

# Pp



Designed by Frank Pierpoint in 1913 for use on the newly improved smooth coated papers, **Plantin** rapidly became one of Britain's most widely used typefaces for letterpress text setting. With its large x-height, short ascenders and descenders, the design was based on type cut in the 16th century by Robert Granjon in Antwerp, for the publisher Christophe Plantin.



From its first recorded London performance in 1662, the **Punch and Judy** puppet show has delighted with its mixture of anarchy and audience participation as **Mr Punch** outwits and despatches his various adversaries – such as his wife Judy, an officious policeman, a crocodile and the hangman – with his catch phrase “*That’s the way to do it*” gleefully chorused by the crowd. In the audience at an early



The English **penny coin** inscribed with the name of the king was introduced in the middle of the 8th century. The system of twelve pence making one shilling and twenty shillings making one **pound** lasted until the introduction of a decimal currency in 1971. The **240 pence pound** could be divided many ways, including eighths, quarters, thirds, sixths and tenths, all useful for pricing individual items in low-inflationary times. Pre-decimal penny coins are still used to adjust the timing of the pendulum in the clock tower of the Houses of Parliament.



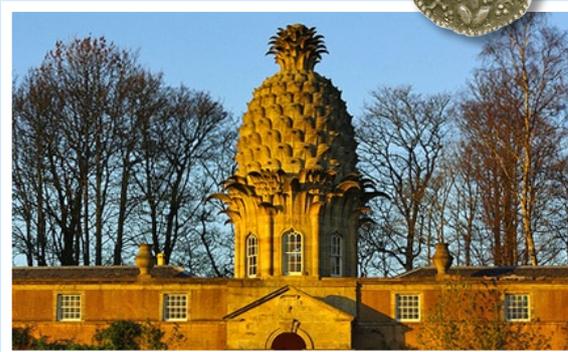
performance was **Samuel Pepys**, who described it in his diary as “*an Italian puppet play ... which is very pretty.*” Three years



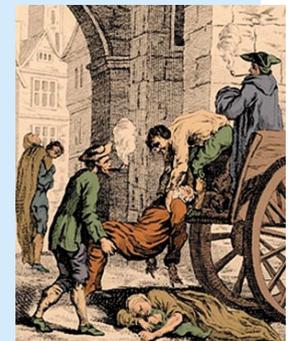
**P** is for ... **Penguin Books**  
Founded by Allen Lane, Penguin revolutionised publishing in the 1930s through its high quality, inexpensive paperbacks, sold in previously unexploited outlets as well



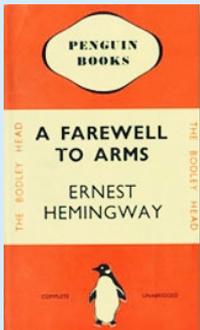
Issued in 1840, the **Penny Black** was the world's first adhesive postage stamp, used to denote pre-payment of delivery. The stamps were printed in unperforated sheets, to be cut individually for sale and use. The Penny Black is not a rare stamp – 68,808,000 were issued and many of these have survived, largely because envelopes were not normally used. Letters were folded and sealed, with the stamp and the address on the outside. If the letter was kept, the stamp survived. A beautiful stamp, the Penny Black suffered from a serious design flaw – within a year it was replaced by the **Penny Red** in order better to show a cancellation postmark.



Discovered by Christopher Columbus on the Caribbean island of Guadeloupe in 1493, the **pineapple** became a rare delicacy in Europe, adopted as a symbol of wealth and prestige. Built as a garden folly in 1761, the **Dunsmore Pineapple**, near Falkirk, is a remarkably accurate rendering of the fruit, each gently curving leaf being drained separately to prevent frost damage to the delicate masonry. The **pavilion** is the centrepiece of the estate's range of hot houses.



later Pepys gave a harrowing eyewitness account of the **Plague** which killed 20% of London's population.



as traditional bookshops. Penguin's success showed that a large audience existed for serious books – not only fiction, but also covering politics, science, and the arts.

The **Peasants' Revolt** of 1381 was brought to a brutal conclusion when the rebels, having already stormed the Tower of London, met the 14 year-old King Richard II at Smithfield to discuss their grievances. William Walworth, Lord Mayor of London, simply ended the debate by killing the rebel leader Wat Tyler.



The artists of renaissance Italy devised a system of geometric **perspective** in order to better represent the real world. By using the technique of the vanishing point it was possible to visually describe objects with mathematical precision. Besides showing depth and volume, perspective was also a new method of composing a painting – showing a single, unified scene, rather than a combination of several viewpoints.

