

Just So Stories 100 years of Kipling's magic

Technical details

Printer Walsall Security Printers

Process Gravure

Size 37 × 27 mm

Sheetlet size 213 × 64 mm unfolded

Perforation 15 × 14 die-cut

Phosphor Two bands

Gum Self-adhesive

Colours Black, cyan (blue), magenta and yellow

TEN 1ST CLASS STAMPS featuring the Animal stories from the famous *Just So Stories* by Rudyard Kipling go on sale at post offices, Royal Mail Talents House and Post Office philatelic outlets on 15 January.

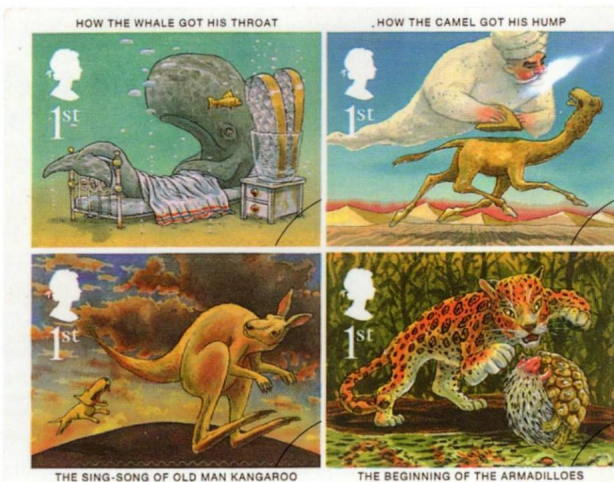
Like the Cats & Dogs issue last February, the stamps will be printed on a self-adhesive laminate which incorporates a moisture soluble gum layer between the face paper and adhesive; the stamps can be peeled from the laminate. The stamps are arranged in two rows of five, and the sheetlet rouletted between columns 2/3 and 4/5 for folding by the user.

The stamps were designed by Izhar Cohen, born in Israel in 1963 and educated in Jerusalem, Paris and London. While still a student, he was commissioned by several of the more important Israeli newspapers, and later worked in Paris for *L'Express*, and *Le Figaro*. He illustrated the presentation pack for the Weather stamps, issued last March.

The stories featured are How the Whale Got His Throat ● How the Camel Got His Hump ● How the Rhinoceros Got His Skin ● How the Leopard Got His Spots ● The Elephant's Child ● The Sing-Song of Old Man Kangaroo ● The Beginning of the Armadillos ● The Crab that Played with the Sea ● The Cat that Walked by Himself ● The Butterfly that Stamped.

The Queen's silhouette and 1st indicator, top left, are in white, 'reversed out' of the background colour.

Opposite: Kipling telling his *Just So Stories* to his children Elsie and John, and their friends, on their way to South Africa in 1902.



Sponsored handstamps for 15 January will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Talents House (£10 UK and Europe; £21.75 elsewhere).

For a sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 2-14 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8HQ.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets about a week before 15 January, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Talents House or Burwash, Etchingham must reach Talents House by the day of issue. Price £3.59 UK (including VAT) or £3.06 overseas (no VAT).

Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: Royal Mail Talents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, or Special Handstamp Centre, Royal Mail, Wexham Road, Slough SL1 1AA (Burwash postmark), marking the outer envelope 'FD0201' (Talents House), or 'FD0202' (Burwash). Covers can be posted or handed in at main post offices for the Burwash postmark. A non-pictorial Burwash postmark is also available from the Special Handstamp Centre, request 'FD0202 NP'.

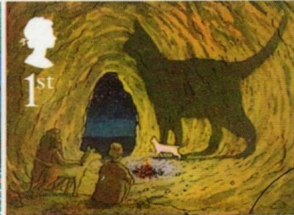
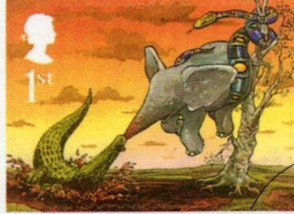
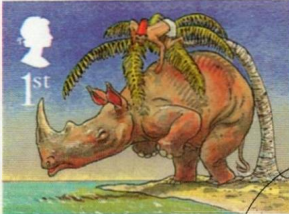


