

Yews for the Millennium A project being carried out in all regions, Yews for the Millennium involves planting 7000 Yews in churchyards.

Eden Project In a worked-out China clay pit near St Austell, two Biomes – controlled environments – will exhibit plants from four climates: rain forest, desert, Mediterranean and temperate.

Millennium Seed Bank For the last 20 years, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew has been working to save some of the world's rich and varied plant life by storing seeds in its seed bank at Wakehurst Place in Sussex.

Forest for Scotland This project involves no fewer than 77 woodland conservation and planting schemes, aiming to establish a living and lasting legacy for future generations.

The Tree and Leaf issue goes on sale at post offices and philatelic outlets on 1 August.



Barry Lategan



Mike Parsons



Geoff Du Feu/Telegraph Colour Library

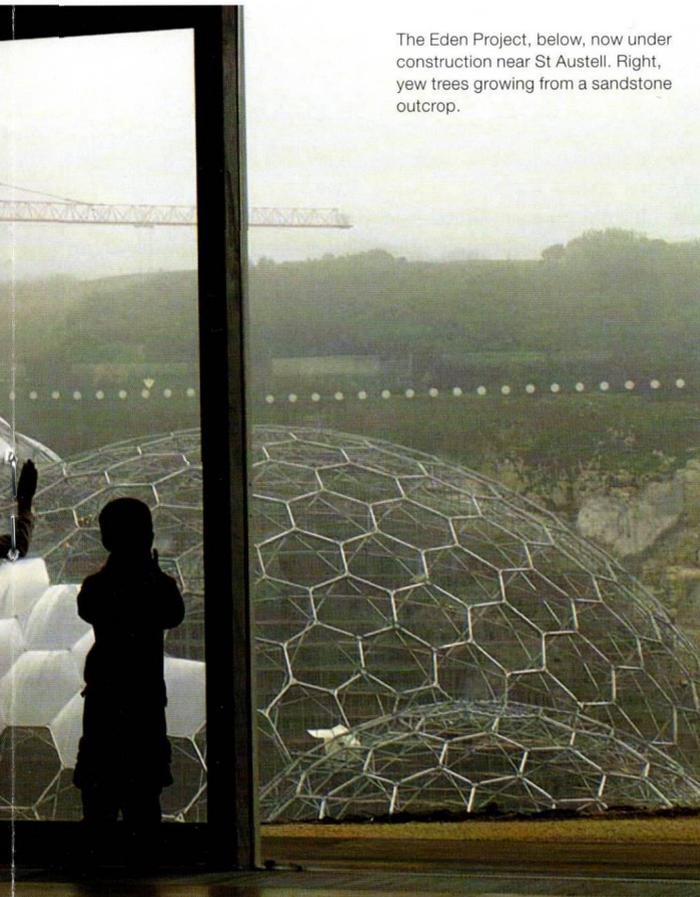


David Chalmers

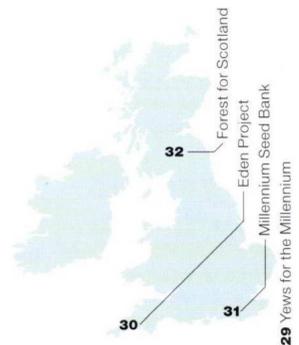
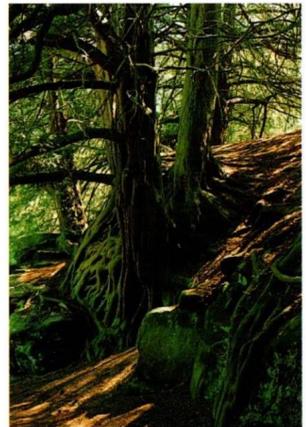


Tree and Leaf is the eighth of 12 sets of Millennium issues for 2000, inspired by Millennium projects throughout the UK. The 2nd class value, *Yews for the Millennium*, represents the project which will plant 7000 Yew trees across the country

- The subject of the 1st class stamp is the Eden Project at St Austell, which will cultivate plants from four climates
- The Millennium Seed Bank, set up by The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, is symbolized by the image on the 45p
- Forest for Scotland, the project depicted on the 65p value, aims to regenerate a diverse native woodland resource.



The Eden Project, below, now under construction near St Austell. Right, yew trees growing from a sandstone outcrop.



29 Yews for the Millennium

Royal Mail Millennium Stamps

August 2000

Tree and Leaf



A well-illustrated presentation pack (right, price £1.95) and stamp cards (price 25p each) will be available at main post offices and philatelic outlets.

