



YOUR STAMP ACTIVE NETWORK NEWS



Hello! If you have any items you would like included in future Stamp Active Network Newsletters, please contact us.

Email; stampactive@btinternet.com

June 2025

QUICK LINKS

Click on the links below, or copy-and-paste the link into your search. For more information, look on the Stamp Active website: www.stampactive.co.uk



COMPETITIONS NEWS – Have a Go!

Stamp Active are keen to see more entries in the competitions – if you've never entered before, now's the time to start thinking about entering!

There are several different competitions young collectors can enter – something for everyone!

For full details of all the Junior Competitions, rules, regulations and entry form details, use the link or see the Stamp Active website under 'Competitions'.

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>



There are several different competitions young collectors can enter – something for everyone!

- 'Brilliant Britain'

This is a 1 page Junior competition with the theme 'Brilliant Britain' for young people up to the age of 18.

Entries should be submitted by 30th September 2025. More details further on in this newsletter, or at this link on the Stamp Active website

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>



- **The Stamp Active Competition** (individual and/or group entries!)

For this competition the requirement is a minimum of 4 pages up to a maximum of 24 pages! This competition has different age categories for young people of all ages up to 16 years, and can be for individual entries or as a group entry!

Entry Forms should be submitted by 31st August 2025, and the completed exhibit received by 30th September 2025. More details further on in this newsletter, or at this link on the Stamp Active website (scroll down on the link)

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>

- **British Youth Championships**

This competition is for young people aged from 10 to 21, and has different age categories. The minimum required is 16 pages (but check the requirements in the different age categories.)

Entry Forms should be submitted by 31st July 2025, and the completed exhibit received by 31st August 2025. More details further on in this newsletter, or at this link on the Stamp Active website (scroll down on the link)

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>

- **BTA One Page Virtual Competition**

The British Thematic Association has announced a new virtual competition, which includes sections for young collectors of all ages up to 17 (inclusive). You can prepare and/or submit your entries now for next year's competition - contact competitions@britishthematic.org.uk. More details further on in this newsletter, or at this link on the Stamp Active website

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/bta-one-page-virtual-competition/>

Full details about all these competitions can be found further on in this newsletter under 'Competition News'

Have a look at some previous prize winning entries in the 'Winning Competition Displays' area on the 'Competitions' section of the website.



Download 'Have A Go – Show' brochure.

<https://stampactive.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Stamp-Active-Have-a-go-Show-Leaflet-D3.pdf>



Lancaster Royal Grammar School Stamp Club at Europhilex 2025



On Thursday 8th of April LRGS stamp club ventured to the NEC in Birmingham for this once in a 10-year experience. We were greeted by John Davies and Erene Grieve from Stamp Active, inviting us to the junior section. As soon as we got there, we were given an activity booklet to fill in. We had to collect different variations of British stamps such as the Northern Irish Machin and hinge them into a booklet. The booklet was then marked giving a maximum of 250 points.

These points were later used for a mini auction.

We then had time to explore some of the two thousand exhibits. We looked at the world's

most expensive stamp, the one cent magenta from British Guiana. Stamp Active gave us £20 in tokens to spend on stamps and coins at the many dealers that were there. Robin Cassell also gave us each a penny red with our initials on. Stamp Active held an auction to finish off the day. There were various items including First day covers and special stamps. At the end one of the boys won a Penny black and a Two pence blue from Stamp Active. We all had a lovely time, and we are thankful to all the staff who help run the junior section to make it such a special day.





Younger Members entertain at the Royal - a credit to the Society.

“A credit to the Society’ was how John Stimson FRPSL described the displays presented at the meeting of the Royal Philatelic Society London on 24 April when it was the chance to let ‘The Younger Members Entertain’. Ten rose to the challenge, although many others were simply unable to take up the opportunity.

The idea originated when Simon Moorcroft FRPSL approached Michael Roberts, at the time a Vice President of the Society, suggesting that the younger members demonstrate how passionate they are about the hobby. Sadly Michael, enthusiastic to turn the idea into reality, died before it came to fruition.

The ten who showed were Johan Agren, Tiegan Berry, Magnus Cameron, Clement Chevallier, Paris Dimitriadis, Dzintars Grinfelds, Hayden Moorcroft, Simon Moorcroft FRPSL, Jack Preuveneers FRPSL and Ricky Verra. Coming from France, Sweden and the United States, as well as the United Kingdom, understandably not all could be at the meeting in person.

Giving the Vote of Thanks, John added that it has been ‘a treat to see such fantastic exhibits with a wonderful diversity of material, showing high levels of research and study, and fine presentation’.

