

Results of 2006 *Bulletin* Readers Poll

by Glenn H Morgan FRPSL

Last December you were invited to vote for your favourite 2006 set of special stamps and MS, favourite individual stamp, FDC design and presentation pack, plus your preferred *Bulletin* contributor. This was the 21st annual stamp poll and a good response was received from 1,237 readers residing in many parts of the world, with voting higher than last year.

Keying the entries into my laptop soon showed a pattern of popularity with the favourite individual stamp being way ahead of rivals and, as the results below will reveal, I had to type-in the number 77 rather a lot!

Thanks to everyone who went to the trouble of voting this year and for all of your comments on the stamps. These have been collated and submitted to the appropriate Royal Mail product managers for their consideration when producing future issues.

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Favourite set As always, points were allocated for each vote for the set; three points for first choice, two points for second and one point for third. This enabled me to get a clear picture of the relative popularity of each issue. The voting was as shown opposite.

The *Brunel* issue was the outright winner (with 1833 points and 25.5% of total vote), *British Journey: England* came second (1090 points, 15.2%) and in third place was *The Queen's 80th Birthday* issue (798 points, 11.1%). Over 51% of the total vote therefore went to just three sets.

For interest, past winners were: 1987 Flowers; 1988 Linnean Society, 1989 Birds; 1990 Queen Mother; 1991 Maps; 1992 Wintertime; 1993 Autumn; 1994 Age of Steam; 1995 Christmas; 1996 Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust; 1997 The Great Tudor (Henry VIII); 1998 Lighthouses; 1999 Scientists' Tale; 2000 Tree and Leaf; 2001 Weather; 2002 London Bridges; 2003 Extreme Endeavours, 2004 Woodlands Animals; and 2005 Trafalgar.

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Favourite stamps The *Lest we Forget* stamp from the Miniature Sheet showing the emotive barbed wire and poppy design was decisively your favourite individual stamp (358 votes, 34.1% of total vote) and would have scored even higher had it been available in counter sheets, as some voters felt that as it was in a MS it should not count. The *Brunel* design depicting the Clifton Suspension Bridge was in second place (78 votes, 7.4%); while the *Brunel* design showing the Royal Albert Bridge was in third place (54 votes, 5.1%).

58 of the 79 individual stamp designs attracted 10 or fewer votes each (including 11 stamps with zero points) and 69 out of the 79 designs received 20 or fewer votes each.

For the record, the previous favourite individual stamps were: 1996 Wildfowl and Wetlands 19p; 1997 The Great Tudor (Henry VIII) 26p; 1998 Endangered Species 20p; 1999 Scientists' Tale 64p; 2000 Above and Beyond 19p; 2001 Flags – Union Jack; 2002 London Bridges 1st Class; 2003 Coronation 1st (Cecil Beaton's Coronation portrait of the Queen), 2004 Woodland Animals 1st class Red squirrel; and 2005 Trooping the Colour 1st class.

When the single stamps are put back into their sets and votes re-counted, four of the 13 stamp issues attracted 20 or fewer votes for the entire set. These were *Victoria Cross* (16 votes), *Christmas* (12), *Sounds of Britain* (11), and *World Cup Winners* (just 3). The top four issues were *Lest We Forget MS* (358 votes), *Brunel* (201), *The Queen's 80th Birthday* (140) and *British Journey: England* (125).

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Favourite FDC envelope and Presentation Pack This was the 1st year that a poll was held to find your favourite Royal Mail FDC envelope design and Presentation Pack design. The four favourites for each were:

FDC – *Brunel* (winner), *Animal Tales* (2nd), *Lest We Forget MS* (3rd) and *Victoria Cross* (4th)

Presentation Pack – *Brunel* (winner), *Victoria Cross* (2nd), *Lest We Forget MS* (3rd) and *The Queen's 80th Birthday* (4th)

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Favourite *Bulletin* authors This was the 11th year that a poll has been conducted. Douglas Myall (*Mainly Machins* articles) was once again your favourite author – he appears to be able to do no wrong in your eyes, having a very strong and loyal following. Ron Negus, Dorothy Martin and Richard West came second, third and fourth respectively.

