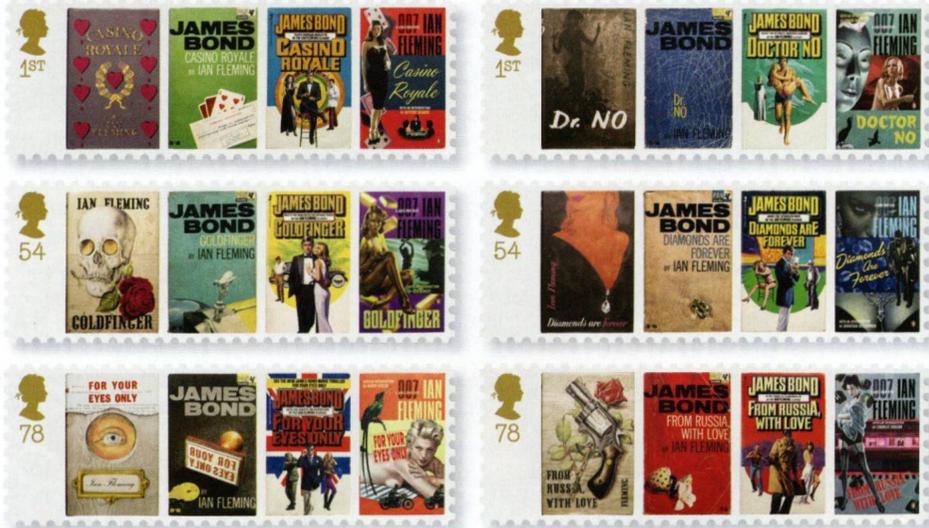


James Bond The first special issue of 2008



THE FIRST SPECIAL ISSUE of 2008 pays homage to the James Bond books, written by Ian Fleming who was born on 28 May 1908. The first Bond book, *Casino Royale* was written in 1952. The first Bond film, *Dr No*, starring (Sir) Sean Connery, was released in 1962. The books and films remain hugely popular, and this issue will appeal to James Bond fans the world over.

Six stamps, a miniature sheet and a prestige stamp book go on sale at Post Office branches, Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets on 8 January. The stamps, printed in separate sheets, feature Bond book covers: *Casino Royale* & *Doctor No*, 2 × 1st class; *Goldfinger* & *Diamonds Are Forever*, 2 × 54p; and *For Your Eyes Only* & *From Russia With Love*, 2 × 78p. The miniature sheet contains one of each stamp. The stamps were designed by A2 of London with photography by Kevin Summers, and printed in lithography by De La Rue. The stamps measure 60 × 21mm. Post office branches will carry sheets of 24; sheets of 48, with gutter margin, will be available from Royal Mail Tallents House and selected Post Office philatelic outlets.

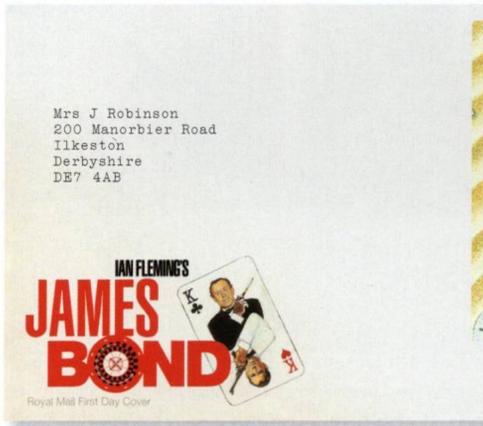


FIRST DAY FACILITIES The FDC, also designed by A2, features a playing card showing Fleming, Bond and a roulette wheel. Orders for serviced FDCs must reach Tallents House (address below) by the date of issue. Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB (Tallents House postmark) or to their nearest Royal Mail Special Handstamp Centre (London SE1 postmark) marking the outer envelope 'FDO801' or 'FDO802'.

For details of sponsored handstamps and addresses of the Handstamp Centres see the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House. For a sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ.

James Bond prices

Set of stamps	£ 3.32
Miniature sheet	£ 3.32
Miniature sheet press sheet	£36.30
Presentation pack	£ 3.75
Prestige Stamp Book	£ 7.40
First day cover (FDC) envelope	£ 0.30
Serviced FDC stamps/miniature sheet (UK customers)	£ 4.38
Serviced FDC stamps/miniature sheet (overseas)	£ 3.73
Serviced FDC prestige book pane (UK customers)	£ 3.67
Serviced FDC prestige book pane (overseas)	£ 3.13
Stamp cards set (seven cards)	£ 2.10



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Ian Fleming's James Bond, a new prestige stamp book, has been written by Kim Newman and printed by De La Rue. The four panes are shown here.

The prestige book FDCs will be serviced with the pane of 1st class definitives and typewriter label, as shown left.

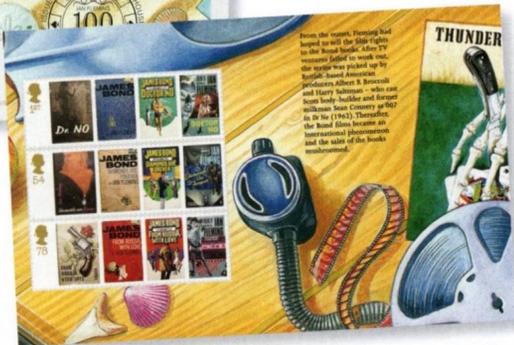
Prestige stamp book This contains stamp panes as follows.

Pane 1 8 × 1st class definitive with central label showing Ian Fleming's typewriter

Pane 2 James Bond stamps: 1st Casino Royale, 54p Goldfinger, 78p For Your Eyes Only

Pane 3 James Bond stamps: 1st Doctor No, 54p Diamonds Are Forever, 78p From Russia With Love

Pane 4 2 × 1st White Ensign flag stamp, 2 × 1st Union Flag (Union Jack) stamp, first issued 2001



PRESENTATION PACK A colourful pack, containing the six stamps, has been written by film critic Kim Newman, and includes time charts of key events in the lives of both James Bond and his creator, Ian Fleming. The pack was designed by GBH design group with illustrations by Mike Bell, and printed by Walsall ●

