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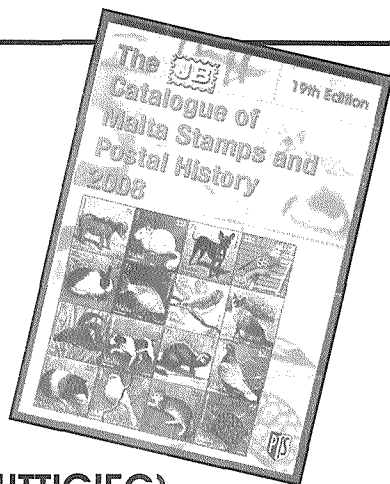
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2010 Committee

**President &
Journal Editor:**

Chev. Dr. A. Bonnici K.M. M.D., FRPSL.
(Tel: 2133 8437, 9949 5066), abonnici@maltanet.net
34 "Casa Bonnici", Sir Augustus Bartolo Street, Ta' Xbiex,
XBX 1093, Malta.

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Mr. J. Buttigieg (Tel: 2134 2189, 9942 4874)
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**Secretary/ Treasurer
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johnacardona@gmail.com - 56, Triq Santa Marija, Tarxien,
TXN 1703, Malta.

**Ass. Secretary,
Web site admin &
Public Relations Officer:**

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debfamily@hotmail.com

**Liaison with Malta
Study Circle UK:**

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chrishowe@skanderbeg.fsnet.co.uk

Dott. Luciano Cruciani, Viale Telesse 35, Roma 00177, Italy

Mr. Wolfgang Juncker, 47 Lagerstrasse, Homburg Sarr D-66424, Germany

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A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francis Kiddie".

Francis Kiddie
President of the Jury

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Malcolm Groom".

Malcolm Groom
Secretary to the Jury

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Trotter".

Brian Trotter
Chairman

With FIP Patronage as a World Exhibition

Smilers Generic Sheets

Part II

By John A. Cardona

The first part of this article under the heading ‘**Smilers**’ was published in MPS Journal Volume 34/3 which was issued in January 2006. It covered the first 29 Generic Sheets issued from May 2000 to Christmas 2005. This part covers the next 34 Generic Sheets issued from January 2006 to December 2009.

A Generic Sheet is defined as one where the design on the label adjoining the stamps has been chosen by Royal Mail, and not customized by a member of the public; the latter are known as Smilers.

There are a number of philatelists who are not in favour of these Generic Sheets, whereas others argue that they are simply there as an extra source of revenue for the Postal Authorities where, at the end of a financial year, the ‘*bottom line*’ is all that counts. Whatever the pros and cons Generic Sheets have, no doubt, gained in popularity throughout the world and the forecast is that they are here to stay for a number of years ahead

Year 2006

Fig. 30 – “*A Bear called Paddington*” A Generic Sheet containing 20 x 1st Class stamps from Animal Tales set was issued on 10 January 2006. The sheet was printed in lithography (litho) on self-adhesive paper.

Paddington Bear was created by Michael Bond and the stamp features one of the early illustrations by Peggy Fortnum, from “More about Paddington” published in 1959. Since then the Paddington Bear has featured in many books, cartoon strips, an animated TV series and a whole range of merchandise besides a statue at Paddington Station in London.

Fig 31 – “*Fun Fruit & Veg*” A Generic Sheet containing 20 x 1st Class stamps featuring Fun Fruit and Vegetables was issued on 7 March 2006. The sheet was printed in litho on self-adhesive paper. The stamps are similar to the original set issued in March 2003. The labels feature speech bubbles for users to add messages. Stickers showing ears, eyes, mouths, hats etc are printed in the margin for users to adorn the stamps as required.

Fig 32 – “*Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition*” A Sheet of 20 x 1st Class “Hello” stamps was issued on 25 May 2006 specifically for the Exhibition. The generic sheet was printed in litho and the “Hello” stamps form part of the set first issued in March 2002. The labels attached to the stamps show a U.S. mail

box and the caption “Washington World Philatelic Exhibition 2006”. The border of the sheet features a red biplane carrying the news of Royal Mail’s visit to the Exhibition and the official logo of the show.

Fig 33 – “*England’s finest Hour – Wembley Stadium, London, 30 July 1966*” A Sheet of 20 x 1st Class stamps was issued on 6 June 2006. The generic sheet was printed in litho and the stamp is similar to the 1st class value making up the set of six featuring players from the World Cup winning countries from the last forty years namely England, France, Italy, Germany, Argentina and Brazil.

Alongside the stamps are black and white labels which feature dramatic stills from the 1966 World Cup Final at the old Wembley Stadium when England beat Germany 4 – 2 after extra time. The labels are captioned with the time from 1.00 p.m. when the gates were opened for the first ever World Cup final held in the U.K. and for the capacity filled stadium (93,000) to 5.30 p.m. when world champions England saluted the crowd and performed a celebrating lap around the stadium. One of the labels shows England’s captain, the late Bobby Moore, receiving the World Cup from H.M. The Queen. Another label records the time as 5 p.m. when the 2 – 2 deadlock was broken by the most debated goal whether it had, in fact, gone over the line.

Fig 34 – “*For Life’s Special Moments*” Sheet of 20 x 1st Class definitive-size ‘Smilers’ stamps first issued in stamp books in October 2005. The generic sheet was printed in litho on self-adhesive paper and issued on 4 July 2006. The stamps include four each of the ‘Love’ and ‘Hello’ stamps and three each of the letter-box, teddy bear, flower and flag designs. The sheet border shows a townscape which incorporates the six elements of the stamp designs.

Fig 35 – “*Extra Special Moments*” Sheet of 20 x 1st Class stamps printed in litho on self-adhesive paper. The generic sheet features all six of the new ‘Smilers’ stamps. Each image has its own special message such as Best Wishes, Celebration, Hey Baby, Bing Bang, Balloons and Thank You. The new design became available for sale on 17 October 2006.

Fig 36 – “*Christmas*” The Generic Sheet was designed by Rose Design and released for sale on 7 November 2006. The sheet printed in litho on self-adhesive paper comprises 10 x 1st Class and 10 x 2nd Class stamps set within a border. The labels which were illustrated by Tatsuro Kiuchi feature a snow scene in a park with illustrations of children, adults, snowflakes and a train passing below the hills.

Fig 37 – “*Belgica 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition*” A Generic Sheet containing 20 x 1st Class “Hello” stamps was issued on 14 November 2006 specifically for the Belgica philatelic exhibition in Brussels. The labels feature images of thematic subjects namely birds, heritage, transport and sport. The Belgica exhibition logo appears in the sheet margin being flown by a red biplane carrying the news of Royal Mail’s visit to the Exhibition. The sheet was designed by Frontmedia and printed in litho

Fig 38 – “*We Will Remember Them*” is an excerpt from Laurence Binyon’s famous poem “For the Fallen”. The Generic Sheet which comprises 20 x 1st Class “Poppy” commemorative stamps was printed in litho and issued on 9 November 2006. The stamps show seven poppies entwined with barbed wire as their stems. Twelve of the labels adjoining the stamps feature sculptures on the Cenotaph (Whitehall London), Royal Artillery Memorial (Hyde Park Corner), RAF Memorial (Gilded Eagle at Charing Cross) and Euston Station War Memorial. The other eight labels beneath the images carry details of the memorial shown by the renowned military historian Richard Holmes.

Binyon wrote the seven-verse poem “For the Fallen” to honour the British Expeditionary Forces that were suffering such high casualties on the Western Front, and as such it was appropriate that a line from the poem lends itself to be the title of the Sheet. The solemn yet beautiful words adorn the edge of these special stamps.

Year 2007

Fig 39 – “*Cymru Wych – Glorious Wales*” This was the first sheet in a series of five Country Definitive Generic Sheets leading up to the 50th Anniversary of the Country Definitives in September 2008. The sheet in question was issued on 1st March (St. David’s Day) containing 20 x 1st Class Welsh Dragon stamp from the 1997 Welsh Country Definitive issue and the adjoining labels featuring Welsh scenery. It was printed in litho on self-adhesive paper, making this the first self-adhesive country pictorial definitives. The sheet was designed by Glenn Tutssel. The flag forming the background was photographed by Andy Seymour. This sheet introduced a new printer to the U.K. definitives. The sheets were printed by Cartor Security Printing, the French company which became an operating division of the Walsall Print Group. Additionally the stamps differ from previous issues not only by their method of printing but also by not having elliptical perforations.

The ten labels depicting Welsh scenery were used twice captioned in Welsh and English and they featured the Menai Suspension Bridge, Worms Head Rhossili, Tintern Abbey, Merchant Seafarer’s War Memorial, Waterfall in the Brecon Beacons, Caerphilly Castle, Wales Millennium Centre, Second Severn Crossing Bridge, Cader Idris Snowdonia and Caernarfon Castle.

Fig 40 – “*Glorious England*” This Generic Sheet was the second (first Fig 39) in a parallel series celebrating all four countries of the United Kingdom. Appropriately all four generic sheets were to be issued on the countries respective Saint’s Days.

The sheet in question containing 20 x 1st Class England stamps and the adjoining labels featuring English building and scenery was issued on 23 April (St. George’s Day). It was printed in litho on self-adhesive paper making this the second self-

adhesive country stamp (Fig 39 was the first). The ten labels were issued twice and they depicted The London Eye, The Needles – Isle of Wight, Village Cricket Nottingham, London Taxis, The Angel of the North, White Horse Uffington, Stonehenge Wiltshire, Gateshead Millennium Bridge, Post Box – Sawbridge Rugby and Oast-House Kent. The flag of England was used as a background.

Fig 41 – “Memories of Wembley Stadium” A sheet contain 20 x 1st Class of the amended crowned ‘Lion’ stamp printed in litho was issued on 17 May 2007. The labels adjoining the stamps feature scenes of some of the great events from the old Wembley Stadium long and star-studded history and images of the new stadium. The magical moments bring to mind the 1948 Olympic Games, Henry Cooper knocking down Cassius Clay, Live Aid, the Three Tenors Concert, as well as the 1966 World Cup final all of which brought Wembley Stadium world renown and provided amazing memories to millions all over the world.

Fig 42 – “40th Anniversary of the Machin Definitives” The Generic Sheet printed in litho was issued on 5 June 2007 features 20 x 1st Class Arnold Machin stamps alongside 20 facsimiles of pre-decimal definitives.

Arnold Machin was an accomplished sculptor, tutor and ceramics designer. Known for his energy and perfectionism, his work was exceptional in his field and he succeeded in creating several classic pieces. In 1965 he was commissioned to create a new stamp designed to replace the Wilding Definitives. He was a great admirer of the original Penny Black stamp, particularly for its simple design. He took its use of a light image against a dark background as his inspiration. He spent a year designing it and in the process implemented a number of adjustments. The final result was immediately recognized as being a classic. Nowadays the exceptional unique image is synonymous with British postage stamps and an established British design icon.

Fig 43 – “Harry Potter” The new sheet was printed in litho on self-adhesive paper and issued on 17 July 2007. It contains 20 x 1st stamps featuring crests of Hogwarts, Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin. Alongside the stamps are labels showing the five major spells from the Harry Potter books namely, Reparo, Serpensortia, Evanesco, Wingardum Leviosa and Alohomora. Each spell is printed with a special thermochromatic ink that reveals the spell’s secret when warmed. A note saying “Place your thumb on the label and count to ten to reveal the secret of the spell” is printed at the bottom right hand corner of the sheet. The note also shows the copyrights and Royal Mail’s “Smilers” property registration rights.

Fig 44 – “Christmas” The sheet was issued on 6 Nov 2007. It was printed in litho on self-adhesive paper and contained 8 x 1st Class stamps featuring Angels heralding ‘goodwill’, 8 x 2nd Class ‘peace’ and 4 x 78p ‘joy’ to all mankind. At the forefront there is a group of carol singers standing in front of a large Christmas tree. The background shows various buildings in a typical wintry evening.

