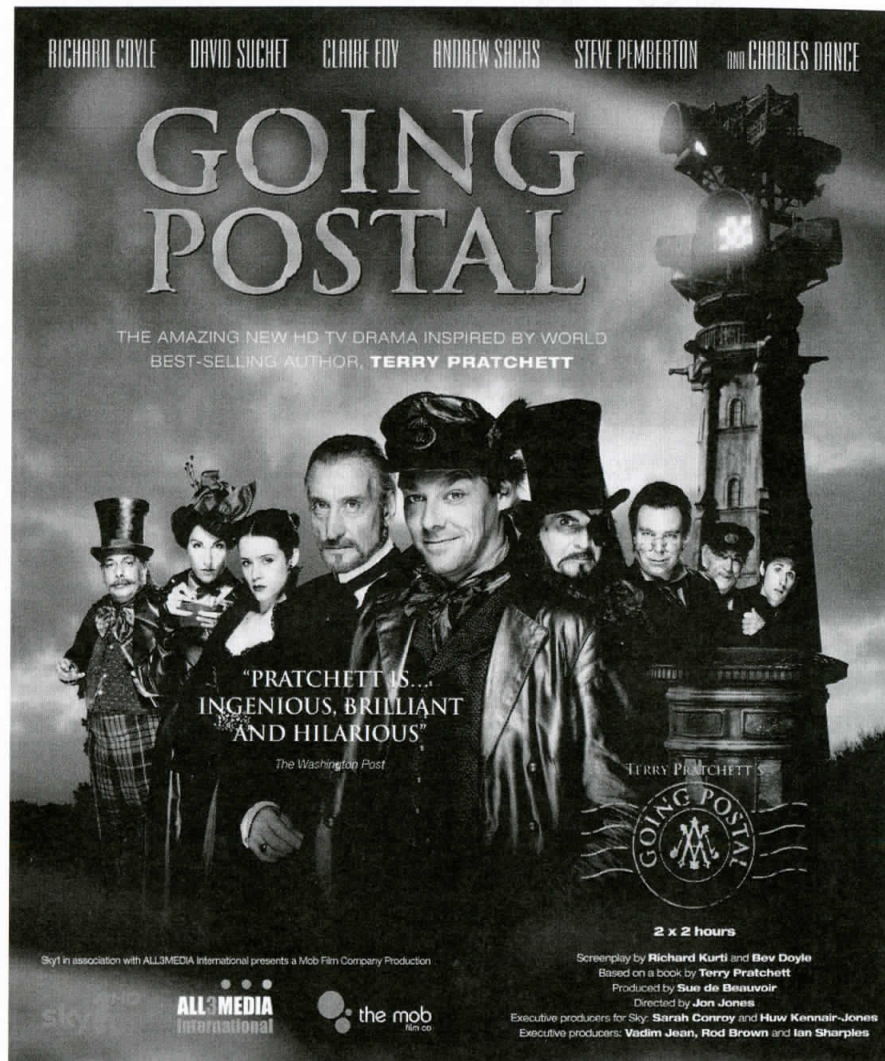


STAMP

Journal



NUMBER
22



THIS FILM IS AS GOOD AS IT GETS

OK if you're picky you could say the plot has been mucked about with and there are substantial differences between book & film. But heck, it has all the stamps you could wish for littering almost the whole four hours.

To someone who has never heard of Discworld or the Stamps it is a huge propaganda exercise, now all we have to do is find out where the buggers live and tell them all about 'STAMPS'

THE STANLEY HOWLER STAMP JOURNAL

DEAR READER,

'Well better late than never', as we are wont to say in publishing circles and here we are again with our little offering.

Our thanks as ever to those, who at short notice, without payment and with a professionalism that would shame Fleet Street, produced articles for this edition.

Mind you, we do endeavour to spread the load with our constant demands for copy, but always it seems we end up calling on Darren Hill to sober up for a bit and hit the keyboard once again.

If we did medals, he would have one.