Mrs J Robinson
200 Manorbier Road
Ilkeston
Derbyshire
DE7 4AB

HOW THE RHINOCEROS GOT HIS SKIN

HOW THE LEOPARD GOT HIS SPOTS

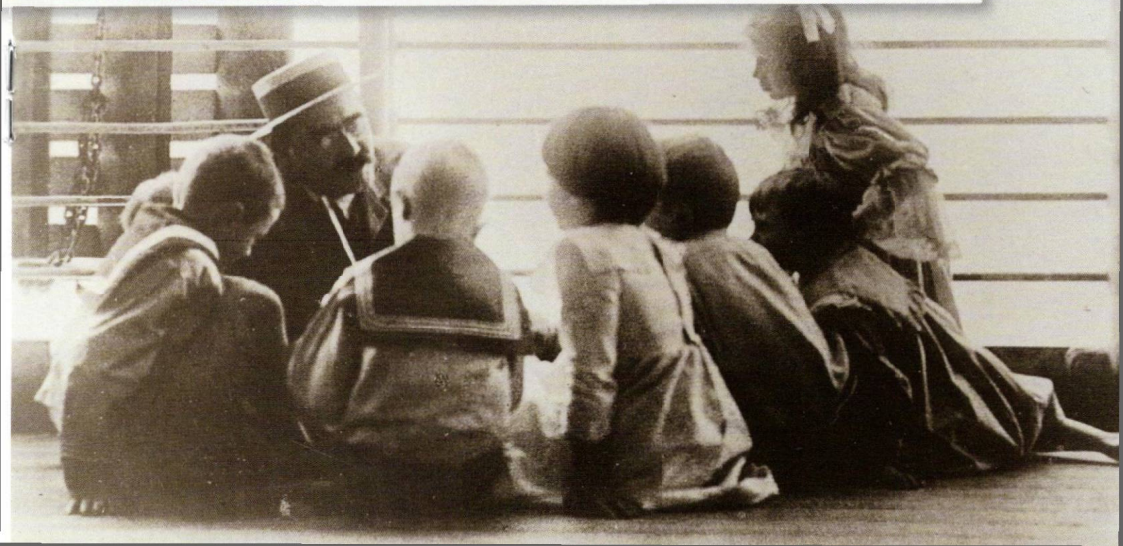
THE ELEPHANT'S CHILD



THE CRAB THAT PLAYED WITH THE SEA

THE CAT THAT WALKED BY HIMSELF

THE BUTTERFLY THAT STAMPED





A well-illustrated pack (price £3.05) and stamp cards (25p each) will be available at main post offices, and from Tallents House and philatelic outlets. The pack (right), was written by Craig Raine, a contemporary poet and Kipling devotee, and includes illustrations by Izhar Cohen, the designer of the stamps.

Opposite Kipling and some of the characters he created in *Mandalay* (1890), the *Jungle Books* (1894, 1895); *Soldiers Three* (1889), and *Kim* (1901). The *Just So Stories* were published in 1902, and *Puck of Pook's Hill* in 1906. Painting by Cyrus Cuneo, the father of Terence Cuneo, whose work featured on the Famous Trains stamps of 1985.

The sheetlet of stamps can be folded by the user, forming a 'booklet' with a front cover as shown opposite.

Rudyard Kipling The son of John Lockwood Kipling, illustrator of *Beast and Man in India*, Rudyard Kipling was born in Bombay in 1865 and educated at the United Services College, Westward Ho!, Devon. His literary career started with journalism in India in the 1880s; many of his early poems and stories were originally published in newspapers or for the Indian Railway Library. He returned to England in 1889 and achieved rapid success by the publication of poems in the *Scots Observer*. From 1892 to 1896 he lived in Vermont, USA, thereafter at Rock House, Maidencombe, Devon 1896-97 and The Elms, Rottingdean, Sussex, 1897-1902 where he wrote much of the *Just So Stories*. He finally settled at Bateman's near Burwash in Sussex from 1902 until his death in 1936. Bateman's, now in the care of the National Trust, is preserved as it was in Kipling's day. Kipling was an early devotee of Feng Shui – that at Rock House caused him depression – 'a gathering blackness of mind and sorrow of heart'. However when he first looked over Bateman's, he felt 'her Spirit – her Feng Shui – to be good'. Pook's Hill is visible from the house. Kipling loved travelling and visited South Africa during the Boer War.

His output was vast and varied, but his fame rests principally on his short stories dealing with India, the sea, the jungle, army, navy and other subjects. He is sometimes regarded as the unofficial Poet Laureate and as the poet of the Empire. He received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907 and is buried in Westminster Abbey ●