Fig 45 – “*Letters from the Front*” A Generic Sheet containing 20 x 1st ‘Poppy’ stamps was designed by Hat-Trick Design and printed in litho by Cartor was released for sale on 8 November 2007 to mark the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele. The title of the sheet is taken from the poem “For the Fallen” by the First World War poet Laurence Binyon. Further extracts from the same poem adorn the border of the sheet. This is the second (First being Fig 38) sheet in the ‘Lest We Forget’ series.

The writers of the letters, from the left, were (**1st Column**) Private Harry Brown 2nd King’s Royal Rifles Corps – letter dated 30 August 1917, (**2nd Column**) 2nd Lieut Percy Boswell 8th Battalion, the King’s Own Yorkshire Light Infantry – letter dated 30 June 1916, (**3rd Column**) Dorothy Field Voluntary Aid Nurse – letter dated 2 September 1916 and (**4th Column**) Private William Bowen Stephens Lancashire Fusiliers – letter dated 16 April 1917.

As the year marks the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Passchendaele, the centre of each poppy suggests the poignant image of advancing soldiers, whilst the background shows weary troops at the end of a hard day. Few battles are more symbolic of the terrible reality of World War I than the Battle of Passchendaele, described as the ‘Battle of the mud’ by the soldiers who endured it. Every long day of the campaign was a struggle for survival.

Since 1921 the poppy has stood as a symbol of Remembrance. Every November it becomes the visual pledge to never forget all those who have sacrificed their lives in the wars so that those who came after will continue to enjoy freedom.

Fig 46 – “*Glorious Scotland*” Following the Wales (Fig 39) and England (Fig 40) sheets a Glorious Scotland Generic Sheet went on sale on 30 November 2007 (St. Andrew’s Day). It was printed in litho on self-adhesive paper and contains 20 x 1st Class ‘Lion Rampant’ stamps on a flag of Scotland in the background. The labels feature Eilean Donan Castle, Isle of Skye, Forth Rail Bridge, Bagpipes, Rosslyn Chapel, Edinburgh Castle, The Old Course St. Andrews, Skara Brae Orkney, Highland Games and Spean Bridge.

Year 2008

Fig 47 – “*I wrote to say*” The Generic Sheet printed in litho on self-adhesive paper contains a mixture of 20 x 1st Class ‘Union’, ‘Flag’, ‘Love’ and ‘Hello’ stamps, with circular shaped adjoining labels was issued for sale on 15 January 2008.

Fig 48 – “*Glorious Northern Ireland*” This Generic Sheet was issued on 11 March 2008 (close to St. Patrick’s Day). The 20 x 1st Class ‘Country’ stamps and adjoining labels, like its predecessors in this series, were printed by Cartor in litho on self-adhesive paper, making this the first self-adhesive country stamp for Northern Ireland. Similar sheets in this series were issued for Wales (Fig 39), England (Fig 40) and Scotland (Fig 46). The labels show the following

buildings, scenery and landmarks from Northern Ireland; Belfast City Hall, Hands across the Divide, Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, Devenish Island, Slieve Binnian, Trevebullagh, Kilnasaggart Stone, Strangford Lough, Ulster American Folk Park and Castle Coole.

Fig 49 – “*Air Displays*” The Generic Sheet of 20 x 1st Class stamps, printed in litho by Cartor was issued on 17 July 2008. Pictures of the following planes are shown in the adjoining labels: A.V. Roe’s Triplane, Grahame-White Biplane, Bristol Bulldog, Cierva autogiro, Handley Page ‘Gugnunc’, Lightnings, Sikorsky R-4, Airbus A380, Typhoon and the famous Spitfire.

Fig 50 – “*Beijing 2008 Expo*” The sheet containing 20 x 1st ‘Hello’ stamps was issued on 5 August 2008 for the Beijing 2008 Expo. It was designed by Hat-Trick Design Group of London and printed in litho by Cartor. The labels adjoining the stamps feature traditional Chinese lanterns. At the top of the border there is an insertion of Royal Mail’s presence at the Expo.

Fig 51 – “*Glorious United Kingdom*” Following the issue of the Glorious Country Sheets for Wales (Fig 39), England (Fig 40), Scotland (Fig 46) and Northern Ireland (Fig 48), a U.K. sheet printed in litho on self-adhesive paper was issued on 29 September 2008 containing five of each of the 1st Class ‘Country’ stamps of the four countries with appropriate adjoining labels to combine and close the series of the four sheets. The stamps and labels are set against the background of the Union Flag (Union Jack).

Wales – Cynulliad Cymru/Welsh Assembly, Castell Harlech/Harlech Castle, Tonypany (statue of minor), Capel Sant Gofan/St. Govan’s Chapel and Helvetia Rhosili/Helvetia Rhossili. **Northern Ireland** – Beaghmore Stone Circles, Belfast Customs House, Scrabo Tower, Lough Erne White Island Figures and Mussenden Temple. **England** – Tower of London, Brighton Pier, Turf Fen Mill ‘The Broads’, Royal Liver Building and Eden Project. **Scotland** – Scottish Exhibiton Centre, Declaration of Arbroath, Dugald Stewart Monument, Glenfinnan Viaduct and Italian Chapel Orkney.

Fig 52 – “*Christmas*” The year’s colourful Christmas Generic Sheet contained eight each of 1st and 2nd Class and four 81p ‘Christmas’ with adjoining labels showing a pantomime landscape, pantomime characters and pantomime cries such as “He’s behind you”, “Oh, no it isn’t” and “Hiss”. The sheet was designed by Bristol based design group and printed in litho on self-adhesive paper.

Fig 53 – “*Their Name Liveth For Evermore*” A Generic Sheet designed by Hat Trick design group of London and printed in litho by Cartor was issued on 11 November 2008. It contains 20 x 1st Class new ‘Poppy’ special stamps. This issue completes a set of three sheets, the other two being Fig 38 and Fig 45. The adjoining labels contain short notes below the pictures shown, from the left (**1st Column**) – Picture frame carved from an army ration biscuit by Sergeant M. Herring, of

the Royal Army Service Corps. (**2nd Column**) – Decorated shell case made by Bombardier T.E. Knights of the Royal Field Artillery. (**3rd Column**) – Football used by Captain Wilfred Percy Neville, 8th Battalion, East Surrey Regiment. (**4th Column**) – Whistle carried by Second Lieutenant Montague Moore, 15th Battalion, Hampshire Regiment. It is worthy to mention that 2 Lt Moore was awarded the Victoria Cross after leading an attack in 1917.

As in the previous two sheets the title is taken from Laurence Binyon emotional poem “For the Fallen” together with the extracts that adorn the border.

The issue marked the 90th anniversary of the Armistice ending the First World War, at 11 a.m. on 11 November 1918 always cited as the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. The anniversary is marked each year by the Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall and the ceremony at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, both attended by H.M. The Queen and by members of the Royal Family, Government ministers, politicians, representatives of the Commonwealth and those who fought in the two World Wars and other conflicts. Several other ceremonies and services in memory of the fallen are held in cities, towns and villages throughout the U.K. and the Commonwealth.

Year 2009

Fig 54 – “*British Design Classics ‘The mini’*” The first year’s Generic Sheet which was printed in litho by Cartor went on sale on 13 January 2009. It contains 20 x 1st Class ‘Mini’ stamps plus adjoining labels telling the story of the famous car with images of it and its enthusiastic drivers. The Mini was launched in August 1959 at a time when Britain was affected by fuel rationing following the Suez Crisis in 1956. The arrival of this economical new car was timely. Over the next 40 years it became the most popular British car ever. By the time production ceased in October 2000, over 5.3 million cars had been produced.

Fig 55 – “*Concorde*” A Generic Sheet printed in litho by Cartor and bearing 20 x 1st Class ‘Concorde’ stamps, from the Design Classics, became available for sale on 2 March 2009 marking the 40th Anniversary of the first Concorde flight. The labels feature images of Concorde with a short history of this iconic aircraft.

In November 1962 Britain and France agreed to build, jointly, a supersonic aircraft, and in March 1969 Concorde prototype 001 took off from Toulouse and made its first flight. A month later Concorde 002 completed its maiden flight from Filton near Bristol.

Fig 56 – “*Castles of Northern Ireland*” The first in a new series of generic sheets featuring castles of the U.K. was issued on 17 March 2009. The sheet printed in litho by Cartor on self-adhesive paper contains 20 x 1st Class Northern Ireland country stamps plus adjoining labels featuring castles (each castle features on two labels) in the Province namely Monea, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Dunluce, Enniskillen,

Dungiven, Killyleagh, Narrow Water, Killymoon and Gosford.

Fig 57 – “*Castles of England*” The second castles generic sheet featuring English Castles went on sale on 23 April 2009. It contains 20 x 1st Class ‘St. George Flag’ stamp plus adjoining labels printed in litho by Cartor on self-adhesive paper, thus making it the first self-adhesive version of the St. George flag stamp. The castles, each of which feature twice on the labels, are Warwick, Oxford, Bolsover, Dover, Framlingham, Carlisle, Windsor, Bamburgh, Kenilworth and Bodiam.

Fig 58 – “*Thaipex 2009 Exhibition*” The first of three exhibition sheets to be issued in 2009 went on sale on 3 August. The generic sheet contains 20 x 1st Class ‘Hello’ stamps with adjoining labels showing Bangkok ‘tuk-tuks’ (local taxis). The sheet was designed by Mark Studio of Manchester and printed in litho by Cartor. The border is headed at the top “Hello from Royal Mail” in English and Thai and also bears the exhibition logo. The other two exhibitions which were planned to take place during the year were Italia (21 October) and Monacophil (4 December).

Fig 59 – “*Post Boxes*” A Generic Sheet containing 20 x 1st Class ‘Post Box’ stamp (ex Miniature Sheet) with adjoining labels featuring 20 different pictures of posting boxes, historic images and royal ciphers from boxes was issued on 18 August. The sheet was printed in litho by Cartor and designed by Elmwood using images supplied by Martin Robinson.

Fig 60 – “*Italia 2009 Exhibition*” The Generic Sheet (second in the series see Fig 58) which was issued on 21 October was designed by Mark Studio of Manchester and printed in litho by Cartor. It contains 20 x 1st Class ‘Hello’ stamps with adjoining labels showing landmarks of Rome. The labels feature The Colosseum, St. Peter’s Basilica, the ruins at the ancient Forum, the Vittorio Emmanuele monument, the Pantheon, the temple of Antoninus Pius and Faustina, the Trevi Fountain at dawn, Trajan’s Column, the Arch of Constantine and the Castel Sant’Angelo.

Fig 61 – “*Christmas*” The Generic Sheet which was designed by Russell Warren and printed in litho by Cartor on self-adhesive paper was issued on 3 November 2009. It contains a mixture of ‘Christmas Stamps’ which were designed by Andrew Ross namely 8 x 1st Class, 8 x 2nd Class, 2 x 56p and 2 x 90p. The adjoining labels show Nativity figures and verses from the Gospel according to St. Luke.

Fig 62 – “*Castles of Scotland*” The third Castles Generic Sheet (1st Fig 56 and 2nd Fig 57) was issued on St. Andrew’s Day 30 November 2009. The sheet contains 20 x 1st Class ‘Scottish Flag’ country stamp with adjoining labels printed in litho on self-adhesive paper. The labels feature two of each of the following Scottish castles: Edinburgh, Balmoral, Culzean, Stalker, Stirling, Caerlaverock, Eilean Donan, Kilchurn, Blair and Cawdor.

Fig 63 – “*MonacoPhil 2009 Exhibition*” The last of this year’s three exhibitions (1st Fig 58 and 2nd Fig 60) sheets was issued on 4 December 2009 to mark the

Monacophil Exhibition in Monte Carlo. The sheet bears 20 x 1st 'Hello' stamps with adjoining labels showing an ariel view of Monte Carlo. It was designed by Mark Studio and printed in litho by Cartor.

