Pitcairn Islands

1990 200th Anniversary of the Pitcairn Island Settlement

Designer: Clive Abbott Issued 15 January 1990

Commemorating the arrival of nine Bounty mutineers with six Tahitian men, twelve Tahitian women and a ten month old infant at Pitcairn on 15 January 1790. There are many accounts of the movements of the Bounty as those aboard sought refuge from the consequences of mutiny; those of you who are students of Pitcairn's history will be familiar with them.



$2.40 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
The Mutineers Reach Pitcairn Islands

1990 90th Birth Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 4 August 1990

Pitcairn Islands postal administration participated in this omnibus issue to mark the 90th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. The Crown Agents Stamp Bureau co-ordinated the issues which involved nineteen postal administrations. The promotion is entitled '90 Glorious Years' and Pitcairn was proud to join this salute to our much loved Queen Mother.



40c Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth, 1937



$3 Multicolor
King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, 1948

Pitcairn Islands

1990 International Stamp Exhibition - London, England

Designer: David Ashby Issued 3 May 1990

It is rare for the Pitcairn Islands Post Office to issue stamps to mark a philatelic exhibition. London 1980 springs to mind as the first such event until now to have been so commemorated. It is appropriate, therefore, that another exhibition in the United Kingdom, ten years on, gives cause for this issue; STAMP WORLD LONDON 1990.



80c Multicolor
Peter Heywood and Ennerdale



90c Multicolor
John Adams and St. Augustine's Tower



$1.05 Multicolor
William Bligh and the Citadel Gateway



$1.30 Multicolor
Fletcher Christian and Moorland Close

1990 International Stamp Exhibition 'Birdpex' - Christchurch, New Zealand

Designer: Adapted by Norman Harvey from paintings by R A C Byatt Issued 5 December 1990

Henderson, roughly rectangular in shape, 7.3 km long and 4.8 km wide, is the largest of the four islands in the Pitcairn Group. A raised atoll, Henderson consists of a plateau of coral limestone some 15 to 20 metres high covered with dense bush and rough coral outcrops. Like Ducie and Oeno it is uninhabited. First discovered in 1606 by Pedro Fernandez de Quiros, the next report we have of a visit to Henderson Island was that made in 1819 by Captain Henderson of the Hercules. About once a year the Pitcairners visit Henderson Island to cut miro (probably Thespesia populnea) frrom which they carve the wooden artifacts - fish, birds, wheelbarrows, Bounty models, etc - for which they are so well known.



20c Multicolor
Henderson Lorikeet



90c Multicolor
Henderson Island Fruit Dove



$1.30 Multicolor
Pitcairn Reed Warbler



$1.80 Multicolor
Henderson Island Crake

Pitcairn Islands

1990 50th Anniversary of Pitcairn Islands Stamps

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 15 October 1990

Without long explanations all that can be said of Pitcairn's postal service during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is that it was irregular and unorganised. There being no postage stamps, mail from Pitcairn was often handed to the captains of passing ships who paid for the onward postage upon reaching their first port of call. Frequently such letters carried a hand-stamped cachet 'Posted in [or at] Pitcairn Island / No Stamps Available'



20c Multicolor
Bounty Chronometer



80c Multicolor
Bounty Bible



90c Multicolor
Bounty Bell



$1.05 Multicolor
Mutiny on the Bounty



$1.30 Multicolor
Penny Black

1991 Commemorating the Birthdays of HM Queen Elizabeth II & HRH The Prince Philip

Designer: Jennifer Toombs Issued 18 November 1991



20c & $1.30 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip

Pitcairn Islands

1991 200th Anniversary of the Pitcairn Island Settlement

Designer: Nick Shewring Issued 24 March 1991

Many of Pitcairn's bicentennial celebrations took place early in 1990, and most were concentrated between 15 January, the day of the Bounty's arrival, and 23 January when the vessel was burned. Joining in those January celebrations with the Pitcairn community were a number of visitors. At times the island's population more than doubled as vessels came and went. Over a two week period calls were made by two yachts, a French naval tanker, two cargo vessels, two square riggers and an 82 year old converted Danish lighthouse - the latter carrying 30 visitors including a party of ex-patriate Pitcairners from the USA and New Zealand together with a dedicated group from Norfolk Island.



$4.80 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Bicentenary Celebrations

1991 Island Transport

Designer: Owain Bell Issued 25 September 1991

For any who have tramped Pitcairn's steep earth roads the need for some means of transport is self-evident. Only round the Radio Station at Taro Ground do the roads run level ... and then only for one hundred metres; the remainder are up and down, mostly with steep inclines. Usually hard packed or covered in fine dust in dry conditions, the roads turn to mud when the rains fall. Mud that accumulates between the toes if walking barefoot until they spread to the point where pain forces you to stop and clear them. Mud that builds up on the soles of your footwear until you are lifting an extra kilogram or so on each foot. And for 174 years from 1790, the people of Pitcairn Island relied on foot transport - aided by their unique wheelbarrows when heavy loads had to be carried: Pitcairn wheelbarrows were big - some with an overall length of six feet - and very large loads they could carry, too.



20c Multicolor
Bulldozer



80c Multicolor
Motorcyle



$1.30 Multicolor
Tractor



$1.80 Multicolor
All Terrain Vehicle

Pitcairn Islands

1991 Cruise Liners

Designer: Ernest Nisbet Issued 17 June 1991

Everyone knows the important part shipping plays in the life of Pitcairn. Supply ships are the island's lifeline; other cargo vessels including tankers and bulk carriers provide an opportunity to trade or despatch mail; naval vessels sometimes provide medical assistance or supply fuel; fishing boats cause brief distraction; yachts, sometimes more of a nuisance than anything else, occasionally provide extra hands to move cargo on supply ship day.



15c Multicolor
Europa



80c Multicolor
Royal Viking Star



$1.30 Multicolor
World Discoverer



$1.80 Multicolor
Sagafjord

1991 Christmas

Designer: Jennifer Toombs Issued 18 November 1991

Since 1979 we have released a set of Christmas stamps every third year. For the 1991 issue we were extremely fortunate that the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau commissioned Jennifer Toombs to prepare designs of the Traditional Nativity for she decided to provide 'an unusual slant on the Christmas theme' as she said in the notes covering her original 'thumbnail' sketches.
As you know, the people of Pitcairn derive much of their private income from the sale of hand-made artifacts. While the men work mostly in wood and produce a range of fine carvings, the women weave baskets, fans and hats from pandanus thatch. Additionally, the women produce arguably one of the most beautiful curios available on Pitcairn - painted leaves.



20c Multicolor
Annunciation



80c Multicolor
Shepherds



$1.30 Multicolor
Holy Family



$1.80 Multicolor
Three Wise Men

Pitcairn Islands

1992 40th Anniversary of Accession of Queen Elizabeth II

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 6 February 1992

As citizens of a British Dependent Territory, the people of the Pitcairn Islands acknowledge the British Sovereign as their own. Apart from Christmas Day and Bounty Day, the only other public holiday is the Queen's Birthday. It is proper, therefore, that special Royal events should be commemorated on Pitcairn.



20c Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II & Bounty Bay



60c Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II & Sunset over Pitcairn



90c Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II & Pitcairn Coastline



$1 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II



$1.80 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II

1992 Sharks

Designer: Jane Thatcher Issued 30 June 1992

Pitcairn and its way of life are inextricably bound up with the sea and its moods, with what travels across its surface and what lives in it. One ocean inhabitant frequently seen in the waters usrrounding the islands fin the Pitcairn group is the shark. Although respectful of the danger some species can present, the Pitcairners do not fear the shark. Those who confront them most often, the scuba divers and spear fishermen, are well versed in the ways of shark behaviour and act appropriately in their presence.



20c Multicolor
Galapagos Shark



$1 Multicolor
Sand Tiger Shark



$1.50 Multicolor
Blacktip Reef Shark



$1.80 Multicolor
Grey Reef Shark

Pitcairn Islands

1992 Sir Peter Scott Memorial Expedition to Henderson Island

Designer: Ian Loe Issued 11 September 1992

In March 1989, the Governor of Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands received from the Zoology Department of Cambridge University the first firm proposals for the 'Henderson Island Scientific Expedition'. Sir Peter Scott, eminent artist, naturalist and conservationist - who visited Pitcairn in 1973 - kindly agreed in July 1989 to act as patron to the expedition. Following his untimely death later that year, the expedition organisers adopted the nomenclature 'Sir Peter Scott Commemorative Expedition to the Pitcairn Islands'.



20c Multicolor
Montastrea & Acropora



$1 Multicolor
Henderson Sandalwood



$1.50 Multicolor
Murphy's Petrel



$1.80 Multicolor
Henderson Hawkmoth

1992 175th Death Anniversary of William Bligh, 1754-1817

Designer: Jennifer Toombs Issued 7 December 1992

Born in Cornwall, England, 9 September, 1754, an only child, his father held a senior post in HM Customs office at Plymouth. At 15 he joined HMS Hunter and fourteen months later (5 February 1771) was rated midshipman. After serving on a number of vessels he passed his master's certificate and in 1776 joined Captain James Cook who was making his third voyage to the Pacific. He acted as navigator for the expedition until Cook was killed in Hawaii on 14 February 1779. Due to the ill health of two senior officers Bligh was forced to assume responsibility for HM ships Resolution and Discovery.



20c Multicolor
Bligh's Birthplace at St. Tudy



$1 Multicolor
On deck of Bounty



$1.50 Multicolor
Voyage in Bounty's Launch



$1.80 Multicolor
Portrait by Rachel H. Combe

Pitcairn Islands

1993 Modern Royal Navy Vessels

Designer: Clive Abbott Issued 10 March 1993

HMS Chichester was a Salisbury-class or Type 61 aircraft direction Frigate, HMS JAGUAR a J-class Destroyer, HMS Andrew was an Amphion-class Submarine, and HMS Warrior was a Warrior-class armoured Cruiser.