We don't; well not yet, so the least we can do is say,

THANK YOU, DARREN

CONTENTS

PAGE 2 - 4 THE RUDE BITS - GODDESS PETULIA COMPETITION

This has really brought the worst crop of mail in - EVER

PAGE 5 A JOLLY SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

This time you might actually be able to see the bloody differences.

PAGE 6 WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?

An interesting little article from young Mitchell, who is showing promise

PAGE 8 WHOD PLAY A POSTMAN - By Darren Hill.

The usual high standard of interest combined with not too many long hard words.

PAGE 10 AN HISTORICAL INTERLUDE

Well it seemed like a good idea at the time.

PAGE 12 THE END BITS

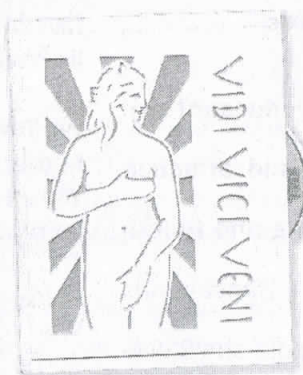
Says it all really!

And now for the GODDESS PETULIA PETITION.

Dearie, dearie me, that gave us an insight into the private lives of flatalists that we hadn't anticipated - should have known better I daresay.

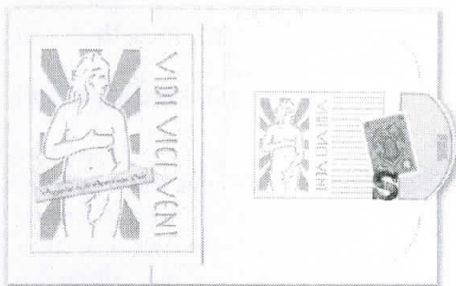
Anyway an Artificer's special prize for creativity to **Ian Boyd Walker** whose entry was a stunning bit of art work and design.

The picture doesn't really do it justice, but visitors to the shop will be able to have a private view.



Heavy weight card, hand cut, folding out and hinged with a decorated flap. This folks, is a serious piece of work of professional quality & originality. He just might be getting a 'visit' from Ian and I. We know where he lives!

Ian Boyd Walker



Charles Braham

sends us a prayer from a character called Hen3Fender who is a bit of a voyeur and as a result has been noticed by the Agony Aunts.

A Valentine's Day prayer
Happy Birthday Goddess Petulia
You remind me of my Aunt Julia
Who went a bit peculiar
When Uncle buggered off
There's one thing I've been hoping
T'would cheer me up 'cos I been moping
Never get much chance for groping...
Could you move that bit of cloth

Danny and Sue Hyams'

entry, reproduced here, made us all laugh. It goes as follows;

"Please grant me wisdom,
That I might see, which Amphibian is meant for me,
I've kissed a toad and snogged a frog,
I've smooched a newt and wooed a salamander,
I've even had the bottle to canoodle an Axolotl.

Yet none have stirred or been transferred into a Prince to spark love's fire
So let me know where I should go to find my hearts desire.

Should I turn to other places to find some more beautiful faces?
So let me know just where I could to go, from Sanatorium to Discworld Emporium.
That I might uncover a decent sort or maybe just a TOA sport.

Jonty submitted 2 entries

- um....

We'll run with the second one

Petulia's Prayer

Hail glorious Petunia, goddess of love that is bought
Providing tenderness and affection for all kind of sorts
I humbly pray for a long and fruitful life
So I hide my payment transactions from my dear wife
Cos like Dotsie and Sadie she'll give me some strife
And will cut off my tonker with a bloody great knife
So I beseech and implore that you make it your will
That the postman will lose my credit card bill

At least Jonty had the foresight to send his offerings in a plain brown envelope to ensure that the postman didn't give us funny looks when he delivered the post.

Unlike the two short entries from Steve in Wrexham, thanks a million for putting them on post cards Steve. Good pictures though.

