

SMILERS PRODUCTS: UPDATE

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NOT COMPLETED, BUT MAY HAVE SOME USE!

It has been many months since a Smilers[®] product update has appeared and so the various types are listed here as either an amendment to existing listings or as new items.

With three distinct series now being listed within the *Bulletin*, the opportunity has been taken to prefix the catalogue number of each type with a **B** for Business Customised Sheets, **G** for Generic and **P** for Personalisable.

BUSINESS CUSTOMISED SHEETS

This series continues to result in some interesting new artwork designs and stamp combinations, with a mix of water-activated and self-adhesive stamps continuing to be available to producers into 2007.

Mike Czuczman has kindly confirmed that recent PTS Stampex sheet printers and quantity available for purchase (after breakdowns) is as follows: Spring 2003 – De La Rue – 2250; Autumn 2003 – Walsall – 2912; Spring 2004 – Walsall – 2791; Autumn 2004 – Walsall – 1825; Spring 2005 – Cartor – 2250; **B73** Autumn 2005 – Cartor – 2669; **B82** Spring 2006 – Cartor – 2118; **B94** Autumn 2006 – Cartor – 3000 copies printed, available quantity after breaking down some sheets into singles unknown at present.

The Eagle Coaches pair sold for £2140 in an online auction in August 2006.

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Design</u>	<u>FDOA</u>	<u>Stamp</u>	<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Printer</u>	<u>Gum</u>	<u>Supplier</u>
2006								
B80 Royalty	80 th Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II ¹	01 Jan	UF20L	U	£92	Cartor	WA	WE
B83 Royalty	80 th Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II	Early 06	UF10P	1000N	£30	Cartor	WA	BE
B84 Aviation	30 th Ann. of Concorde's first flight	21 Jan	UFS10P	1000N ¹	£30	Cartor	SA	BU
B85 Military	The Victoria Cross - 150 th Anniversary	April	UF10P	500N	£30	Cartor	WA	AB
B86 Aviation	30 th Ann. Concorde FF to Washington ²	24 May	UFS10P	1976N	£30	Cartor	SA	BU
B87 Engineering	Isambard Kingdom Brunel Anniversary	May	UFS10P	500N	£30	Cartor	SA	AB
B88 Football	Bobby Moore fund for Cancer UK	June	WC10P	? U	£15	Cartor	WA	WE
B89 Philatelic	150 th Ann. of dealers Stanley Gibbons	August	UFS10P	1000N	£25	Cartor	SA	SG
B90 Television	Dr Who: 10 th Doctor, David Tennant	August	H10P	1000N	£25	Cartor	WA	SC
B91 Europa	50 th Ann. of Europa stamps	August	UFS10P	1000U	£15	Cartor	SA	RS
B92 Europa	As B91 with Belgica commemoration	August	UFS10P	1000U	£15	Cartor	SA	RS
B93 Scouts	Bristol Nth. West Scout District Demise	August	UFS10P	c1000U	£20	Cartor	SA	BS
B94 Philatelic	Autumn Stampex: Victoria Cross	20 Sept	UF10P	3000U	£12	Cartor	WA	ST
B95 Europa	As B91 with Stampex commemoration	20 Sept	UFS10P	500U	£15	Cartor	SA	RS
B96 Motor Cars	Fiat Grande Punto UK launch	c21 Sept	H20L	6000N	£20	Cartor	WA	FIAT
B97 Railways	80 th Ann. Golden Arrow. Sheet One	30 Sep	UFS10P	1000N	£25	Cartor	SA	BE
B98 Railways	80 th Ann. Golden Arrow. Sheet Two	30 Sep	UFS10P	1000N	£25	Cartor	SA	BE
B99 Charity	Childline's 20 th Ann.: The Snowman	30 Oct	PBS10P	1000N	£20	Cartor	SA	BU
B100 Churchill	Winston Churchill – The Greatest Briton	Month?	UF	? U	?	Cartor	WA	WE
B101 Music	The George Kreisler Music Sheet	Month?	HL10P	100U	£125	Cartor?	WA	Kreisler
2007								
B102 Royalty	60 th Wedding Ann. Elizabeth & Phillip	01 Jan	UF	40k covers ²	£20	Cartor	WA	WE
B103 Royalty	Coronation of KGVI – 70 th Anniversary	Jan	UFS10P	500N	£30	Cartor	SA	AB
B104 Railways	Terence Cuneo centenary year	8 Jan	FWS10P	1000N	£20	Cartor	SA	BU
B105 Military	25 th Ann. of the Falklands War	Feb	WE10P	500N	£20	Cartor	WA	AB
B106 Shipping	Titanic Heritage Trust	Mar	UFS10P	750N	£30	Cartor	SA	AB

