

20-time Race Champ Honored by Isle of Man

On April 16 the Isle of Man Isle celebrated John McGuinness's birthday. To mountain bike racers, McGuinness is a legend, having won the Isle of Man's prestigious TT road races a remarkable 20 times.

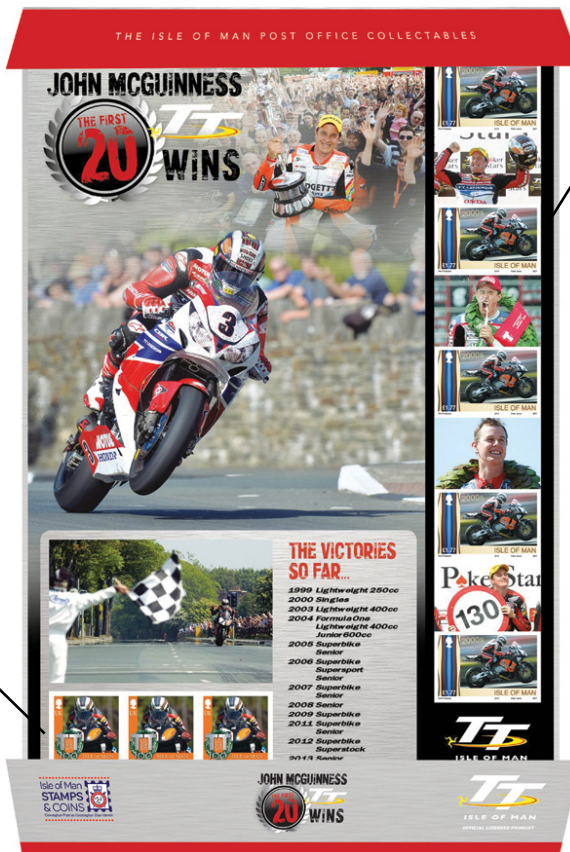
Known as the "Morecambe Missile," McGuinness was presented with a cake that resembled the newly released stamp sheet on the occasion of his birthday.

The commemorative stamp sheet features McGuinness in action on two stamps, along with colorful photos taken by road racing photographer Stephen Davison and a list of his 20 victories over the last 15 years.



The Isle of Man also created a limited edition booklet of 1,000 numbered copies that contain the sheet of stamps a new Isle of Man 50p coin and an individually numbered cover signed by McGuinness and postmarked on his birthday.

The Isle of Man TT Races are unique as there is no other race in the world to compare with the 37.7 mile Mountain Course and its endless corners, stone walls, jumps and telegraph poles that have encapsulated over 100 years of road racing and the legends that have raced through the Manx towns and countryside.



It was over 15 years ago that McGuinness secured his first TT win. From 2000 he has been the man to beat on the superbike, winning every Senior TT he has finished and shattering records at every step, and currently holds the record for the fastest lap at an average speed of 131 mph.

Speaking while in the Isle of Man for the media launch of the 2014 TT, McGuinness said, "I am thrilled to bits, it has really lifted my spirits. You know you have made it when the Isle of Man Post Office issues stamps in your honor!"

Maxine Cannon, General Manager, Isle of Man Stamps and Coins said: "We were delighted that we were able to announce this commemorative issue of stamps celebrating John's 20 victories

on the Mountain course on his birthday...John is a true ambassador for the island, promoting the TT wherever he can, and fully deserves thanks and recognition."

For information on this and other Isle of Man new issues and a link to the Isle of Man postal administration website, please go to <http://www.iompost.com/stamps-coins/>.

You can also read about all previous Isle of Man 2014 issues at <http://www.stampnewsnow.com/IsleOfManNewIssues.html>.