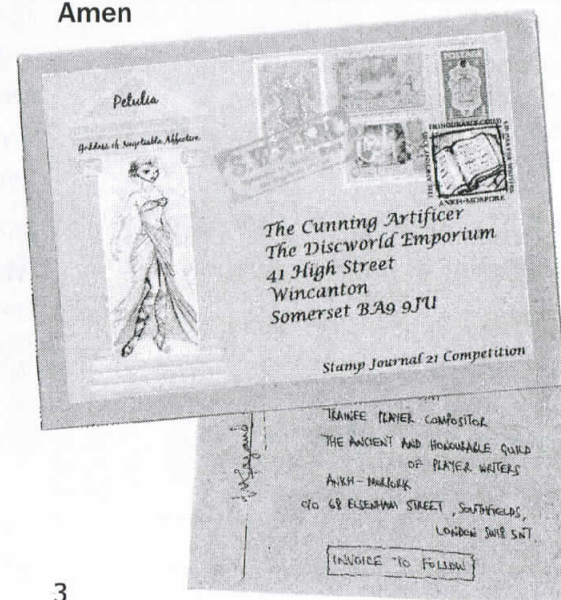
Goddess Petulia heed my prayers
Oh I wish that you had list
To what I did last sayest
I didn't want a 12 inch pianist

Of the half dozen oysters
That today I bought
Please let at least four
Work as they ought

Julian Fagandini's entry was a bit special and must have given the sorting office pause for thought.

His **Prayer** is a follows:

We Beseechest thee, oh Goddess Petulia,
heareth our prayer of avowal to thee,
We all do praiseth thee for thy subtle and comforting ministrations
That ease our frustrations in our many hours of need,
We all do declareth thee the most democratic of all deities
Who dost maketh thyself available to all through thy maidens
Subject only to the offering up to thee of the "right price"
We all do prostrateth ourselves before thee
As thy acolyte maidens do prostrateth themselves before us,
We all shall departheth thy place of worship without trappings of pomp and idolatry
In most humble and furtive manner as befits the private nature of worship at thy temple
Amen

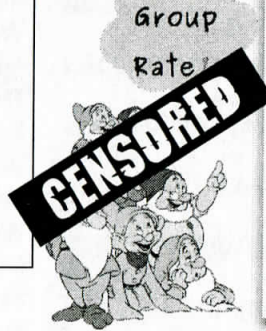


Another prize winning entry from one who wishes to remain anonymous goes as follows:

Owed to Saint Petulia
A petal of a generous flowering
Some compare thee to a Summer's Day
A minstrel and all gentles' lay...
Nay, rather to a Winter's Night
Fire warmed and measured delight

A flower plucked memorable
In this auspicious year
By coin doth buy endearment
By coin doth warmth of passion loose
Pray grant at least a Happy Goose

Larry Hart
supplied the
following
entry
- the second page
is censored.



Prayer to Petulia

Grant Unto Me

Patientce
Enough
To
Undress
Lecherous
Inhabitants of
Ankh Morpork

There will be suitable
prizes distributed.

And now for Journal 22
Competition

While we are on the pleasures of
the flesh, lets have a Menu from
the Klatchian Curry House in Ankh
Morpork

Strictly local ingredients.
Specialities of the house including
beverages.

No one will ask you to cook any
of the items, but it should be
theoretically possible.

We await with interest....

Ian Dulson sent in a couple
of one-liners -here is one:

O Petulia, Good looks, Good xxxx,
Good God, lets xxxx
Thank you Ian

Justin Gillett's prayer starts
as follows:

Oh Petulia of Blessed Parts
You who are the Queen of Tarts
Make our parts never wither,
When we get given the come hither

And Steve James's (that old
romantic) offering ends as
follows:

If I should win the love of my heart
desire
I will not play fast and loose
My love will want for nothing
Not even a Happy Goose



THERE ARE 10 DIFFERENCES TO SPOT

SO BETTER LUCK WITH THIS ONE EH!

'WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING?'

Such a simple question. Such an innocuous query. Such a staple of British conversation. Imagine if you can my position however, when asked this by someone who doesn't know the word or world of Sir Terry Pratchett, someone who hasn't heard of the Discworld and indeed thinks it silly for a world to go floating about on the back of a few pachyderms atop a giant reptile. Someone who thinks Cinderellas are just lasses with see-through slippers who smell faintly of pumpkin.