President of the Society, Simon Richards RDP, FRPSL, thanked all those who had shown, and in particular Simon Moorcroft for turning his concept into reality.





Europhilex 2025

From Wednesday 7 to Sunday 11 May, EuroPhilEx Birmingham 2025 welcomed visitors from all corners of the world to the biggest philatelic event of the year.



In his welcome message in the exhibition catalogue, Jon Aitchison, EuroPhilEx Chairman, noted that this is the first British international exhibition to be staged outside London since Manchester 1899. Also in the catalogue, Bill Hedley, FEPA President, quoted: *It will be an occasion for the philatelic world to come together, rekindle its enthusiasm, and have a good time.*

Stamp Active was present on Stand 1 with fun activities on the theme of “Brilliant Britain”, free goodie bags and lots of stamp fun. Many young visitors received free vouchers to the value of £20 to spend at the Show.

Other highlights of the event included 2,000 exhibit frames, a magnificent Court of Honour, more than 60 dealer and trade stands, a live philatelic auction, society meetings, the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists Ceremony, the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, the FEPA Congress, and two FEPA



School Visits to the Postal Museum London

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/school-visits-to-the-postal-museum-london/>

Schools can arrange to visit the Postal Museum – or if that's not possible **Virtual Sessions are available!** Visits or virtual sessions can be booked online. For more information copy-and-paste the link above, or look in the 'News' section on the **Stamp Active website** for full details of all the different visit options with direct links.

Get your school trip sorted

Teachers! Book museum, virtual and outreach visits for your class.
Book ahead for Spring and Summer term 2024-25.

Museum visits

Visit us for an inspiring learning experience.

Choose your interactive session, explore our Exhibitions, ride Mail Rail and play in Sorted! Postal Play Space.

Visits with interactive sessions



Mail Rail Science Show (KS2)

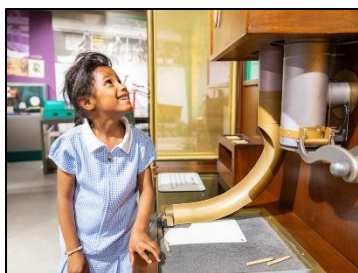
Take part in live science experiments to move the mail under London.



The Jolly Postman (Reception / KS1)

Help collect, sort and deliver the post for fairy tale characters.

Self-led visits



Select your activities and lead your class visit. Suitable for all key stages.

Outreach in your school

For State-funded Inner-London Primary schools.



Sorting Office Maths Challenge (EYFS Reception / KS1)

Step into a sorting office in your school and help get the post sorted and delivered on time.

Virtual sessions

For UK Primary schools. State-funded schools can book without charge thanks to Royal Mail support.



The Jolly Postman (Reception / KS1)

Virtual sessions delivered live in your classroom. Inspired by the much-loved children's book.

Teacher's Art Pass



Visiting with friends and family outside of schools sessions? If you have a Teacher's Art Pass, get 50% off entry to the museum – book the Adult Art Pass rate anytime you visit.



Impressive Stamp Art at London Stampex

Watch this great stamp art YouTube clip on the 'Fun & Games' tab on the Stamp Active website

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/fun-games/>





Download activity books and sheets, and a guide to youth stamp competitions

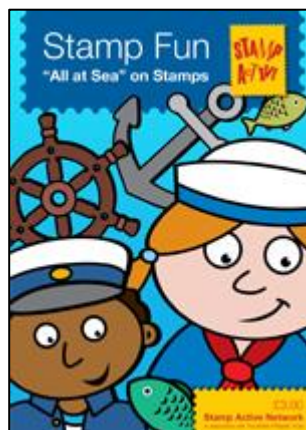
<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/fun-games/>



Stamp Fun
(PDF file)



Sport on Stamps
(PDF file)



All at Sea on
Stamps
(PDF file)



Brilliant Britain
(PDF file)



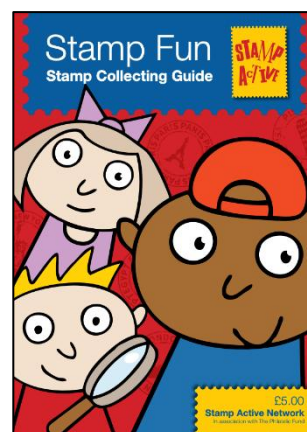
Have a Go –
SHOW!
(PDF file)



All Creatures Great
and Small (PDF
file)



Transport on
Stamps
(PDF file)



Guide to Stamp
Collecting
(PDF file)

There are some fun colouring sheets at the following websites:

- USA stamp designs for you to colour in: www.activity-sheets.com/coloring_page/stamps
- Download and print Post Office colouring pages for free: coloringhome.com/post-office-coloring-page
- Fun pics, including Postman Pat: CWU – North Staffordshire Postal Branch



Organising an Activity Day or Introduction Session? Look at the 'Stamp Clubs' section on the website!



