

# Philatelic News

October 2012 Vol.9 No.7



Guernsey  
The Christmas Story



Alderney  
The Christmas Story



The History of  
Alderney Harbour





**Dawn Gallienne**  
Head of Philatelic

# Welcome

The beginning of 2012 proved to be a very busy period with our Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Centenary of the Titanic and our Europa "Visit: The Bailiwick of the Guernsey" issue's proving to be extremely popular.

We also had a great opportunity to work with Canada Post with our joint issue 'The War of 1812' – a fabulous Se-tenant pair that was eagerly received by philatelists on both sides of the Atlantic.

With December around the corner, we are pleased to bring you this year's Christmas stamps. Two beautiful stamp sets illustrated by the artist Wendy Bramall using rich and vibrant colours portraying the well known Christmas Story - the birth of Jesus.

The third issue for October is The History of Alderney Harbour – with its impressive 2,700 foot breakwater the changes to the harbour over the centuries have been wonderfully portrayed in watercolour by local artist Richard Thompson.

I do hope you enjoy these stamps and we would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Dawn*

## QUICK & EASY ORDERING

Order current stamp issues  
online for same day despatch.  
[www.guernseystamps.com](http://www.guernseystamps.com)

**facebook** Visit our Guernsey Stamps Facebook page

# 2013 Stamp Programme

## Guernsey

**20 February 2013**

**Endangered Species: Giant Panda**  
*Miniature Sheet, Miniature Sheet FDC, Miniature Sheet Presentation Pack*

**Guernsey Marine Life**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Sheets of 10, Miniature Sheet, Miniature Sheet FDC, Miniature Sheet Presentation Pack*

**May 2013**

**Europa: The Postman Van**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Souvenir Sheet, Souvenir Sheet FDC, Sheets of 10*

**29 May 2013**

**Herm Island**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Sheets of 10*

**31 July 2013**

**50th Anniversary of The Beatles playing in Guernsey**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Sheets of 10, Prestige Booklet*

**200th Anniversary of Guernsey Press & Star**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Sheets of 10*

**September 2013**

**SEPA: Theme Animals – Centenary of the West Show**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Sheets of 10*

**30 October 2013**

**Guernsey Christmas Stamps - When Santa Got Stuck Up the Chimney**

*Set of 7 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack*

## Alderney

**20 February 2013**

**Alderney Beetles**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Souvenir Sheet, Souvenir Sheet FDC, Sheets of 10,*

**29 May 2013**

**60th Anniversary of the Queen's Coronation**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Sheets of 10, Prestige booklet*

**31 July 2013**

**70 Years since the Death of Beatrix Potter**

*Set of 6 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack, Sheets of 10, Souvenir Sheet, Souvenir Sheet FDC*

**30 October 2013**

**Alderney Christmas Stamps - Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer**

*Set of 7 stamps, First Day Cover, Presentation Pack*

*Tariffs, programme details and issue dates are subject to change without prior notice.*

# What is your favourite Guernsey Post stamp issue of 2012?

Tell us which is your favourite stamp issue and be entered into our prize draw to

## win a 2013 Islands of Guernsey Calendar.

Use our order form to enter the prize draw or enter online after 31st October 2012 at [www.guernseystamps.com](http://www.guernseystamps.com)

Competition is open until 31 December 2012.

Entries for the prize draw competition are only accepted through our website or by post using the stock list order form.



## NEW SYSTEM!

We have recently been upgrading our customer and payment systems and would like to thank all our customers for their patience over the last few months. Unfortunately we have experienced a few small problems with this system and would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused during this process.

We continually strive to improve our service and are keen to keep all our valued customers happy. If you have any queries, please contact our Customer Service Team by

emailing [philatelic@guernseypost.com](mailto:philatelic@guernseypost.com) or

calling +44 (0)1481 716486 Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm

# GUERNSEY The Christmas Story



The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is one of the best known services of Christian worship celebrating the birth of Jesus which is traditionally followed at Christmas. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, combined with Christmas carols, hymns and choir music.

The format was based on an Order drawn up by Edward White Benson, who was then Bishop of Truro - later Archbishop of Canterbury - for use on Christmas Eve in 1880. The original liturgy has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world. Lessons and Carols most often occur in Anglican churches, but also in some Roman Catholic, Lutheran parishes, and Presbyterian institutions. However numerous Christian churches have adopted this service, or a variation on this service, as part of their Christmas celebrations.

Perhaps the most famous version is held in King's College Chapel, Cambridge, in the UK. Broadcast live on Christmas Eve to millions of people around the world, it always begins with the carol, 'Once in Royal David's City' which is sung by a solo chorister. The world renowned Chapel Choir also leads the congregation in traditional Christmas hymns.