I try to explain that it's now very nearly a six-year long illustrative project, illuminating some of this country's finest literature, doing it in a manner which is somewhere between forgery and storytelling, and borrows contextually and satirically from our own history while merging and marrying it with the vast history of the Discworld, using icon, image and context to build up a broad and highly elaborate visual representation of the depth and range of Sir Terry's writings.

"oh right.....are they actually sticky?" is invariably the reply I receive.

I have come to realise that partly, the appeal of stamps and any other collectable for that matter, is not actually that much to do with the makers. At the Discworld Emporium, we just make the bloomin' things. It is when they leave us to belong with a collector that our stamps really come into their own, and the success of Discworld Stamps really has come from the collectors themselves. Collecting is a verb. It's about the interaction. It's all about creating and curating a collection which is personal and unique. With this in mind I have been looking recently at some of the more interesting philatelic treasures of the Roundworld which make collecting just that little bit more interesting:

Specimen stamps: Stamps overprinted with the word specimen. These were sent out to help local postal authorities identify new stamps and give them a check list for forgeries.

Essays: Stamp designs that were submitted to postal authorities and that ultimately were not used. Sometimes essay designs are altered only slightly and used, and sometimes they are entirely rejected by the postal authority.

Grill Stamps: a stamp which has been embossed with tiny bumps in a grill formation. When franked the ink pools in the little hollows left behind, making it impossible to wipe the frank off and reuse the stamp

Misperf stamps: Stamps where the perforations have gone awry, often through the design itself.

These are some of the oddities which made their way onto the market through a variety of means both accidental and intentional, and can make a collection more unique as well as add an extra line of enquiry to the world of stamp collecting. Some of these oddities are sought after by many of our collectors who each have different tastes in what imperfections and variations take their fancy and this keeps us, and other collectors on their toes. Some may very well appear in an LBE near you soon, and as an added extra will not replace any stamps in an LBE. For the many who delight in the strange and unusual we hope they will be little treasures in their own right, and useful to trade or discuss for those who don't wish to collect them. However, be sure that you are more than welcome to send these stamps back to us and we shall replace them with a mint example of the stamp if you so wish.

Either way, I have been stirred by each and every album that I've been lucky enough to clap eyes on, as nestled amongst the mint stamps those precious little oddities stand proud, loved, and wanted. They, and the fondness for them, help make collecting stamps an intricate and complex business. There is only so much I can explain to any innocent who walks through the Emporium door, but such intricacies form part of the fascination that soon has people hooked after a mere lick of Discworld Stamps.

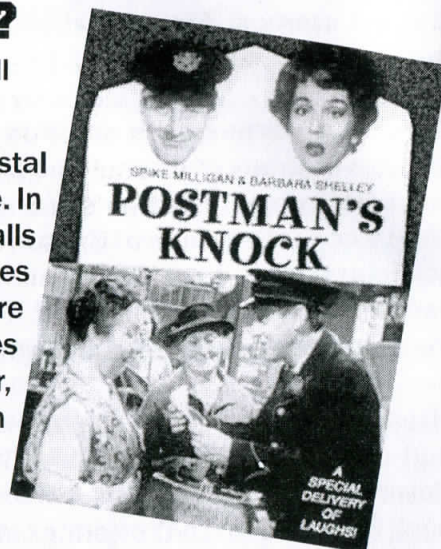


Our very own Wizard of the drawing board, Mr Ian Mitchell.

WHO'D PLAY A POSTMAN?

By Darren Hill

The upcoming Sky adaptation of *Going Postal* is a rare thing for the screen, small or large. In modern television and film, the limelight falls upon the police, fire and medical services much more commonly than the more mundane but nonetheless essential heroes of everyday life such as the humble butcher, baker or for the modern age the postman (the candlestick-maker having retired and gone off to warmer climes muttering about bulbs and tallow).



Whilst *Going Postal* will be one step along the mail round towards redressing this imbalance, it is not the first to address the path (having affixed suitable postage). On the big screen one of the earliest examples is "*Postman's Knock*", an old-style British black and white comedy starring Spike Milligan. Something of an overlooked gem, it nonetheless seems to set the trend for later (albeit less comedic) films relating to the profession as being sometimes unappreciated or dismissed outright.

