and charisma to fill the Albert Hall and as I discovered much later in life, two wives, one in London and one in Hampshire. The one in Hampshire was lovely and so very kind to me when I was young and stayed with them.

But dear old Uncle Bob was a bit of a scamp and a gambling man. The thousands he made on selling dodgy destroyers to the Indian Navy all went on the nags and, when he died, I was left his gold watch. All he had left from the 'sunny days' as he called them and that had been in and out of hock so often the pawn brokers marks covered the back like an engraving.



So when I started to show an interest in the turf as a teenager my father and Uncle Bob put the frighteners on me good and proper, oh yes. So I have steered well clear until we moved here.

But it's in the blood, and I was really excited. Isobel is mostly Irish so horse racing is built into her genetic code and there we were, at the races.

The weather was fine but cold with a lazy wind; it went through you rather than round you, but the going was good the Guinness like velvet.

The thing to remember about any gambling is only to bet as much as you are prepared to lose but enough to make winning exciting. And never bet on any odds shorter than 7 2, wear red, or get into a card game in the jockey's bar in the trainers enclosure. I have never understood the last bits but uncle Bob was explicit about that, he must have had some nasty experiences.

Isobel was wearing her big red duffle coat and I, clutching my little bag of shillings, all the while looking out for small bow legged men to take me by the hand and invite me to partake in a spot of happy families or snap, followed behind her.

I won't bore you with all the horses we bet on, suffice to say whereas I studied the form, took account of the going, checked the odds, Isobel went by name and instinct.

We both took £20. I gave Isobel hers as an away day treat and she did the same for me. I came back with £22.50 and Isobel came back with £14 and change. We had never bet more than £5 e/w or a tanner on the nose, modest risks by any standards. We both had a really great day. Had super fun and a good laugh, and so important when you get to our age, a bit of time together doing something new.

And it made me think.

I understand now just a little bit more about stamp collecting.

A collector is in his or her own quiet way a bit of a gambler.

Not just the dread LBE's but in every aspect of building up a collection there is the frisson of getting a stamp that becomes worth more than you paid for it just by keeping it safe.

There is the whole business of swapping, let alone trading on the E-bay.

A modest outlay can bring in a huge amount of pleasure and sometimes a bit of profit on top. And all this in your own home. Without the worry of what the weather or the jockey, or the horse in front will do to stop your bet from coming home, and with the added bonus of a few hundred little pictures to enjoy, study and collect.

Really, when you boil it down, look at the whole thing with sideways eyes, you are all a bit like my Uncle Bob.

No wonder I like you all so much.

2009 Discworld Stamps Auction Price Guide

In 2009, 1,634 Discworld Stamps lots sold for a total of £ 22,505.46 (not including postage). This year saw a greater variety of sales than previous years as more new stamps were released and many long established collectors either slimmed their collections or gave up collecting altogether.

A notable new trend has been the number of common stamps being sold, particularly as large lots of assorted stamps. Although the assorted stamp lots are too complicated to include we have included prices for a number of commons to reflect this. The following lists give the average price raised for a particular item not including postage (in column two) and covers the most noticeable sales for the year. The number in the third column refers to the number of particular item sold during the year.