The Monacophil Exhibition is now an established part of the international philatelic scene, where some of the world's top collectors display prized material from their collections rarely seen in other exhibitions.

Below is the poem that provided the poignant words which adorn the borders of the three Generic Sheets at Figs 38, 45 and 53.

For The Fallen

With proud thanksgiving, a mother for her children,
England mourns for her dead across the sea,
Flesh of her flesh, spirit of her spirit,
Fallen in the cause of the free.

Solemn the drums thrill: Death august and royal
Sings sorrow up into immortal spheres.
There is music in the midst of desolation
And a glory that shines upon our tears.

They went with songs to the battle, they were young,
Straight of limb, true of eye, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the setting of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England's foam.

But where our desires are and our hopes profound,
Felt as a well-spring that is hidden from sight,
To the innermost heart of their own land they are known
As the stars are known to the Night;

As the stars that shall be bright when we are dust,
Moving in marches upon the heavenly plain,
As the stars that are starry in the time of our darkness,
To the end, to the end, they remain.

Laurence Binyon
1869 – 1943

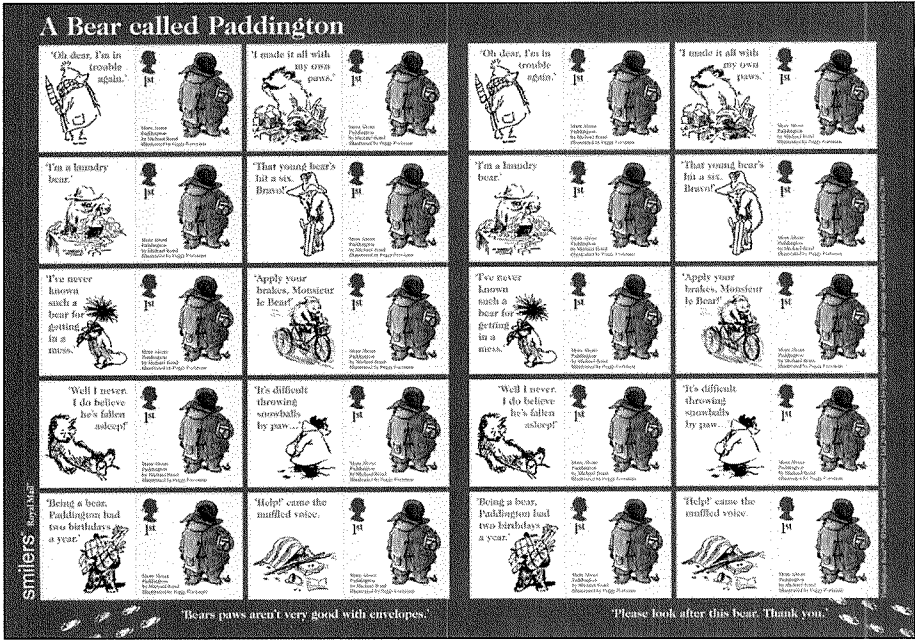


Fig. 30 A Bear called Paddington

