Stamps of gratitude for the heroes of Dunkirk









Part of the range of stamps commemorating Operation Dynamo 70 years ago when Allied troops were evacuated from the beaches of northern France and rescued from the German advance

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THE 70th anniversary of Operation Dynamo is celebrated today with a series of postage stamps.

They show some of the "Little Ships" and Royal Navy warships rescuing 330,000 troops from Hitler's forces in northern France.

The first-class stamp has lines of soldiers walking in water chest-deep to a warship and the 88p (for European airmail up to 40 grams) shows the relieved smiles of soldiers

vodafone

Ken Bromley, 91, from Purley Surrey, who, as a sergeant with The By **John Ingham** Defence Editor

Queen's Own Royal West Kent regiment was wounded at Dunkirk, said: "Dunkirk was a landmark in British history which we should remember. The stamps will also help tell the story to younger generations

Part of the Britain Alone series to mark the efforts of ordinary Britons **Boyal Mail spokesman Philip Parker** said: "This set will remind millions of the incredible work of the Royal Navy and bravery of the civilian armada.

'Healthy' chocolate sales up to £100m

By Tom Morgan

SALES of dark soared to almost £100million a year in Britain following research showing it can benefit health. Despite being

more expensive sales have risen 22 per cent since 2005 compared to just the whole chocolate narket, new industry figures reveal.

Medical studies have shown that chocolate with a high cocoa content can reduce the risk of heart problems if eaten in moderation

Positive

According to a report from market analysts Mintel, 27 per cent of Britons believe dark chocolate is healthy

Mintel's senior eonsumer analyst Vivianne Ihekweazu said: "Dark chocolate has been promoted on the basis of the positive benefits of the antioxidants it

But she added that onsumption should be in moderation and part of a healthy diet Mintel's figures show total sales for the whole market

2005 to £2.3billion



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'Extinct' parrot comes flying back

A RARE parrot species has staged a

Just 12 years ago the yellow-eared only for a colony of 81 to be found in the Andes of Colombia

species was given a more positive rating – going from "critically endangered" to "endangered" he International Union for Conservation of Nature

But vesterday, in a rare move, the tree - the wax palm - and the arch reduced the use of wax palm for Palm Sunday celebrations.

now living in Colombia thanks to intensive conservation work.

The return was also partly thanks to the Catholic Church. The parrots rely heavily on Colombia's national

Meanwhile, half a world away. celebrating after "the rarest parrot

Just 20 years ago there were only 10 Echo parakeets left on the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius.

Now there are 500 thriving in its forests, with another 70 chicks being

fledged in the wild each year. Groups including Jersey's Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Chester Zoo and the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation have provided artificial nest boxes, harvested eggs and

to educate field staff on skills such as hand rearing.

The Echo is a relative of ring-necked parakeets found in growing

numbers across southern England.
Prof Carl Jones of Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation said: "A third of all parrot species in the world are in danger and if we can save the rarest. there is certainly some hope for them all."

Mystery disease kills thousands of antelope

THOUSANDS of dead antelope have been found scattered across Kazakhstan, triggering an urgent inquiry.

About 12,000 rare saiga antelope were found over 17 square miles of grassland, accounting for two-fifths of the affected population and a tenth of the global total.

Most of the dead were females with calves. Experts said a lung infection could be responsible. Professor Eleanor Milner-

Gulland the chairwoman of the Conservation Alliance, said: "This is a tragic and shock-

"It's particularly unfortunate

Environment Editor

emerging from an unusually harsh winter. We had expected some losses, but to have this happen when the mothers are giving birth to the new genera tion is terrible

"It looks as if we might lose about 40 per cent of this population." About 100,000 saiga are scattered in five groups across the steppes between Mongolia

Ruthless poaching after the collapse of the Soviet Union has led to a 95 per cent drop in saiga numbers over the past 15 years As a result, the International

Nature has put the animal on its

The population in the Urals numbered about 26,000 before the winter. Professor Milner-Gulland, of

Imperial College London, said: "The Ural population has been relatively neglected by international conservation until now.

"But hopefully this event will bring governments and conservationists together to mount a co-ordinated response to save

this remote population."
Investigators are examining the possibility that a bacteria

kill rapidly through illnesses systems are compromised.

Even if the infection Pasteurellosis did kill the antelope, scientists will have to work out what triggered it. Options include infection, poisoning, stress or malnutrition.

The dead animals were found in an area where thousands of females gather to give birth during their spring migration from the southern deserts to more

The males leave separately on the 600-mile trip and are thought to be further north



Male saiga migrated separately, avoiding the disease



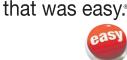
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