



## House of Hanover

The dynasty that built the Empire is celebrated in next month's issue

The fifth of the **Kings and Queens series** takes The House of Hanover as its subject. The dynasty ruled for 187 years, during which the British Empire grew to cover a third of the globe by the time of Victoria's death. Lengthy reigns characterised the Hanoverian period – there were only six monarchs during this period – and helped aid stability in Britain.

The first 1st Class stamp shows George I (1714-1727), descended from a daughter of James I and the first Hanoverian monarch. His reign was marked by the Jacobite Rising and the collapse of the South Sea Company. The second 1st Class stamp features his son, George II (1727-1760), who was the last British monarch to lead his troops into battle. The two 76p stamps have George II's grandson, George III (1760-1820), whose porphyria was misdiagnosed as madness, and George IV (1820-1830), remembered for his lavish spending.

During his brief reign of seven years William IV, who features on one of the £1.10 stamps, did much to put the monarchy more in tune with the values of the public. And on the other £1.10 stamp is Victoria (1837-1901) whose unprecedentedly long reign saw the transformation of society at all levels as a result of industrialisation. Her reign is of

### House of Hanover Stamps Specifications

Number of stamps	Six
Design	Atelier Works
Illustrations	George I, 1714, studio of Sir Godfrey Kneller; George II, 1744, Thomas Hudson; George III, 1761-62, studio of Allan Ramsay; George IV, c.1822, Sir Thomas Lawrence; William IV, c.1800, Sir Martin Archer Shee; Victoria, 1859, Franz Xaver Winterhalter
Stamp format	Portrait
Stamp size	27mm x 37mm
Printer	Cartor Security Printing
Print process	Lithography
Number per sheet	25/50
Perforations	14 x 14
Phosphor	Bars as appropriate
Gum	PVA

particular interest to philatelists because it saw the issue of the Penny Black, the first postage stamp, and because the British Empire at its zenith offers numerous rich veins for collectors of stamps bearing Victoria's image.

The Miniature Sheet shown below has four further stamps featuring significant individuals and events from the period – Robert Walpole, the first Prime Minister, Scottish architect Robert Adam's masterpiece Kedleston Hall, the Penny Black and Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. These are included with the six stamps in the Presentation Pack, which contains biographies of each of the monarchs and an overview of the history of the period by Professor John Clarke of the University of Buckingham.

The cachet cover features the six House of Hanover stamps and will be cancelled with a special St James's Palace cachet. The prestige medal cover features all the House of Hanover stamps and a specially struck commemorative medal ●



Opposite: the Tallents House, Edinburgh postmark  
Above: the alternative pictorial postmark



**House of Hanover Miniature Sheet Specifications**

Stamps	1st, 68p, 76p, £1
Design	Atelier Works
Illustrations	Robert Walpole, 1740, studio of Jean Baptiste van Loo; Robert Adam's ceiling at Kedleston Hall; Penny Black, 1840; Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, 1897, albumen cabinet card, Alexander Bassano
Stampformat	Portrait
Stamp size	27mm x 37mm
Sheet size	123mm x 70mm
Printer	Cartor Security Printing
Print process	Lithography
Perforations	14 x 14
Phosphor	Bars

**House of Hanover Prices**

Stamp Set	£4.64
Miniature Sheet	£2.90
Presentation Pack	£8.05
First Day Cover – Stamps	£6.04
First Day Cover – Miniature Sheet	£3.96
Miniature Sheets Press Sheet	£66.99
Cachet Cover	£9.99
Prestige Medal Cover	£44.95
Stamp Cards (11 in set)	£4.95