

Celebrating sport The philatelic countdown to

The artists responsible,
top row, left to right:

- a) Paralympic Games: Rowing
by Marian Hill
b) Shooting by David Hillman
c) Modern Pentathlon by
Katherine Baxter
d) Taekwondo by James Fryer
e) Cycling by Matthew Dennis
Bottom row, left to right:
f) Paralympic Games: Table
Tennis by Michael Craig-Martin
g) Hockey by Darren Hopes
h) Football by Alex Williamson
i) Paralympic Games: Goalball
by Tobatron
j) Boxing by Stephen Ledwidge



TEN NEW OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC stamps are released on Tuesday 27 July this year, the second set in a series of three, comprising 30 stamps in total, in celebration of London's hosting of the 30th Olympiad and 2012 Paralympic Games. The 30 designs allow one stamp to represent each of the Olympic and Paralympic sports. The first set came out in October 2009 and the final ten will be issued in 2011.

Created by a range of contemporary artists (see caption, left) this 2010 set depicts Paralympic Rowing, Paralympic Table Tennis and Paralympic Goalball; Shooting, Modern Pentathlon, Taekwondo, Cycling, Hockey, Football and Boxing. Each stamp also bears the London 2012 Olympic Games or Paralympic Games logo.

The stamps are printed in litho in two sheets, bearing se-tenant strips of five stamps; each individual design is thus available in vertical strips of five. Associated stamp products include the Royal Mail fully illustrated presentation pack containing the full set of ten mint stamps, with text provided by Ian Cole, a former Sports News Editor of the *Daily Mail*.

Also available in July are a commemorative sheet, ten postcards, and a commemorative coin and stamp cover.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES Orders for serviced first day covers must reach the Royal Mail (at the address given below) by 22 October 2010. Customers may also send stamped envelopes on the day of issue to Royal Mail, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, to receive the Tallents House, Edinburgh postmark. As an alternative pictorial and non-pictorial Badminton Glos postmarks will be available for the issue. Sponsored special handstamps will be announced in the *British Postmark Bulletin* ●

London 2012 continues with more handsome commemoratives



London 2012 stamp prices

Set of stamps	£4.10
Presentation pack	£4.60
First day cover envelope	£0.30
Serviced first day cover stamps, UK customers	£5.29
Serviced first day cover stamps, overseas customers	£4.51
Stamp cards sets	£4.00
Commemorative sheet	£13.50
Coin and stamp cover	£17.50
Stamp book	£2.46



Below: the boldly illustrated commemorative presentation pack contains the full set of ten mint stamps and information about each of the sports featured

Above right: stamp book No 3 includes Paralympic Rowing and Paralympic Table Tennis stamps



2011 2012
THE OLYMPIC & PARALYMPIC GAMES
BUILDING ON PAST SUCCESS

In summer 2008 Great Britain's Olympians brought home 19 gold, 13 silver and 15 bronze medals from Beijing, the largest number in a century, while Team GB's Paralympians amassed 42 gold, 29 silver and 31 bronze medals, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table. With London 2012 fast approaching, hopes are high for even greater success on home soil.

Britain's Olympic and Paralympic athletes have been triumphant in many of the sports featured on the stamps in this issue. In the last seven Games, for example, our Olympic rowers have brought home ten gold medals, and in the first Paralympic Rowing programme in 2008, Team GB won five golds and a bronze. In the multi-disciplined Modern Pentathlon, Britain has produced two gold-medal winners, and since 1960 a total of 24 golds, 29 silvers and 37 bronze medals have been won by British competitors in Paralympic Table Tennis.

In Taekwondo, a relatively new addition to the Olympic programme, Team GB won its first medal in 2008, while in Boxing, Britain achieved a 14th Olympic gold at Beijing. Our Olympic cyclists have also enjoyed success across all disciplines, and at the 2008 Games, Team GB's Cycling Paralympians topped the medal table, with 17 golds and 3 silvers.

ROWING

The rowing club of the Paralympic programme, the Paralympic Rowing team, has a long history of success. In Beijing 2008, Team GB won gold in the Paralympic rowing sport for the first time, in the Paralympic rowing event, the Paralympic rowing team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table. The Paralympic rowing team made its debut at the Paralympic rowing event, the Paralympic rowing team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table.

FOOTBALL

The Paralympic football team, the Paralympic football team, has a long history of success. In Beijing 2008, Team GB won gold in the Paralympic football event, the Paralympic football team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table. The Paralympic football team made its debut at the Paralympic football event, the Paralympic football team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table.

HOCKEY

The Paralympic hockey team, the Paralympic hockey team, has a long history of success. In Beijing 2008, Team GB won gold in the Paralympic hockey event, the Paralympic hockey team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table. The Paralympic hockey team made its debut at the Paralympic hockey event, the Paralympic hockey team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table.

CYCLING

The Paralympic cycling team, the Paralympic cycling team, has a long history of success. In Beijing 2008, Team GB won gold in the Paralympic cycling event, the Paralympic cycling team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table. The Paralympic cycling team made its debut at the Paralympic cycling event, the Paralympic cycling team, finishing second behind the host nation in the medals table.