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## 2026 Special Stamps

|    |     |                                              |
|----|-----|----------------------------------------------|
| 13 | Jan | Stranger Things                              |
| 21 | Jan | Concorde                                     |
| 19 | Feb | Hornby Model Railways                        |
| 26 | Feb | Roses                                        |
| 20 | Mar | The Lord of the Rings                        |
| 21 | Apr | Centenary of the Birth of Queen Elizabeth II |
| 21 | May | Castles                                      |
| 23 | Jun | Waterfalls                                   |
| 9  | Jul | Moths                                        |
| 30 | Jul | Military Jet Aircraft                        |
| 20 | Aug | Pets                                         |
| 17 | Sep | Duran Duran                                  |
| 29 | Sep | TBC                                          |
| 14 | Oct | TBC                                          |
| 8  | Nov | Christmas 2026                               |
| 11 | Nov | Remembrance                                  |





BY AIR MAIL  
*par avion*

Royal Mail

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# FIRST



## MOTHS

Thursday 9 July 2026

Bringing night-time  
beauty to light







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# Discover the hidden beauty of Britain's moths

Though often found in the shadows, moths are among the most remarkable and diverse insects in the United Kingdom. With over 2,500 species recorded – far outnumbering our 80 or so butterflies – they display an extraordinary range of shapes, colours and adaptations. While many are nocturnal, a surprising number fly by day and are every bit as striking as their butterfly cousins.

Species such as the Emperor Moth and Hedge Beauty reveal vivid patterns and delicate detail when seen in the light. Others defy expectation entirely – the female Lesser Bagworm Moth, for example, lacks wings, legs and even the scales typical of the Lepidoptera family.

Despite their reputation, very few moths damage clothes – only two UK species feed on wool and feathers. In fact, moth caterpillars play a vital ecological role, consuming leaves, fruit, wood and fungi.

To celebrate these extraordinary yet often overlooked insects, we are honouring them with a new set of ten Special Stamps, showcasing the hidden beauty, diversity and wonder of Britain's moths, alongside a range of collectibles.



## Mint Stamp Set | AS14900 £13.55

- Ten Special Stamps showcase beautiful illustrations created exclusively for Royal Mail by renowned wildlife artist Richard Lewington, bringing each moth species to life with exceptional detail that captures their soft wing-patterns and subtle nocturnal hues.
- The set celebrates the remarkable diversity of British moths, spanning different habitats across the UK.
- Five First Class and five Second Class landscape stamps.

**Second Class** Emperor Moth *Saturnia pavonia*  
**Second Class** Puss Moth *Cerura vinula*  
**Second Class** Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth *Hemaris fuciformis*  
**Second Class** Dark Bordered Beauty Moth *Epione vespertaria*  
**Second Class** December Moth *Poecilocampa populi*  
**First Class** Dark Crimson Underwing Moth *Catocala sponsa*  
**First Class** Scarce Crimson and Gold Moth *Pyrausta sanguinalis*  
**First Class** Swallow-tailed Moth *Ourapteryx sambucaria*  
**First Class** Hedge Beauty Moth *Alabonia geoffrella*  
**First Class** Buff-tip Moth *Phalera bucephala*

## It's all in the details

**Stamp format** Landscape  
**Stamp size** 37mm x 35mm  
**Number per sheet** 25/50  
**Design** Royal Mail Group Ltd  
**Illustrations** Richard Lewington  
**Printer** Cartor Security Printers  
**Print process** Lithography  
**Perforations** 14 x 14.5  
**Phosphor** Bars as appropriate  
**Gum** PVA

## ② Presentation Pack | AP570 £14.45

- A fact-filled souvenir celebrating one of the UK's most diverse wildlife groups, revealing the hidden world of these gentle night-fliers.
- Contains the complete set of ten stamps featuring exquisite new illustrations by renowned wildlife artist Richard Lewington.
- Packed with fascinating natural history insights from Dr Phil Sterling of the national charity Butterfly Conservation.
- Highlights species from every corner of the UK, including rare and regionally unique moths found only in select habitats.





③



#### ③ First Day Cover | AF550 £16.90

- A unique, time-limited commemorative collectible personalised with the name and address of your choice.
- The ten Moths stamps are cancelled with your preferred special-edition postmark on the first day of issue, 9 July 2026.
- Featuring Richard Lewington's finely observed illustrations, capturing the gentle gradients and intricate scales that define these night-time beauties.
- Strictly limited availability – not available to order after 9 July 2026.