Stamps

\$1 TOA Green – bigger splash	142.00	1	Red Nose Patrician Stamps- Joined pair	601.61	1
\$1 TOA Green - 2 Flat Birds	146.00	1	Patrician Red 2 Pence Stamp	30.00	2
\$1 TOA Green - 1 Flat Bird	132.00	1	1p Patrician Black Unperforated	33.66	2
\$1 TOA Green - Weathervane	142.00	1	1p Green Patrician Pensive Hare	58.31	2
\$1 TOA Brown	41.00	1	3p Postage Due Sport	94.33	3
\$1 TOA Year 4 3no. joined Sports	258.50	2	2p postage due - green both variants	14.84	4
Blue Bernard	2.67	6	Bad Blintz 1b Sport	3.10	4
Blue Bernard - Wincanton Wrinkly	60.60	2	Bad Blintz 20b Sport	2.48	4
Sir Roland De Colline - Blue common	5.75	2	Bad Blintz 2b Sport	2.33	3
Sir Roland De Colline - Blue Sport	57.00	1	Bad Blintz 5b Sport	2.70	7
Sir Roland De Colline - Red	3.06	2	Bad Blintz 10b Sport	1.94	3
Jamboree Early Bird	5.00	1	Bad Blintz 20b Sport	1.46	4
AM 1p Anioia	1.28	7	Bad Blintz 50b Sport	2.16	3
Jamboree Green Triangle	26.00	2	Bad Blintz 100b Sport	4.81	3
Jamboree Baloon Race	75.00	1	Bad Blintz Rat Stamp Red (single - all variants)	28.17	2
Stanley Gibbons 150 th ann. Cinderella	7.68	3	Bad Blintz Rat Stamp Green (single - all variants)	7.98	8
Rockall Post Single Stamp	9.82	1	Bad Blintz Rat Stamps Green set of 3	19.97	5
Discworld 2006 convention stamp	9.21	3	Bonk 120b Sport	10.68	2
Lancre \$1 Artifact	39.68	2	Bonk 1b Werewolf (single stamp – all variants)	7.36	22
AM \$5 Blue Triangle Sport	1270.31	2	Bonk 1b Werewolf (all seven transitions)	41.00	1
AM \$5 Blue Triangle	46.54	3	Genua 1c Sport	3.60	2
AM \$5 Blue Triangle – Bath perf	27.78	4	Merchants' Guild ¼ p common	0.67	3
AM \$5 Purple Triangle	13.65	7	Merchants' Guild ¼ p Sport	9.41	2
AM \$1 Bank Triangle	105.97	6	Merchants' Guild 1¼ p Sport	7.01	1
AM \$1 Leshp	2.29	8	Merchants' Guild 3p Sport	5.93	4
Owlswick AM 1/2p Orange Forgery	22.50	7	Merchants' Guild 50p Sport	3.93	4
Owlswick AM 1/2p Miniature Sheet	152.31	2	Merchants' Guild \$5	6.00	2
Owlswick AM 50p T.O.A. Forgery	10.50	3	Merchants' Guild 2p Green	1.46	4
AM 1/2p Orange Shades Surcharge	1.97	7	Thieves' Guild 4p Sport & common	10.00	1
Hogswatch 2004 3p	13.42	4	Thieves' Guild 5p common	1.10	2
Hogswatch 2005 50p Sport	29.99	1	Thieves' Guild 5p Sport (all types)	1.95	3
Hogswatch 2006 2½ p Sport	11.03	3	Thieves' Guild 6p Sport & common	10.00	1
Hogswatch 2005 2½ p Sport	7.31	5	Thieves' Guild 7p common	1.10	2
Hogswatch 2007 3p common	1.25	4	Thieves' Guild 7p Sport (all types)	3.30	4
Hogswatch 2007 3p common inverted pair	17.00	1	Thieves' Guild Original 4p & 6p Common	6.05	3
Hogswatch 2007 3p Sport	11.15	1	Thieves' Guild Original 4p Common	4.99	1
Hogswatch 2007 50p Sport	12.93	2	Thieves' Guild Original 4p Sport	42.00	1
Hogswatch 2007 50p mini sheet block	26.02	4	Thieves' Guild Original 4p Sport & common	50.00	1
Hogswatch 2008 - common	1.54	7	Thieves' Guild Original 6p Common	4.99	1
Hogswatch 2008 - Sport	1.85	2	Thieves' Guild Original 6p Sport	38.00	1
Hogswatch 2008 – common triptych	22.00	3	Thieves' Guild Original 6p Sport & common	67.00	1
Twoshirts 1/2p Green	0.69	3	Lawyers Guild \$5 original - common	3.20	2
Twoshirts 1/4p Purple	0.74	1	Lawyers Guild 1p Sport	2.90	2
Twoshirts 2p Cabbage common	2.06	2	Unseen University 1 1/4p Sport	8.60	2
Twoshirts 2p Cabbage Brown common	3.09	4	Unseen University 1/4p Sport	1.87	6
Twoshirts 2p Cabbage Brown Sport	5.29	3	Unseen University 1p Sport & common	1.20	1
Twoshirts 2p Cabbage Sport	3.68	5	Seamstress Guild 4p common golden tint	6.50	1
Twoshirts 2p Shop Sport	6.32	4	Seamstress Guild 4p Sport & common	4.20	2
Vetinari Pain Of Pain Stamp	1.86	6	Seamstresses' 1/4p	3.87	1
Alchemists Guild 1¼ p lead strip of 3	155.00	1	Seamstresses' Guild 2p Pink Sport & common	8.54	3
Alchemists Guild 1¼ p Sport & common	4.55	3	Seamstresses' Guild 2p Plum Sport	14.45	1
AM 1/2p Gold Sport	1.05	3	Seamstresses' Guild 4p Sport	2.20	1
AM 1/2p Pensive Hare Sport	2.99	1	Seamstresses' Guild Valentine's Horizontal perf	23.00	1
AM 1/2p Purple common	0.50	1	Seamstresses' Guild Valentine's Vertical perf	2.93	2
AM 1/2p Yellow common	0.50	2	Sto Lat 2p Sport	3.50	2
Sto Helit 1p Sport	10.17	3	Assassins Guild 2p Sport	4.30	1
Sto Helit 1p Wonky P Sport	18.42	2	Assassins Guild 3p original common	3.15	7
Sto Helit 4p Sport	5.94	3	Assassins Guild 3p Contract Renewal Overprint	4.28	2
Sto Helit Green Susan - common	10.54	4	Assassin's Guild Antidote	46.34	4
Wincanton Sunshine Somerset 2006	5.91	9	Assassins Guild Postage Paid Zombie	12.98	8
Cabbage Seed Substitute Stamp	15.00	1	Assassins Guild Ungummed 3 Pence	22.00	1
Da Vinci Cod Stamp	19.70	3	Contract Assassin 3p - common	1.19	8