15c Multicolor
H.M.S. Chichester



20c Multicolor
H.M.S. Jaguar



$1.80 Multicolor
H.M.S. Andrew



$3 Multicolor
H.M.S. Warrior

1993 40th Anniversary of Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 2 June 1993

The Archbishop held it uplifted, then gently placed it on the Queen's head. 'At the sight thereof', the form and order of the coronation laid down, 'the people with loud and repeated shouts shall cry: God save the Queen.' As the peers and peeresses put on their coronets, and the Kings of Arms put on their heraldic crowns, the acclamation rang out through the Abbey against a fanfare of trumpets. The bells began to ring. Distantly the guns being fired in salute at the Tower of London could be heard. Queen Elizabeth II had been crowned, seated on King Edward's Chair."



$5 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II

Pitcairn Islands

1993 Island Views

Designer: Ernest Nisbet Issued 8 September 1993

Pawala Valley Ridge: From 1967 to 1969 the site of a US satellite station, the mid-point on the distant ridge is, at 337.7 m (1108 ft), the highest point on the island. It is a popular lookout for visitors and those prepared to make the effort are rewarded with 360º views.
St Pauls: Between the massive rocks at St Pauls Point on the left and the headland on the right lies Big Pool, a popular swimming and fishing place.
Matts Rocks form Water Valley: To some, Young's Rocks (after mutineer Edward Young), but more frequently known in latter years as Matts Rocks (after mutineer Matthew Quintal).
Ridge Rope to St Pauls: So precipitous the coastline at the point from which this view can be seen a visitor with no head for heights had to crawl forward on hands and knees to glimpse the surging sea 207 metres blow.
Ship Landing Point: (or Ship Landing), 209 metres, looks almost vertically down on Bounty Bay. The buildings which house the aluminium launches and the privately owned canoes can be seen at the water's edge towards the right.



10c Multicolor
Pawala Valley Ridge



90c Multicolor
St. Pauls



$1.20 Multicolor
Matt's Rocks from Water Valley



$1.50 Multicolor
Ridge Rope to St. Paul's Pool



$1.80 Multicolor
Ship Landing Point

1993 Lizards

Designer: Gordon Drummond Issued 14 December 1993

Lizards have colonised the islands of the South Pacific from west to east, either naturally by being carried on floating debris from island to island, or artificially through man's activities. The latter include the voyages of Polynesian seafarers during the past few thousand years, who may have spread lizards accident or deliberately. Being so far to the east, the Pitcairn group has very few lizards - only six species. All are widely distributed in the Pacific.



20c Multicolor
Indo-Pacific Tree Gecko



2 x 45c Multicolor
Geckos



$1 Multicolor
Moth Skink



2 x $1.50 Multicolor
Lizards

Pitcairn Islands

1994 International Stamp Exhibition - Hong Kong '94, China

Designer: Gordon Drummond Issued 18 February 1994

The Lizards se-tenant pairs of 45c and $1.50 were reprinted with each design showing in black the Hong Kong '94 exhibition logo.



2 x 45c Multicolor
Overprinted HONG KONG '94 & Emblem



2 x $1.50 Multicolor
Overprinted HONG KONG '94 & Emblem

1994 Early Pitcairners

Designer: Jennifer Toombs Issued 07 March 1994

Friday October Christian - Originally named Thursday October, he was the eldest child of Fletcher and Maimiti, born October 29, 1790, the first baby born after the settlement of Pitcairn Island.
Moses Young - Born Sept. 30, 1829, to Polly, daughter of Friday October and Edward, son of Edward Young of the Bounty, Moses was a young man of 27 when in 1856 the Pitcairners, now numbering 194, were again removed from their home, this time to Norfolk Island.
James Russell McCoy - Born Sept. 4, 1845, son of Matthew and Margaret McCoy, and great-grandson of both Fletcher Christian and William McCoy.
Rosalind Amelia Young - Described in the 'Graphic' article as 'Miss Young, organist of the Island,' Rosalind was a gentle, talented person.



5c Multicolor
Friday October Christian



20c Multicolor
Moses Young



$1.80 Multicolor
James Russell McCoy



$3 Multicolor
Rosalind Amelia Young

Pitcairn Islands

1994 Shipwrecks

Designer: Clive Abbott Issued 22 June 1994

Since that memorable occasion in 1790 when the 'Bounty' was beached in Bounty Bay, Pitcairn Island has been a haven to many shipwrecked sailors. The first locally recorded shipwreck was that of the Wildwave when she was outward bound from San Francisco and struck the reef of Oeno Island in March 1858. Leaving thirty men on Oeno the captain and six others sailed one of the ship's boats to Pitcairn which they found to be uninhabited, the population having been removed to Norfolk Island two years earlier. With their small boat destroyed by surf shortly after landing they built a cutter under very difficult conditions using timber and nails from the vacant houses. The captain and four men then sailed to Nukuhiva in the Marquesas where they met the American sloop 'Vandalia' which took them to Tahiti. The 'Vandalia' immediately went to the rescue of the thirty men marooned on Oeno and those left on Pitcairn. We are told that in San Francisco Maritime Museum there is a display featuring a picture of the 30' cutter built on Pitcairn, the Captain's pistol and the flag sewn on Pitcairn (the trappings of the old pulpit in the church supplied the red and a bit of blue calico taken from an old bedstead served for the background on which were arranged the white stars of the American flag).



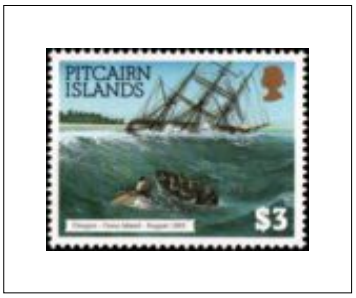
20c Multicolor
Wildwave, Oeno Island



90c Multicolor
Cornwallis, Pitcairn Island



$1.80 Multicolor
Acadia, Ducie Island.



$3 Multicolor
Oregon, Oeno Island

1994 Corals

Designer: Gordon Drummond Issued 15 September 1994

Robert Irving, a member of the Sir Peter Scott Commemorative Expedition to the Pitcairn Islands (1991-1992), supplied the photographic material for this issue. The Expedition was led by Dr Michael Brooke of Cambridge University.
Previously thought of as plants, it was not until 1726 that the French naturalist Peyssonnel showed that corals were, in fact, an animal form. Their growth depends on warm water having a minimum temperature of 50°F and it must be clear and free of sediment, sand, slime and mud. Corals exist ony in relatively shallow water, less than 40 metres (135 feet) beyond which there is unsufficient light for the algae on which they are dependent to achieve photsynthesis.



20c Multicolor
Fire Coral



90c Multicolor
Caulflower Coral



$1 Multicolor
Lobe Coral

Pitcairn Islands

1994 Corals



$3 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Corals

1994 Christmas - Flowers

Designer: Jennifer Toombs Issued 24 November 1994

Morning glory prefers calcareous and quartz sand. It also grows on gravel beaches and cliffs. It is tolerant of high temperatures, strong winds and salt sprays.
The dense tangles of Hibiscus that develop in these valley bases once they are abandoned were observed especially in the Water Valley area.
The frangipani is an iconic tropical tree bearing clusters of colourful and scented flowers during the warmer months of November through to April.
Western medicine has taken on numerous studies of the active ingredients and effects of this old medicinal plant, and so Ginsey is today one of the most researched medicinal plants.



20c Multicolor
Angel and Morning Glory



$1 Multicolor
Star and Frangipani



90c Multicolor
Shepherds and Hibiscus



$3 Multicolor
Holy Family and Ginsey

Pitcairn Islands

1995 Birds

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 8 March 1995

'Fairy Tern on Eggs:' These dainty white birds are common throughout the Pitcairn Group, breeding on all four islands. Their graceful antics in the leafy valleys of Pitcairn are a delight to watch, but most amazing is the way their eggs seem to balance precariously on the bare branches of accommodating trees. 'Red Tailed Tropic Chick:' These spectacular birds are found nesting under bushes on Oeno Island, the adult birds easily recognisable by the two red elongated tail streamers, much prized as ornaments by the Polynesians. 'Pair of Henderson Rails with Chick:' Rails are perhaps the most widespread group of terrestrial birds, however, Nesophylax ater is indigenous to Henderson Island. Rails are most remarkable for their success at colonising very remote oceanic islands. Local name - Chicken Bird. 'Red-footed Booby:' Numerous in the Pacific Region, the red-footed booby nests in trees or bushes, in colonies of varying size, and is noted for its ability to catch flying fish on the wing. 'Blue Grey Noddy:' A member of the tern family - found on Ducie, Henderson and Pitcairn. 'Henderson Reed Warbler:' As depicted in our issue of December 5, 1990; this warbler, similar to that found on Pitcairn, is an identifiable sub-species, found only on Henderson Island. 'Common Noddy:' Nests on all four islands in the Pitcairn group. 'Masked Booby and Chick:' Breeding on Ducie, Henderson and Oeno, boobies are frequently subject to attack by frigate birds when returning to roost. 'Henderson Fruit Dove:' An attractive little pigeon, a sub-species peculiar to Henderson. Local name - Wood Pigeon (featured in our issue of December 5, 1990). 'Murphy's Petrel:' Four gadfly petrels are known to breed in the group. Ducie Island is probably the world's largest Murphy's Petrel colony with around 250,000 breeding pairs. Unfortunately the rats cause high mortality rates amongst the petrel chicks on Henderson. 'Christmas Shearwater:' The shearwaters are a group of some fifteen species of fairly large seabirds. They produce large amounts of oil and have been valued by man for centuries as a source of food. The Christmas Shearwater breeds on Ducie and Oeno, - about 100 pairs on Oeno and 3000 to 5000 pairs on Ducie. 'Juvenile Red-Tailed Tropic:' Found on all four Pitcairn Islands.