Planned for 2007

B	Aviation	Further Concorde sheets expected	2007	£20	BU
B	Aviation	Airbus 380 Singapore Air Maiden Flight ¹	2007	£20	BU

¹ Sheet states 1976 printed, but only 1000 were actually produced.

² Sheet mainly used to service commemorative covers. Westminster state that they do not sell full sheets of their products, only covers. Sheet **B80**: Newly available updates to information are underlined.

GENERIC SMILERS

Last Summer I was given access to a Royal Mail internal listing of generic sheets and there are instances where the dates of issue differ from those generally accepted by collectors. It is dangerous to assume that these dates are accurate, despite them coming from an official source, and so are recorded here for information only.

Nowhere within Royal Mail publications, including the *Bulletin*, has it stated that the first *Smilers* sheet was available the day before The Stamp Show 2000 opened (i.e. 21 May). The 2001 *Cartoons* appeared on 14 December (not 18th), while the 2002 *Father Christmas* and *Dennis The Menace* sheets are stated in the *Bulletins* of September, October and December to be/have been issued on 1 October whereas the internal document states an issue date for both of 16 October.

Gremlins crept into my initial listing as 2004 *Hong Kong Expo* and *RHS* sheets were both printed by Walsall in litho, not as stated. The 2001 *Occasions* date of 1 May is when personalised versions appeared whereas generics came out on 5 June, while 2001 *Smilers* appeared 10 July, not as my philatelic source document had stated and I apologise for perpetuating these errors.

Details awaited for the listing below. Incomplete. Inaccurate. Care.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Issue details</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Printer (Process)</u>	<u>Gum</u>	<u>Price</u>
2006						
G32	4 July	Small-sized Pictorial Smilers Definitives (six designs)	20L	Cartor (L)	SA	TH
G	7 Nov	Christmas (10 1 st class and 10 2 nd class standard stamps)	20L	Cartor? (L)	SA	TH
G		Generic small sized Smilers stamps x 6 designs				
G	7 Nov	Christmas (10 1 st class and 10 2 nd class standard stamps)	20L	Cartor? (L)	SA	TH
G		Generic sheet expected for the LEST WE FORGET issue				

2007

Expect several.

PERSONALISABLE SMILERS

The article that appeared in the September *Bulletin* appears to have been well received, with a couple of reports of further printings and extra information, which I am happy to include here.

CATALOGUE LISTING

<u>Printer /</u> <u>No.</u>	<u>Stamp Issue</u>	<u>Stamp(s)</u>	<u>Format</u>	<u>Issued</u>	<u>W/drawn</u>	<u>Gum</u>	<u>Process</u>
- Extra Information							
P17	Consignia 2002 imprint version still on sale, as at August 2006.						
P31	Sheet withdrawn (sold out?) by 01 July 2006.						
P32	Sheet withdrawn (sold out?) by 01 July 2006.						
P40	Sheet withdrawn early due to technical difficulties with personalising this item.						
- New Items							
2001							
P16a	Occasions	New Baby: RMG plc © 2002 imprint	20L	?	?	WA	W? L
P20b	Occasions	Best Wishes: RMG plc © 2002 imprint	20L	?	?	WA	W? L
(Apparently available <i>after</i> the RMG plc © 2003 imprint)							
2006							
P	Christmas? Details awaited. Perhaps none?						
P	Lest we Forget? Details awaited. Perhaps none?						
P	Small Smilers? Details awaited. Perhaps none, although four are rumoured to be expected of the six in the booklet.						