The first service in 1918 was conceived by Eric Milner-White, the Dean of the College, who wanted to introduce more imaginative worship. The music was directed by the organist and composer Arthur Henry Mann. The choir had 16 trebles as specified in statutes laid down by Henry VI. Until 1927 the men's voices were provided by choral scholars and lay clerks.

The format of the service did not differ substantially from the one known today. The Nine Lessons, which are the same every year, are read by representatives of the college and of the City of Cambridge from the 1611 Authorized King James Version of the Bible. The singing is divided into carols which are sung by the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, and hymns sung by the Choir and congregation. Whilst the carols vary from year to year, some music is repeated. The service ends with the hymn 'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing'.

**Date of issue** 31 October

**Designer** Wendy Bramall

**Printer** Cartor Security Printers

**Values** 34p, 39p, 52p, 53p, 59p, 69p, 74p

**Process** Offset Lithography

**Stamp size** 30.60mm deep x 38mm wide

**Paper** 110gsm unwatermarked PVA adhesive

**Perforation** 13.25 x 13

**Cylinder** A





Presentation Pack £4.70

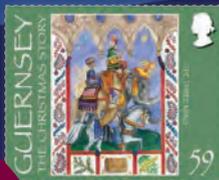


First Day Cover £5.00

GUERNSEY POST FIRST DAY COVER



Set of Stamps £3.80



- 34p The Annunciation
- 39p Inn keeper shows Mary and Joseph to the stable
- 52p Jesus is born in the stable
- 53p Angels come down amongst the shepherds
- 59p The three Kings
- 69p Mary and baby Jesus
- 74p The flight to Egypt

### Did you know?

St Francis of Assisi introduced Christmas Carols to formal church services during the 12th century

It is thought that Edward White Benson arranged a 10 pm service on Christmas Eve with the purpose of keeping men away from public houses on Christmas Eve



# The ALDERNEY Christmas Story

The 2012 Alderney Christmas stamp issue has a Nativity theme this year. The series which has been beautifully designed by Wendy Bramall features a set of seven intricately illustrated stamps highlighting key moments in the traditional Christmas story.

The beautifully decorative set depicts various scenes from the Nativity including the Angel Gabriel's visit to Mary, or the 'Annunciation' through to Joseph accompanying Mary and the baby Jesus as they travel to safety in Egypt.

The festive season is an exciting time for many of us and not least for children as they eagerly await the arrival of Santa. Many youngsters are also involved in Christmas activities at schools and nurseries such as preparations for the annual 'Nativity Play'.

Christmas productions take many forms from pantomime to musical extravaganza but the traditional biblical tale is still a firm favourite. The prestigious parts of Mary and Joseph are cast and the remainder of the class are allocated roles such as shepherd complete with gown, sandals and obligatory headdress. Of course each shepherd must take care of a flock, and little

ones make the cutest sheep. The three kings, or wise men, enjoy the most elaborate costumes including crowns bedecked with sweetie wrapper jewels and of course no nativity would be complete without ballerina style angels complete with tinsel halos!

A first nativity is often a hugely emotional event for proud parents; filing into the assembly hall to perch on miniature chairs they are armed with tissues, cameras and video recorders to capture their child's stage debut for posterity...and perhaps an embarrassing photograph as the story is re told at 18th birthday celebrations!

One of the most charming aspects of children's nativity plays is how the miraculous story is recounted in a 'matter of fact fashion' encouraging children to understand the meaning of Christmas through the re-telling of this traditional tale.

**Date of issue** 31 October 2012

**Designer** Wendy Bramall

**Printer** Lowe-Martin Group

**Values** 34p, 39p, 52p, 53p, 59p, 69p, 74p

**Process** Offset Lithography

**Stamp size** 40mm deep x 32mm wide

**Paper** 110gsm unwatermarked PVA adhesive

**Perforation** 13.3

**Cylinder** A





Stamps £3.80



- 34p Angel visits Mary
- 39p No room at the Inn
- 52p The birth of baby Jesus
- 53p Whilst Shepherds watch their flocks
- 59p The three Kings
- 69p The children visit the baby Jesus
- 74p The flight to Egypt



First Day Cover £5.00



Presentation Pack  
£4.70

Alderney mint stamps  
The Christmas Story

# THE HISTORY of ALDERNEY HARBOUR



Producing the Alderney Harbour issue has given us the pleasure of getting to know former Harbourmaster Steve Shaw, who retired in June after 25 years in the position.

The Island's longest-serving Harbourmaster, Steve came to Alderney with a diving team in the early 1970s. Whilst ashore he popped in for a drink at the Rose and Crown and it was there he met his future wife Nikki, whose parents owned the establishment.

