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NEWS

Stamps for 100th anniversary of Scouting coincide with world jamboree in England

By Denise McCarty

Royal Mail (the British Post Office) will honor the 100th anniversary of the Scouting movement with six stamps and six picture postal cards to be issued July 26.

The issue date is the day before the July 27 opening of the 21st World Scout Jamboree at Hylands Park in Chelmsford, England. Approximately 40,000 Scouts and leaders are expected to participate.

Two of the stamps in the Scouts set are part of the multination Europa series honoring the centennial. Posteurop (the Association of European Public Postal Operators), an organization based in Brussels, Belgium, selects the annual Europa theme.

Royal Mail said of the anniversary: "From humble beginnings in 1907, when Robert

Baden-Powell set up his first Scout camp in Brownsea Island off the Dorset coast, the Scouts Association has gone on to recruit at least 28 million members from all but four countries in the world.

"Such worldwide popularity is one of the reasons why Scouts has been chosen as the Posteurop theme for 2007."

Gez Fry created the illustrations for the stamps. Fry describes himself as half-British, half-Japanese illustrator and concept artist based in Tokyo.

Fry's illustrations represent some of the many accomplishments made by Scouts from around the world.

In its press release announcing the stamps, Royal Mail said: "They've been to the moon, flown around the world and

climbed the highest mountains."

The nondenominated first-class stamp depicts Scouts around a campfire on a starry night. One Scout is looking up at the sky.

The inscription on the stamp reads, "11 of the 12 astronauts who walked on the moon were once Scouts."

The 12 astronauts who walked on the moon are Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong, Alan Bean, Eugene Cernan, Pete Conrad, Charles Duke, James Irwin, Edgar Mitchell, David Scott, Harrison Schmitt, Alan Shepard and John W. Young.

According to a list of astronauts with Scouting experience on the U.S. Scouting Service Project's web site, Irwin was not a Scout. Many are Eagle Scouts.

The web site is

<http://usscouts.org>.

The first-class stamp, shown here, bears the Europa logo.

The logo also appears on the 48-penny stamp featuring a Scout planting a tree, shown on page 50. The design represents community projects. The inscription reads, "450,000 UK Scouts take part in community projects every year."

The 46p stamp features rock climbing and the inscription, "The youngest climber of the highest peaks on all 7 continents is a Scout."

The design of the 54p stamp depicts a young woman teaching a Scout archery. "Adult Scout volunteers give 360 million hours of time each year," according to the inscription.

The illustration on the 69p (Please turn to page 50)



This nondenominated first-class British stamp salutes the 100th anniversary of Scouting and bears the Europa logo. The inscription on the stamp points out that 11 of the 12 astronauts who walked on the moon were once Scouts.

Scouts issue includes postal cards

(Continued from page 1)

stamp shows a young woman and man in a glider. The inscription reads, "The first non-stop solo flight around the world was made by a Scout."

Eagle Scout Steve Fossett made this record-breaking flight Feb. 28-March 3, 2005, from Salinas, Kan., back to Salinas.

The 78p high value of the set is inscribed, "Scouting is the largest youth movement in the world with 28 million members." The design pictures Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of different nationalities.

The domestic first-class rate in the United Kingdom is 34p. The other stamps pay the following rates: worldwide surface mail (46p), European standard rate (48p), worldwide airmail postcard (54p), European airmail weighing up to 40 grams (69p) and rest of the world airmail up to



The theme of the 2007 multination Europa series is Scouting's 100th anniversary. One of the two Europa stamps to be issued July 26 by Royal Mail (the British Post Office) pictures Scouts involved in a community project of planting trees.

the May issue of the *British Bulletin*, its monthly publication for collectors, that a bar code and an internal stock code would be printed on most commemorative stamps starting with the Scouts set.

According to Royal Mail, the bar code and stock code generally will

Joh. Enschede printed the postal cards.

A presentation pack will include a mint set of stamps and information about the Scouting movement. Chris James of the Scouting Association wrote the text for the pack.

In addition, Royal Mail also is offering a first-



Four of the six stamps to be issued by Royal Mail (the British Post Office) July 26 to honor Scouts. Gez Fry, a Japanese-British artist, created the illustrations for the stamps. The designs represent the themes of climbing, volunteering, record-setting and the worldwide nature of Scouting.

20 grams (78p).

Joh. Enschede of the Netherlands printed the stamps by offset in sheets of 50, sold in panes of 25 at most post offices.

Each stamp measures 41 millimeters by 30mm and is perforated gauge 14.5 by 14.

The Work Room, a London-based design group, designed the stamps using Fry's illustrations.

Royal Mail reported in

be placed in the top-right margin of the sheets.

The six postal cards are available with two different imprinted stamps, three of each. Three cards bear an imprinted first-class stamp, and the other three bear an imprinted 54p stamp.

An enlarged image of one of six Scouts stamps is featured on the picture side of each card.

day cover and a set of six stamp cards (postcards that feature enlarged images of the stamps).

Further information about the stamps and related items can be obtained by writing to Royal Mail, Talents House, 21 S. Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, Scotland; or to Royal Mail's agent in the United States, Interpost, Box 420, Hewlett, NY 11557-0420. ■