Of the more modern offerings, two are worthy of note – one as an Oscar winning drama and the other as a Razzie winner. The former is "*Il Postino*", a simple and charming Italian tale of a postman learning to love poetry through his deliveries to a famous poet and his use of this to woo the lady of his dreams.

The latter and somewhat less well received movie was Kevin Costner's ill-fated post apocalyptic sci-fi drama "*The Postman*". Based on a 1985 novella by David Brin, it is a tale of a survivor who traded tales for food and shelter. During his wanderings he comes upon a long-dead postal worker whose uniform he borrows. As he travels between the isolated communities forming the remains of humanity it becomes a reminder of how things used to be and a symbol of what they could be again.

Sadly whilst the film now has many fans, on release it was rather viciously mauled by the critics and the filmgoers of the day (1997) avoided it in their droves. This could possibly have been a backlash against Costner's previous film (*Dances with Wolves*), a dislike of the somewhat contrived Brin novel or simply people finding its sentiment too saccharin and unreal. But it made only \$14 million at the box office, a low figure even then.



Aside from those three, the big screen treatment of the postie falls into two other categories. The first are those just using the name, as exemplified (twice) by "*The Postman Always Rings Twice*", and the latter the often straight-to-video/DVD offerings inspired by the series of incidents in the 80's and 90's of postal (and other) workers going on insane and murderous rampages.

Even on the small screen the postman is much less represented than the police officer, fireman or paramedic. Indeed the most well-known and loved example has to be *Postman Pat*, who began life as a stop-motion childrens TV animation in 1981 and has more recently in 2004 returned in a new more modern format. Indeed the original was so popular that the character was sponsored by the British Royal Mail and used as a marketing vehicle. This ended in 2000 with the company declaring that he no longer fitted the "corporate image", although given the turbulent recent history of the Royal Mail the wisdom of this has been questioned by some.



So who knows, *Going Postal* could perhaps see a rise in the media profile of the postman. And who wouldn't be an avid fan of USPS: New York or Sorting Office – The Directors Cut?

STRANGE, BUT I'M SURE IT'S TRUE

I have been researching our merry little town of Wincanton and I came across this article on History on Line, published via University College London.

Absolutely fascinating stuff, so permit me to share it with you.



Wincanton lies at the junction of routes from Castle Cary, Bruton, Mere (Wilts.), Sherborne (Dors.), and Yeovil. The east-west route through the town formed part of the main London-Plymouth road by the later 17th century and it was turnpiked by the Wincanton trust together with those to Milborne Port

and Castle Cary in 1756) In 1818 a new road was built across Ball Common, east of the parish, probably continuing through Shalford. It was extended through Roundhill to Bruton in 1831, and North Street was turnpiked in 1818 as part of the road to Shepton Montague) The roads were disturnpiked in 1874. Further road improvements, planned in 1937-8 for a western relief road and London-Plymouth road to bypass the town were built in 1977.

From the later 17th century the town was a stage on the London-Plymouth route; a post office was open in the 1670s and coaching inns were established. By the 1790s post was dispatched to London six days a week and there was a thrice-weekly coach service to London and Taunton while several waggons went regularly to Bath, London, Sherborne (Dors.), Taunton, and Weymouth (Dors.). By 1838 eleven coaches passed through daily in addition to the Devonport Mail. Brown and Brice, carriers, had a yard and in 1839 Robert Whitmash occupied substantial premises west of the church.

There were two inns in the town in the 1550s; the Crown, probably the later Green Dragon and Crown, and the Hart, probably the White Hart recorded in 1678. Four alehouses were recorded in 1609 but nine innholders and victuallers were in business in 1619. Ten inns were rated c. 1678 and by 1686 the town had evidently become a significant centre for communications for its inns could provide 54 guest beds and stabling for 254 horses. Among the early coaching inns were the Angel, recorded c. 1678, and the Bear (open by 1651). In the 18th century there were normally 10 licensed inns but 14 were recorded in 1714. Among the coaching inns the Bear, enlarged in 1720 as joined by the Rainbow (later the Dolphin) and the Five Bells (later the Hare and Hounds and, just after the turn of the 19th century, the Trooper). Lesser inns included the Greyhound, said to have been built in 1760, the Sun, the Red Lion, recorded in 1794 and probably the White Lion of 1767, the Swan, open between c. 1678 and 1843, and the White Horse, recorded c. 1678, but