Covers

Bad Blintz	5.18	6	Koom Valley	15.73	5
Bad Blintz Signed	39.99	1	Koom Valley Special	35.17	1
5th Anniversary Commemorative	15.55	2	Rockall Ho!	9.66	3
Bonk	10.92	4	Rockall Ho! Dipped Envelope	32.5	1
Bonk Transition	44.36	2	Rockall Ho! Signed Envelope	51.00	1
Genua	4.99	1	Seamstress	9.51	5
Hogswatch 2004	31.00	3	Seamstress signed	34.99	1
Hogswatch 2005	10.95	6	Sir Rolande de Colline	4.95	2
Hogswatch 2005 signed	42.5	2	Unseen University	6.00	3
Hogswatch 2005 Special	16.00	1	Wahooni	5.00	3
Hogswatch 2006	8.30	4	Going Postal - Waterstones	6.28	6
Hogswatch 2007	8.83	3	Twinning	56.00	1
Hogswatch 2008	5.19	1	Twinning Signed	77.67	1
2006 Convention	5.00	2	Assassins Dragon Zombie Envelope	132	1
Nullus Anxietas First Day Cover	2.50	1	Stampex	7.75	4
Bonk Germany con	29.99	1	Klatchian Foreign Legion Special Cover	33.5	2
Jamboree	5.56	7	Clax Envelope	17	1
NADWcon (US Version)	47.50	1	Dwarf Bread Postcard	19.83	3
"Eaten By" COMPLETE Set Envelopes	127.5	2	Troll Rock Postcard	22.83	3
Eaten By Snails Envelope	18.90	5	Agatean Empire Envelope	12.5	3
Defecated Upon By Mongeese Envelope	36.00	2	Alchemists Guild Envelope	35.69	3
Bitten By Snakes Envelope	25.00	3	Perforators Porter Envelope	5.05	5
Nibbled By Marine Creatures Envelope	36.13	1	Ride To Sto Lat Envelope	18.93	4
Dribbled On By Toads Envelope	25.01	3	Sunshine Dragon Envelope unopened	45.38	17
Hamster Bedding Envelope	31.07	1	Sunshine dragon Envelope opened	22.32	2
Dr. Zeller's Junk Mail	9.99	1	Mrs Cosmopolite Letter	41.28	6
Lambert Cordswainer's Letter	18.03	2	Mrs Parker's Opera Ticket	10.00	2