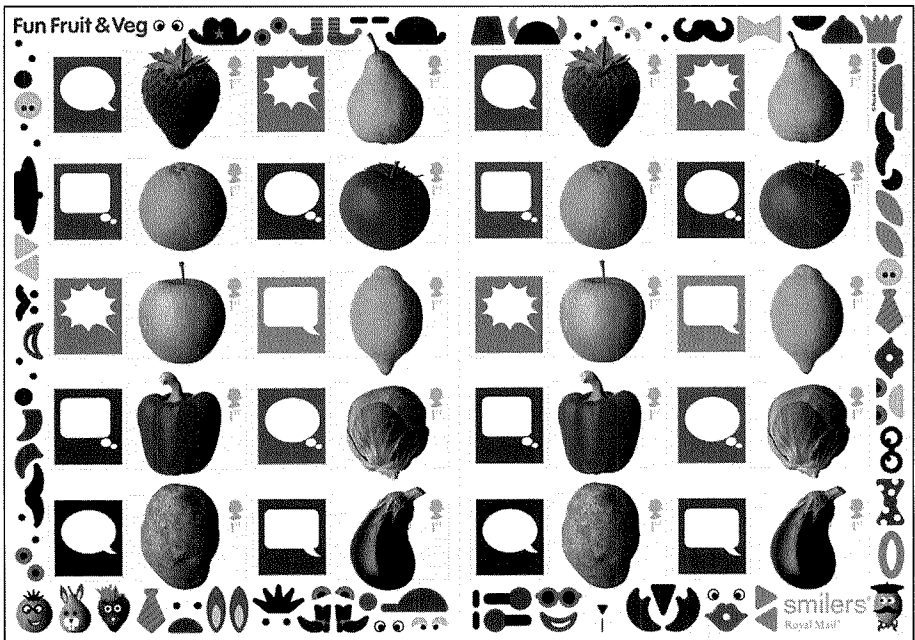


Fig. 31 Fun Fruit & Veg



Fig. 32 Washington 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition



Fig. 33 England's Finest Hour

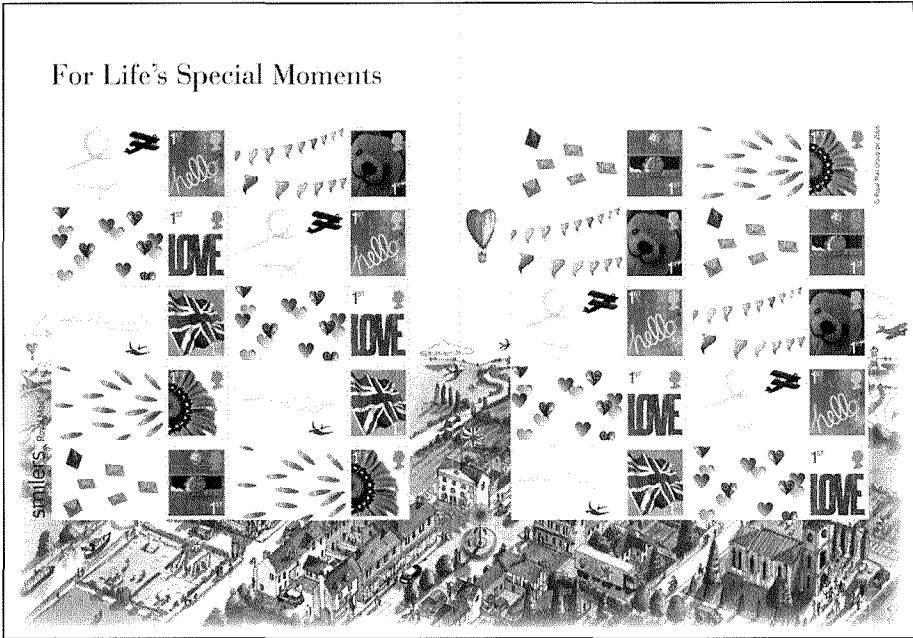


Fig. 34 For Life's Special Moments

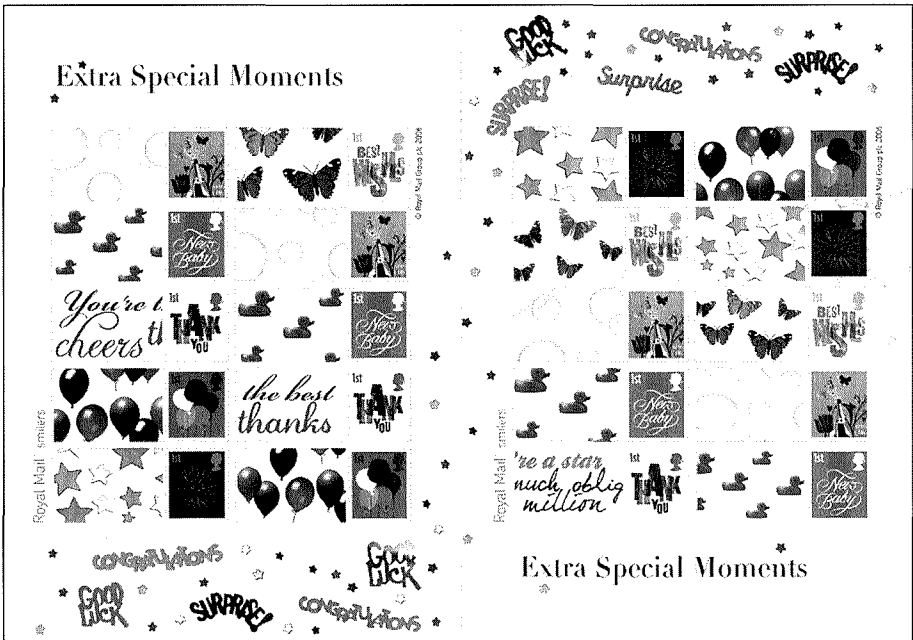


Fig. 35 Extra Special Moments

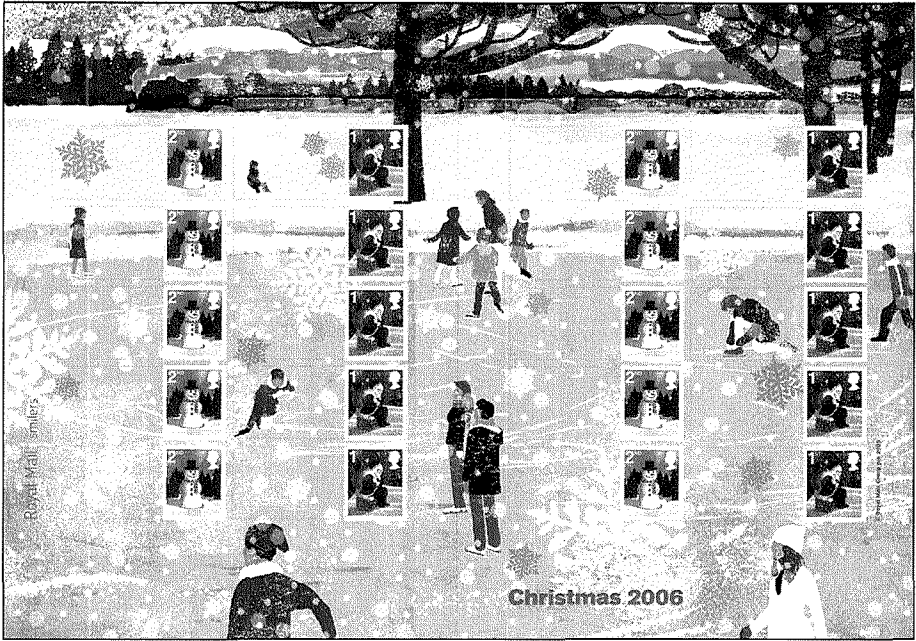


Fig. 36 Christmas 2006

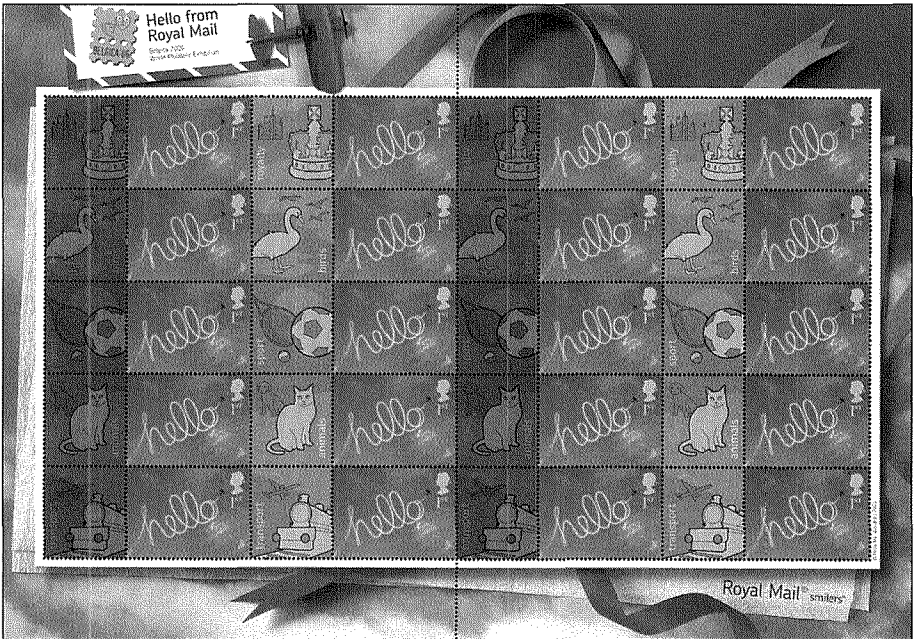


Fig. 37 Belgica 2006 World Philatelic Exhibition

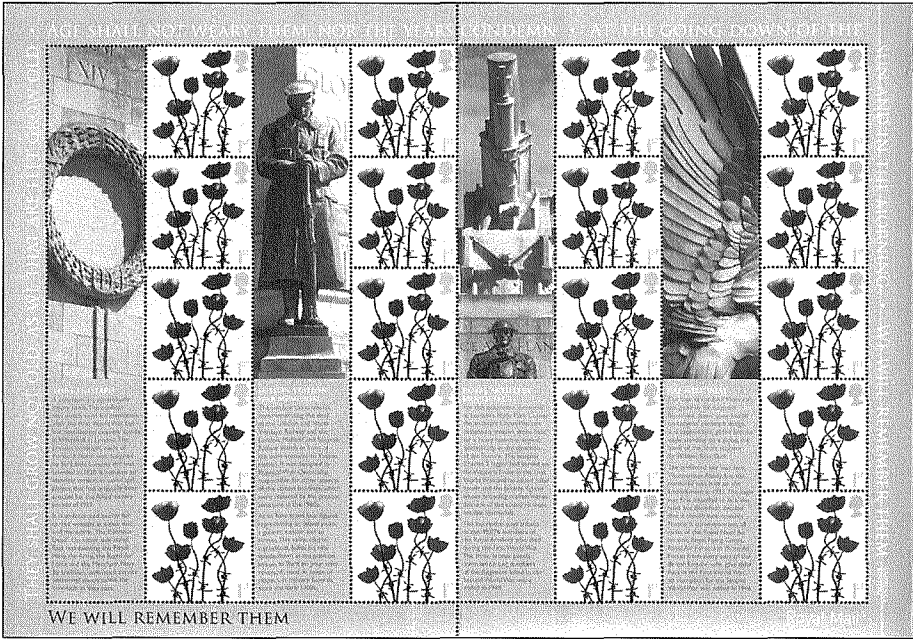


Fig. 38 We Will Remember Them

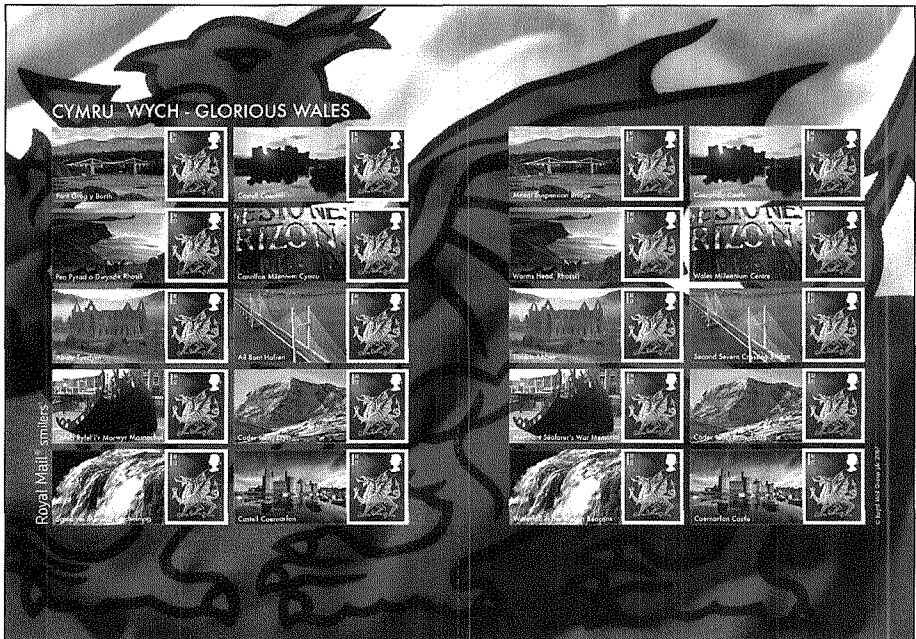


Fig. 39 Glorious Wales



Fig. 42 40th Anniversary of the Machin Definitives

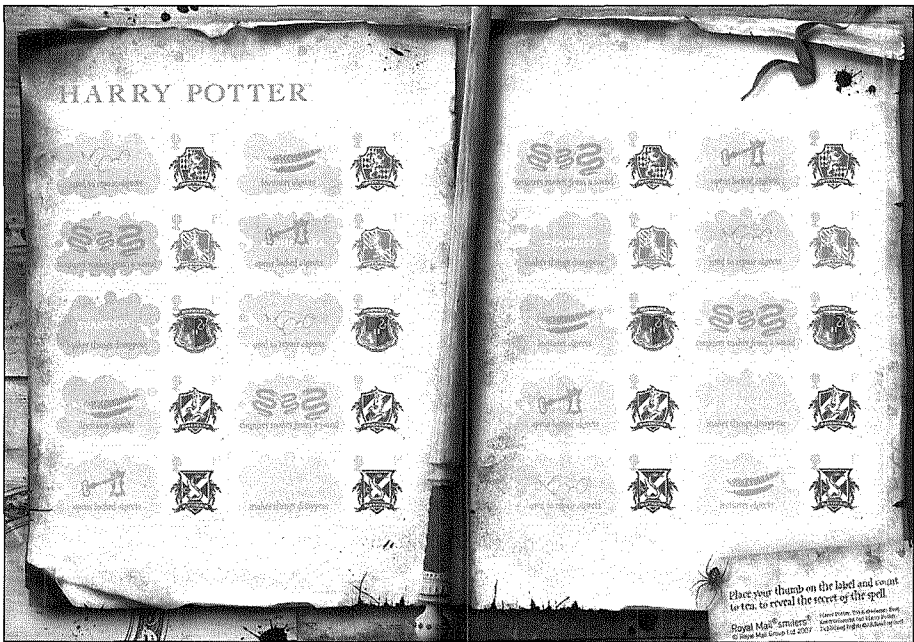


Fig. 43 Harry Potter



Fig. 44 Christmas 2007



Fig. 45 Letters from the Front

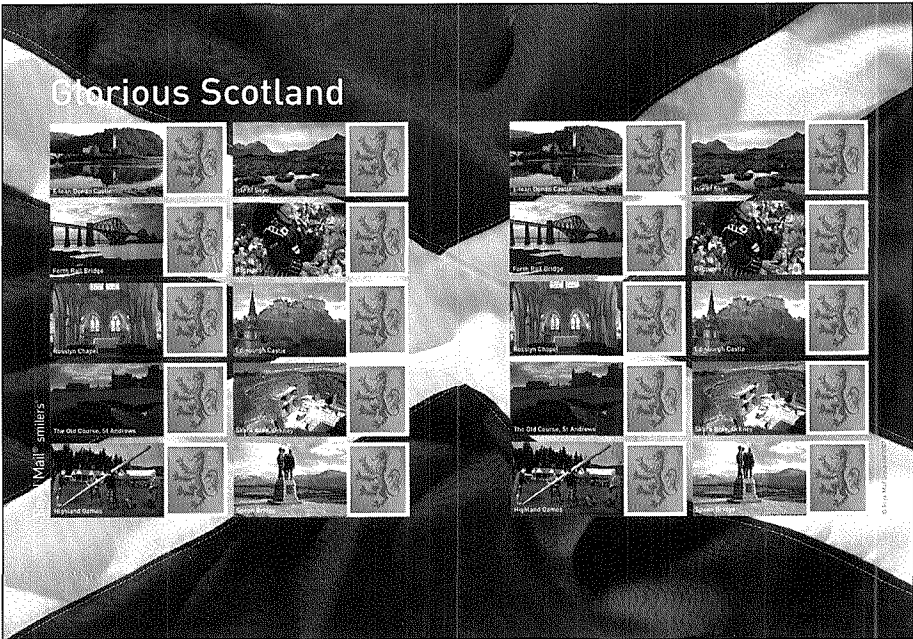


Fig. 46 Glorious Scotland

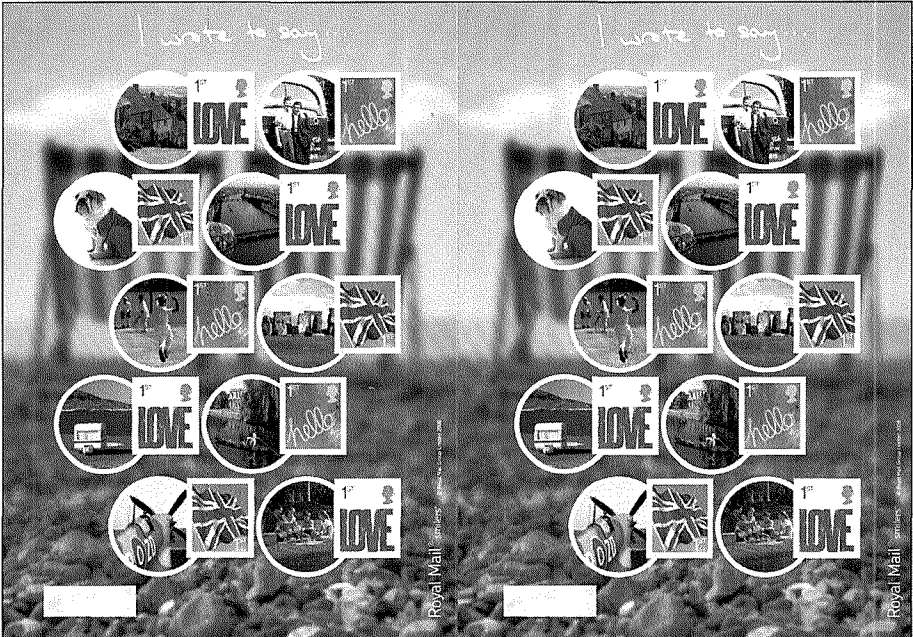


Fig. 47 I wrote to say

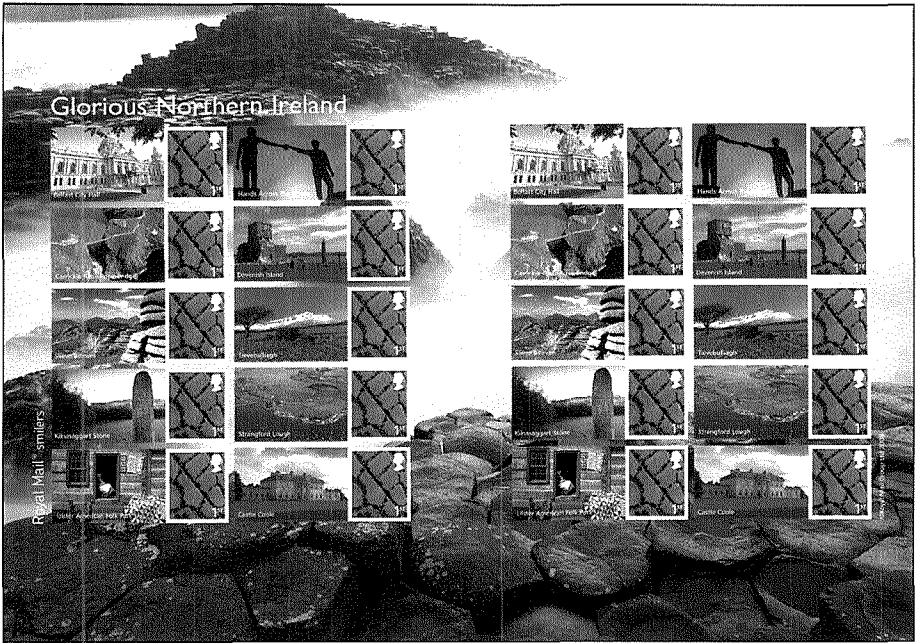


Fig. 48 Glorious Northern Ireland

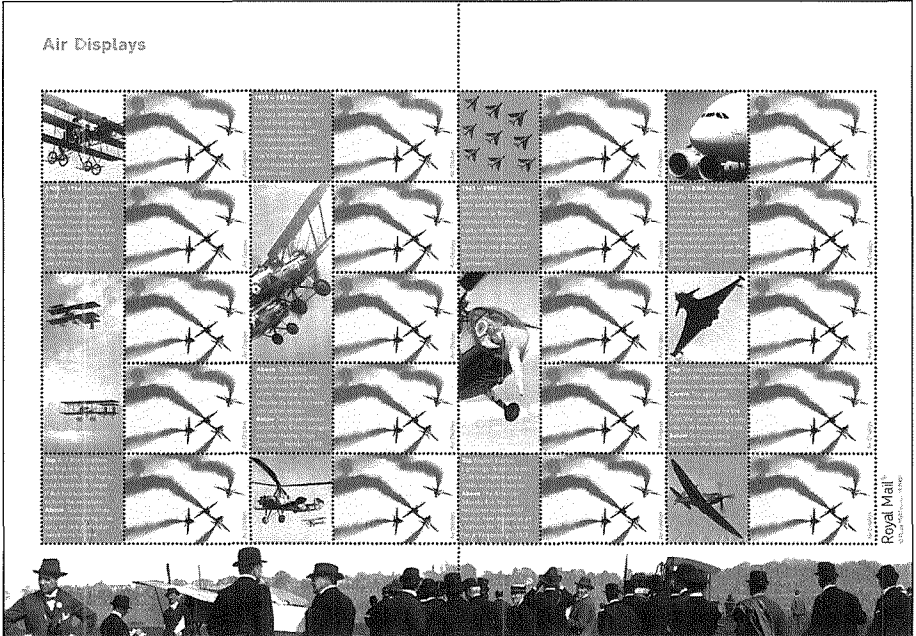


Fig. 49 Air Displays

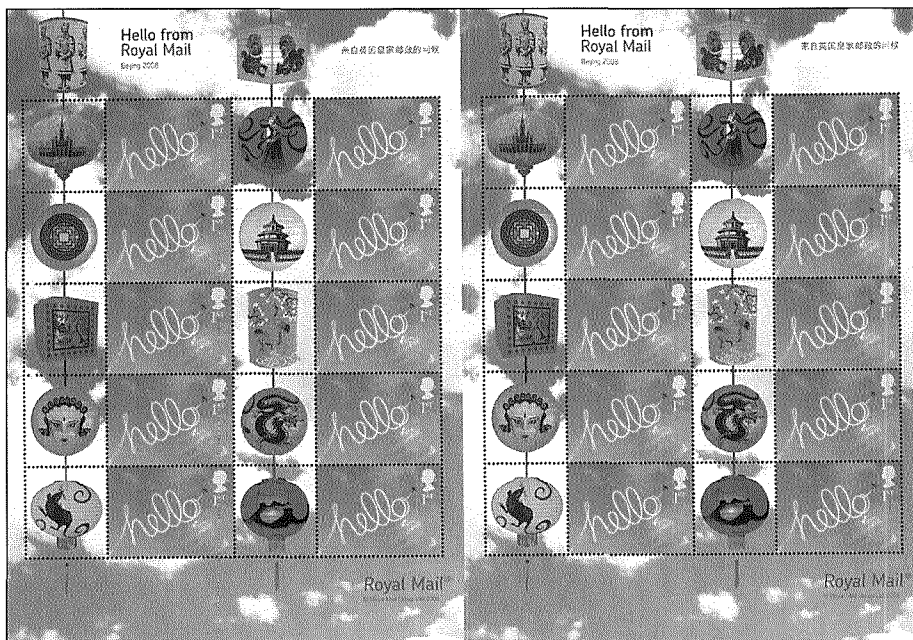


Fig. 50 Beijing 2008 Expo

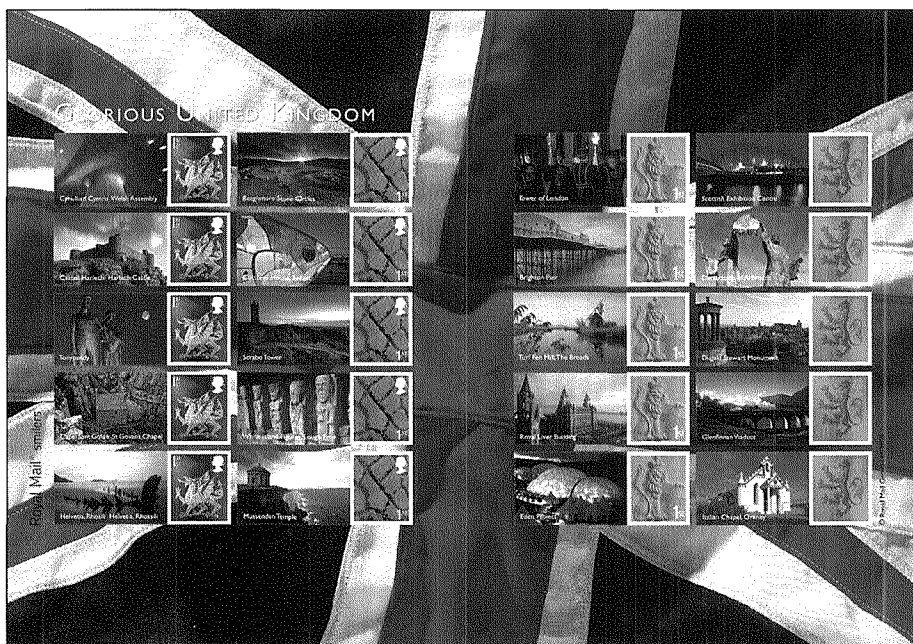


Fig. 51 Glorious United Kingdom



Fig. 52 Christmas 2008

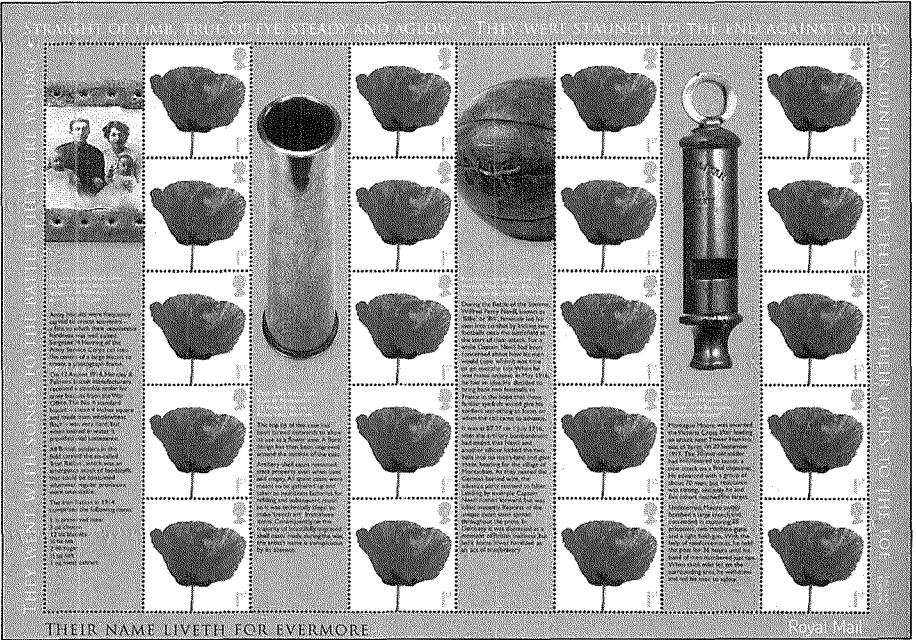


Fig. 53 Their Name Liveth For Evermore

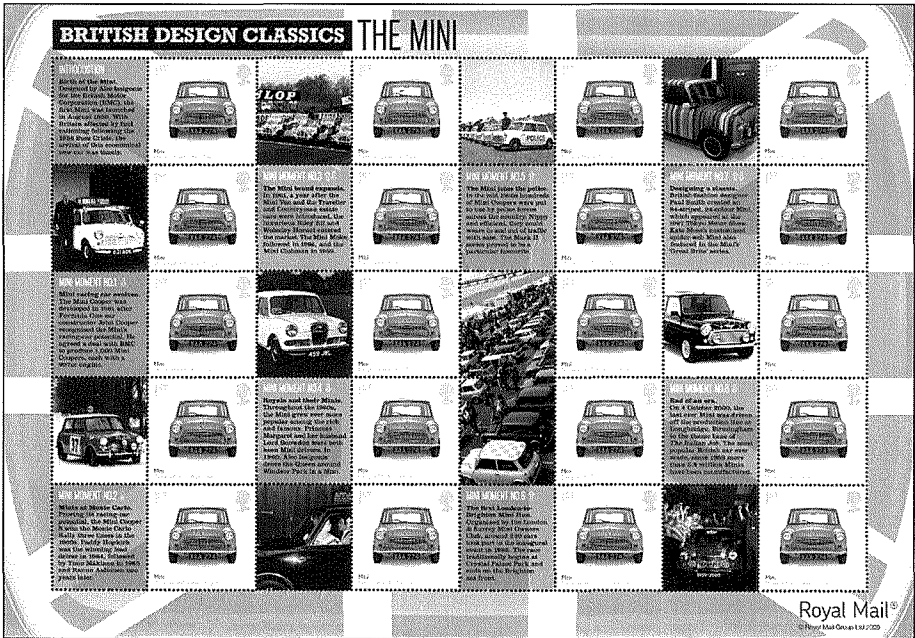


Fig. 54 British Design Classics – The Mini

