Royal Mail will issue five special stamps as a tribute to the life and work of Diana, Princess of Wales on 3 February 1998. The issue will comprise five 26p stamps, printed as a horizontal se-tenant strip, featuring three formal portraits of the Princess by Snowdon (first and third stamps), and Terence Donovan (fifth), and two more relaxed studies of her at charity events in London and Birmingham by John Stillwell and Tim Graham (second and fourth). The stamps, designed by Barry Robinson, Design Director of Royal Mail, are reminders of both the Princess’s beauty and compassion.
Commemorative cover and postmarks A Royal Mail commemorative cover, featuring a photograph of the Princess by Tim Graham, will be available from most post offices, the British Philatelic Bureau and philatelic outlets, price 25p. Collectors will be able to post covers in special boxes at main offices to receive a special non-pictorial Kensington London postmark. Kensington has been chosen as this is where the Princess lived in recent years and from where her funeral procession started. Post offices will accept covers for this postmark until 28 February. Alternatively covers may be submitted, up to 28 February, to any of Royal Mail’s Special Handstamp Centres in London, Glasgow, Cardiff, Newcastle upon Tyne, Slough or Birmingham, marking the outer cover ‘Kensington Postmark’.

The Bureau will service covers with a British Philatelic Bureau or Kensington postmark, price £1.95 UK (including VAT), £1.66 overseas. Orders, which will be accepted until 28 February, should be sent to: British Philatelic Bureau, 20 Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TJ. Collectors may also submit their own covers for the Bureau postmark until 28 February.

Sponsored special handstamps will be announced in the British Postmark Bulletin – available on subscription from the Bureau (£10 UK/Europe, £21.75 elsewhere).

Presentation pack and stamp cards A well-illustrated pack (price £1.65) will be available from main post offices and philatelic outlets. A Welsh version will be on sale at post offices in Wales. There will be no stamp cards for this issue.