rebuilt in 1733. At least 11 beerhouses opened in the 19th century but several coaching inns closed including the Angel and the Swan. The 20th century saw a further decline including the closure of the Greyhound. Three inns, Uncle Tom's Cabin, the Railway inn, and the Railway Refreshment Rooms (now the Miller's inn), opened as a result of the coming of the railway in 1861 and those survived in business in 1992 together with the Bear, the Dolphin, the Red Lion, the White Horse, the Nog inn in South Street, recorded as the New inn in 1792, and the George, opened c. 1837.

The Wincanton Temperance Society, formed in 1844, had a library and held a free night school. The Good Templars, established in 1871, opened a hall in North Street in 1873 where they had a soup kitchen. The Temperance Coffee House in Mill Street was open in 1843 and another with a news room opened in Clewett's Yard, off High Street, in 1850 and was probably still in business in 1872. The Wincanton Coffee Tavern in Church Street opened in 1878 in the Temperance hotel.

Temperance Hotel
I ask you



The scene of Discworld Jollity since 2002

In the Pipeline

We plan not just LBEs and a Commemorative cover, which will contain an illustrated potted history of the stamps, but also a new collector's starter pack to entice new flatalists into the fold.

This pack will also be available on Amazon.

The Glorious 25th of May will be commemorated with a very special cover with a lilac version of the penny patrician. A mini sheet of these lilac Patrician stamps will be included..

THIS COVER WILL BE FOR SALE FOR JUST 24HOURS ON MAY 25TH

Unseen Academicals is published in paperback on June 10th so there will be a new LBE with a football flavour.

In July we plan to update the Unseen University stamps and of course celebrate the 6th Birthday with a limited edition LBE

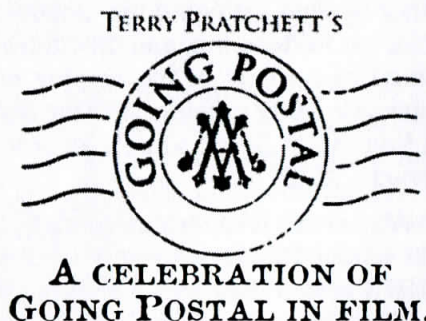
August brings the Convention – there will of course be stamps

Journal 21 Competition Results

Spot the difference

Some of you found 6 differences, and one person identified 10. According to our information there are nine intended differences so we shall give a prize to all of those who found 8 or more. That includes: Justin Thompson, Jonty Hird, Danny and Sue Hyam, Robin Kesby, Larry Hart, and Justin Gillet.

A prize will go to all the above.



YOUR JOURNAL 22 special OFFER

A PROOF SHEET OF THE ASSASSINS STAMP

With a border richly engraved with the crossed daggers of their guild and the sport stamp this proof sheet is a rich testament to the art of artist and engraver.

Printed on high quality paper being 148 x 180 mm in size, this sheet is an exclusive to Journal Subscribers only.

The stamp itself was drawn by Ian Mitchell and based on the grand entrance of the guild building as sculpted by Bernard Pearson in 1999. He therefore links the work of his old friend and mentor with his own and in doing so brings another piece of Discworld alive.



THE PRICE IS **£6.00** plus postage

To order on-line put the word **KNIFE** in the message section of the order form. That way we will know you are a subscriber

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

IN SHADES OF BLUE. SOME HUES AS DELICATE AS A SUMMER'S SKY, OTHERS MORE GRANDEURS AND SOBER WITH JUST A HINT OF MIDNIGHT & MYSTERY.

BLUE UPON BLUE, AS COOL AS JAZZ, A SYMPHONY OF ENGRAVED DECORATION.



Sorry about that folks, Reb is writing for 'Blond Bombshell' the new fashion magazine for trendy go-getters and her style is rubbing off on the editorial staff here.

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