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## Charles Dickens: Life, Work and Legacy

Litvack, L. (Author). (2012). Charles Dickens: Life, Work and Legacy: An exhibition held in Carrickfergus to celebrate the Dickens bicentenary; curated by Leon Litvack. Exhibition

### Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

### Queen's University Belfast - Research Portal:

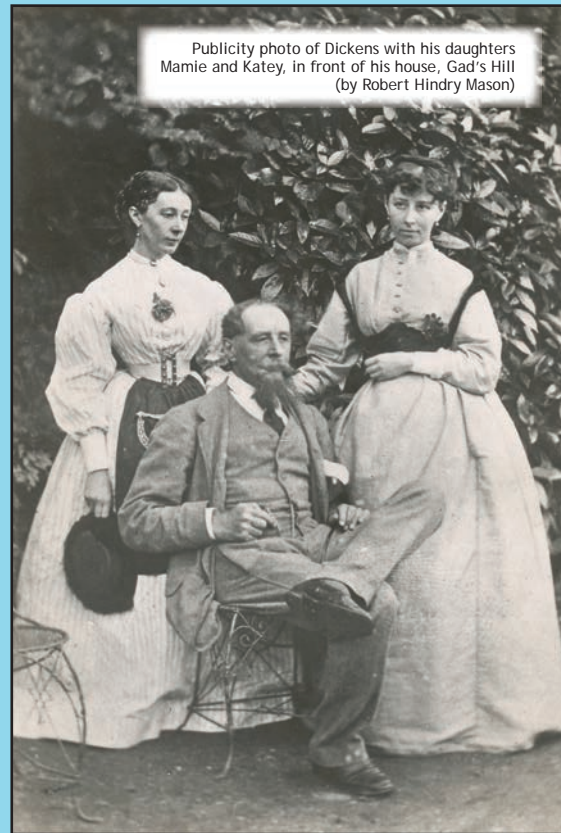
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Publicity photo of Dickens with his daughters Mamie and Katey, in front of his house, Gad's Hill (by Robert Hindry Mason)

Dickens is primarily known through his printed works. Many of the editions published in his lifetime are highly collectable, and sell at auction houses for handsome sums. There have also been carry-overs into other media. China manufacturers like Royal Doulton, Aynsley, and Royal Ducal Ware have produced such items as plates, teapots, jugs, and figurines which commemorate well known characters and stories.

The great author has also been a favourite with stamp collectors. The first Dickens commemorative stamp was issued by Russia in 1926. In 1970

a host of Commonwealth countries issued stamps to mark the centenary of Dickens's death. Since then, Dickens stamps have been issued in the UK in 1993 (to mark the 150th anniversary of the publication *A Christmas Carol*), in 2011 (depicting Lionel Bart's *Oliver!* in a stage musicals series), and now in 2012, for the Dickens bicentenary (for which a commemorative coin was also struck).

Dickens's rise coincided with the development of photography. More than two hundred images of Dickens circulated in his lifetime, thus ensuring that he was recognised everywhere he went. Dickens sat for several famous photographers, including Antoine Claudet, JJE Mayall, John and Charles Watkins, and Robert Hindry Mason. Almost all of the photographs which Dickens had taken were publicity images, which enhanced both his reputation and his sales.

Dickens has always been popular with children. Scenes from his works have been transformed into jigsaw puzzles, board games, crosswords, quizzes, and even an action figure.

# Dickens's Legacy in Other Media



Publicity photo of Dickens, standing at a table (by John Watkins)



Royal Doulton Dickens Jug

DICKENS 2012 NI



Carrickfergus Borough