5c Multicolor
White Tern



15c Multicolor
Henderson Island Crake



45c Multicolor
Blue Noddy



10c Multicolor
Red-tailed Tropicbird



20c Multicolor
Red-footed Booby



$1 Multicolor
Masked Booby



50c Multicolor
Pitcairn Reed-warbler



90c Multicolor
Brown Noddy



$1.80 Multicolor
Henderson Island Fruit-Dove



$2 Multicolor
Murphy's Petrel



$3 Multicolor
Christmas Island Shearwater



$5 Multicolor
Red-tailed Tropicbird

Pitcairn Islands

1995 Oeno Island Holiday

Designer: G L Vasarhelyi Issued 26 June 1995

The artwork for this issue is based on photographic material supplied by Meralda Warren and Steve Christian of Pitcairn Island. Of the four islands in the group, Pitcairn itself is the only one permanently inhabited. Ducie at 470 km to the west, rarely sees visitors from Pitcairn; Henderson (169 km east-north-east) is a regular destination when the people need supplies of wood for carving, but Oeno is purely a holiday island - visited perhaps once a year.



20c Multicolor
Islanders in Longboats



90c Multicolor
Volleyball on the Beach



$1.80 Multicolor
Picnic



$3 Multicolor
Singing Songs

1995 100th Anniversary of the First Radio Transmission

Designer: Nick Shewring Issued 5 September 1995

Following his attendance at university Guglielmo Marconi (1874-1934), Italian scientist and inventor, became interested in Hertz' discoveries regarding the possibility of radio wave transmission. His experiments in 1895, continued in 1896, resulted in the first acknowledged transmission of radio waves. He submitted his inventions to the British government and in 1897 the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company was formed. In 1899 signals were transmitted across the English Channel. Throughout his working life he continued experimenting and was responsible for a number of developments in his field of endeavour.



20c Multicolor
Guglielmo Marconi & Radio Equipment, 1901



$1 Multicolor
Man & Pitcairn Radio, c.1938



$1.50 Multicolor
Woman & Satellite Earth Station Equipment, 1994



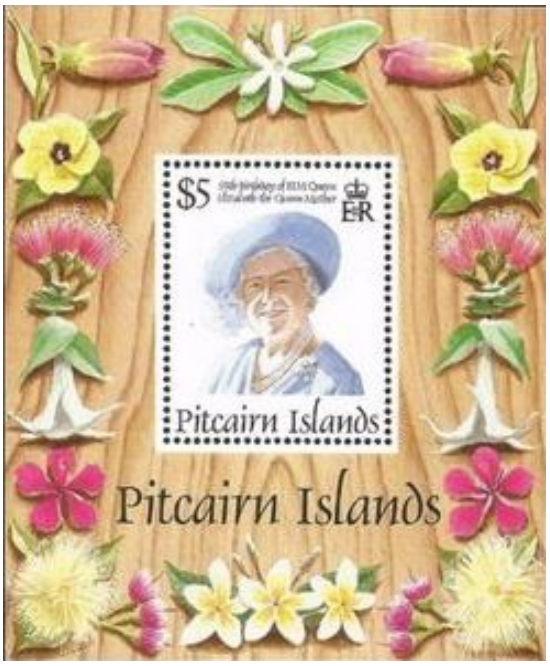
$3 Multicolor
Communications Satellite in Orbit, 1992

Pitcairn Islands

1995 95th Birth Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

Designer: Jennifer Toombs Issued 4 August 1995

Despite (or perhaps because of) being the United Kingdom's most distant Dependent Territory, Pitcairn Island has featured members of the British Royal Family on its stamps many times. Among the flowers featuring on the sheet are Rose Apple, Mountain Apple, Frangipani, Miro, Lata (rata), Oleandor and Burau - all of which are common on the island.



$5 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

1995 50th Anniversary of the United Nations

Designer: Anthony Theobald Issued 24 October 1995

Contact between the United Nations and Pitcairn Island has generally been through the Government of the United Kingdom. However, the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations is a significant world event and one which Pitcairn celebrates with this issue.



20c Multicolor
Lord Mayor's Show



$1 Multicolor
R.F.A. Brambleleaf



$1.50 Multicolor
U.N. Ambulance



$3 Multicolor
R.A.F. Lockheed L-1011 TriStar

Pitcairn Islands

1996 Supply Ship Day

Designer: Lesley Harraway Issued 30 January 1996

Some thirty ships call at Pitcairn Island each year. Most are tankers or container ships, and stay only an hour or two to break the long journey between Panama and New Zealand or Australia. A few are cruise ships loaded with passengers eager to spend a day at Pitcairn. Only three are supply ships paid by the Pitcairn Island Government to carry up to eighty tonnes of cargo at a time from New Zealand to Pitcairn.



20c Multicolor
Early Morning at the Jetty



40c Multicolor
Longboat meeting America Star



20c Multicolor
Loading Supplies into Longboats



$1 Multicolor
Landing Supplies on Jetty



$1.50 Multicolor
Sorting Supplies at the Co-op



$1.80 Multicolor
Tractor towing Supplies

1996 70th Birth Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 21 April 1996

This special issue celebrating the 70th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II was released on Her Majesty's birthday. Each stamp features a Pitcairn scene below portraits of HM the Queen.



20c Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II



90c Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II



$1.80 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II



$3 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II

Pitcairn Islands

1996 9th Anniversary of Asian International Stamp Exhibition - CHINA '96, Beijing

Designer: Clive Abbott Issued 17 May 1996

The China '96 issue was produced to mark the 9th Asian International Philatelic Exhibition held in Beijing from 18 to 24 May 1996. With 1996 being the Chinese year of the Rat, this issue was an opportunity for us to feature our own Pitcairn or Polynesian rat. The People's Republic of China graciously gave permission for us to reproduce their 1984 stamp featuring their rat in caricture form. Clive Abbott skilfully complimented this with the Polynesian rat as a caricature and combined both on the souvenir sheet. The souvenir sheet features silhouettes of both rats as side borders.



$1.80 Multicolor
Chinese Junk



$1.80 Multicolor
H.M.S. Bounty



$1.80 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Year of the Rat

1996 Amateur Radio Operations from Pitcairn Islands

Designer: Nick Shewring Issued 5 September 1995

Following his attendance at university Guglielmo Marconi (1874-1934), Italian scientist and inventor, became interested in Hertz' discoveries regarding the possibility of radio wave transmission. His experiments in 1895, continued in 1896, resulted in the first acknowledged transmission of radio waves. He submitted his inventions to the British government and in 1897 the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company was formed. In 1899 signals were transmitted across the English Channel. Throughout his working life he continued experimenting and was responsible for a number of developments in his field of endeavour.



20c Multicolor
Island profile & Radio Call Signs



$2.50 Multicolor
Andrew Young



2 x '$1.50 Multicolor
Calling for Medical Assistance

Pitcairn Islands

1996 Endangered Species - Local Birds

Designer: Andrew Robinson & Norman Arlott Issued 20 November 1996

The World Wide Fund for Nature stamps featured in this issue, colourfully depict the four species of land bird found on Henderson Island. Henderson Island is designated a World Heritage Site. Its remote location and relatively inaccessible coastline and terrain have ensured minimal human interference. It is likely that the introduction of the Polynesian rat (Rattus Exulaus) perhaps as early as the 8th century ADC led to the extinction of other species. The Henderson Island Reed Warbler (Acrocephalus vaughani taiti) is an identifiable sub-species of the Pitcairn Warbler (Acrocephalus vaughani vaughani), Pitcairn's only surviving land bird. Known locally as the sparrow, this warbler is quick enough to avoid the wild cats of Pitcairn.



5c Multicolor
Henderson Island Reed Warbler



10c Multicolor
Stephen's Lorikeet



20c Multicolor
Henderson Island Crake



90x Multicolor
Henderson Island Fruit-Dove



$2 Multicolor
White Tern



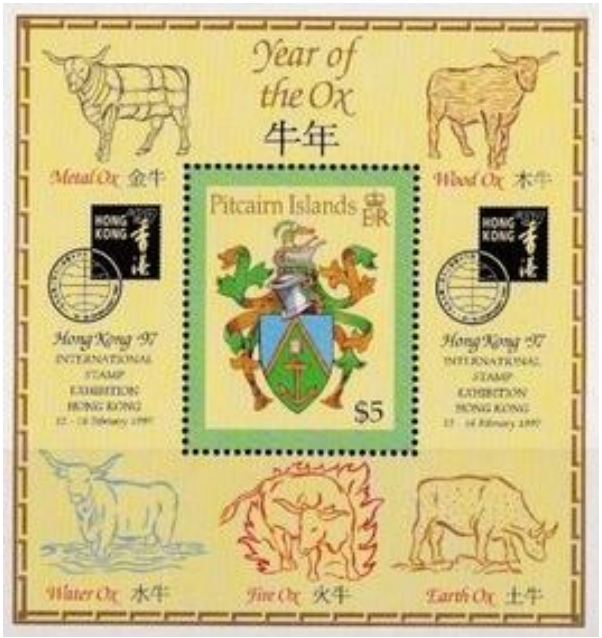
$2 Multicolor
Masked Booby

Pitcairn Islands

1997 International Stamp Exhibition - Hong Kong '97, China

Designer: Nick Shewring Issued 12 February 1997

We have taken the opportunity to feature the Pitcairn Islands Coat of Arms. Significant features of the Coat of Arms include the Bible and anchor from HMS Bounty symbolising Pitcairn's Christian heritage and its maritime history. A Pitcairn wheelbarrow holding a flowering slip of the indigenous Miro tree, rests at the top.



$5 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Chinese New Year - Year of the Ox

1997 50th Anniversary of South Pacific Commission

Designer: G. L. Vasarhelyi Issued 26 May 1997

Originally called the South Pacific Commission, our unique organisation was founded in Australia in 1947 by the six 'participating governments' that then administered territories in the Pacific Islands region: Australia, France, New Zealand, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.
They established our organisation under the Canberra Agreement to restore stability to a region that had experienced the turbulence of the Second World War, to assist in administering their dependent territories and to benefit the people of the Pacific.



$5 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
David Baker (Supply Ship) & McLachan (Fishing Boat)

Pitcairn Islands

1997 Island Health Care

Designer: G. L. Vasarhelyi Issued 12 September 1997

The construction of the new Health Centre was funded by the British Government's Overseas Development Administration. Unlike the old Dispensary in the Square, which had only one room, the Health Centre has an examination room, a dental clinic, and X-ray room and a two bed ward for overnight patients. The building was constructed away from the Square, thus affording greater privacy for those requiring treatment.