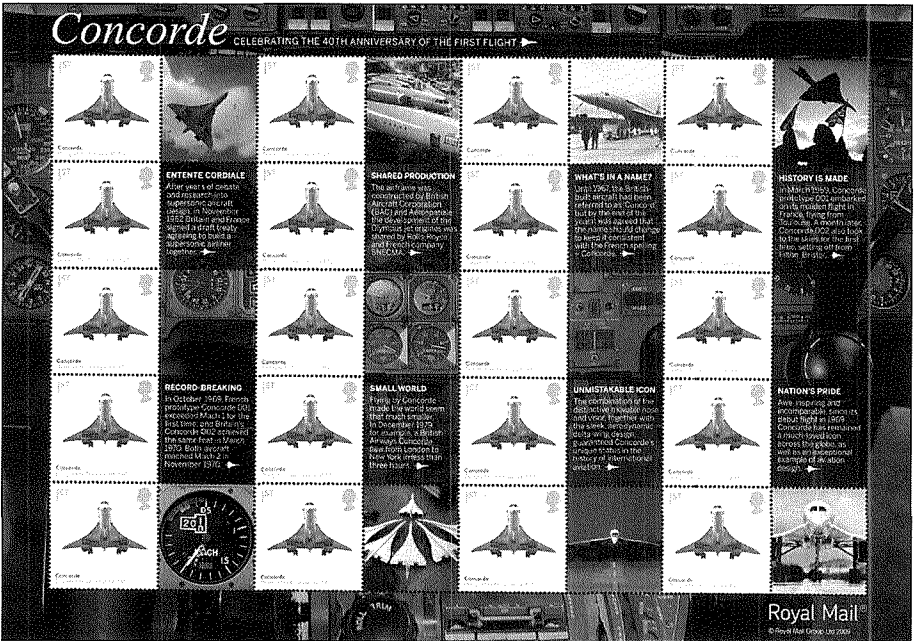


Fig. 55 Concorde

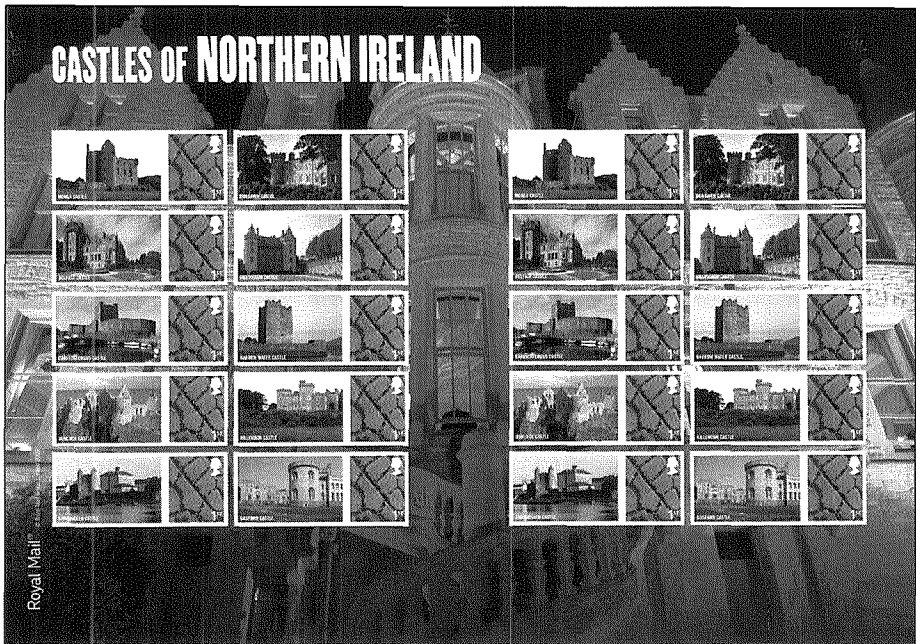


Fig. 56 Castles of Northern Ireland



Fig. 57 Castles of England

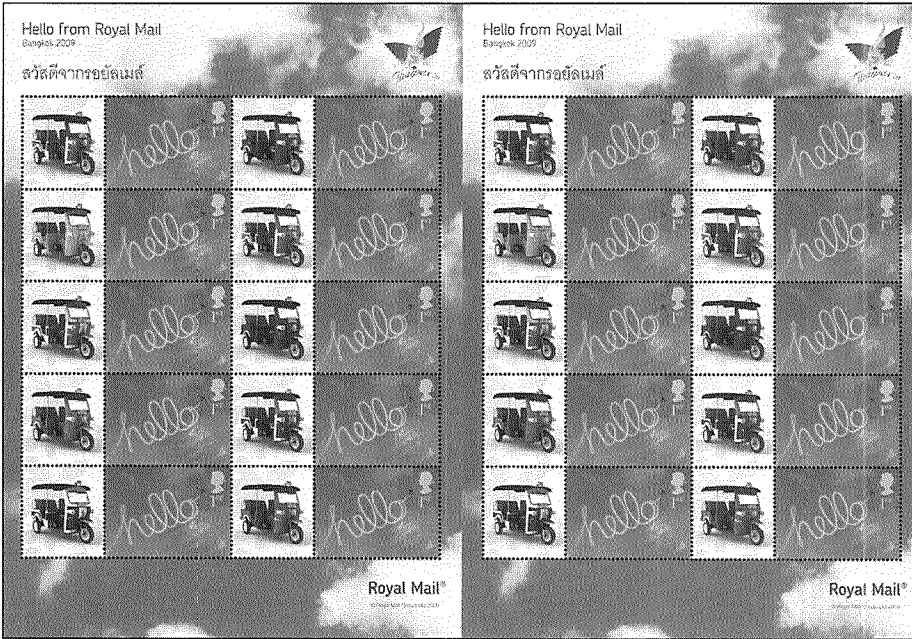


Fig. 58 Thaipex 2009 Exhibition

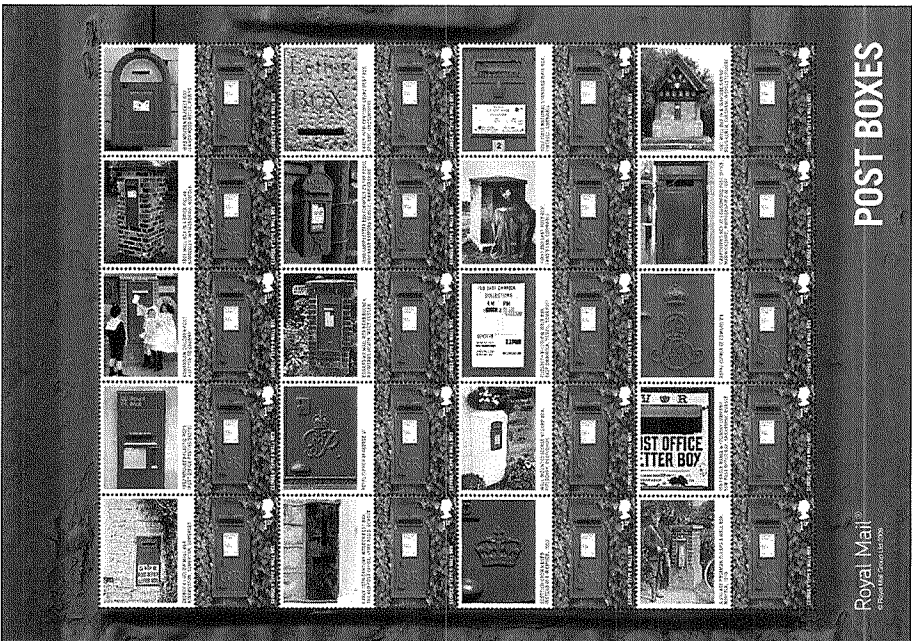


Fig. 59 Post Boxes

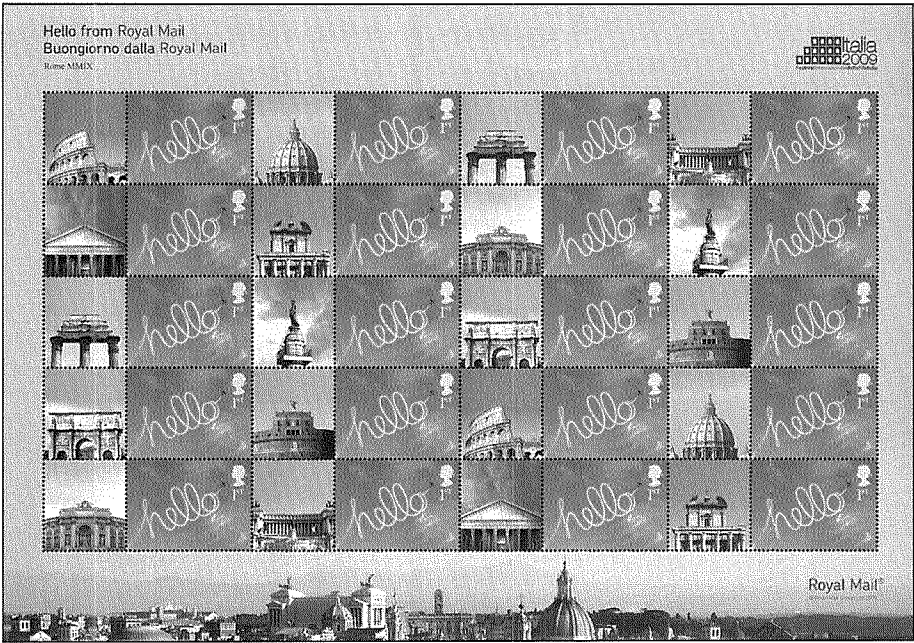


Fig. 60 Italia 2009 Exhibition

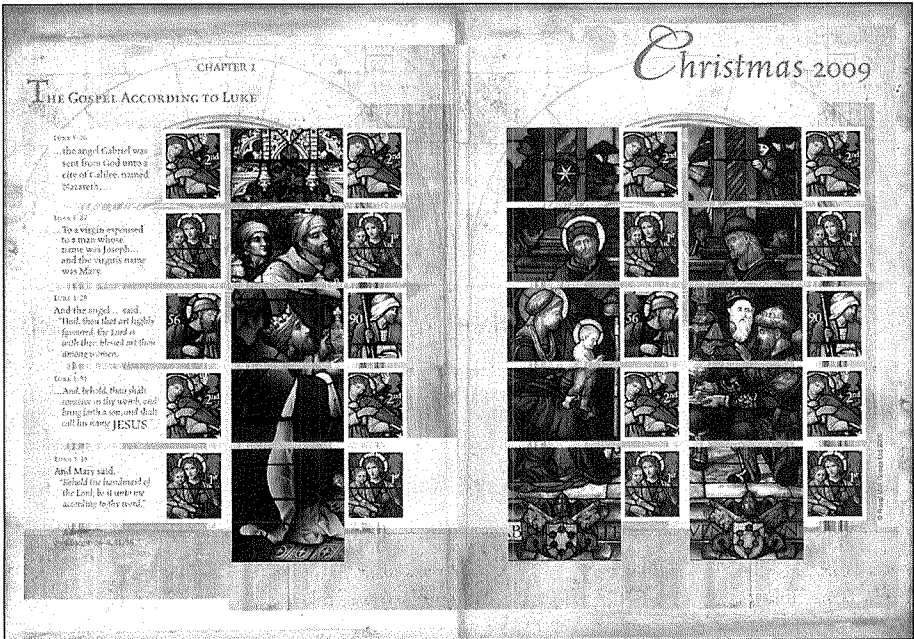


Fig. 61 Christmas 2009



Fig. 62 Castles of Scotland



Fig. 63 Monacophil 2009 Exhibition

2010 MALTEX XI PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

The 11th Edition of the Malta Philatelic Exhibition is being held between **Friday 8th to Sunday 10th October** at the Green Lounge of the Hotel Phoenicia. The inauguration and blessing of the Exhibition will take place on **Thursday 7th October at 18.00 hours.**

This year happens to be the 150th Anniversary of Malta's first stamp, the half penny yellow. To commemorate the event members of the Malta Study Circle of U.K., who are organising a visit to Malta, have been invited to participate.

All members are reminded that, as in previous years, they are invited to attend the official opening on **Thursday 7th October.**

Commemorative Souvenirs

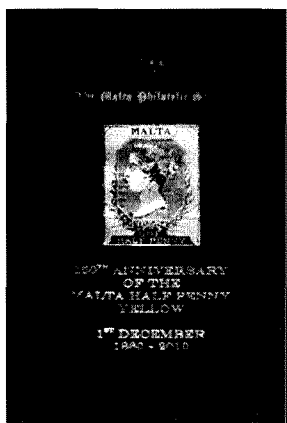
The Malta Philatelic Society intends to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Queen Victoria 1/2d yellow by a Commemorative Crystal paper weight and a keychain both designed by Mr. John De Battista.