Find out more information about ideas for activity days, introduction sessions, starting or developing your regular stamp club meetings in the 'Stamp Clubs' section on the Stamp Active website

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/stamp-clubs/>



COMPETITIONS NEWS:

For full rules, regulations and entry form details for Junior Competitions, use the link or see the Stamp Active website under 'Competitions'.

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>



'BRILLIANT BRITAIN' 1 PAGE YOUTH COMPETITION:

Stamp Active Network are pleased to announce this year's competition based on Great Britain which could include any aspects of history, geography or nature or people and much more....the possibilities are endless.

Young people up to the age of 18 (on 1st September 2025) are eligible to enter. UK Only.

Entries should be submitted by 31st August 2025.

Entries will usually be displayed in the Youth Zone as part of STAMPEX.

Stamps, covers and other philatelic items can be used. For this competition only, it is acceptable to use images of stamps that are not your personal property. The page must have a title, and either captions or a short write up that tells the story. The entries can be either hand-written or prepared using a computer.

A scan of the page should be sent

to stampactive@btinternet.com by 31st August 2025. When sending your scan, please include your age as at 1st September 2024 and your full postal address (so that we know where to send any prize).

There will be four age groups – Up to 7; 8-10; 11-14; 15-18: – with prizes being awarded (for First, Second, Third) in each age group.



Further details of this 1 page competition can be found on the competitions section on the Stamp Active website at <https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>

For full rules, regulations and entry form details for all Junior Competitions, use the link or see the Stamp Active website under 'Competitions'.

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>

THE STAMP ACTIVE COMPETITION;

Entries can now be prepared ready for the 2025 Stamp Active Competition.

THE STAMP ACTIVE COMPETITION, sponsored by the Great Britain Philatelic Society, was introduced in 1998 in the national competitions to encourage new entrants. The equivalent of an "Open" class, it allows a minimum of four pages (rather than sixteen for the British Youth Stamp Championships) but can then be increased to up to 24 pages. It is judged on presentation and originality (not FIP rules). Medals are awarded in the same way as other competitions for every entry. There is a prize of £50 voucher for the winner in each class (minimum of three entries) to be used for philatelic items. Additional Special prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the judges. This is a great way for young collectors to start their journey in stamp competitions. The best overall entry receives an additional £50. There is also an opportunity to submit a group entry.



Entry forms for this competition should be submitted by 31st July 2025 and the completed exhibit received by 31st August 2025. The winning entries will be displayed at the Royal Philatelic Society London at an Autumn event (date to be agreed).

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>

BRITISH YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS;



Entries can now be prepared for this competition.

The British Youth Stamp Championships, sponsored by the Great Britain Philatelic Society, are organised by Stamp Active Network as part of the National Competitions. The Championships are open to all young collectors up to the age of 21 normally resident in the United Kingdom.

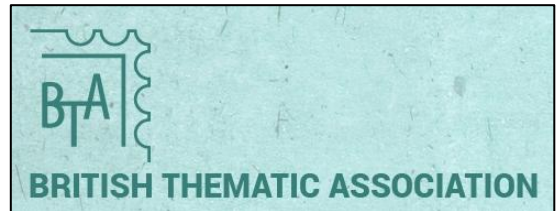
The best overall entry receives a prize of a £100 voucher to be used for philatelic items and each age group winner receives £50.

Special prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the judges.

Entry forms for this competition should be submitted by 31st July 2025 and the completed exhibit received by 31st August 2025. The winning entries will be displayed at the Royal Philatelic Society London at an Autumn event (date to be agreed). Exhibits that achieve a Large Silver Medal in this competition will be eligible for entering competitions at international level.

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/competitions-2/competitions/>

BTA ONE PAGE VIRTUAL COMPETITION



The British Thematic Association has announced a new virtual competition, which includes sections for young collectors. Have a Go, Show!

For full details, rules, and entry forms, please see the Stamp Active Website:

<https://www.stampactive.co.uk/bta-one-page-virtual-competition/>

- Up to and including age 9
- Ages 10 – 14
- Ages 15 – 17

There will be seven philatelic classes; Thematic Philately – Nature; Thematic Philately – Science and technology; Thematic Philately – Culture; Open Philately; Topical; Picture Postcards; Youth Philately.