Proof Sheets

100 Bizot	2.66	4	Hogswatch 2006	9.00	2
Owlswick Jenkins Forgery	10.00	1	Hogswatch 2007	5.50	2
Guild Of Seamstresses 2p Pink	6.06	4	Koom Valley	6.10	1
Anioia 1p perforated	5.25	2	Koom Valley (Commerative Sheet)	10.00	2
Assassins 3p Proof Sheets	6.23	4	Sto Lat 10p	16.65	1
Assassins Zombie Engravers Proof	30.63	3	Penny Civic	17.25	2
Assassins Zombie Proof Sheet	10.50	1	Merchant's Guild \$5	4.66	3
Merchant's Guild \$5 Engravers Proof	50.00	1	Sir Roland de Colline	2.99	1
Archive – Assassins Guild	5.16	3	Archive – Merchants Guild	5.00	3
Archive – Seamstresses Guild	5.00	3	Archive – Twoshirts	5.00	2

Sheets

AM 1/2p Post Office gold	5.50	1	25 th Anniversary	47.00	1
AM 1/2p Post Office orange	12.00	1	Thieves Guild 4p original	50.00	1
AM 2p Ankh Purple	9.02	2	Thieves Guild 6p original	50.00	1
AM 2p Ankh Blue	7.00	1	GCTS (56 stamps)	68.33	3
AM 5p Morporkia Orange	10.00	1	Hogswatch 2004	298.00	1
AM 5p Morporkia Blue	8.76	2	Hogswatch 2007 3p	35.65	1
AM 10p Morporkia Green	10.03	2	Hogswatch 2007 50p	20.00	1
AM 10p Morporkia Purple	10.00	1	Pain of Pain Rainbow	11.00	2
5 th Birthday Yellow	150.00	1	Penny Black Year 1	14.50	1
5 th Birthday Blue	2.60	2	Blue Bernard	8.00	2
Sto Lat 10p Sheet	13.65	3	NADWcon	52.99	1

Misc.

LBE Single (empty)	1.37	25	Booklet - Widow's Mite Booklet	10.76	2
LBE Single (empty with contents)	6.50	5	Booklet - AM Penny Black Military	12.72	9
LBE Single (Unopened)	11.06	16	Booklet – Bad Blintz 50b	3.48	2
Discworld Stamp Catalogue Vol. 1	4.76	4	Booklet – Smoking Gnu	20.50	2
Discworld Stamp Catalogue Vol. 2	2.11	4	Jamboree 6d Mini Sheet	5.00	2
Single GCTS	1.08	8	LBE Opera Ticket insert	1.98	11
GCTS collector's card cancelled	5.50	1	Discworld Stamp Album original with stamps	102.00	1
AM City Watch Pack (Thud)	16.40	5	Cabbage Sport proof 2005 signed TP, AB, CE	205.82	1
Twoshirts April Shower Postcard	2.00	1	1p Patrician Year of 3 roses sport mini sheet	205.82	2
Jamboree Painless Postcard	5.00	1	Klatch Consulate Special (joined sport / commons)	103.61	1
Koom Valley Field Service Post Card	3.42	3	Herald sport/common consulate	29.99	1
Hogswatch 2007 Postcard	1.23	3	Postage Due Consulate Envelope (special)	108.61	1
Ankh Morpork Postal Codes Booklet	12.49	1	Fools Guild Jolly Japes Pack	19.00	2
Full Set Of Unused 05 Promissary Notes	42.61	1	Full Set Of Unused 06 Promissary Notes	35.00	1

Of stamps and stomachs.