NOTES

Catalogue Listings: The listings above have not always been produced from official records, as the BCS sponsor details are a matter of commercial confidentiality, so other sheets probably remain unrecorded – especially if they were not produced for, or made available to, the philatelic market. Reports of missing sheets, updates to information for recorded sheets or details of forthcoming issues would be welcomed via our editor, please. The exact order in which sheets were issued within any year is not always feasible, as there is rarely an exact date of issue. Where a First Day of Availability (FDOA) date is known it is shown.

Stamps Key: B = 'Teddy Bear' (1991 Greetings), BS = 'Teddy Bear' (2005 small-sized definitive), FWS = 'Firworks' (2006 small-sized definitives), H = 'Hello' (2002 Occasions), HC = Hallmark Cheers (Hallmark Occasions), HL = Hallmark Love (Hallmark Love), HS = 'Hello' (2005 small-sized definitive), LS = 'With Love' (2005 small-sized definitive), P = Planets' (1991 Greetings), PB = Paddington Bear (A Bear Called Paddington), PBS = 'Post Box' (2005 small-sized definitive), SFS = 'Sunflower' (2005 small-sized definitive), UF = 'Union Flag' (2001 Flags and Ensigns MS), UFS = 'Union Flag' (2005 small-sized definitive), WC = 'World Cup' (2006 'England Winners'), WE = 'White Ensign' (2001 Flags and Ensigns MS).

The number after the letter(s) records how many stamps are in the sheet; while P = Portrait and L = Landscape sheet format.
Qty.: The number of sheets produced. A letter 'N' following the quantity indicates that each sheet bears a unique serial number and a print run figure. A 'U' indicates an unnumbered sheet.

Price: This is the approximate price for the sheet, based on recent dealer listings and online auction realisations. Many lower (and higher) prices are charged. Prices quoted are for unsigned versions and where signed are available, add £5-£25 depending on signatory.

Printer Key: A question mark (?) after printer name indicates uncertainty.

Gum: WA=Water Activated, SA=Self-Adhesive.

Enquiries: For current prices, postage and availability of these sheets contact the main suppliers, as marked in end column.

AB sheets - Adrian Bradbury, 3 Link Road, Stoneycote, Leicester LE2 3RA, or visit www.bfdc.co.uk

BE sheets - Benham, Freepost, RLXU-CXUT-HZJH, The Benham Group, Kelvedon Park, London Road, Rivenhall, Witham, CM8 3HB (UK readers only) or Benham, Unit K, Concept Court, Shearway Business Park, Folkestone CT19 4RG. (overseas readers), call 08708 500 654, email benham@benham.co.uk or visit www.benham.co.uk

BS sheets – Bristol North West Scouts Group. Not available to collectors.

BU sheets - Buckingham Covers, 135 Sandgate Road, Folkestone CT20 2BY, call 01303 850688, email sales@buckinghamcovers.com or visit www.buckinghamcovers.com

RS sheets - Rushstamps (Retail) Ltd, PO Box 1, Lyndhurst SO43 7PP, email enquiries@rushstamps.co.uk or visit www.rushstamps.co.uk

SC sheets - The Stamp Centre, 79 Strand, London WC2R 0DE, telephone 0207 240 3778 or visit www.scificollector.co.uk

SG sheets - Stanley Gibbons Limited, 399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX, telephone 020 7836 8444 or visit www.stanleygibbons.com

ST sheets - Stampex sheets are only available at the shows, or later from stamp dealers.