20c Multicolor
Island Health Center



$1 Multicolor
Resident Nurse Treating Patient



$1.70 Multicolor
Dentist Treating Patient



$3 Multicolor
Patient being taken aboard Ship

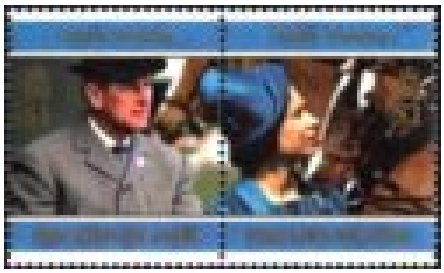
1997 50th Wedding Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 20 November 1997

Pitcairn was pleased to be participating in this omnibus issue, along with some 17 other countries. While most other issuing countries chose to release this set on 10 July, the anniversary of the announcement of the Royal couple's engagement, Pitcairn and Tristan de Cunha released their issues on 20 November, the actual anniversary of the Royal Wedding.



2 x 20c Multicolor
Prince Philip driving carriage & Queen Elizabeth



2 x $1 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth & Philip at Royal Windsor Horse Show



2 x $1.70 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth, Prince Philip and Prince Charles

Pitcairn Islands

1997 Christmas

Designer: Unknown Issued 1 December 1997

As you may know, the people of Pitcairn derive much of their private income from the sale of hand-made artifacts. While the men work mostly in wood and produce a range of fine carvings, the women weave baskets, fans and hats from pandanus thatch. Additionally, the women produce arguably one of the most beautiful curios available on Pitcairn - painted leaves.



20c Multicolor
Gardenia & view of Island at Night



80c Multicolor
Bauhinia & Ringing Public Bell



$1.20 Multicolor
Metrosideros & Presents in Baskets



$3 Multicolor
Hibiscus & Families outside Church

1998 Diana, Princess of Wales Commemoration

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 31 August 1998

Pitcairn, together with 25 other countries, is participating in this omnibus tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales. While most other participating countries have already released their issues, Pitcairn believes that it is more fitting for the sheetlet to be released on this, the anniversary of her death. From left, the sheetlet shows the following portraits: Diana at a function to mark No Smoking Day, 1991; a visit to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea in 1983; a visit to the National Institute of Conductive Education, 1995; Diana in 1989.



$3.60 + 40c Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Diana, Princess of Wales 1961-1997

Pitcairn Islands

1998 Christian's Cave

Designer: Lesley Harraway Issued 9 February 1998

Under the shadow cast by Gannet's Ridge, is the yawning cave in which Fletcher Christian, leader of the mutiny on HMAS Bounty is said to have spent many hours meditating and watching for ships. Although it is now clearly visable from the sea, it was previously hidden by vines and lofty trees which would have afforded him a safe retreat.



5c Multicolor
Dorcas Apple, looking across Adamstown



20c Multicolor
Rocks near Betty's Edge looking past Tatinanny



35c Multicolor
Cave Mouth



$5 Multicolor
Cave near where Fletcher Christian built home

1998 Millennium Commemoration - Sailing Ships

Designer: Ernest Nisbet Issued 28 May 1998

This issue, is the first of a three part series in which we travel through Pitcairn's European contact history. This features the Royal Navy vessels to visit Pitcairn Island.



20c Multicolor
H.M.S. Bounty, 1790



90c Multicolor
H.M.S. Swallow, 1767



$1.80 Multicolor
H.M.S. Tagus & H.M.S. Briton, 1814



$3 Multicolor
H.M.S. Fly, 1868

Pitcairn Islands

1998 Flowers

Designer: Unknown Issued 20 November 1998

About nine plant species are thought to occur only on Pitcairn. These include tapau, formerly an important timber resource, and the giant nehe fern. Some, such as red berry, are perilously close to extinction. The plant species Glochidion pitcairnense is endemic to Pitcairn and Henderson Islands. The flowering varieties chosen for this issue were Bidens Mathewsii, Hibiscus, Hawaiian Rose and Ipomoea Littoralis



20c, 90c, $1.80, $3 Multicolor
Bidens Mathewsii, Hibiscus, Hawaiian Rose, Ipomoea Littoralis

1998 International Year of the Ocean

Designer: Paul Martinson Issued 16 December 1998

In this issue, Paul Martinson has produced a colourful view of how Pitcairners interact with the ocean about them. The four Pitcairn Islands total 42.85 km in area, Henderson Island at 37 km being the largest. Due to the distance between Pitcairn and Ducie of some 470 km, the Pitcairn Islands has responsibility for an EEZ of some 880,000 km of ocean, more than 20,000 times its land mass.



20c Multicolor
Fishing



90c Multicolor
Diver at wreck of Cornwallis



$1.80 Multicolor
Reef Fishes



$3 Multicolor
Murphy's Petrel & Great Frigate Bird

Pitcairn Islands

1998 International Year of the Ocean

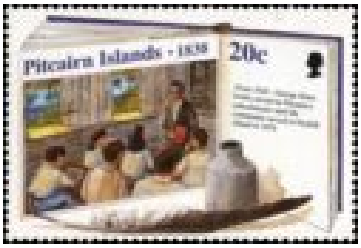


$5.90 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
International Year of the Ocean

1999 Development of Local Education

Designer: Lesley Harraway Issued 15 February 1999

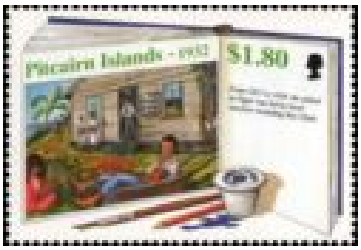
Formal education on Pitcairn, perhaps commenced when Midshipman Edward Young taught his fellow mutineer John Adams, to read using a Bible from the Bounty. Following Young's death, Adams continued to instruct the children of his former crew mates, until the arrival in 1823 of John Buffett. Buffett took over the roles of pastor and schoolmaster. However, five years later, George Hunn Nobbs arrived and being both better educated and more confident, soon led both the church and the school. The 1838 Constitution and Code of Laws set the stage for a gradual recovery of self respect and confidence for the community. Included in this Constitution were two firsts in British Legislative history; the right of both men and women over the age of 18, to vote and compulsory education for all children between the ages of 6 and 16. The law required the payment of one shilling per month per child or its equivalent in produce or labour.



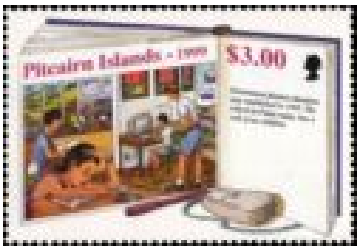
20c Multicolor
Schoolmaster George Hunn Nobbs and students, 1838



90c Multicolor
Children outside thatched school, 1893



$1.80 Multicolor
Boy in wheelbarrow outside wooden school, 1932



$3 Multicolor
Modern school at Palau

Pitcairn Islands

1999 World Stamp Exhibition - Australia '99, Melbourne
Pitcairn Archaeology Project

Designer: Clive Abbott Issued 19 March 1999

This mini sheet, the largest ever produced by Pitcairn, marks the archaeological survey of the wreck of the Bounty, undertaken by James Cook University of Townsville, Queensland, Australia from 27 October 1998 to 31 January 1999. The stamp issue is also being released to mark the Australia '99 World Stamp Expo, where the Pitcairn Island Philatelic Bureau will be sharing a booth with Norfolk Post. Our stamp perfectly reflects the Maritime Heritage theme of the exhibition.



$5 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Pitcairn Islands Bounty Relics

Pitcairn Islands

1999 Millennium Commemoration

Designer: Julian Vasarhelyi Issued 25 May 1999

Following the arrival of HMAS Bounty in January of 1790, the next ship known to have called at Pitcairn was the Topaz, an American sealer under the command of Captain Mayhew Folger. Topaz, shown against a setting sun over Pitcairn on the 90c stamp in this issue, arrived on 6 February 1808. From a community comprising nine mutineers and nineteen Polynesians; twelve women, a girl and six men in 1790, eighteen years later, Folger discovered just one surviving mutineer, John Adams, ten Polynesian women and twenty-four children. Although Folger's discovery was reported to the British Admiralty, a further six years passed before the naval warships HMS Briton and HMS Tagus, rediscovered the community.



20c Multicolor
John Adams and Bounty Bay



90c Multicolor
Topaz



$1.80 Multicolor
George Hunn Nobbs and Norfolk Island



$3 Multicolor
H.M.S. Champion (Corvette), 1893

1999 Royal Wedding of Prince Edward and Miss Sophie Rhys-Jones

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 18 June 1999

This two stamp issue celebrating the wedding of his Royal Highness The Prince Edward and Miss Sophie Rhys-Jones, is being issued on the day before the wedding is to take place in St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle.



$2.50 Multicolor
Prince Edward & Miss Sophie Rhys-Jones



$2.50 Multicolor
Engagement

Pitcairn Islands

1999 Bee-keeping

Designer: Sue Williams Issued 12 September 1999

In May 1998, the UK Government aid agency, the Department for International Development, funded an apiculture programme for Pitcairn which included training for Pitcairn's bee keepers and a detailed analysis of the disease status of Pitcairn bees and honey. The aim is to enable Pitcairn to export honey products to New Zealand and beyond. The results were better than we could have hoped for. Pitcairn has one of the most disease free bee populations of anywhere in the world and the honey produced is of an exceptionally high quality.



20c Multicolor
Bee-keepers at Work



$1 Multicolor
Bee on Passion Flower



$1.80 Multicolor
Bees in Honeycomb



$3 Multicolor
Bee on Flower & Jar of Mutineer's Dream Honey



$1 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
China'99 Stamp Exhibition

Pitcairn Islands

2000 Protection of 'Mr. Turpen', Galapagos Tortoise on Pitcairn

Designer: Dave Gunson Issued 14 January 2000

This issue recognises the deep regard the Pitcairn Islanders have for their sole surviving Galapagos Tortoise, Mr Turpen. It also celebrates the protection order the Island Council has passed for the tortoise. Mr Turpen was one of five Galapagos Tortoises, which arrived on Pitcairn between 1937 and 1951, brought to the island by Irving Johnson, skipper of the 96 foot Brigantine Yankee. By the mid-1960s, only Mr Turpen was left alive and he survives to this day.



