

April 2003
No. 99

Stamp Preview

News for collectors from Royal Mail



EXTREME ENDEAVOURS

BRAVERY BY AIR, LAND AND SEA

CELEBRATING THE

50TH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE CONQUEST OF MOUNT EVEREST



The dramatic achievements of explorers and adventurers over the last century are testimony to the courage and passion of the human spirit. Yet triumph was often tempered by tragedy.



Antarctic explorer **Ernest Shackleton** lost his ship but not even one life in one of the greatest survival epics of all time, while **Robert Scott** perished in his pursuit of glory.



The success of the British team's Everest expedition lead by **John Hunt** in 1953, with Hillary and Tenzing reaching the summit, followed decades of failure due to avalanche, wind and cold.

And while extreme cold is a common factor to most feats of endurance, it was heat that **Freya Stark** suffered on her solo travels into remote corners of Arabia.



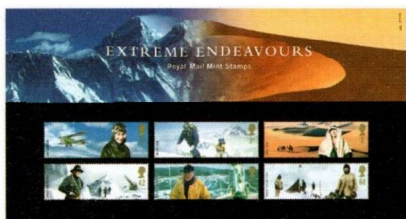
Endeavour on land was matched at sea by round-the-world yachtsman **Francis Chichester**, and in the air by aviator **Amy Johnson**, the first woman to fly to Australia. Fortuitously, Extreme Endeavours also commemorates the 100th anniversary of her birth.



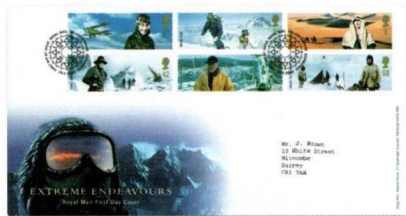
The Extreme Endeavours set of stamps will be released on 29th April 2003. Designed by the award-winning **Howard Brown**, the extra-wide format (*our joint second-widest ever*) helps to convey the epic nature of their content.



An illustrated **Presentation Pack** features an interview with present day explorer **Sir Ranulph Fiennes** and pioneering woman mountaineer **Rebecca Stephens**, plus biographical information on the six explorers on the stamps.



Presentation Pack



First Day Cover

Presentation Packs, First Day Covers and Stamp Cards are all available in association with this issue and can be ordered on the order form below or overleaf.



STAMP TECHNICAL DETAILS

Extreme Endeavours

Issue Date	29 April 2003
Format	Landscape
Stamp Size	60mm (wide) x 21mm (high)
Process	Gravure
Number per sheet	50
Printer	De La Rue Security Print
Gum	PVA
Perforations	15 x 14.5
Phosphor	As appropriate
Pack Number	346
Alternative Handstamp	Plymouth

You can also order a Retail Booklet containing six 1st Class stamps including two of the Extreme Endeavours 'Everest' stamps.

ORDERS CONTAINING FDCS MUST REACH US BY 29 APRIL 2003

I would like to send a personalised First Day Cover of the Extreme Endeavours issue to:	Tallents House Postmark	Plymouth Postmark
		
		
First Day Cover (Inland) AF241 £3.25		
First Day Cover (Overseas) AF241 £2.77		
Total cost of FDCs to be carried overleaf	£	£

For additional covers please write the names, address details and postmarks on a separate sheet of paper.