Happy belated New Year to you all. This time of year is always very evocative, it reminds me of time spent with loved ones, of friendships forged and lost, it reminds me of past mistakes but mainly it reminds me just how bad nicotine gum actually tastes. Resolutions are in one year and out the other, but as a resolute young chap, this year I have made another. I have many faults to choose from and as I am sure you can appreciate working in close proximity to a certain 'stout party' can encourage many more. You find your vocabulary develops daily, often in cruel and unusual ways. All sorts of strange tobacco products are sent to test you. You are often forced into experimental and often dangerous assignments, mostly prefixed by the words 'cunning plan'. However, I have learnt that by far the most dangerous of the dynamic duo has to be Isobel, or perhaps more accurately, Isobel's dinners. You can fast understand how Bernard has become the man he is today. Dumplings to die for! Upon determining my dietary resolution I began work on a befitting excuse. Just in case.

However am I supposed to lose weight when forced to work with products of such calorific content? No, not dabble wares, it's the humble postage stamp which, it must be said, is the thorn in any rotund side. Drink all the wheat grass you like, de-tox 'til your face turns blue but what ever you do don't lick a stamp. A standard UK postage stamp contains 5.9 calories! What's worse is that commemorative stamps can contain up to 14.5 of these wanton little calories! "Well then," My inner physique tells me, "at least you can effectively cut out all those empty calories consumed at the weekly design meetings, held at Uncle Toms Cider Cabin". Alas no, as I delve deeper into the exciting world of stamp gum it seems this too would be futile because, as I am sure you already know, the gum on our seemingly harmless UK stamps is made up of Polyvinyl alcohol and dextrin. The dextrin is derived from potato starch and the alcohol derived from petroleum. If you have ever drunk at Uncle Toms, you will know this concoction simply as 'The Usual'.

Still it gets worse. In May 2006 the Austrian Postal Service teamed up with Hagen-Daaz to produce ice cream flavoured stamps, seemingly oblivious to those trying to lose weight by cutting down their stamp intake, you could choose from Cookies and Cream, Nut Brittle and Strawberry Cheesecake. And don't think they are alone in this diabolical act, far from it. In January 2007 China produced stamps to celebrate the Year of the Pig, scratch and sniff the front for the aroma of pork, lick the back to taste sweet and sour sauce! In May last year, in a particularly underhanded yet classy French way, La Poste produced chocolate scented stamps to tempt us!

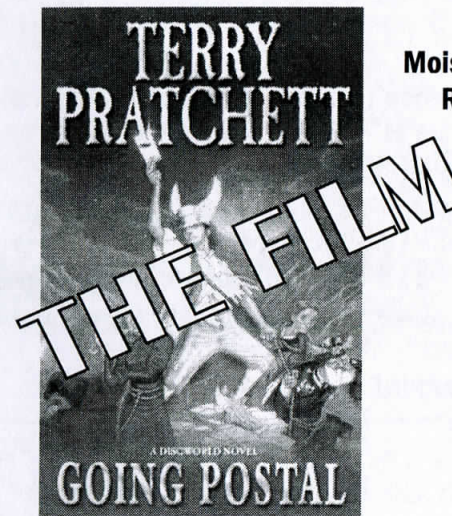
Harry Stuart New, Postmaster General for Indiana 1917-23, even tried to implement Gin flavoured stamps, thankfully they never made it to production or Sir Terry may never have finished Going Postal.

Ethical eaters will be please to know that all UK postage stamps (and Discworld Stamps) are all vegetarian (although this has not always been the case) and, incidentally, all Israeli stamps are certified Kosher.

So, this I have come to a conclusion, One Mars bar (other chocolate bars are available, trust me, I checked) is equal to licking the glue of 1786.2 stamps, this is less than a weeks output for the Discworld Emporium. Therefore, I'm sure you'll all be pleased to know, I have started using self adhesive stamps and am now eating one extra Mars bar a week.



iAn



THE CAST

Moist von Lipwig - Richard Coyle (Coupling)

Reacher Guilt - David Suchet (Poirot)

Lord Vetinari - Charles Dance

(you know who he is),

replacing Jeremy Irons.

