

Press Release

Date: Friday 9th July 2021

Isle of Man Post Office celebrates 125th Anniversary of the Summer Olympic Games with “Great British Olympians“



Isle of Man Post Office (IOMPO) is celebrating the 125th anniversary of the Summer Olympic Games with a set of 12 stamps commemorating the great achievements of six Island trained Manx Men and Women as well as six non-Manx competitors to represent the outstanding achievements of Team GB.

The artwork for all 12 stamps was commissioned by Team GB and have been designed into stamps by local designer Emma Cooke of EJC Design. Featured are Manx Athletes Mark Cavendish MBE, Tim Kneale, Marie Morgan (previously Purvis), Maurice Herriott, Peter Kennaugh MBE and Sidney Swann. In choosing the six additional Olympians to sit alongside the Isle of Man based athletes, inspiration was taken from the British Olympic Association's Greatest British Olympians

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of all time. Adam Peaty MBE, Sir Andy Murray MBE, Dame Kelly Holmes DBE, Sir Mo Farah CBE, Sir Steve Redgrave CBE DL and Rebecca Adlington OBE made our final list.

The 2020 Summer Olympics opening ceremony is scheduled to take place on 23 July 2021 at Olympic Stadium, Tokyo, by the time of the closing ceremony on the 8th August we feel sure many more Team GB athletes will become Great British Olympians

Paul Ellis, Head of Retail and Licensing Team GB said: *“It is a great privilege to work with the Isle of Man Post Office to celebrate 125 years of British Olympians going to the Games. As more athletes join this unique set of individuals ahead of Tokyo 2020, we are delighted to showcase this illustrated collection and re-tell some of the classic stories from our history.”*

Maxine Cannon, General Manager Isle of Man Stamps & Coins, said: *“We are very proud of all Team GB athletes and especially those from our Island in such a prestigious event as the Olympics. We hope that by commemorating all of their amazing achievements, we can help inspire the next generation of athletes to represent our Island through Team GB. It is an honour to continue our longstanding association with the British Olympic Association. Our special thanks go out to Team GB, who have not only provided us with the imagery for this fantastic stamp issue, but also the excitement and memories.”*

All 12 stamps will be available as Set, Sheet Set, Presentation Pack (limited to 3000), First Day Cover (limited to 5000), Booklet Pane and a special 28 page Prestige Booklet featuring an additional 24 labels of iconic Olympians: Philip Bowden-Smith, Queenie Newall, Lord Sebastian Coe, Daley Thompson, Dame Jessica Ennis-Hill, Amir Khan, Nick Skelton, Eric Lidell, Nicola Adams, Malcolm Cooper, Sir Ben Ainslie, Jade Jones, Alison Williamson, Sir Chris Hoy, Mary Peters, Steven Paul, Charlotte Dujardin, Alistair Brownlee, Tom Daley, Noel Chavasse, Tessa Sanderson, Chris Boardman, Kulbir Bhaura and Kate Howey. For more information on all products visit www.iompost.com/olympics125.

-ENDS-

Technical Details

Text: Isle of Man Stamps & Coins

Design: EJC Design

Printer: bpost

Process: Offset Lithography

Colours: 4

Paper: 110gms PVA gummed

Perforations: 11.5 per 2cm

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Stamp Size: 32 x 32 mm

Format: Sheets of 48

Date of Issue: 15th July 2021

NOTES TO EDITOR

- For images of the stamps, please visit [here](#).
- Attachment 1: Set
- Attachment 2: Prestige Booklet
- Attachment 3: Press Release Word Document
- **About the British Olympic Association (BOA):** The BOA selects 'Team GB' from the best athletes who will go on to compete in the 33 summer and seven winter Olympic sports at the greatest sporting competition in the world. The BOA was formed in 1905 in the House of Commons and at that time consisted of seven National Governing Body (NGB) members from the following sports: fencing, life-saving, cycling, skating, rowing, athletics, rugby, football and archery. The BOA now includes as its members the 42 NGBs of each Olympic sport, both summer and winter. During 2021, the BOA will be honouring its athletes from the inaugural Modern Olympic Games which took place in Athens in 1896 and re-telling the stories of some of the country's finest athletes and sporting moments of the last 125 years.
- **Mark Cavendish MBE** - Manxman Mark Cavendish MBE, is featured on the stamp. Cavendish won silver at the men's cycling omnium at Rio 2016 and has enjoyed a long and successful cycling career at the highest level.
- **Tim Kneale** - Current world record holder and Manx double trap competitor Tim Kneale featured for Team GB at Rio 2016 flying the flag for the Isle of Man in the process.
- **Marie Morgan (previously Purvis)** - Manx cyclist Marie Morgan competed at the 1992 and 1996 Games, finishing a respectable 11th place at the 1996 road race event.
- **Maurice Herriott** - The Manxman competed at the last Tokyo Games held in 1964, winning silver in the 3,000 metre steeple chase. Herriott also competed at the 1968 Mexico Olympics.
- **Peter Kennaugh MBE** - Another star of Manx cycling, Peter Kennaugh MBE won gold as part of the Great Britain Team Pursuit team at London 2012. Through doing so he became the first Manxman in 100 years to win gold, setting a world record time in the process.
- **Sidney Swann** - Making Manx sporting history, Swann became the first Manxman to win gold in Stockholm 1912. Swann also won silver at the 1920 Antwerp Games.
- **Adam Peaty MBE** - Peaty broke his own world record in the 100m breaststroke final to win Britain's first gold medal at the Rio 2016 Games, adding silver to his haul shortly after.
- **Sir Andy Murray MBE** - The first player to win back-to-back Olympic men's singles titles in tennis, Sir Andy Murray has two gold and one silver medal(s) to his name. His victory over Roger Federer at London 2012 proved to be a watershed moment for the Scotsman.

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- **Dame Kelly Holmes DBE** - Two time gold medal winner in Athens 2004, Dame Kelly Holmes cemented herself as a star Team GB athlete. She was given the honour of carrying the British flag at the closing ceremony of the Games the day after her gold medal victory.
- **Sir Mo Farah CBE** - An icon of British athletics and Olympic success, Sir Mo Farah has four gold medals to his name including his two memorable wins at the incredible 2012 London games.
- **Sir Steve Redgrave CBE DL** - One of Team GB's finest ever athletes, Redgrave won gold medals at five consecutive Olympic Games from 1984 to 2000.
- **Rebecca Adlington OBE** - The British swimmer earned two gold medals at Beijing 2008 in the 400m and 800m freestyle events. She added to her medal haul by winning bronze twice at London 2012.
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