They will be both distributed free of charge to members but a donation of €5 would be appreciated plus transmission charges as specified below.

Overseas members are therefore requested to notify the Secretary/Treasurer of their desire to receive the souvenirs accompanied by the relative remittance, so that the Secretary/Treasurer would be in a position to transmit the souvenirs to them.

Maltese resident members are requested to notify the Secretary/Treasurer together with a remittance of €5 on a first come first served basis. They will be notified the time of collection during Maltex 2010, in order to save transmission charges.

The Hon. Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. J. A. Cardona, can be contacted at 56, St. Mary Street, Tarxien TXN 1703, Malta.



	EUROPE	CAMEROON CANADA S. AFRICA USA	AUSTRALIA
Postage €	6.37	8.51	10.43
Registered €	1.40	1.40	1.40
Packing €	0.36	0.36	0.36
Total €	8.13	10.27	12.19

The Gleneagles Contract

By Dr A Bonnici



S. S. "GLENEAGLES"

Steam Communication between MALTA & GOZO

TIME TABLE WEEK DAYS

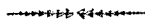
FOR

JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

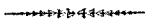
Leaves CUSTOM HOUSE 6. 30 a.m. Arrives GOZO 8. 0 a.m.
 „ GOZO 9. 0 a.m. Arrives CUSTOM HOUSE 10. 30 a.m.