Technical details

Printer De La Rue

Process Gravure

Size 37 × 35mm

Sheets 100

Perforation 14 × 14.5

Phosphor One band 2nd class, two bands others

Gum PVA

Gutter pairs Horizontal

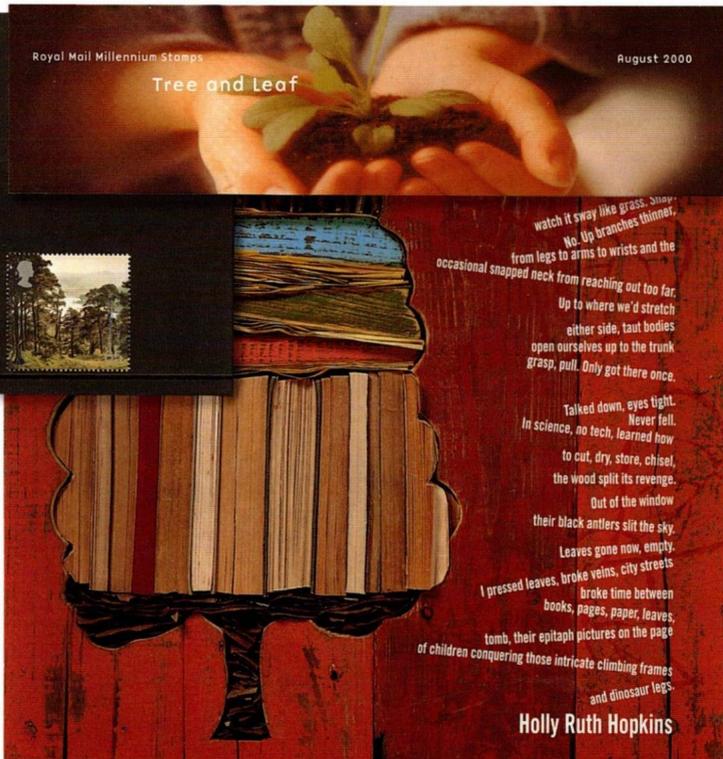
Cylinders and colours

2nd 1A silver ● 1B greenish yellow ● 1C magenta ● 1D new blue ● 1E black ● P92 phosphor

1st 1A greenish yellow ● 1B magenta ● 1C new blue ● 1D black ● 1E silver ● P93 phosphor

45p 1A black ● 1B greenish yellow ● 1C magenta ● 1D new blue ● 1E grey-black ● 1F silver ● P93 phosphor

65p 1A silver ● 1B greenish yellow ● 1C magenta ● 1D new blue ● 1E black ● P93 phosphor



Taxus baccata – the common or churchyard yew – is an exceptionally slow-growing species. As the trees become older their growth can slow down or even stop for long periods. Perhaps it is this and their unique power of regeneration that is behind their remarkable longevity.

The Eden Project's Biomes – controlled environment plant conservatories – will give visitors the opportunity to experience some of the world's most dramatic and useful plants at first hand.

The Millennium Seed Bank at Wakehurst Place in Sussex is a dramatic expansion in the work of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, as they aim to collect and conserve representative samples of all the UK's 14000 native plants that set seed.

The image on the 65p stamp, *Forest for Scotland*, is of Doire Dach, an ancient Caledonian woodland near Loch Tulla. The Post Office is working in partnership with the Woodland Trust to create beautiful new woodland throughout the UK. Post Office staff are being encouraged to dedicate a tree as a birthday, anniversary, birth, or christening gift, or as a fitting long-lasting memorial to a loved one. Trees can be dedicated at 10 sites – seven in England and one each in Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. Half the cost of £10 of planting and managing each tree will be met by the Post Office, with individual employees contributing the remaining £5.



FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets about a week before 1 August, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of the Bureau or St Austell must reach the Bureau by 1 August. Price £2.25 UK (including VAT) or £1.92 overseas (no VAT).

Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TT, or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, Penarth Road, Cardiff CF11 8TA (St Austell postmark), marking the outer envelope 'FD0021' (Bureau), or 'FD0022' (St Austell). Covers can be posted or handed in at main post offices for the St Austell postmark. A non-pictorial St Austell postmark is also available from the Special Handstamp Centre, request 'FD0022 NP'.

Details of sponsored handstamps for 1 August will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from the Bureau (£10 UK/Europe; £21.75 elsewhere). For a sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

MILLENNIUM PHILATELIC PRODUCTS A Tree and Leaf pack and stamp cards will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets. Each of the Millennium packs this year includes a specially commissioned poem. The Tree and Leaf poem, *The Hobson Tree*, is by 17-year-old Holly Ruth Hopkins from Berkshire, one of the commended winners of the Simon Elvin Young Poets of the Year Award of 1999 run by the Poetry Society. Her poem was inspired by memories of playing in a tree in her childhood.

Next Millennium issues The ninth set in the Millennium 2000 series will be issued on 5 September. Entitled Mind and Matter, it features the SCRAP/Internet Archive in Scotland; Norfolk & Norwich Project; Millennium Point, Birmingham; and Wildscreen at Bristol. Details next month.

The series then continues with Body and Bone (3 October), Spirit and Faith (7 November), and Sound and Vision (5 December). The final Millennium issue – The Future – will be issued on 16 January. The entire series will then comprise 25 sets, 100 stamps in total ●

