

**News Release**  
**January 30, 2008**

## **Assistance Dogs are First Class: It's official!**

A set of Royal Mail stamps, due to go on sale this week (5<sup>th</sup> February) and paying tribute to working dogs, will feature two dogs representing the Assistance Dog movement.

This is the first time a special set of stamps has been devoted entirely to working dogs. It will also help to mark the launch of Year of the Assistance Dog, run in collaboration by the five members of Assistance Dogs UK: Canine Partners, Dogs for the Disabled, Guide Dogs, Hearing Dogs for Deaf People and Support Dogs.

The First Class stamp features Rowan, an assistance dog trained by Dogs for the Disabled who is collecting the post for his owner, one of the many tasks that assistance dogs perform every day for their owners. The 78 pence stamp features Warwick, a guide dog, using his skills to provide mobility for his visually impaired owner.

Alan Brooks, chairman of Assistance Dogs UK said: "We are delighted that Royal Mail has produced this beautiful collection of stamps and hope that it will help to raise awareness of the impact that guide and other assistance dogs have on the lives of disabled people."

During 2008, members of Assistance Dogs UK will be holding a range of activities to highlight the role of guide and other assistance dogs, campaigning for consistent access to services and awareness of the Disability Discrimination Act. More information is available at [www.assistancedogs.org.uk](http://www.assistancedogs.org.uk)

The collection of stamps will be on sale from 5<sup>th</sup> February to the 28<sup>th</sup> February in local post offices.

-ends-

### **Note to Editors**

For further media information, please contact:

Dogs for the Disabled – Sarah Watson: 01295 252600  
07876 597331 [Sarahw@dogsforthedisabled.org](mailto:Sarahw@dogsforthedisabled.org)

Guide Dogs – [Chris.Dyson@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:Chris.Dyson@guidedogs.org.uk)  
0118 983 8281 or 07768 523996