Leaves CUSTOM HOUSE 4. p.m. Arrives GOZO 5. 30 p.m.
 „ GOZO 6. p.m. Arrives CUSTOM HOUSE 7. 30 p.m.



Special Notices will be issued for Sundays and Holidays.



PASSENGERS TARIFF

VALLETTA TO GOZO & VICEVERSA

FIRST CLASS	£ 0. 1. 6.
— do — Return Tickets	0. 2. 6.
THIRD CLASS	0. 0. 8.
— do — Return Tickets	0. 1. 0.



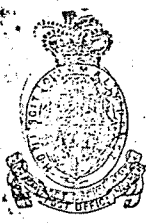
☞ Return Tickets are available for 3 Days.

☞ Seats obtainable on board.

Copy for the Post. etc

3 (4)

A. J. ...



The eighth day, of the month of June
in the year 1885.

George Cousin, son of the late Gaspare, born and residing in Valletta, Auditor General and Director of Contracts, on behalf of the Government of Malta, by special authority from His Excellency the Governor, through a letter from the Lieutenant Governor and Chief Secretary to Government, dated this 8th day of June 1885, and Chevalier Olof Frederick Gollcher, son of the late John Guståve, born in Stockholm, and residing in Valletta, Merchant, called hereinafter "the Contractor," well known, personally appearing before me, the undersigned Notary, and in the presence of the undersigned witnesses of their own free will have agreed as follows:

1. The Contractor shall establish a regular, daily, steam communication between the port of Valletta and Gozo.
2. The steam-vessel, to be regularly employed by the Contractor in this service, shall be the "Gleneagles", described in the Schedule annexed to this agreement.
3. The hours of departure and arrival of the steam-vessel, shall be fixed by the Contractor, subject to the approval in writing of the Government, provided always that the time allowed for the trip from Valletta to Migiarrò, Gozo, or from Migiarrò, Gozo, to Valletta, shall not, in weather certified by the Superintendent of the Ports to be ordinary weather, exceed two hours. An extension of time to two and one half hours to be allowed, if vessel calls at Saint Paul's Bay or intermediate ports.
4. The port of arrival and departure in Gozo shall be Migiarrò, unless the state of the weather is such as to render that anchorage unsafe; in which case the Bay of Marsalforn may be resorted to.
5. In the event of the Government requiring to send mails to Sicily, or to bring mails from that island, the Contractor shall, whenever required, by the Government so to do, place the services of the "Gleneagles" at the disposal of the Government for that purpose.
6. In such case, the duration of the round trip from Valletta to Syracuse and back shall not exceed twenty hours, and no subsidy shall be due to the contractor for any trip executed in more than twenty hours, unless caused by stress of weather or accidents and detentions not under the control of the Contractor, that is to, say, not caused by any act or negligence of himself or servants, provided that the vessel be not detained more than two hours at Syracuse by order of this Government.
7. The Contractor shall not, except with the consent in writing of the Government, refuse to receive on board any person applying for passage at the tariff price, provided there be room, and, in cases of trips to Sicily, provided the departure of any individual shall not have been impeded by an act from a Court of Justice.

8. In the event of the absence or stoppage of the "Gleneagles" for the conveyance of the continental mails, for repairs or otherwise, in the event of the approval of the Government in writing having first been obtained, the Contractor shall keep up the regular daily mail service between Malta and Gozo by means of another steam-vessel approved by the Government for that purpose.

9. The Contractor shall carry free of charge the daily mails between Malta and Gozo, receiving and delivering them on board at the ports of arrival and departure.

10. In return for the daily steam service between Malta and Gozo, the Government agrees to pay to the Contractor a subsidy at the rate of seven hundred and fifty pounds sterling per annum, subject to the deductions hereinafter defined.

11. The first instalment of the said subsidy shall be payable on the thirtieth September one thousand eight hundred and eightyfive, and the amount then payable shall be calculated from the day on which the regular service is commenced, as certified by the Superintendent of the Ports.

12. From and after the thirtieth September one thousand eight hundred and eightyfive, the subsidy shall be payable in equal quarterly payments on the last day of each quarter during the continuance of this agreement.

13. In the event of the "Gleneagles" or a substitute approved by the Government, failing to perform the regular service from Valletta to Gozo and back, on any day not a holiday or festival "d'intero preeetto", a deduction of two pounds sterling shall be made from the subsidy for every such failure. Provided that, if the Superintendent of the Ports shall certify that, in his opinion, the state of the weather was such, on any day on which such failure shall have occurred, as to preclude the "Gleneagles" or other approved vessel from proceeding to Gozo without serious risk of loss, the deduction shall not be made on account of such failure.

14. The Government will cause an account to be kept of the arrivals and departures of the steamer.

15. The time kept on board the steamer shall be regulated according to the time kept at the Office of the Superintendent of the Ports.

16. In the event of the Government calling on the Contractor to despatch the "Gleneagles" to Sicily with the continental mails, the Government will pay to the Contractor the sum of thirtyfive pounds sterling for the round trip to Syracuse and back, and a proportional rate, according to distance, in the event of the "Gleneagles" being despatched to some port other than Syracuse.

Provided that the vessel is not to suffer any detention further than is necessary for the delivery of the mails at the port, and the shipment of the return mails.

17. It shall be competent for the Contractor, in the event of his desiring at any time to dissolve this agreement, to do so by giving six months' notice in writing to the Government to that effect.

Subject to the foregoing condition, this agreement shall remain in force until the thirtieth June one thousand eight hundred and ninety, and no longer.

18. In the event of the Contractor failing to carry out the conditions of this contract, by failing to provide, during the continuance of this contract, a regular daily steam communication between Malta and Gozo, or by failing to carry the continental mails, as provided for by this agreement, the Government may, after seven days notice, dissolve this agreement, without the necessity of any judicial act.

19. The Contractor shall not, without the consent in writing of the Government, make over the present contract to any person; and in case of breach of this clause, the Government shall be at liberty to dissolve this contract, without the necessity of any judicial act.

20. The rates of passage fares and freight to and from Gozo, and on trips to Sicily shall be as stated in the schedule annexed to this agreement, subject to alteration, if approved by the Government.

21. Any difference or dispute relating to the interpretation of this contract, to the performance of the obligations of the Contractor, or to any other question concerning the execution of this contract, shall be determined, without appeal, by the Admiral Superintendent of Her Majesty's Dockyard, or by such other qualified person as may be agreed on between the Government and the Contractor.

22. This agreement is subject to ratification by the Council of Government; and in the event of its not being ratified by the Council of Government, it shall be void and of no effect.

23. For the due fulfilment of all the obligations entered into, the said Olof Frederick Gollcher does hypothecate all his property present and future, which hypothecation, saving his personal obligation to any amount, is hereby limited to one thousand pounds sterling.

The contracting parties have been informed by me, the undersigned Notary, of the importance of each part of this instrument which at their request has been drawn up in the English language.

Done and published in the island of Malta, in the City of Valletta, at No. 216 Strada Mercanti, in the presence of Dr. Antonio Carmelo Briffa, Notary, son of the late Giuseppe, and of Master Gavino Naudi, writer, son of the late Antonio Cleardo, both residing in Valletta, witnesses, who have declared that they are not related by blood or affinity to the contracting parties in any of the degrees prohibited by law.

(Signed) GEO. COUSIN,
" O. F. GOLLCHER,
" Not. Dr. ANT. C. BRIFFA, witness,
" GAVINO NAUDI, witness.

In testimonium veritatis.

(Signed) FRANC. SAV. CAMILLERI,
Notary Public and Notary to Government, Mella.

SCHEDULE

Schedule of particulars of the S.S. "Gleneagles."

Official No.	Name of Ship	Hired by	Port and year of Registry	Where built	When built	Material	Dimensions			Tonnage		Horse power	Line proposed	Speed
							Length	Breadth	Depth of hold	Net	Gross			
88,864	Gleneagles	J.V.D.F.	Malta, 1885	Aberdeen	1884	Iron	130	26	11	86	207	73	Sc.	12 Knots

(Signed) GEO. COUSIN,
 " O. F. GOLLCHER,
 " Not. F. S. CAMILLERI.

Passengers Tariff S.S. "Gleneagles."

Valletta to Gozo and viceversa.

First Class	...	...	...	...	£ — 1 6
Do.	return tickets	...	...	...	— 2 6
Third Class	...	...	...	...	£ — 1 —
Do.	return tickets	...	...	...	— 1 6

Valletta to St. Paul's Bay and viceversa.

First Class	...	...	...	...	£ — 1 —
Do.	return tickets	...	...	...	— 1 6
Third Class	...	...	...	...	£ — — 8
Do.	return tickets	...	...	...	— 1 —

St. Paul's Bay to Gozo and viceversa.

First Class	...	...	...	...	£ — 1 —
Do.	return tickets	...	...	...	— 1 6
Third Class	...	...	...	...	£ — — 8
Do.	return tickets	...	...	...	— 1 —

(Signed) GEO. COUSIN,
 " O. F. GOLLCHER,
 " Not. F. S. CAMILLERI.

*A.B. vessel commenced to run on
 1st July 1885.*

From the Postal Achieve

By Dr A Bonnici



ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MAILS.

The arrivals and departures of the English and Continental Mails will for the present be as follows :—

ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
Monday	Monday 4 p.m.
Tuesday	Wednesday 3 p.m.
Thursday	Thursday 4 p.m.

The Post Office will be open on ordinary week days from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. when there is a departure of the Continental Mails, but when there is no such departure the Office will close at 4 p.m.

On Sundays and Holydays (Feste d'intero precetto) the Office will be open only on the arrival and Departure of Mails.

By Order

General Post Office
Valletta, January 1885.

Agents.

1801

32,722

General Post Office,

1st September 1836.

Sir,

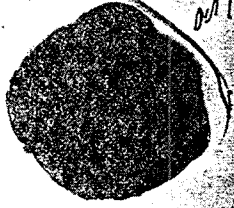
Referring to the last paragraph
of your letter dated 26th July last, I have
to acquaint you that I have transmitted
to you by this Mail under a separate
cover, a Stamp for stamping Money
orders on, together with the necessary
copy, for the use of your office.

Your obedient Servant,

John Coxon Esqre.

10 - 12 - 14

Walter

To what Place	Date when sent	Stamps
<p>To Mr Page vide no 4795/56</p>	<p>1856 1 Mar</p>	<p>Paid at Generara</p> <p><i>Stamps brought in in proper order</i></p>
<p>To Mr Page 30th Aug. 1856 <i>papers not numbered</i> Rio De Janeiro Malta</p>		<p>RIO-DE-JANEIRO SP 1856</p> <p>MALTA SPI 1856</p>
<p>Old Harbour.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>OLD-HARBOUR NO 25 1856 JAMAICA</p> <p><i>40381 included in account for Jamaica in papers 1856/57</i></p>
<p>Gayle</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>GAYLE (DE 5) 1856 JAMAICA</p> 
<p>To Mr Page Jan 28 1857</p>		<p>(S)</p> <p><i>Gibraltar</i></p>

To what Place	Date when sent	Stamps
<i>Furkenhead</i>	1855 <i>15 Inst</i>	BIRKENHEAD JUL 15 1855 A
<i>Throsbury</i>	" "	BASCHURCH
<i>Lancaster</i>	" "	LANCASTER JUL 23 1855 A (436)
<i>Calter</i> <i>D. to J.</i>	" "	JETER JUL 23 1855 S (285)
<i>Peterborough</i>	" "	PETERBOROUGH JUL 23 1855 A (612) (285)
<i>Malta</i> <i>"23586"</i>	" "	MALTA JUL 23 1855 (198)
<i>Manchester</i> <i>D. U.</i>	" "	MANCHESTER JUL 21 1855 U (498) MANCHESTER JUL 21 1855 U (198)

Postal Diary

21 January 2010 – 5 April 2010

by Joseph Fenech

21 January

MaltaPost plc notified that, by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, mail from all public letterboxes was collected at 14.00 hrs. on Thursday, 21 January 2010.