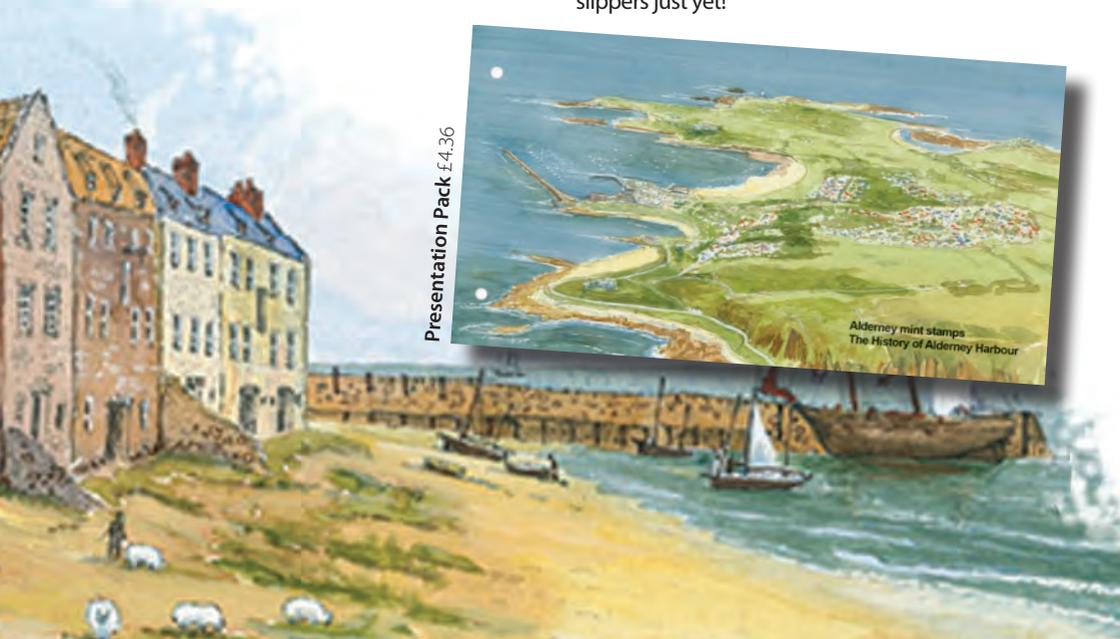
After half a lifetime spent at sea, Steve decided to set down roots with his new wife on the Island. He applied for and got the position of Deputy Harbourmaster and became Harbourmaster in 1987.

A man of action, the first undertaking he set was to increase the number of visiting yachts. There were only a dozen States visitor moorings at the time but today there are seventy, each holding up to four boats and the harbour is on a par with Jersey's for visitor numbers.

As well as responsibility for overseeing the harbour, sea fisheries and coastguard provision, Steve played an active role in the Alderney Lifeboat. It was his conviction that the island needed one and diligence in making a case for it, that convinced the RNLI to re-establish a Lifeboat station in the island after 100 years. He has also worked extensively with the institution's development programme on the creation of successive generations of lifeboats. Coxswain for eighteen years, Steve was responsible for saving 325 lives in Alderney waters. He was awarded the MBE for his services to the RNLI in 2002.

Steve's love for the island is clear and he obviously relished the roles of Harbourmaster and Coxswain and the huge responsibilities that came with them.

A qualified maritime pilot, he is currently involved in transporting the team that is working on the modernization of Casquets lighthouse. Something tells us he's not ready for his pipe and slippers just yet!



Presentation Pack £4.36





**Date of issue** 31 October 2012  
**Designer** Richard Thompson  
**Printer** BDT International  
**Values** 39p, 52p, 53p, 59p, 69p, 74p  
**Process** Offset Lithography  
**Stamp size** 30.56mm deep x 38mm wide  
**Sheet size** 100mm deep x 140 mm wide  
**Paper** 110gsm unwatermarked PVA adhesive  
**Perforation** 13.75  
**Cylinder** A

- 39p Douglas Quay, Braye Harbour c. 1800
- 52p Breakwater completed 1856
- 53p SS Courier c.1926
- 59p Little Crabby Harbour in 1985
- 69p RNLI Lifeboat - Roy Baker I c.1995
- 74p Commercial Quay - built 2011

Set of Stamps £3.46

Souvenir Sheet £3.46



First Day Cover Stamps £4.66, Souvenir Sheet FDC £4.66



Sheets of 10 £34.60

# Guernsey Stamps Yearbook & 2012 Album pages

The 2012 superb collection of Guernsey and Alderney stamps is due for despatch in early December, priced at £58.73, you only pay for the stamps! If you do not have a standing order for the Yearbook, post and packing for this item will be £4.00 to the UK and £5.50 to all international destinations.

Album pages will be despatched to standing order customers in the usual way in early December too.