$5.60 Multicolor
Protection of Galapagos Tortoise

Pitcairn Islands

2000 Flowers of Pitcairn Islands

Designer: Sue Williams Issued 22 May 2000

The artist, Mrs Sue Williams, wife of His Excellency Mr Martin Williams CVO OBE, Governor of Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands, commenced work on this issue during her visit to Pitcairn with the Governor early in 1999. While Mrs Williams prefers to paint from life, it was not possible for every illustration, as her visit was not long enough to allow for this. We were fortunate to obtain good photographic reference but Mrs Williams, throughout 1999, also grew many of the flowers in the garden at the official residence in Wellington, New Zealand to enable her work to display such intricate detail.



10c Multicolor
Guettarda Speciosa



15c Multicolor
Pulau



20c Multicolor
Selenicereus Grandiflorus



30c Multicolor
Lata



50c Multicolor
Ginsey



$1 Multicolor
Rose Apple



$1.50 Multicolor
Cow Grass



$1.80 Multicolor
Indian Shot



$2 Multicolor
Poopoo Flower



$3 Multicolor
Tamanu



$5 Multicolor
Morning Glory



$10 Multicolor
Hattie Leaf

Pitcairn Islands

2000 Flowers of Pitcairn Islands



$3.50 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Flowers of the Pitcairn Islands

2000 Millennium Commemoration - Communications

Designer: Lesley Harraway Issued 7 July 2000

This issue features significant developments on Pitcairn, during the 20th century. The illustrator is again Lesley Harraway, the wife of Pitcairn's last Commissioner, Garth Harraway. Each stamp features a 'present-day' view with a sepia-toned view of an earlier equivalent. There is a new aluminium longboat with the old traditional wooden longboat being rowed out of the harbour; a view of the harbour in Bounty Bay, as it is today alongside a pre-1940's view; a modern four-wheel ATV motor cycle with a traditional Pitcairn wheelbarrow; and our modern satellite communications centre together with an old Morse key.



20c Multicolor
Longboat at Sea



90c Multicolor
Landing & Longboat House



$1.80 Multicolor
Honda Quad with Trailer



$3 Multicolor
Woman at Satellite Station

Pitcairn Islands

2000 World Stamp Exhibition - EXPO 2000, Anaheim, USA

Designer: Dave Gunson Issued 7 July 2000

The sheetlet to celebrate the Pitcairn and United States Air Force Joint Satellite Recovery Survey Mission to Henderson Island is released on 7 July to mark the opening of the World Stamp Expo at Anaheim, Los Angeles where we will be operating a booth. The Expo is centred on the theme of Space Exploration and Travel, a topic, which has some significance to Pitcairn.



$5 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Pitcairn Islands & USAF Joint Satellite Recovery Mission

2000 Christmas

Designer: Karen Odiam Issued 22 November 2000

In accordance with a UK Foreign Office requirement, we are not permitted to feature the likeness of a living person on our stamps so despite the realistic appearance of those featured on this issue, there is only one face which belongs to a Pitcairner. The elderly gentleman ringing the bell on the 80c stamp, is none other than the late Andrew Young, who passed away in 1988. Andrew was Pitcairn's first amateur radio operator and served many years as the Island Secretary.



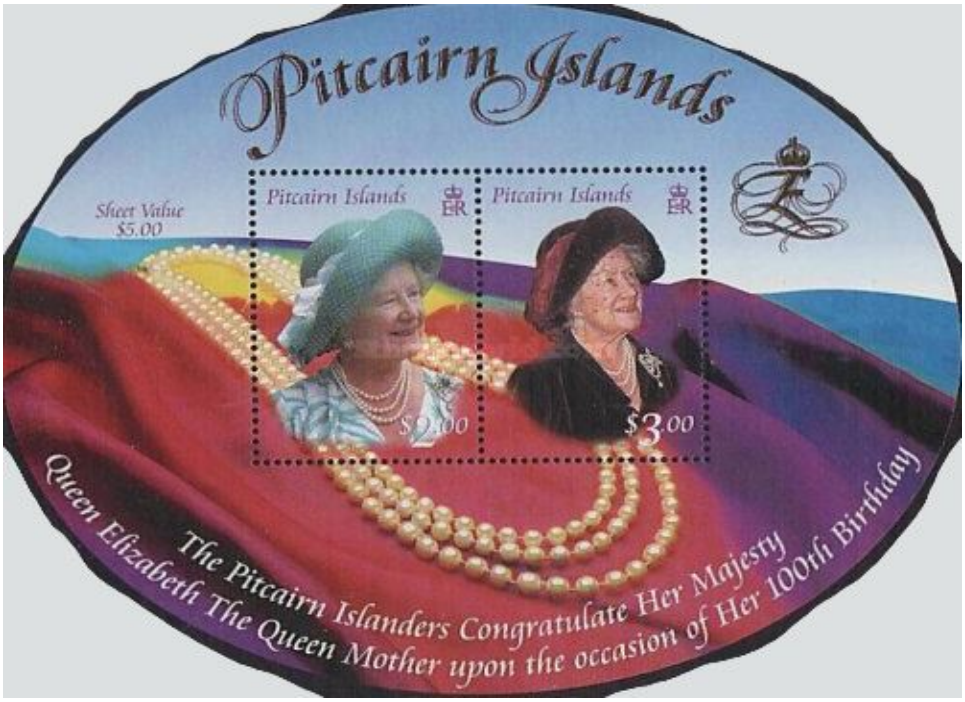
$5.50 Multicolor
Christmas Celebrations

Pitcairn Islands

2000 100th Birth Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

Designer: SeaSky Design Issued 4 August 2000

Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon was born to Lord and Lady Strathmore on 4 August 1900. In 1923, she was married to Prince Albert who was later to become King George VI upon the abdication of his brother in 1936. Upon the King's death in 1952, their elder daughter Princess Elizabeth became Queen and the Queen Mother, as she officially became, assumed the important role of public duty, she has enjoyed a lifetime interest in fishing and continues to enjoy horse racing.



$5 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother

2001 Tropical Fruits

Designer: Nancy Tichborne Issued 6 April 2001

Pitcairn is remarkably fertile and productive. Its normally benign climate allows a wide range of tropical and temperate fruits to flourish. Bananas lemons, oranges mandarins, and grapefruit grow all over the island. Pomegranates are not as common but provide an interesting addition to the Pitcairn fruit bowl. While common varieties of bananas are communal property when found on public land, most other fruit trees, including coconut palms, are privately owned, whether they are on public land or even land belonging to someone else. Local law however, allows anyone walking to pick an orange or mandarin from any tree along the way, providing that it is eaten while continuing the walk.



20c Multicolor
Coconut



80c Multicolor
Pomegranate



$1 Multicolor
Passion Fruit



$3 Multicolor
Pineapple

Pitcairn Islands

2001 Tropical Fruits



$3.80 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Tropical Fruits

2001 Cruise Ships

Designer: Ron Fulstow Issued 1 February 2001

Featuring four of the cruise vessels scheduled to visit Pitcairn during the year. The circular concept arose from the idea of showing the ships against the island as they may be viewed, through a porthole. Cruise ship visits to Pitcairn have steadily increased over the past few years. During 2000, a record ten cruise ships stopped for a day. In most cases, the Pitcairners take their carvings, basketwork and other crafts out to the ship to sell to passengers. Where the vessel carries fewer passengers, as with the Hanseatic which called in November 2000 or the Bremen, the passengers are ferried ashore by zodiac or on the island's longboats, where they spend the day wandering or being guided about the island.



$1.50 Multicolor
Bremen



$1.50 Multicolor
Europa



$1.50 Multicolor
Rotterdam VI



$1.50 Multicolor
Saga Rose

Pitcairn Islands

2001 Introduction of Pitcairn Islands Internet Domain Name

Designer: Typeface Issued 11 June 2001

Celebrating Pitcairn's success in operating its own Internet top-level domain and the establishment of its Domain Name Register. Every country in the world has an Internet domain suffix. For the United Kingdom it is .uk, for Germany it is .de, for New Zealand .nz and for Pitcairn it is .pn. All the countries' suffixes were created by the IANA (Internet Assigned Names Authority) which grew out of the US military department, which originally established the Internet. The suffixes allocated are generally taken from the ISO 3166-1 list, which gives a two-letter code for each country and territory around the world. Even though Pitcairn had no Internet connection, the .pn top-level domain (tld) was created along with all the other countries' tlds.



20c Multicolor
Computer Keyboard



50c Multicolor
Circuit Board



$1 Multicolor
Microchip



$5 Multicolor
Mouse

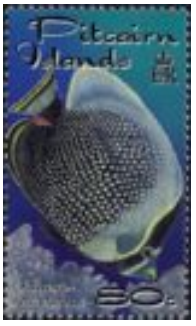
2001 Reef Fish

Designer: Sue Wickison Issued 4 September 2001

There are 116 known species of the Butterflyfish family and they are among the coral reefs' most colourful inhabitants, their highly compressed bodies covered in small scales, feature a single continuous dorsal fin and their mouths hold a band or rows of small brush-like teeth. Butterfly fish are typically diurnal, resting among the corals on the bottom or close to the surface at night and actively patrolling a home ground during the day, often in pairs. Most, including those featured in this issue, dwell in depths of less than 30 metres. A few species of the family can be found up to 200 metres below the surface. The exception is Chaetodon lunula or Raccoon Butterflyfish ($1.50 stamp) which is the only species to be nocturnally active. They feed mainly upon algae, coral tissue and mucus. Although these species and the Pennant Bannerfish can be found as far to the west as the India Ocean islands of Cocos-Keeling and Sri Lanka, the Pitcairn Islands and Ducie in particular, is the eastern-most extent of their habitat.



