

Scientist Max gets stamp of approval

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Universities correspondent

A NOBEL prize winning Cambridge scientist has been given the stamp of approval as a special postmark has been issued in his honour.

To commemorate the centenary of the birth of molecular biologist Max Perutz, Royal Mail has created a postmark which will appear on letters and parcels delivered around the city this week.

Perutz, who was one of the great figures in modern molecular biology, was born in Vienna on May 19, 1914, and moved to Cambridge in 1936 to pursue his research.

He spent much of his life studying haemoglobin, a protein which transports oxygen in the blood, and he was awarded a Nobel Prize with John Kendrew in 1962 for his work on how X-ray crystallography can be used to determine the structure of a protein.

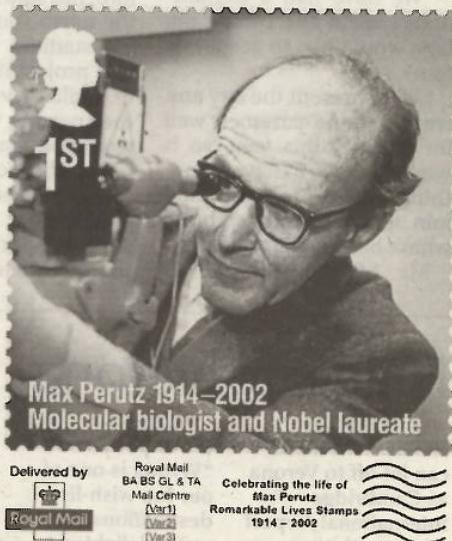
Perutz founded and held the post of chairman of the Medical Research Council's Unit for Molecular Biology, in Cambridge, which boasts a number of Nobel Prizes, including one for the discovery of the structure of DNA in 1953.

He died in Cambridge in 2002, aged 87.

A spokesperson for Royal Mail said: "Monday marks the centenary of Max's birth and to mark the occasion, a dedicated postmark will be applied to mail delivered across the CB postcode area for a week.

"It will say 'Celebrating the life of Max Perutz, Remarkable Lives Stamps, 1914-2002'.

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"Max is one of the individuals commemorated on Royal Mail's 'Remarkable Lives' stamps set which was issued earlier this year.

"The set comprises 10 stamps and recognises people who have made a significant contribution to British society."

The stamps can be bought at royalmail.com/remarkablelives, by calling 08457 641 641 or by visiting a Post Office.

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