## A very special set of stamps

to celebrate the 20th Anniversary  
of Floral Guernsey



Products in this issue:

Set of six stamps (39, 52, 53, 59, 69, 74)	£3.46
Miniature Sheet	£3.00
Presentation Pack	£4.36
First Day Cover	£4.66
Miniature Sheet First Day Cover	£4.20
Miniature Sheet Presentation Pack	£3.90
Sheets of 10	£34.60

## Joel Kirk Prints

Beautifully illustrated limited edition prints by Joel Kirk from the Endangered Species Series.



Featuring the following:

- Bengal Tiger in brown foliage (2012)
- Bengal Tiger in green foliage (2012)
- The Blue Whale (2011)
- The Asian Elephant (2010)
- The Amur Leopard (2009)
- The Amur Leopard Face (2009)
- The Mountain Gorilla (2007)
- The Florida Everglades (2006)
- The Basking Shark (2005)
- The Golden Snub-Nosed Monkey (2004)

Individual Prints £15.00

Buy online [www.guernseystamps.com](http://www.guernseystamps.com)

**SPECIAL  
OFFER  
BUY SET FOR  
£127.50**

# Soon to be withdrawn...

These stamps will be withdrawn on 26 October 2012

## An Alderney Winter Wonderland

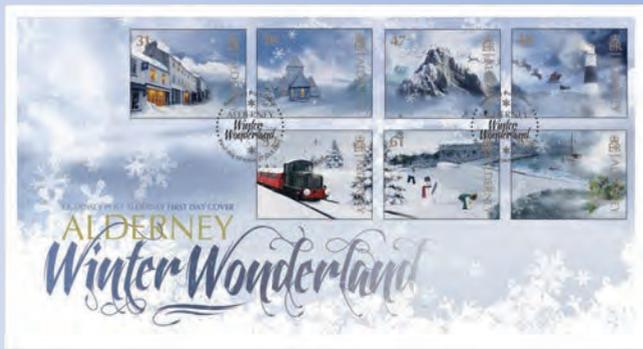
A unique set of stamps featuring local scenes reworked into a fantasy winter wonderland.

### Products available

Set of 7 stamps £3.40

First Day Cover £4.60

Presentation Pack £4.30



## Guernsey Winter Wonderland

Local photographic winter wonderland scenes.

### Products available

Set of 7 stamps £3.40

First Day Cover £4.60

Presentation Pack £4.30

## British Formula 1 World Champions (Part 2)

A striking set of four stamps that celebrate the achievements of the two latest British F1 World Champions

### Products available

Souvenir Sheet £2.09

First Day Cover £3.29

Souvenir Sheet First Day Cover £3.29

Presentation Pack £2.99

Sheets of 10 Stamps £20.90

Set of 4 stamps £2.09

Limited edition folder £14.99



# Issues currently available



## Celebrating 150 Years of The Royal Channel Islands Yacht Club

Dynamic shots of the 2011 J-Cup Regatta fleet commemorate this anniversary milestone.

Date of issue: 25 July 2012



## Alderney Invertebrates Tiger Moths & Ermines

The distinctive Tiger Moths found in Alderney are beautifully illustrated by Petula Stone.

Date of issue: 25 July 2012



## The War of 1812 (joint issue with Canada Post)

Sir Isaac Brock and Chief Tecumesh, the leaders who helped turn the tide of the 1812 war.

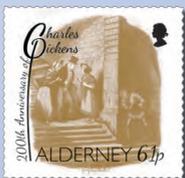
Date of issue: 15 June 2012



## HRH The Duke of Cambridge

A 30th Birthday celebration of the Prince's philanthropic drive and spirit.

Date of issue: 8 May 2012



## 200th Anniversary of Charles Dickens

In celebration of Charles Dickens, this set depicts illustrations by Cruikshank from the famous novel 'Oliver Twist'.

Date of issue: 8 May 2012



## EUROPA: "Visit..."

A wonderful set of stamps photographed by Karl Taylor. The Bailiwick of Guernsey, a beautiful place to visit.

Date of issue: 1 May 2012



## Centenary of the Titanic

A beautiful set of stamps by Nick Watton illustrating this spectacular vessel and her tragic voyage.

Date of issue: 22 February 2012



## The Queen's Diamond Jubilee

In celebration of 60 years on the throne, various Royal events are depicted in this superb set of stamps.

Date of issue: 22 February 2012



## Endangered Species: Bengal Tiger

The largest member of the cat family has been beautifully illustrated by Joel Kirk for our endangered species series.

Date of issue: 22 February 2012

See stock list for Guernsey self sticks, Raymond Evison Wild Flora Guernsey definitives 1 and Coral and Anemones Alderney definitives.

All correspondence to: FREEPOST GU267  
**Guernsey Philatelic Bureau**  
 Envoy House  
 La Vrangue  
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 Channel Islands  
 GY1 5SS

Tel: +44 (0)1481 716486 Fax: +44 (0)1481 712082  
 E-mail: philatelic@guernseypost.com [www.guernseystamps.com](http://www.guernseystamps.com)



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