20c Multicolor
Ornate Butterflyfish



80c Multicolor
Reticulated Butterflyfish



$1.50 Multicolor
Raccoon Butterflyfish



$2 Multicolor
Pennant Bannerfish

Pitcairn Islands

2001 Reef Fish

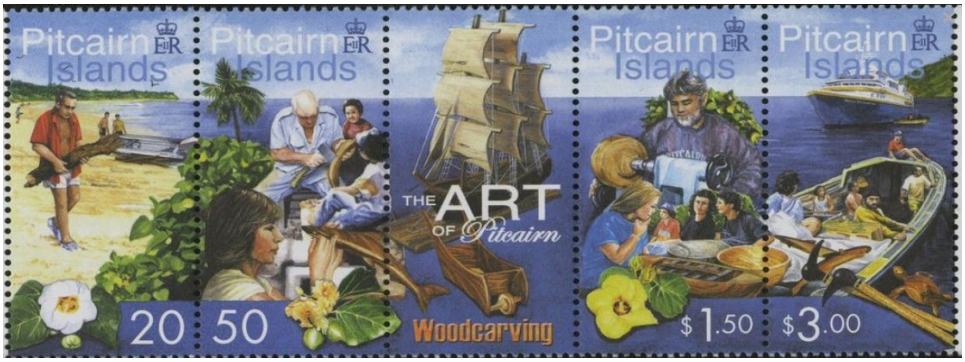


$2.20 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Butteflies of the Reef

2001 Woodcarving

Designer: Glenn Douran Issued 11 October 2001

For perhaps more than 100 years, the Pitcairners have been able to earn a living from carving or weaving curio and selling these as souvenirs to people aboard ships passing the island. It is said that Edward Laeffler, an Austrian wood-carver and cabinet maker who lived on Pitcairn in his later life, influenced the style of carving more so than anyone else. Laeffler died on Pitcairn on 10 October 1925 aged 75 years.



$5.20 Multicolor
The Art of Pitcairn

Pitcairn Islands

2001 Cowrie Shells

Designer: Sue Williams Issued 6 December 2001

We have experimented with a gloss varnish on these designs to give the shells the shiny appearance, which characterises cowry shells. Cowry shells continue to be popular among collectors because of their colours and glossy surface. At least 25 different species of cowry have been found in the waters of the four Pitcairn Islands, most commonly at Henderson Island but less frequently around Ducie and Oeno. They are herbivorous, feeding on algae. They grow spirally like other gastropods until they reach adulthood when the outer lip turns in. Active at night, they hide during the day and prefer hard coral reefs and shallow water.



20c Multicolor
Eyed Cowrie



80c Multicolor
Isabel's Cowrie



$1 Multicolor
Map Cowrie



$3 Multicolor
Humpback Cowrie

2002 50th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's Accession to the Throne

Designer: Andrew Robinson Issued 6 February 2002

This issue celebrates the Golden Jubilee of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. During 1951, Princess Elizabeth was more frequently assuming the role of her father King George VI, whose continued ill health caused him to be seen less on state occasions. It was early during a planned Royal Tour of Australia and New Zealand, while en route in Kenya, that Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip were to learn of The King's death in the early hours of 6 February.



$6.20 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Golden Jubilee

Pitcairn Islands

2002 Pitcairn Islands Celebrities

Designer: Dave Gunson Issued 5 April 2002

When he retired in 1934, Gerald deLeo Bliss could look back on a distinguished postal career, the last 14 years of which included providing a valuable service to Pitcairn, which not only sped the delivery of mail but enabled increased opportunities for Pitcairners to sell their crafts and obtain all manner of supplies.
The first time that Arthur C Jones saw Pitcairn was on 5 May 1919, as an apprentice seaman aboard the steamship Katuna. He traded clothing and soap with a Pitcairner in exchange for 2 baskets of fruit, a painted coconut and a piece of coral from Oeno Island and was captivated by the island and its people. It was the first of more than 100 visits Jones would make during a career of more than four decades.
In the aftermath of a moral deterioration on Pitcairn in the closing years of the nineteenth century, a period which included murder, James Russell McCoy is credited with stemming the advance of lawlessness and a lack of unity.
Admiral Sir Fairfax Moresby's unceasing concern for the community saw him ordering ships under his command to call at Pitcairn and assist where possible. Noting the poverty that existed on Pitcairn, with the aid of his son Fortesque, he established a Pitcairn Fund Committee which through his generosity and that of others, saw the purchase of many agricultural tools and a whaleboat for the Pitcairners.



$1.50 Multicolor
Gerald DeLeo Bliss



$1.50 Multicolor
Captain Arthur C. Jones



$1.50 Multicolor
James Russel McCoy



$1.50 Multicolor
Admiral Sir Fairfax Moresby

2002 Pitcairn Cats

Designer: Nancy Tichbourne Issued 28 June 2002

Local Pitcairn cats were patiently photographed by Karen MacDonald, the wife of Rob MacDonald who was the Education Officer/Government Adviser on Pitcairn last year.
Alicat Pulau is the schoolhouse cat, Nala Brown is a New Zealand born cat, taken back to Pitcairn to help re-build the cat population. Simba and Miti Christian both live at Big Fence, like most Pitcairn cats, they are both excellent hunters and both enjoy eating fish. Miti is perhaps more of an indoor cat and enjoys sleeping on the couch.



20c Multicolor
Simba Christian



$1 Multicolor
Miti Christian



$1.50 Multicolor
Nala Brown



$3 Multicolor
Alicat Pulau

Pitcairn Islands

2002 Pitcairn Cats



$3.20 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Feline Friends

2002 Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Commemoration

Designer: Andrew Robinson Issued 4 August 2002

This issue will be Pitcairn's seventh stamp issue celebrating the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother. Quite sadly it may also be the last featuring this much loved Royal.



40c Multicolor
As Child, 1910



$1 Multicolor
As Young Woman, 1923



$1.50 Multicolor
Wearing Flowered Hat, 1970



$2 Multicolor
Wearing Blue Hat

Pitcairn Islands

2002 Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Commemoration



$3 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
The Queen Mother

2002 Weaving

Designer: Clive Abbott Issued 18 October 2002

In this superbly illustrated setenant strip, we are pleased to feature two Pitcairn women who sadly passed away last year, but were both experts in this craft. Millie Christian can be seen on the $1.50 stamp, working on a basket over a round wooden mould, while Thelma Brown is seen with a display of a variety of baskets in the Square on a day when cruise ship passengers have come ashore.



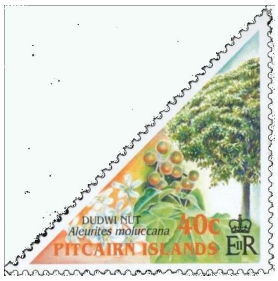
$5.20 Multicolor
The Art of Pitcairn

Pitcairn Islands

2002 Trees

Designer: Donna McKenna Issued 1 December 2002

This issue features trees chosen for their fragrance, practical and, or historical use. Aleurites mouccana known on Pitcairn as the Dudwi Nut. The nuts are high in oil content and were used for lighting. Toa (Tau) or Cordia subcordata, a tree with attractive orange flowers and pale green leaves. Miro Thespesia populnea is the most widely used timber on Pitcairn for carving. Hulianda Cerbera manghas with its attractive, fragrant, white blossoms and its mango-shaped fruit is extremely poisonous if ingested.



40c Multicolor
Dudwi Nut



$1 Multicolor
Toa



$1.50 Multicolor
Miro

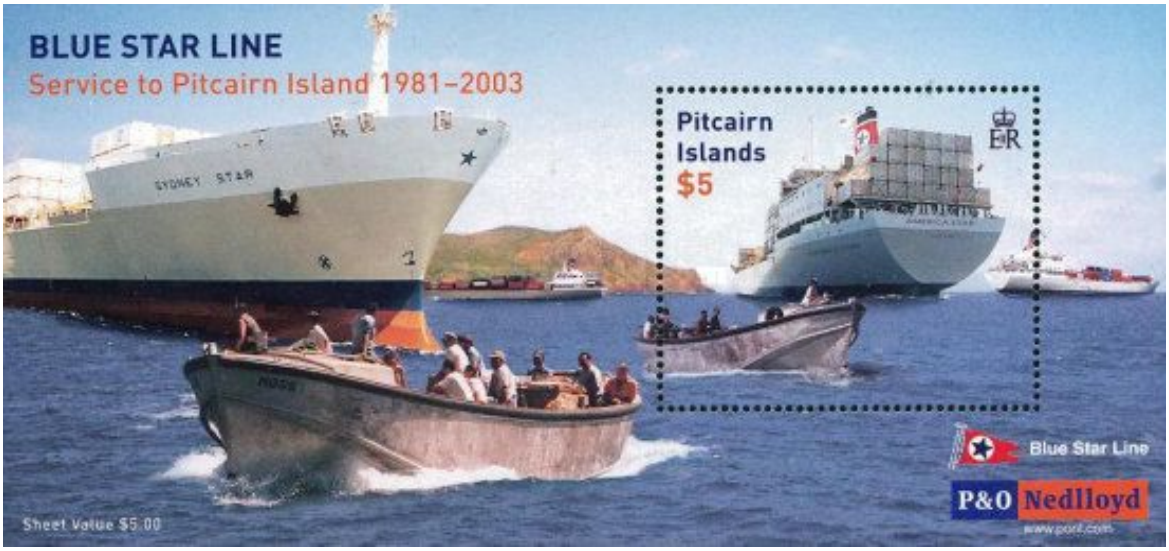


$3 Multicolor
Hulianda

2003 22nd Anniversary of Blue Star Line Service to Pitcairn Islands

Designer: Typeface Issued 8 February 2003

Until 1998, when Blue Star Line was taken over by P&O Nedlloyd, vessels of this fleet had called at Pitcairn regularly for many years. Under P&O Nedlloyd ownership, the four ships Melbourne Star, America Star, Sydney Star and Queensland Star have continued to stop at Pitcairn up to 20 times each year, bringing supplies and carrying passengers and mail to and from the island.