Only  
available  
until 9 July  
2026

#### ④ First Day Envelope | AE506 £0.30

- Your First Day Envelope features the issue's title alongside an illustration of a Belted Beauty Moth, showing its soft, dusk-toned markings.
- Inside is the information card with more detail about moth species in the UK.

4 See the full range online at [royalmail.com/moths](https://royalmail.com/moths)

⑤



#### ⑤ Stamp Souvenir | AW320 £16.90

- A non-personalised version of the Moths First Day Cover featuring all ten new stamps cancelled with the alternative Hedge End postmark.
- Contains an information card offering an overview of these often-overlooked night-time visitors.
- On sale until 9 July 2027.

On sale  
until  
9 July 2027

#### Choose your postmark

The Tallents House postmark features an illustration of a Mullein Moth caterpillar feeding on a leaf. The alternative postmark depicts an illustration of a Hedge Beauty Moth and the postal town of Hedge End.

Standard  
postmark



Alternative  
postmark



⑥



#### ⑥ Set of Ten Postcards | AQ386 £4.50

- A set of ten postcards featuring enlarged reproductions of the stamps from this issue.
- Perfect for collecting, framing or sending to wildlife lovers.

#### ⑦ Full First Class Sheet | AS14900BFS £90.00

- A Full Sheet containing 50 First Class Moths stamps including the Dark Crimson Underwing Moth *Catocala sponsa*; Scarce Crimson and Gold Moth *Pyrausta sanguinalis*; Swallow-tailed Moth *Ourapteryx sambucaria*; Hedge Beauty Moth *Alabonia geoffrella*; Buff-tip Moth *Phalera bucephala*.

#### ⑧ Half First Class Sheet | AS14900BHS £45.00

- A Half Sheet containing 25 First Class Moths stamps including the Dark Crimson Underwing Moth *Catocala sponsa*; Scarce Crimson and Gold Moth *Pyrausta sanguinalis*; Swallow-tailed Moth *Ourapteryx sambucaria*; Hedge Beauty Moth *Alabonia geoffrella*; Buff-tip Moth *Phalera bucephala*.

#### ⑨ Full Second Class Sheet | AS14900AFS £45.50

- A Full Sheet containing 50 Second Class Moths stamps including the Emperor Moth *Saturnia pavonia*; Puss Moth *Cerura vinula*; Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth *Hemaris fuciformis*; Dark Bordered Beauty Moth *Epione vespertaria*; December Moth *Poecilocampa populi*.

#### ⑩ Half Second Class Sheet | AS14900AHS £22.75

- A Half Sheet containing 25 Second Class Moths stamps including the Emperor Moth *Saturnia pavonia*; Puss Moth *Cerura vinula*; Broad-bordered Bee Hawk-moth *Hemaris fuciformis*; Dark Bordered Beauty Moth *Epione vespertaria*; December Moth *Poecilocampa populi*.

⑧



⑩



To order call 03457 641 641 (UK)<sup>1</sup> +44 3457 641 641 (Overseas)<sup>2</sup> or visit [royalmail.com/moths](https://royalmail.com/moths)

5



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<sup>2</sup>Please contact your network provider to check what rate may apply before making a call.

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| 2                                                                                                                     | Presentation Pack      | AP570     | £14.45 | £   |       |
| 3                                                                                                                     | First Day Cover        |           |        |     |       |
|                                                                                                                       | – Standard postmark    | AF550-STD | £16.90 | £   |       |
|                                                                                                                       | – Alternative postmark | AF550-ALT | £16.90 | £   |       |
| 4                                                                                                                     | First Day Envelope     | AE506     | £0.30  | £   |       |
| 5                                                                                                                     | Stamp Souvenir         | AW320     | £16.90 | £   |       |
| 6                                                                                                                     | Set of Postcards       | AQ386     | £4.50  | £   |       |

| No. | Product name            | Code       | Price  | Qty | Total |
|-----|-------------------------|------------|--------|-----|-------|
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| 8   | Half First Class Sheet  | AS14900BHS | £45.00 | £   |       |
| 9   | Full Second Class Sheet | AS14900AFS | £45.50 | £   |       |
| 10  | Half Second Class Sheet | AS14900AHS | £22.75 | £   |       |

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