

# Trafalgar Commemorating Nelson's triumph



## Technical details

**Printer** Cartor Security Print, France

**Process** Lithography

**Stamp size** 60 × 21mm

**Sheets** 24 and 48

**Miniature sheet size** 190 × 67mm

**Perforation** 14.5

**Phosphor** Two bands

**Gum** PVA

**Gutter pairs** Vertical

SIX STAMPS, a miniature sheet and a prestige stamp book marking the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar will be available from Post Office branches and philatelic outlets and from Royal Mail Talents House Edinburgh from 18 October. The stamps are printed in se-tenant pairs of 1st class, 42p, and 68p values and feature images from a painting, *Panorama of the Battle of Trafalgar*, by William Heath (1825) owned by the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. The painting shows the progress of the battle: 1st class (left) the *Entrepreante* with dismasted British *Belle Isle*; (right) Nelson wounded; 42p (left) British cutter *Entrepreante* attempting to rescue crew of burning French *Achille*, which later exploded; (right) the schooner *Pickle* (at right) that carried news of the battle and of Nelson's death to England; 68p (left) Nelson attacking in two columns; (right) combined fleet putting to sea from Cadiz – guns firing either as signal to weigh anchor or as a salute. The Queen's silhouette and value/service indicator are positioned at top left, with the inscription TRAFALGAR 1805-2005 printed at bottom right of each stamp.

The miniature sheet contains one of each stamp: the two 1st class and one 42p stamp in the top row, and the second 42p and both 68p values below. The border of the sheet shows waves, and the word TRAFALGAR is printed in the top border.

The stamps were designed by Dick Davis who frequently works on maritime themes for Royal Mail; his previous stamp issues include the 1998 Lighthouses and Submarines and Flags stamps of 2001.

The stamps will be issued to Post Office branches in sheets of 24. Sheets of 48 with gutter margins will be available from Post Office philatelic outlets and Royal Mail Talents House. The stamps are the same size as the Commonwealth Games and Classic Locomotive stamps of 2002 and 2004.



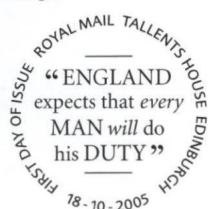
**FIRST DAY FACILITIES** Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main Post Office branches and philatelic outlets about a week before 18 October, price 25p. Orders for serviced FDCs with the stamps or miniature sheet cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House Edinburgh or Portsmouth must reach Tallents House (address below) by the day of issue. Price £3.71 UK, £3.16 overseas. Please state if stamps or miniature sheet required.

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 any of our Special Handstamp Centres (Portsmouth postmark), marking the outer envelope 'FD0523' (Tallents House), or 'FD 0524' (Portsmouth). Covers can be posted or handed in at main Post Office branches for the Portsmouth postmark.

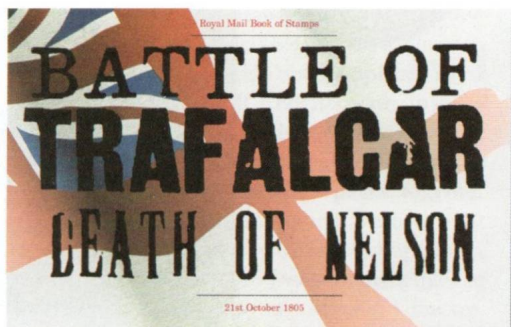
**PHILATELIC PRODUCTS** A pack containing the six stamps (£3.30), and seven stamp cards (30p each) will be available from Tallents House, main post offices and philatelic outlets. The pack, written by Richard Woodman and designed by Grade Design Consultants, features a portrait of Nelson by Lemuel Abbott (1798), a British 32-pounder gun, and a diagram of the Battle of Trafalgar showing the positions of the opposing fleets. The seven stamp cards feature the six stamps and the miniature sheet.

**Prestige book** The second of the 2005 prestige books, entitled *Battle of Trafalgar Death of Nelson*, will be available from 18 October, price £7.26. Written by Richard Woodman and designed by Webb & Webb, it tells the story of Trafalgar and the life of Horatio Nelson. Illustrations include a cartoon of Nelson by Lemuel Francis Abbott (1800); a painting of Nelson's flagships by Nicholas Pocock (1807); Nelson's uniform with fatal musket-ball hole; and an engraving of Nelson's internment at St Paul's Cathedral, January 1806.

The first day cover envelope features a shot which entered *Victory's* bow and was lodged in its timbers at the Battle of Trafalgar.



Details of other handstamps for 18 October will be given in the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House (£12.25 in UK & Europe; £24.95 elsewhere). For a free sample copy write to the Editor, *British Postmark Bulletin*, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1Y 8HQ.



**Prestige stamp book panes**

Three 1st class White Ensign stamps (as first issued in miniature sheet, October 2001).

Machin definitives: top and bottom rows 1st class, 50p, 1st class; middle row two 68p separated by label showing lifemask of Nelson cast by Franz Thallerin, Vienna, 1800.

Trafalgar stamps: top 1st class, middle 42p, bottom 68p (left-hand stamps from pairs).

Trafalgar stamps: top 1st class, middle 42p, bottom 68p (right hand stamps from pairs).



The book and panes of Trafalgar and White Ensign stamps were printed by Cartor in litho, and the pane of Machin definitives in gravure by Walsall. A first day cover will be offered bearing the Machin stamps pane with label. This can be ordered from Tallents House, price £4.24 UK or £3.92 overseas. Please state if Tallents House or Portsmouth postmark required ●

The £5 coins encapsulated in the Coin Cover, below, feature the Battle of Trafalgar by Clive Duncan, and Horatio Nelson by James Butler. Shown here at 78% actual size.

**Special covers** Royal Mail are producing three special covers. The Coin Cover (shown below, £24.50) is entitled 'Horatio Nelson and the Battle of Trafalgar' and bears the six stamps and two encapsulated £5 Royal Mint Trafalgar coins. The Ingot Cover (£39.95) is entitled 'Life on board ship in Nelson's Navy' and bears the miniature sheet and a silver reproduction of the 1951 2s6d definitive featuring HMS *Victory*. The stamps/miniature sheet on the two covers are cancelled by a special Burnham Thorpe, Kings Lynn handstamp showing a ship's wheel. Burnham Thorpe is where Nelson was born in 1758. The coin and ingot covers are in limited editions of 30,000 and 3000 respectively. A Cachet Cover is also being produced. This comprises a special limited edition numbered FDC bearing the six stamps, carried on board a replica of HMS *Pickle* and given a special cachet to this effect. Price £8.95. Further details next month ●

