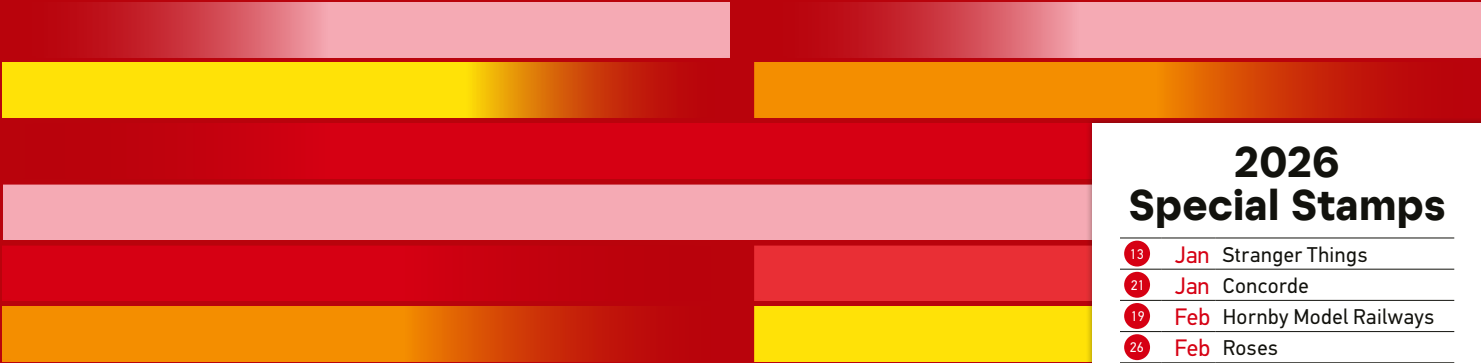




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2026 Special Stamps

- | | | |
|----|-----|--|
| 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 |
| 14 | Oct | TBC |
| 3 | Nov | Christmas 2026 |
| 11 | Nov | Remembrance |
| 1 | Dec | TBC |

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Pets

Pets

The history of pet-keeping stretches back thousands of years, with evidence pointing to dogs, cats and birds being the first to be domesticated. Over millennia, the relationship of certain animals and people has shifted from the purely functional – such as dogs being used for guarding and herding or goldfish being bred for food – to that of companionship. Rabbits, once hunted for sport and food, now make popular companions, and rats, historically associated with disease, make entertaining pets in their domesticated form. Goldfish have been admired for their looks since the 16th century in Japan, while the domestic hamster is a more modern pet, dating to the 1930s, when hamsters were captured for scientific research in Syria. The guinea pig is another animal that was originally bred for food, but by the 16th century it had become a sought-after pet in Europe. Another popular choice since the mid-20th century has been the tortoise, which is among the longest-lived of pets, with a lifespan of 50 to 100 years.

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Royal Mail First Day Cover



Mr C Davies
14 Imogen Street
ALTRINCHAM
WA20 9IW

Royal Mail Talents House 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 9PP



FIRST



PETS

Thursday 20 August 2026

Celebrating Britain's
favourite companions

Cherished companions, beautifully captured

For centuries, pets have held a special place in our homes and hearts – offering companionship, comfort and moments of pure joy. From the loyal gaze of a dog to the gentle purr of a cat, and from colourful birds to characterful small pets, these everyday companions shape our lives in meaningful ways.

This delightful new stamp issue celebrates the nation's love of pets, capturing a range of familiar favourites in charming detail. Featuring beloved animals including the golden retriever, tabby cat, budgerigar, goldfish and more, each design reflects the unique personality and charm that make these creatures such treasured members of the family.

Discover the collection through the beautifully presented Stamp Set and Presentation Pack, or create a striking display with the Framed Stamp Set. Together, these pieces form a charming tribute to the animals that bring so much warmth, character and companionship into our lives.



1 Mint Stamp Set | AS15300 £13.55

- 10 Special Stamps celebrate the animals we welcome into our homes, with charming, characterful photography capturing the personality, warmth and individuality of each much-loved companion.
- Showcasing a delightful mix of familiar pets – from a loyal dog and a playful cat to colourful birds and smaller companion animals – reflecting the variety of creatures that enrich everyday life.
- Five First Class and five Second Class square stamps.

Second Class Rabbit	First Class Fancy Rat
Second Class Goldfish	First Class Dog
Second Class Hamster	First Class Cat
Second Class Tortoise	First Class Cockatiel
Second Class Budgerigar	First Class Guinea Pig

It's all in the details

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

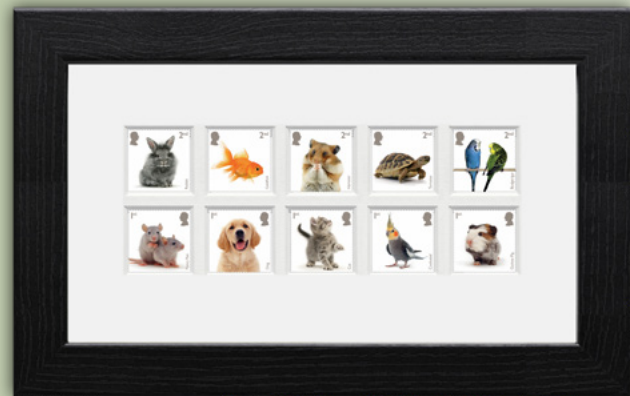
2 Presentation Pack | AP574 £14.45

- A gorgeous fold-out souvenir celebrating the joy of animal companionship.
- Contains the complete set of 10 stamps, capturing the personality, playfulness and heartwarming moments that make pets such beloved members of our families.
- The pawfect collectible keepsake, filled with fascinating facts and colourful photography.





③



③ Framed Stamp Set | N3453 £39.99

- The Pets stamp set mounted in a premium black frame.
- The 10 mint stamps feature gorgeous photography of Britain's beloved pets, from a playful kitten to a pair of fancy rats.
- Dimensions: 35.6cm x 23.8cm.



④

④ First Day Cover | AF554 £16.90

- A unique, time-limited commemorative collectible personalised with the name and address of your choice.
- The 10 Pets stamps are cancelled with your preferred special-edition postmark on the first day of issue, 20 August 2026.
- Featuring a delightful collection of familiar companions, from a playful kitten to characterful small pets, the stamps showcase the unique qualities that make these animals so loved.
- Strictly limited availability – not available to order after 20 August 2026.

Only available until 20 August 2026

⑤ First Day Envelope | AE515 £0.30

- Your First Day Envelope features the issue's title alongside a photograph of a pair of goldfish.
- Inside is the information card with more detail about Britain's beloved pets.



⑥

⑥ Stamp Souvenir | AW331 £16.90

- A non-personalised version of the Pets First Day Cover featuring all 10 new stamps cancelled with the alternative Petworth postmark.
- Contains an information card offering a glimpse into the history of pets.
- On sale until 20 August 2027.

Available until 20 August 2027



⑦



⑦ Set of 10 Postcards | AQ390 £4.50

- A set of 10 postcards featuring enlarged reproductions of the stamp set from this issue.
- Perfect for collecting, framing or sending to animal lovers.



See the full range online at royalmail.com/pets

- A Full Sheet containing 50 First Class Pets stamps.

- A Half Sheet containing 25 First Class Pets stamps.

- A Full Sheet containing 50 Second Class Pets stamps.

- A Half Sheet containing 25 Second Class Pets stamps.



Due to high demand for our products, you may find it more convenient to place your order at royalmail.com/pets

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