$5 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Blue Star Line

Pitcairn Islands

2003 Conus Shells

Designer: Sue Williams Issued 14 March 2003

Conus Shells issue follows on from the very popular Cowrie Shells issue released on 6 December 2001, the artist for this new issue is again Mrs Sue Williams, wife of the former Governor of Pitcairn, Martin Williams.



40c Multicolor
Geography Cone



80c Multicolor
Textile Cone



$1 Multicolor
Striated Cone



$1.20 Multicolor
Marble Cone



$3 Multicolor
Lithograph Cone

2003 50th Anniversary of Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

Designer: Andrew Robinson Issued 2 June 2003

Together with a number of countries and territories, Pitcairn is pleased to participate in this omnibus issue celebrating the Golden Jubilee of The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



40c Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II



80c Multicolor
Coronation Coach



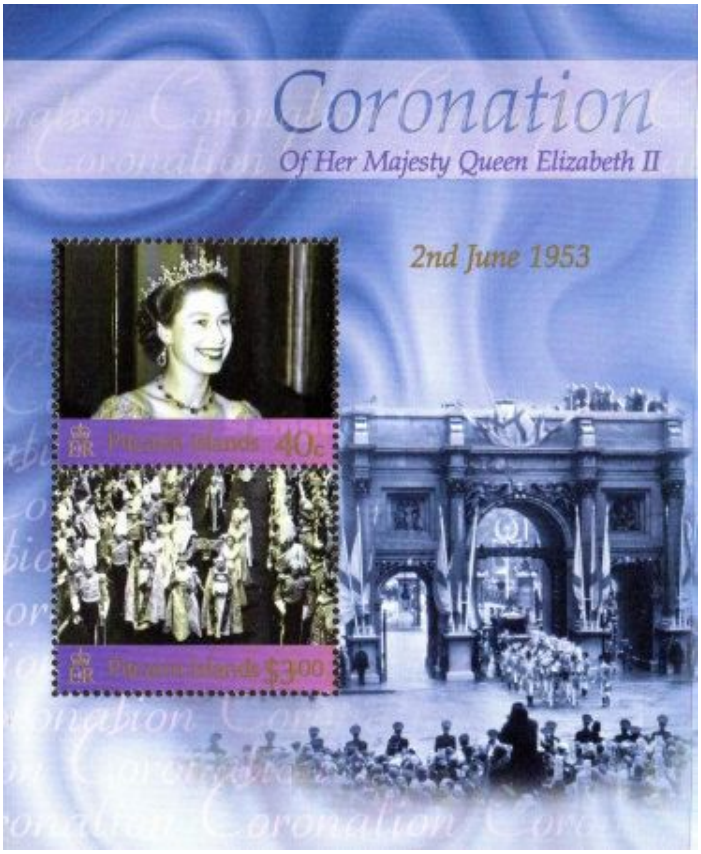
$1.50 Multicolor
Queen Elizabeth II



$3 Multicolor
Queen with Bishops & Maids of Honour

Pitcairn Islands

2003 50th Anniversary of Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II



$3.40 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

2003 Painted Leaves

Designer: Glenn Douran Issued 18 August 2003

Among the crafts of the Pacific, the rare and delicate art of leaf painting is unique to Pitcairn, it is time-consuming and requiring considerable skill and care. Firstly, the leaves are picked green and stored covered in water in an earthenware jar for between 4 and 6 weeks. In what is a 'smelly' process, the leaves are then washed in fresh water with the green slime being patted out from the leaf's membranes. Each leaf is then washed with a little soap, rinsed and placed in a niau basket to dry. When dry, the leaf which has curled in the drying process is opened out and ironed flat. The paints used are normally oil based, thinned with a little kerosine for easier application.



$5.70 Multicolor
The Art of Pitcairn

Pitcairn Islands

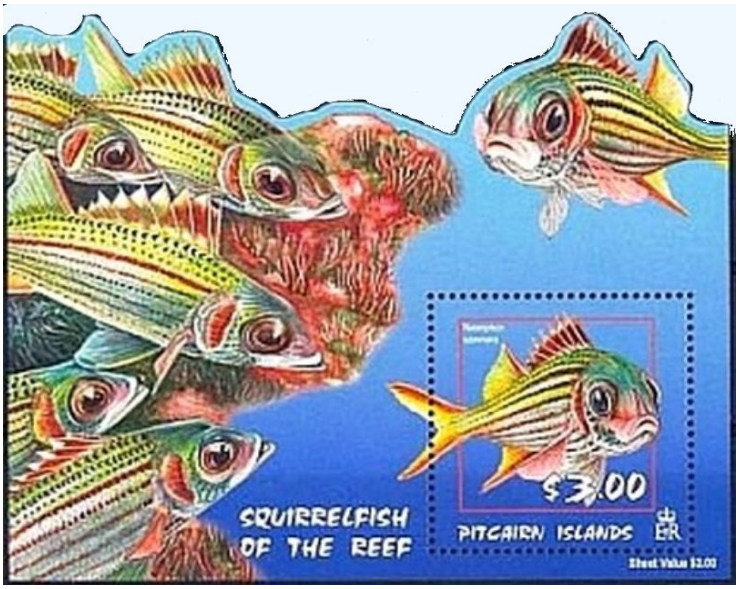
2003 Squirrel Fish

Designer: Sue Wickison Issued 8 October 2003

Four of the many fish of the Holocentridae family, commonly found around the reefs of Henderson, Ducie and Oeno Islands, in the Pitcairn group, are featured in this issue. Squirrel fish, as they are known, are mainly red in colour. They all have distinctive large mouths and eyes, the latter due to their nocturnal feeding habits. Their large spines are venomous and wounds from these can be very painful.



40c, 80c, $1.50, $3 Multicolor
Diadem Squirrel Fish, Sabre Squirrel Fish, Silver-Spotted Squirrel Fish, Bloodspot Squirrel Fish



40c Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Sqirrelfish of the Reef

2003 Christmas - Paintings

Designer: Derek Miller Issued 17 November 2003

Pitcairn Islands has chosen famous paintings depicting the Madonna and Child to feature in the 2003 Christmas issue. The stamps each show a detail from the original and beautifully represent the Christmas spirit. They also feature a border of the flower Morning Glory Ipomea indica, which is one of the flowers seen in Pitcairn's current definitive stamp issue.



40c, $1, $1.50, $3 Multicolor
Holy Virgin in the Wreath of Flowers, Madonna della Rosa, Stuppacher Madonna, Madonna with Cherries

Pitcairn Islands

2004 Terebra Shells

Designer: Sue Williams Issued 21 January 2004

Known as Auger shells, the family of Terebridae totals some 150 species and all feature pointed spires, short apertures and whorls. Carnivorous and sand dwelling, they are found only in tropical warm waters and often move below the sand leaving well defined trails.
The Pitcairn Administration selected four shells to highlight this species being Marlinspike, Chocolate-spotted, Crenulate and Orange.



40c Multicolor
Marlinspike Auger



80c Multicolor
Chocolate-spotted Auger



$1.20 Multicolor
Crenulate Auger



$3 Multicolor
Orange Auger

2004 Scenic Views

Designer: Michael von Reiche Issued 28 April 2004

Pitcairn is a small volcanic island in the South Pacific made up of rugged cliffs of reddish-brown and black volcanic rock, steep land slopes and small valleys of colluvial soil. Flattish land forms only 8% of the total surface of Pitcairn, rolling land 31%, steeply sloping land 34% and cliffs the remaining 27%. Like Hawaii, Tahiti and Samoa, Pitcairn was formed by progressive volcanic activity and the steep cliffs and terrain lends itself to spectacular scenery and dramatic vistas.



50c Multicolor
Bounty Bay & Hill of Difficulty



$1 Multicolor
Christian's Cave



$1.50 Multicolor
St. Paul's Pool



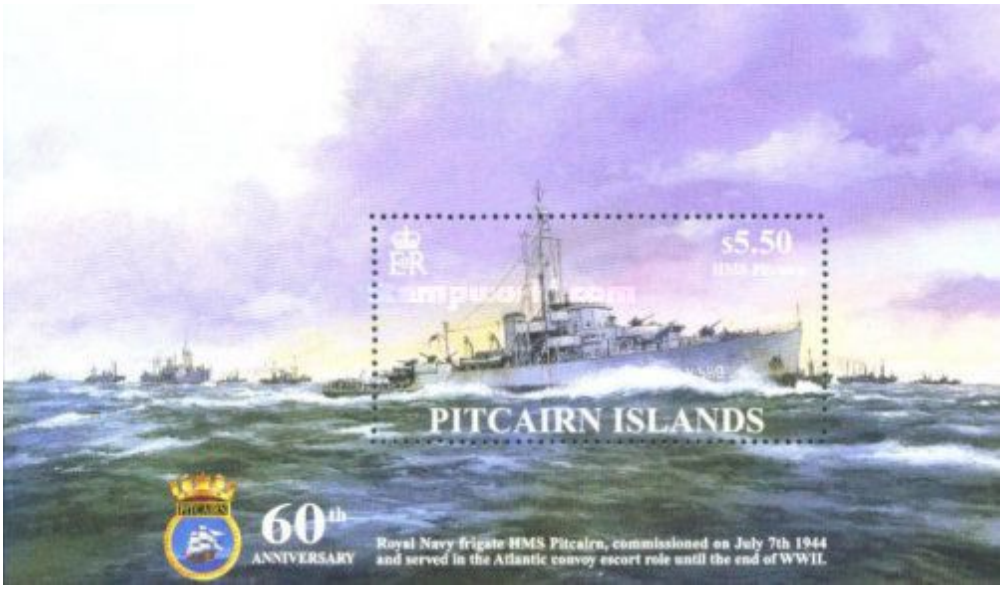
$2.50 Multicolor
Ridge Rope towards St. Pauls Point

Pitcairn Islands

2004 60th Anniversary of the Commission of HMS Pitcairn

Designer: Ron Fulstow Issued 7 July 2004

Originally authorised as Gunboat PG-193, then re-designated a Patrol Frigate PF-85, the USS Pilford was built under a Maritime Commission contract by Walsh-Kaiser Co. Inc. in Seattle, USA and launched in Providence, Rhode Island on 15 April, 1943. HMS Pitcairn BadgeAs one of 21 Frigate Class ships built of similar design, the Pilford like the other Frigates, were named after American Captains'. These names were changed to British "Colony" names in July - September 1943. The Pilford, now the HMS Pitcairn (K-589) was assigned to the Royal Navy under the Lend-Lease Programme and was officially commissioned on July 7, 1944.