Adora Belle Dearheart - Claire Foy

(a relative newcomer)

Drumknott - Steve Pemberton

(The League of Gentleman)

Groat - Andrew Sachs

(Fawlty Towers)

Miss Cripslock - Tamsin Greig

(Green Wing)

TO BE TELEVISED OVER THE EASTER HOLIDAYS

having spoken to a number of the fans who played their noble part in the production and a chance meeting with a member of the technical crew, I can say with a considerable degree of confidence,

THIS FILM WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE

I have been asked to write a piece for the Stanley Gibbons Magazine, there will be articles in Stamp Magazine and I would not be surprised (although I can't possibly say why!) if one of the big Sunday newspapers did not run an article on 'Stamp Collecting Today' so watch this space eh.

Competition Results

How Many Tower of Art Stamps would it take to cover 5,573 miles?
Yes, of course we should have specified which Tower of Art stamp.

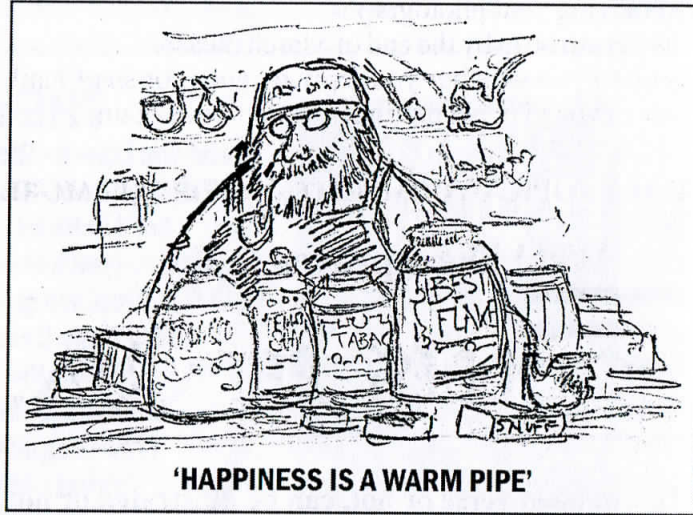
Most of you decided to take the measurement off our site (98mm) and came up with a total of 91,519,123.

Danny and Sue Hyam were amongst those who came up with this total and in addition pointed out that the value of these stamps is £91,519,123 (Just more than the Gross Domestic Product of the Marshall Islands) The GCTS value would be 30,506,374 complete sheets which could be traded for 1,220,254 items from the GCTS trading list. Or be used to buy a large amount of pipe tobacco.

We've set Bernard the puzzle of how many 50gm packs of Mellow Virginia he could buy and how long it would last.

He's a bit mathematically challenged so it could take some time.

Any help would, I'm sure, be gratefully received, but then he'd have to own up to exactly how much tobacco he smokes in a week.

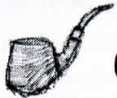


We think it only fair to give a prize to all entries, so there'll be something rather interesting in the post to all of the following:

Steve Tandy, Karen Richardson, Nigel Rogers, Danny and Sue Hyams, Steve James, Justin Thompson, Caroline Parkinson, Frank Springall, Simon Clark, Julian Fangandini, John Hird, Carol McCullough, and Denise.

'It is perhaps a more fortunate destiny to have a taste for collecting shells than to be born a millionaire'.

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850 - 1894)



Obviously he had never considered pipes or stamps!

Spot the Difference Competition

Thanks to you all for the entries. On the basis that almost all of you emailed me your observations it made picking the winners out of the bin-bag a bit tricky. I decided to put my monitor in the bin bag and hit the keyboard at random and thus came up with the following 3 names;

Jonty Hird, Brian Delaney and Yael Kellman.

Caroline Parkinson actually posted her entry on a rather attractive card. It was the only paper entry and thus difficult to avoid in the bin bag so she can have a prize too.

Competition for Journal 21

Steve James supplied the photographs overleaf for this journal's "Spot the Difference" competition. This could be the start of a tradition. We look forward to receiving your photographs.

Answers to be in by the end of March please.

It's up to you whether you reply by email or snail mail, but unless we can find a clean bin bag I'm not putting my monitor in again.

AND A TOPICAL COMPETITION FOR THE MORE LITERARY MINDED.

We'd like a prayer to the

GODDESS PETULIA.