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Draw winners The voting forms went into two draws.

The four winners of £50 each in the FAVOURITE STAMPS draw were Dr C Jansen (Germany), Mrs M A B Kent (Padstow), Mr D Burnham (Cowbridge) and Mr A Groat (Edinburgh).

The winners of £50 each in the FAVOURITE *BULLETIN* AUTHOR draw were Mr R Plummer (Poole) and Mr A Hill (Edgware).

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Favourite stamps and sets.

FAVOURITE INDIVIDUAL STAMPS The number preceding each stamp description and face value is as shown in December's *Bulletin*.

STAMP No.	SET NAME	VALUE	VOTES
77	Lest We Forget on MS	1st	358
23	Brunel	60p	78
19	Brunel	1st	54
30	Queen's 80th Birthday	2nd	47
32	Queen's 80th Birthday	1st	36
4	Animal Tales	1st	30
10	British Journey: England	1st	28
24	Brunel	68p	24
34	Queen's 80th Birthday	44p	22
79	Celebrating Scotland on MS	72p	21
22	Brunel	47p	20
11	British Journey: England	1st	18
16	British Journey: England	1st	17
20	Brunel	40p	17
14	British Journey: England	1st	16
12	British Journey: England	1st	13
25	Ice Age Animals	1st	13
33	Queen's 80th Birthday	1st	13
9	British Journey: England	1st	11
18	British Journey: England	1st	11
61	Victoria Cross	1st	11
7	Animal Tales	68p	10
49	Modern Architecture	72p	10
57	National Portrait Gallery	1st	9
21	Brunel	42p	8
37	Queen's 80th Birthday	72p	8
45	Modern Architecture	42p	8
8	Animal Tales	68p	7
31	Queen's 80th Birthday	2nd	7
44	Modern Architecture	1st	7
46	Modern Architecture	44p	7
71	Christmas	2nd	7
2	Animal Tales	2nd	6
35	Queen's 80th Birthday	44p	6
78	Celebrating Scotland on MS	72p	6
13	British Journey: England	1st	5
51	National Portrait Gallery	1st	5
54	National Portrait Gallery	1st	5
59	National Portrait Gallery	1st	5
5	Animal Tales	42p	4
28	Ice Age Animals	68p	4
55	National Portrait Gallery	1st	4
56	National Portrait Gallery	1st	4
1	Animal Tales	2nd	3
15	British Journey: England	1st	3
17	British Journey: England	1st	3
26	Ice Age Animals	42p	3

27	Ice Age Animals	47p	3
50	National Portrait Gallery	1st	3
67	Sounds of Britain	42p	3
68	Sounds of Britain	50p	3
69	Sounds of Britain	72p	3
73	Christmas	1st	3
3	Animal Tales	1st	2
47	Modern Architecture	50p	2
60	Victoria Cross	1st	2
70	Sounds of Britain	£1.19	2
76	Christmas	£1	2
29	Ice Age Animals	£1.12	1
36	Queen's 80th Birthday	72p	1
38	World Cup Winners	1st	1
39	World Cup Winners	42p	1
40	World Cup Winners	44p	1
52	National Portrait Gallery	1st	1
53	National Portrait Gallery	1st	1
62	Victoria Cross	64p	1
63	Victoria Cross	64p	1
65	Victoria Cross	72p	1
6	Animal Tales	42p	0
41	World Cup Winners	50p	0
42	World Cup Winners	64p	0
43	World Cup Winners	72p	0
48	Modern Architecture	64p	0
58	National Portrait Gallery	1st	0
64	Victoria Cross	72p	0
66	Sounds of Britain	1st	0
72	Christmas	2nd Large	0
74	Christmas	1st Large	0
75	Christmas	72p	0



FAVOURITE SETS

SPECIAL STAMPS SET	POINTS
Brunel	1833
British Journey: England	1090
The Queen's 80th Birthday	798
Victoria Cross	707
Lest We Forget (MS)	594
National Portrait Gallery	589
Animal Tales	463
Modern Architecture	309
Ice Age Animals	225
Christmas	201
Sounds of Britain	131
World Cup Winners	122
Celebrating Scotland (MS)	120

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