$5.50 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
HMS Pitcairn

2004 HMAV Bounty Replica, Three-masted Ship

Designer: Denise Durkin Issued 8 September 2004

This issue is dedicated to the HMAV Bounty a small vessel, is possibly one of the best-known ships in the world's naval history, and has carried with it for over 200 years, a mystique that has fascinated marine enthusiasts, stamp collectors, Pitcairn followers and children all over the world.



60c Multicolor
HMAV Bounty Replica



80c Multicolor
Stern of Ship



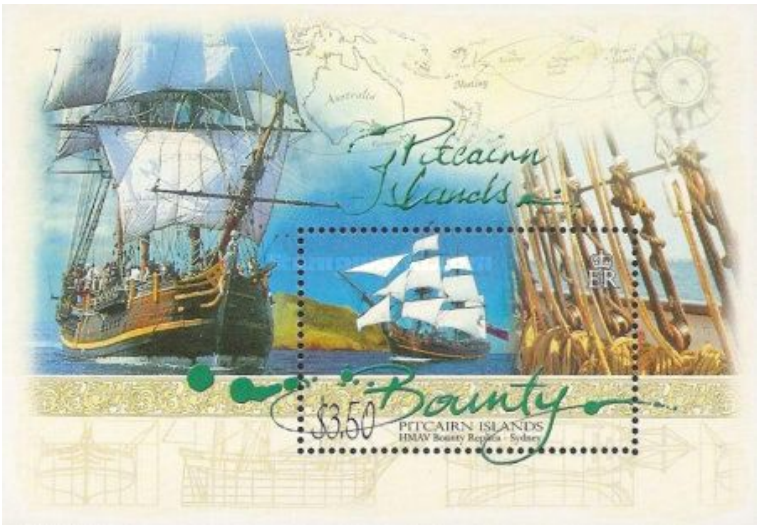
$1 Multicolor
Figurehead



$3.50 Multicolor
Ropes & HMAV Bounty Replica Sailing

Pitcairn Islands

2004 HMAV Bounty Replica, Three-masted Ship



$3.50 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
HMAV Bounty Replica

2004 Murphy's Petrel

Designer: Karen Odiam Issued 17 November 2004

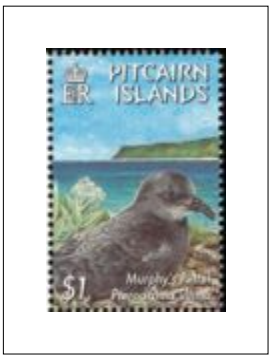
With a conservation status of 'near threatened', Murphy's Petrel is indeed a rare species with very little known about it. The first specimen was collected from Pitcairn's Oeno Island in 1922, but it was not until 1949 that Robert Murphy, a seabird biologist, described the species. Murphy applied the scientific name ultima which was rash in retrospect, as in 1963 its status as ultimate was lost with the description of Barau's Petrel.



40c Multicolor
Murphy's Petrels



50c Multicolor
Murphy's Petrels



$1 Multicolor
Murphy's Petrels



$2 Multicolor
Murphy's Petrels



$2.50 Multicolor
Murphy's Petrels

Pitcairn Islands

2004 Murphy's Petrel



$3.50 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Murphy's Petrel - Henderson Island

2005 Scenery - Ducie and Oeno Islands

Designer: Denise Durkin Issued 10 February 2005

Oeno is a low-lying atoll found approximately 120 km north east of Pitcairn. Estimated at only 0.7 square kilometres in area with a shoreline of 4.6 kilometres, it is flat, with a fringing coral reef and beautiful sandy beaches. Ducie is also a coral atoll and was discovered by Captain Edwards of the HMS Pandora while searching for the mutineers in 1791. He named the island after Lord Ducie but failed to find Pitcairn, which lay 470 km to the west.



50c Multicolor
Beach - Ducie Island



60c Multicolor
Coral Reef - Ducie Island



80c Multicolor
Low sun - Ducie Island



$1 Multicolor
Boat moored off beach - Oeno Island



$1.50 Multicolor
Palm trees on beach - Oeno Island



$2.50 Multicolor
View of Oeno Island from the sea

Pitcairn Islands

2005 Solar Eclipse, Oeno

Designer: Denise Durkin Issued 8 April 2005

The eclipse will feature some of the classic stages of a total eclipse as the moon passes between the sun and the earth. The photosphere (sun's central circle) will, at the point of total eclipse, have a corona completely surrounding the central black eclipse area. This corona is the "glow" seen in $1.00 stamp. Between the corona and the photosphere is a fine line of burning gases known as the chromosphere and appears as a crimson ring. Within the chromosphere are large gas eruptions or flares known as prominences. At the point of seeing the crimson chromosphere, bright points of light are also visible and look like a pearl necklace or tiara. This light comes from the photosphere shining through the mountains and valleys of the moon and are known as Baily's Beads after the man who first discovered them. As the sun and moon part, a bright arc of the sun is visible. The eclipse is estimated to last only 35.5 seconds and cover a width of 23 kilometres.



$6 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Solar Eclipse

2005 International Stamp Exhibition

Designer: Sue Wickison Issued 8 April 2005

The Blue Moon butterfly Hypolimnas bolina nerina is an amazing migrant butterfly and is found in Australia, New Zealand, New Guinea, the Solomons, Vanuatu and Norfolk Island with many other sub species distributed from India and Taiwan, through South - East Asia and into the Pacific as far east as Pitcairn.
The Caterpillars grow up to 6 cms in length and are communal, but later become solitary. They feed at night, hiding by day some distance from their food plant. The pupa is a dramatic brown with black spikes and grows to around 3 cms. The adult male butterfly is slightly smaller than the female and is coloured black with a large white spot in middle of each wing. These spots are surrounded by a stunning purple iridescence. The male has a wingspan of about 8 cms and is strongly territorial and will chase off intruders that infringe on its domain. The female varies more in colour of mostly warm brown tones and features an orange mark on each forewing. This species has been described as the most variable butterfly in the world, with distinctive variations among females make finding two alike a rare occurrence.



$5.50 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
PACIFIC EXPLORER '05 - Sydney, Australia

Pitcairn Islands

2005 Sailing Ship 'Bounty'

Designer: Denise Durkin Issued 21 June 2005

The USA replica Bounty was built in 1960 for MGM studios' Mutiny on the Bounty with Marlon Brando. Since then, the new Bounty has starred in several feature-length films and dozens of TV shows and historical documentaries. The studios commissioned the ship from the shipwrights of Smith and Ruhland in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia to be built from scratch. Completely seaworthy and built just the way it would have been 200 years before, the new Bounty was constructed from the original ship's drawings still on file in the British admiralty archives.



40c Multicolor
H.M.S. Bounty Replica



$1 Multicolor
Port side of Ship & Lantern



$1.20 Multicolor
Sailing off coast



$3 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Bowsprit in full Sail & Rigging



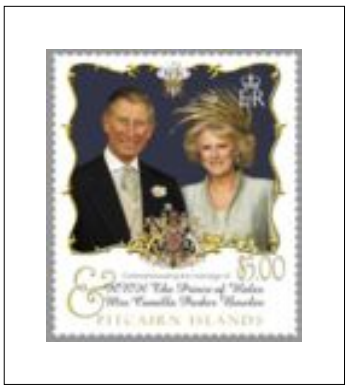
$3 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
HMS Bounty Replica

Pitcairn Islands

2005 Royal Wedding - Prince Charles & Camilla Parker Bowles

Designer: Denise Durkin Issued 9 April 2005

To commemorate the marriage of HRH The Prince of Wales and Mrs. Camilla Parker Bowles. The civil ceremony was held at the Guildhall, Windsor prior to the Service of Prayer and Dedication in St. George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. The Guildhall is a landmark building, designed by Sir Christopher Wren and adjacent to the castle. It has been Windsor's Town Hall since 1690. The venue enabled the public to see The Prince of Wales and Mrs. Parker Bowles arrive and depart from the Guildhall.



$5 Multicolor
Prince Charles & Mrs Camilla Parker Bowles

2005 Christmas

Designer: Lucas Kukler Issued 23 November 2005

Christmas on Pitcairn is a special time for this small community. On Christmas Eve, carols are sung by candle light in the public square of Adamstown, which is decorated with Christmas lights.
Christmas Eve also sees special baskets hung on home porches instead of mantles and these are hung early so the gifts for the children can be placed inside by other families who make their rounds in what is known as “Santa Clausing”.



40c Multicolor
Ornament with Hibiscus Flower



80c Multicolor
Ornament with Seabird



$1.80 Multicolor
Ornament with Coat of Arms



$2.50 Multicolor
Ornament with HMS Bounty

Pitcairn Islands

2005 Birds - Bristle-Thighed Curlew

Designer: Donna McKenna Issued 14 September 2005

The Bristle-thighed Curlew Numenius tahitiensis as a species has been known to science since it was discovered in the South Pacific in 1769, but their breeding grounds were not discovered until the 1940s. Best described as a large, mostly brown shorebird with a down-curved bill, their colouring is tinged with buff, with blackish-brown appearing on the upper parts. The head is striped and legs and feet are a pale blue-grey. The bristle-like feathers at the base of the legs for which the bird is named, are often visible only in close up views.



60c Multicolor
Bristle-thighed Curlews



$1 Multicolor
Back of Bristle-thighed Curlew



$1.50 Multicolor
Bristle-thighed Curlew



$1.80 Multicolor
Head of Bristle-thighed Curlew



$2 Multicolor
Bristle-thighed Curlew



$6.90 Multicolor Souvenir Sheet
Bristle-thighed Curlew