In can be in verse or not, can be illustrated or not
And we'd like it sent to us on paper/card through
the post with stamps and everything.

THANK YOU.

A note from Bernard.

For Steve James and other like minded wags -
please remember we have to live here and we
get enough funny looks from the postman as it
is - OK!



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



A photograph from Steve James that he took at the Essex Temperance League Glee Club



The ladies and children look harmless enough, but there are some right dodgy looking coves in the back row

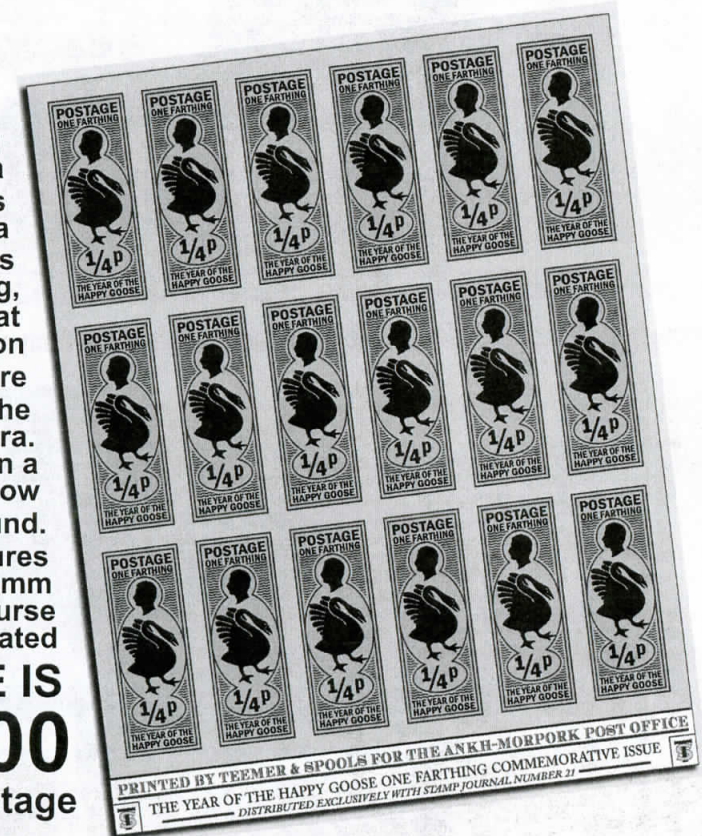
YOUR JOURNAL 21 SPECIAL OFFER

A SHEET OF HAPPY GOOSE STAMPS*

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The sheet measures 145 x 180mm and will of course be perforated

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ORDER ON LINE. PUT THE WORD **GOSLING** IN THE MESSAGE SECTION OF THE ORDER FORM, JUST SO WE KNOW IT'S YOU.....

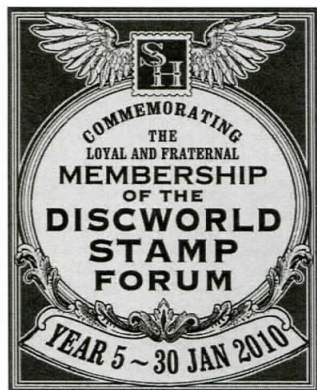
*When I phoned Terry to ask him what 'year' it would be in 2010, he paused for a moment (obviously consulting some ancient tome that only he as supreme master can read) and said "The Year of the Happy Goose, Bernard" "I expect you have had a number of those" ~ How well my dear friend knows me.

The STAMP Journal

A quarterly review of Discworld Stamps, and the sort of stuff we all hope you might just find interesting and or amusing. With contributions from collectors, friends, and anyone holding an opinion, a pen. or both.

THIS MONTH'S FREE STAMP

The Year of the
Happy Goose.
12 x 45mm



*Look out for the
Forum Freebee
for year 5
available only from our Stamp
Forum via Darren & Helen Hill*



Kindly address all correspondence to:

The Discworld Emporium (Stamp Journal)
41 The High Street, Wincanton,
Somerset. BA9 9JU
Tel 01963 824 686

E-mail: isobel@cunningartificer.demon.co.uk

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