



## One year to go! The final set of London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps – ‘Get Ready for 2012’ – is issued next month

IN THE THREE YEARS LEADING up to the 30th Olympiad and London 2012 Paralympic Games, Royal Mail has commissioned 30 artists to take part in a project that has seen the creation of 30 stamps, issued in three sets of ten. The third and final set in the series, subtitled ‘Get Ready for 2012’, is issued next month on 27 July, exactly one year before the Opening Ceremony of

the London 2012 Olympic Games. Each of the 30 stamps portrays a different Olympic or Paralympic sport, and the forthcoming set of ten, shown above, champions Paralympic Games – Sailing, Athletics – Field, Volleyball, Wheelchair Rugby, Wrestling, Wheelchair Tennis, Fencing, Gymnastics, Triathlon and Handball. The stamps are printed on two se-tenant sheets, so that each individual design is available in vertical strips of five.

A unique composite stamp sheet is also available, featuring all 30 stamps for all three of the Olympic and Paralympic Games issues on a single stamp sheet. Never before has there been a Royal Mail sheet featuring so many different designs or showing the work of so many leading contemporary artists (see July *Bulletin* for full details). All the stamp products will be available by mail order from Tallents House.

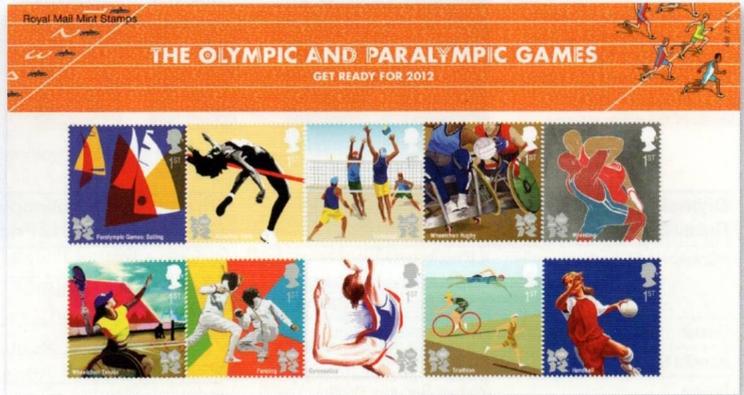
As part of this special issue, Royal Mail is also

### Olympic and Paralympic Games 3 Get Ready For 2012 Stamps Specifications

Issue date	27 July
Number of stamps	Ten
Stamp design	Studio David Hillman
Illustration	Sailing by Lara Harwood; Athletics – Field by Anthony Pike; Volleyball by Ben Dalling; Wheelchair Rugby by Matthew Hollings; Wrestling by Daniel Stolle; Wheelchair Tennis by David McConochie; Fencing by Lyndon Hayes; Gymnastics by Kathy Wyatt; Triathlon by Adam Simpson; Handball by David Cutter
Stamp format	Square
Stamp size	35mm x 35mm
Printer	Cartor Security Printing
Print process	Lithography
Number per sheet	25/50
Perforations	14.5 x 14.5
Phosphor	All over



Left: 'Get Ready for 2012' stamp set, issued next month.  
Below: Presentation Pack.  
Bottom: Stamp and Card set



producing a Presentation Pack (shown above), First Day Cover, Commemorative Sheet, Stamp Book, Stamp Cards, and Stamp and Postcard Sets. Additional souvenir products include Stamp and Coin Sets, Stamp and Pin Badge sets, an Olympic and Paralympic Sports Cover Collection (see page 294 for details) and limited-edition Countdown Coin Covers.

**First Day Facilities** Unstamped Royal Mail First Day Cover envelopes (price 30p) are available from main post offices and philatelic outlets approximately one week before the stamps go on sale. Serviced (i.e. stamped and postmarked) Royal Mail First Day Covers are available by Mail Order from Royal Mail, Tallents House (address, page 290) priced £6 UK, including VAT, or £5 overseas (no VAT). The stamps will be cancelled with a first day of issue postmark of the Tallents House, Edinburgh or the alternative RUGBY, WARKS postmark, as required.

Orders for Serviced First Day Covers have to reach the Royal Mail by 27 July 2011. Customers may also send stamped envelopes to Tallents House on the day of issue for the Tallents ►



House, Edinburgh postmark. If you hand in or post stamped Royal Mail First Day Envelopes at main Post Offices® on the day of issue, they will receive the pictorial RUGBY, WARKS first day postmark •

Right: the fifth in the series of six themed stamp booklets contains four 1st Class Machin definitives and the Wheelchair Rugby and Paralympics Sailing stamps. The stamps in the booklet are printed in gravure and are self-adhesive, unlike the lithography printed gummied stamps in the stamp issue. See July *Bulletin* for details of the other stamps



### Olympic and Paralympic Games Retail Stamp Book 5

Number of stamps	4 x 1st Machin 1 x 1st Wheelchair Rugby 1 x 1st Paralympic Sailing
Design	Studio David Hillman
Special Stamp Format	35mm x 35mm
Printer	Walsall Security Printing
Print process	Gravure
Gum	Self-adhesive

### Olympic and Paralympic Games 3 Get Ready For 2012 Prices

Set of stamps	£4.60
Composite Stamp Sheet of 30 stamps	£13.80
Presentation Pack	£5.10
Stamp Book	£2.76
Stamp Cards (10 in set)	£4.50
First Day Envelope	30p
First Day Cover	£6.00
Countdown Coin Cover	£17.50
Commemorative Sheet	£13.95
Stamp and Postcard Sets	£7.50

Below: alternative postmark featuring a stopwatch design with RUGBY, WARKS.  
Bottom: Talents House first-day cancellation for the Get Ready for 2012 issue

Below: Olympic Countdown to London 2012 Coin Cover, issued in collaboration with the Royal Mint in a numbered, limited edition of 15,000

