

THIS IS YOUR LIFE - Miss Penny Black



The father of Miss Penny Black is generally accepted to be Rowland Hill, although there are some that say James Chalmers had a twinkle in his eye at around the time she was conceived.

After a long and difficult birth Miss Penny Black finally entered the world on May 6th 1840 followed shortly afterwards by her sister Tuppence Blue.



Miss Penny Black and her sister Tuppence Blue.

An immediate success Miss Penny Black was soon a famous star with her picture seen all over the world. Many a Victorian Gentleman and office boy have slobbered over her rear (J Lo eat your heart out!).

Miss Penny Black featured in numerous photo shoots, including Philymphia and a family portrait with her 'father'.



A brief fling with Jeffrey Matthews in the 90s resulted in a makeover and a cameo appearance with her great great grand daughter Liz. For this shoot she changed her usual black for blue, mauve, grey and rosine. (Her sister Tuppence was not amused as she always considered blue her colour).



A book celebrating Miss Penny Blacks life and featuring her on the cover was published in 1981.

<p>The Penny Black 1840/41</p>	<p>The first, and most famous, adhesive postage stamp in the world.</p> <p>From 6 May 1840, the people of Britain were able to pay the postage of 1d on their letters by means of this small, printed gummed 'label', a method so practical and convenient that it was quickly adopted world wide.</p> <p>The originator and creator of the Penny Black, Sir Rowland Hill, was a man of many parts, typical of his age, an inventor, artist and administrator. He applied these talents to such good effect, in the design and production of the Penny Black that it became a model for the hundreds of thousands of different postage stamps issued throughout the world over the past 140 years. It was functional, and elegant; finely engraved and printed and designed to be proof against forgery—an invention of the greatest use to mankind and one in which Britain can take pride.</p>	<p>Postal History</p> <p>The Penny Black 1840/41</p>		<p>£1.30</p> <p>Royal Mail Stamps</p> <p>6 at 14p First Class</p> <p>4 at 11½p Second Class</p>
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Now a Grand Dame Miss Penny Black has inspired hundreds of fan clubs up and down the country, and plenty of old men (and a few women) still lust after Penny and are willing to spend lavishly to acquire her.

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