WE sheets - The Westminster Collection Ltd., telephone 08708 500 505 or visit www.westminstercollection.com

Many of the above listed and earlier sheets are also available from The Benham Group and Rushstamps (Retail) Ltd (see above for details of both companies) and from The Stamp Bureau (email thestampbureau@gmail.com or visit www.thestampbureau.com)

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.ends (1542 words)

The text below will **not** form part of the article, but is left here in case you want to read it. I started logging these sheets, then realised the folly (or rather impossibility) of such a task.

PERSONALISED PHILATELIC SMILERS

There is a relatively new collecting trend whereby stamp dealers and philatelic societies are using the self-adhesive personalised Smilers service to create commemorative sheets for sale to collectors in limited unnumbered editions. These are generally not generally as eye-catching as the full-blown BCS sheets, but have attracted a strong following these past few months and appear to be prevailing over BCS sheets in some instances.

Royal Mail has also used this production process for what I term 'Special Event Instant Smilers' (SEIS sheets) created for events such as the *Boat Show 2006*, so they can be added to the list of producers of such sheets.

This listing only includes sheets created since the introduction of self-adhesive Smilers stamps and only those from stamp dealers and philatelic societies. Prior to the introduction of self-adhesive Smilers, a couple of sheets were produced using the water-activated stamps such as the one produced for the 70th anniversary of the Basingstoke Philatelic Society in 2005 and by Royal Mail at Stampex 2005.

Be aware that none of the items listed below have ever been made available from Tallents House on their stock lists for individual collectors or dealers to order.

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Design</u>	<u>FDOA</u>	<u>Stamp</u>	<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Printer</u>	<u>Gum</u>	<u>Supplier</u>
2006								
1 Boats	The Boat Show. Sheet 1	6-15Jan	UFS20L	few U1	£	Cartor+RM	SA	RM SEIS
2 Boats	The Boat Show. Sheet 2	6-15Jan	HS20L	few U1	£	Cartor+RM	SA	RM SEIS
3 Philatelic	Spring Philatex. Sheet1. Dates error	Feb	PBS20L	200U	£50	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
4 Philatelic	Spring Philatex. Sheet 1. Dates correct	Feb	PBS20L	200U	£30	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
5 Philatelic	Spring Philatex. Sheet 2. Dates error	Feb	SFS20L	200U	£50	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
6 Philatelic	Spring Philatex. Sheet 2. Dates correct	Feb	SFS20L	200U	£30	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
7 Philatelic	Spring Philatex. Sheet 2. Wrong label2	Feb	SFS20L	c40U	£80	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
8 Philatelic	Washington 2006. Sheet 1	Feb	BS20L	U	£20	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
9 Philatelic	Washington 2006. Sheet 2	Feb	LS20L	U	£20	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
10 Philatelic	Derby Philatelic Society	?	20L	U	£00	Cartor+RM	SA	Derby PS
11 Philatelic	Torquay 2006	May	UFS20L	U	£20	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
12 Philatelic	Belgica 2006	May	SFS20L	U	£20	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
13 Flags	400th Anniversary of Union Flag	May	UFS20L	U	£30	Cartor+RM	SA	PC?
14 Philatelic	5th anniversary of Smilers stamps	May	PB20L	25N	£40	Cartor+RM	SA	PC?
Planned								
Philatelic	Thematica	June	20L	U	£20	Cartor+RM	SA	RS
Philatelic	Autumn Philatex	06	20L	U	£20	Cartor+RM	SA	RS

1 An internet auction lot description claimed that as little as 40 sheets of each might have been produced on-site, but this is not verifiable against official records, so should not be taken as fact. The same lot description claims that the Hello version was less popular than the Union Flag design and so exists in lesser quantities. Labels exist either with personal photographs taken on-site or with the Boat Show logo design.

2 Apparently about 40 of the original sheets were damaged in transit (bent corners) and were returned to Tallents House for reprinting. They came back with the wrong label design, i.e. the one intended for the Post Box stamp sheet, but this was not noticed at the time and they were simply added to stock without being checked by Rushstamps. Most were sent out to other dealers and it was they, apparently, who discovered the error.