The exhibit page must have a clear title on it, and must tell a story (with the exception of Topical entries), not a list of stamps or a procession of stamps but material that is linked to tell the story. Maximum marks for the **Youth entries** will be scored as follows: The Story (max 20); Knowledge of the material used (max 20); Variety of material (max 20); Presentation (max 40)



INFORMATION

The Stamp Active Network is a voluntary group that promotes stamp collecting for children. Amongst its other initiatives, it runs a free postal club for children, KIDSTAMPS, the national youth stamp competitions, the Youth Zone at Stampex and has published a range of free activity books for youngsters.



Junior Sections in Stamp Magazines

Both the *British Thematic Association* and the *RAFLET Stamp Club* produce quarterly magazines that include lively sections for junior stamp collectors. For further details and membership information, click on the links below:

British Thematic Association ('Thamescene' Magazine)

<http://www.britishthematic.org.uk/thamescene-articles.htm>

RAFLET Stamp Club <https://en-gb.facebook.com/rafletstampclub/>

Although there are no regular youth columns in **Stamp Collector** and **Gibbons Stamp Monthly** magazines, they are very good at including youth projects.



Stamp Active needs more help!

The Stamp Active Network is urgently seeking more volunteers to get involved to support youth philately in the UK. Commenting on the problems, John Davies of Stamp Active, said

"Even if you can only spare one hour to help out on the stand at Stampex, we really could do with more help ... please get involved to support the future of philately in the UK."



If you are able to help, please contact Stamp Active on stampactive@btinternet.com or through the 'Contact Us' page on the Stamp Active website <https://www.stampactive.co.uk/contact/>



Stamp Active can help your event! Check out the website – there's so much to see!

If your local Philatelic Society is holding a Stamp and Postcard Fair or other stamp event which includes a children's corner, Stamp Active may be able to help provide materials for the youngsters such as activity albums and stamps, as well as information leaflets about Kidstamps (free postal club for youngsters, supported by Stamp Active), and depending on location it may be possible to provide a speaker.

Stamp Active Network promotes a number of initiatives, including:

KIDS ZONE, sponsored by The Philatelic Traders' Society, which takes place at Stampex, held at the Business Design Centre, Islington, London.

STAMP ACTIVE is a resource programme for organisers of junior clubs with information and updates on the website. More information can also be found on the Club section of this website.

KIDSTAMPS, a free postal club for young collectors between the ages of 5 and 19, providing stamps, activities and much more to make your hobby even more fun!

WORKSHOPS for children interested in developing their competition entries.

COMPETITIONS THE STAMP ACTIVE COMPETITION, sponsored by the GBPS and THE BRITISH YOUTH STAMP CHAMPIONSHIPS, sponsored by Stanley Gibbons, for those interested in displaying their collections.

AWARDS for the young collector of the year and to organisers for outstanding service to youth philately.

STAMPS IN SCHOOLS, please leave a message on the Stamp Active Website contact page <https://www.stampactive.co.uk/contact/>

There's SO MUCH MORE about collecting and the activities of the Stamp Active Network.

Have a look today!

Stamp Active Network is supported by major sponsors including The Philatelic Fund, Stanley Gibbons, The Association of British Philatelic Societies, The National Philatelic Society, The Philatelic Traders' Society, and The Great Britain Philatelic Society as well as many other dealers, individuals and clubs and societies.



CONTACT US!

Send us news from your club or what's going on in your area – we want to hear!

Email: stampactive@btinternet.com

Our website: www.stampactive.co.uk

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Stamp-Active-Network/1467326926871682?ref=hl>

Twitter @stampactive

Stamp Active is the UK's leading voluntary organisation that promotes stamp collecting to young people in the UK. Stamp Active promotes a number of initiatives including the free postal club, KIDSTAMPS, for young collectors and it is a regular feature at STAMPEX with its lively youth area and free children's auction on the Saturday. www.stampactive.co.uk

Donations of stamps, particularly of first day covers and thematic stamps would be welcomed by: Stamp Active Network, Peter Barham, 2E Broomwood Road, Orpington, Kent, BR5 2JH.

The Stamp Active Network News is compiled by Lise Whittle. The Editor is John Davies. The new Publicity Officer is Andrew Page.

We hope you enjoy the Newsletters and find them useful, but if for any reason you no longer wish to receive communications from SAN, please contact Andrew Page, Publicity Officer at andrewpage15@yahoo.co.uk and Peter Barham at stampactive@btinternet.com