21 January

MaltaPost plc announced that for the year ended 30 September 2009, it had registered a profit before tax of €3.19 million as compared to €2.90 million the previous year (representing an increase of 10%). Earnings per share (at €0.07) remained at the same level of the previous financial year. Revenue decreased by 1.4% from €20.48 million to €20.19 million, which was mainly due to lower volumes of domestic mail and lower philatelic sales. The decline was compensated by an increase in international mail. The Cost-to-Income ratio improved to 85.9% from 87.6%. Total assets increased by 3.1% to €22.07 million from €21.41 million in 2008. The shareholders' funds increased by 20.9% to €10.88 million.

1 February

A new Sub-Post Office opened with effect from Monday, 1 February 2010, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Marcham Stationery, Triq Santa Marija, Ghaxaq GXQ 1716. This Sub-Post Office opens from Monday to Friday between 7.00am and 12.00 noon, and 4.00pm and 7.00pm, and also on Saturday between 7.00am and 12.00 noon. This Sub-Post Office replaced the previous Sub-Post Office, which operated from Rose Bazaar, Triq Santa Marija, Ghaxaq, and which terminated its Sub-Post Office operations also with effect from 1 February 2010. A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words 'GHAXAQ S.P.O. – MALTA' started to be used at the new Sub-Post Office (the same date-stamp used at the previous Sub-Post Office was in fact retained). An interesting feature about this date-stamp is that the '10' representing the year 2010 is inserted above the day/month in the inner ring of the date-stamp. This was also



the case when the date-stamp was used at the previous Sub-Post Office, however, then, the month was shown before the day.

2 February

MaltaPost plc notified that the Sub-Post Office at ‘Penhouse Stationery’, Pjazza l-Eroj, Birkirkara BKR 4252, was no longer operating as a Sub-Post Office.

5 February

On the occasion of the 1950th anniversary of St. Paul’s Shipwreck in Malta, a special hand postmark – “MALTAPOST - ----- - MALTA/GOZO/05.02.10/St. Paul’s Shipwreck/1950th Anniversary”, was used on Friday, 5 February 2010, at the MaltaPost Branches of Valletta (Dar l-Annona, Misraħ Kastilja) and Rabat (Malta), and Victoria, Gozo.



9 February

As per notification No. 153 appearing in Government Gazette No. 18,545 dated 9 February 2010, for the purposes of sub-article (5) of article 9 of the Postal Services Act (Cap. 254), the Malta Communications Authority notified that on the 4 February 2010, a licence was granted to DHL International Limited to provide postal services which are not reserved but which fall within the scope of the universal services.

10 February

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Dun Mikiel Azzopardi, the founder of ‘Id-Dar tal-Providenza’ (Houses for Persons with Disability), a special hand postmark “MALTAPOST – QORMI – Dun Mikiel Azzopardi – mitt sena mit-twelid tiegħu/10 ta’ Frar/1910 – 2010/ID-DAR TAL-PROVIDENZA/SIĠĠIEWI”, was used on Wednesday, 10 February 2010, at ‘Id-Dar tal-Providenza’, Triq Għar Lapsi, Siġġiewi. With the collaboration of MaltaPost, ‘Id-Dar tal-Providenza’ also issued a commemorative personalised cover to mark the same anniversary. The cover includes a personalised stamp depicting a sculpture of Dun Mikiel Azzopardi, cancelled with the special hand-stamp. Besides, a personalised



pack with another 5 different personalised stamps was issued. Four of the stamps portray different images of Dun Mikiel Azzopardi, while another (the middle stamp in the sheet) shows an aerial view of ‘Id-Dar tal-Providenza’. The cover and personalised pack were also available for sale at all MaltaPost Branches between 19 February and 19 March 2010, with all proceeds from the sale of these philatelic items going in aid of ‘Id-Dar tal-Providenza’.

On the same occasion, covers cancelled with the special hand postmark could also have the impression of a Qormi circular date-stamp applied to them (Siggiewi falls within the confines of the Qormi Branch Post Office). This circular date-stamp was a new one and was being used for the first time on that particular occasion.



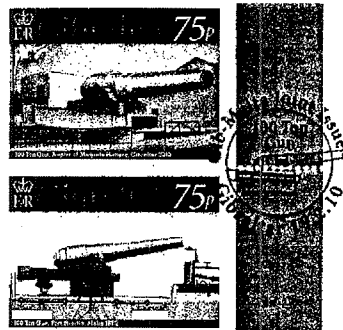
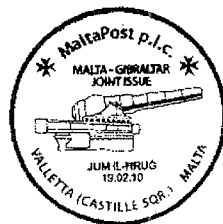
17 February

A new Sub-Post Office opened with effect from Wednesday, 17 February 2010, to provide all postal services as well as bill payment services, at Kunsill Lokali Kerċem, Pjazza Orvieto, Kerċem KĊM 1360, Gozo. The opening hours of the Sub-Post Office are from Monday to Friday, between 8.00am and 12.30pm, and 1.15pm and 4.45pm, and Saturday between 8.00am and 11.30am. A metal hand date-stamp inscribed with the words ‘KERCEM SPO – GOZO’ started to be used at this Sub-Post Office.



19 February

On Friday, 19 February 2010, the MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau issued a set of four stamps in a joint issue with Gibraltar Post. This set consists of a miniature sheet of four stamps depicting views from the 1880’s and 2010 of the RML 17.72 inch ‘100 Ton’ Guns found in Malta (Fort Rinella) and in Gibraltar (Napier of Magdala Battery). The miniature sheets, designed by British artist John Batchelor, are 118 mm X 102 mm in size. The four stamps on these sheets measure 41 mm X 30.5 mm, with a perforation of 13.66 X 13.77 (comb). The denomination of each Malta stamp is that of €0.75, while that of each Gibraltar stamp is 75p. The stamps were offset printed on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper by Printex Limited. MaltaPost plc also issued a special commemorative handstamp to cancel the stamps



on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 1/2010). The handstamp was inscribed “MaltaPost p.l.c. - - - - - MALTA/MALTA – GIBRALTAR/JOINT ISSUE/ JUM IL-HRUĠ/19.02.10”, and also included an image of the ‘100 Ton’ Gun. The MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in the stamp bulletin No. 280. The special handstamp used to cancel the Gibraltar miniature sheet was inscribed “Gib - Malta Joint Issue – Gibraltar 19.2.10/100 Ton/Gun” and also included an image of the ‘100 Ton’ Gun.

20 February

MaltaPost plc informed the public that by agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, the new Saturday opening hours of the MaltaPost Branch at 75, Triq l-Ifran, Valletta, were to be between 8.30am and 1.00pm, starting as from Saturday, 20 February 2010. The opening hours between Monday and Friday were to remain unchanged, that is between 8.30am and 2.00pm.

23 February

MaltaPost plc notified that due to construction works, the letterbox situated in Triq Antonio Nani, Ghar Barka, Rabat was being closed and put out of service for an indefinite period.

23 February

In view of its commitment towards the environment, MaltaPost introduced the first postal eco-friendly electronic vehicle, which is able to carry voluminous mail, parcels and other bulky items. Ms Lorraine Pace was the first Postal Operator to use this eco-friendly electric vehicle on her daily deliveries.

24 February

The Annual General Meeting of MaltaPost plc was held on Wednesday, 24 February 2010. Shareholders were presented with the Audited Financial Statements of the company for the financial year ended September 2009, details of which had already been given by MaltaPost in January. Messrs. David Stellini and Philip Tabone were re-appointed as Directors, and together with Joseph Said (Chairman), Joseph Azzopardi and Aurelio Theuma form the Board of Directors of MaltaPost plc.

4 March

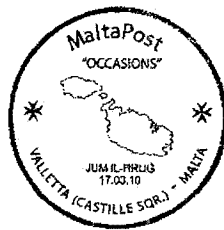
The Sub-Post Office at 51, Triq Ġorġ Borg Olivier, Mellieha MLH 1024 was closed for business between Thursday, 4 March and Saturday, 6 March 2010, both days included.

8 March

On 8 March 2010, the National Statistics Office issued News Release 040/2010 highlighting the post and telecommunications statistics for the fourth quarter (October – December) 2009. According to these statistics, in the quarter under review, total postal traffic amounted to around 12.8 million items, almost at par with 2008. The total number of parcels sent through the national post in the period under review was 25,683, an increase of 33.1% when compared to the same quarter of the previous year (when 19,301 parcels were sent).

17 March

On Wednesday, 17 March 2010, MaltaPost plc issued the third set of the stamp series entitled 'Occasions'. The eight stamps in this set were designed by Sean Cini. Seven of the stamps have values of €0.19, while another stamp has a value of €0.37. The stamps are 44.0 mm X 31.0 mm in size, with a perforation of 13.9 X 14.0 (comb). The stamps were offset printed on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper by Printex Limited, and are available in sheets of ten. These stamps are primarily intended to be used together with a set-tenant personalised stamp, according to the particular occasion. MaltaPost issued a special commemorative handstamp to cancel the stamps on the first day of issue (on FDC No. 2/2010). The handstamp was inscribed "MaltaPost - ----- MALTA/OCCASIONS/JUM IL-HRUĠ/17.03.10", and also included an outline map of the Maltese Islands, which is also the image shown on one of the stamps in this set (the €0.37 stamp). The MaltaPost Philatelic Bureau featured these stamps in the stamp bulletin No. 281.



20 March

The MaltaPost Branch situated at Triq J.F. De Chambrai, Ghajnsielem GSM 1051, Gozo, was relocated for refurbishing purposes, between 20 March and 24 May 2010, both days included. In the interim, postal services were being made available from a temporary location situated within the church premises of Ta' Loretu Church in Triq il-Fawwara, Ghajnsielem GSM 1031.

5 April

By agreement with the Malta Communications Authority, the St. Julians MaltaPost Branch situated within the Lombard Bank plc in Triq Paceville, did not open for business on Monday, 5 April 2010. Normal service was resumed on Tuesday, 6 April 2010.

Head Office: Lombard Bank - Palazzo Spinola - Republic Street, Valletta



LOMBARD

Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c.

Head Office: 67 Republic Street Valletta Malta • PO Box 584 Valletta CMR 01 Malta
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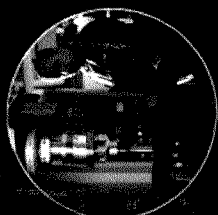
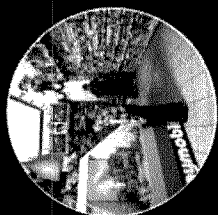
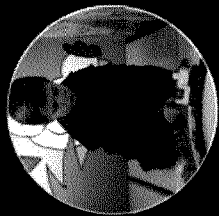
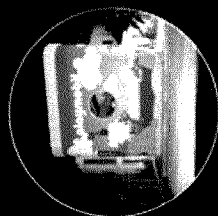
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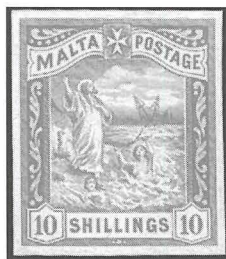


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Malta at Auction

A magnificent exhibition collection of **Malta**, comprising over 400 lots, will be offered at auction on **Thursday 21 October**. The period covered is 1576 to 1966 and many fabulous items are included. The historical material is remarkable: documents from the age of the Knights of St John and the Grand Masters; and letters from Nelson regarding the French occupation. There is postal history, including an extensive range of early Malta handstamps, maritime mail, POW mail and postage dues, as well as incoming mail. The stamp part of the collection encompasses essays, proofs, varieties and issued stamps, unused and used, including multiples.

Catalogues will be available on request. They will also be available to view on our website.



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